

City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: October 22, 2018 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: Joe Boothe, Superintendent – Environmental Services

SUBJECT: Suncor Energy Foundation Nature Way Closure for Phragmites Eradication

As part of the City's plan to eradicate phragmites, the Suncor Energy Foundation Nature Way (1500 Modeland Road) will be closed October 23 and 24, weather permitting.

Members of the public are asked to keep out of this area for their safety. Signage will be posted 24 hours in advance. A spotter will be on sight for protection of pedestrians who inadvertently enter the trail near the work zone.

Eradication involves spraying the affected areas with pesticide. Following eradication of the phragmites, a suitable seed mix will be applied to allow native species to return to the area and limit the opportunity for invasive species to re-invade. City Staff will consult with Lambton Wildlife Committee and the Sarnia Environmental Advisory Committee to select an appropriate seed mix for the area.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has granted permission to the City for the eradication of invasive species including phragmites. This is part of the maintenance management plan for the City's Storm Water Management Facilities.

- 30 -

For further information, please contact: Joe Boothe, Superintendent, Environmental Services <u>joe.boothe@sarnia.ca</u> 519-332-0330 ext 3590