



# Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

**2026 Draft Budget**

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# Purpose and Overview

- **Purpose:**
  - To provide some highlights from 2025 and an overview of the Draft 2026 budget
- **Overview:**
  - Highlights of 2025
  - 2026 Funding Breakdown and Budget Changes
  - What does this mean for levy and taxpayers
  - 2026 Focus Areas
  - Status of Admin Centre Renovation
  - Next Steps and Questions or Comments

# Strategic Plan 2025-2035



Effectively Monitor and Manage the Risk of Natural Hazards



Enhance GSCA Land Management



Achieve Organizational Excellence



Improve Watershed Health



Strengthen Environmental Education and Communication

# 2025 Highlights Overall



- Finalized GSCA's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan
- Undertook a much-needed renovation of GSCA's Admin Centre.
- Moved to a third-party IT vendor to more effectively and efficiently provide IT services to our Team.
- Streamlined payment systems by simplifying workflows, expanding payment options and increasing accessibility.
- Updated our very popular "Explore Guide" to GSCA's properties.
- Continued to provide and grow GSCA's important Environmental Education programming, bringing in over \$72,000 in grant funding.
- Distributed over 45,000 trees into our watershed community
- Completed important accessibility upgrades at Inglis Falls CA
- Replaced all of the monitoring stations in our flood forecast network

# 2026 Areas of Focus

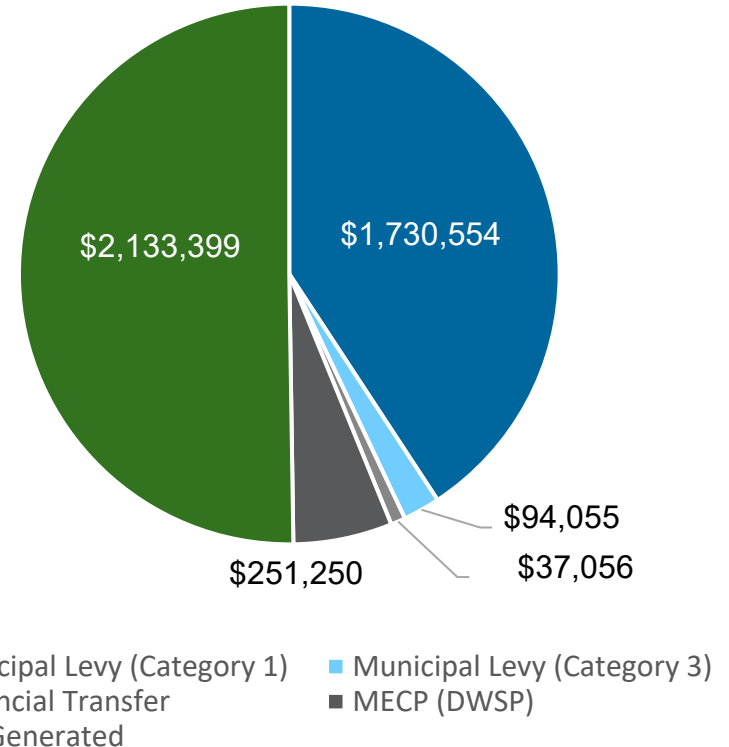


- Establish a publicly accessible system to monitor and report on the progress of projects outlined in GSCA's Strategic Plan.
- If necessary, work with the Province and municipalities on a transition to a new regional structure.
- Deliver vital educational programming to meet the needs of our communities and grant funders.
- Distribute 50,000 – 80,000 trees throughout the watershed.
- Complete Spirit Rock CA Mgmt Plan and commence Hibou CA Mgmt Plan.
- Commence development of climbing plan for West Rocks CA.
- Strive for service excellence in delivering planning and permitting services.
- Expand agricultural stewardship projects and programming.

# 2026 Funding Breakdown

## Operating Overview - \$4.25M

- We deliver vital conservation work across the region to enhance our watershed.
- Our jurisdiction covers five major rivers, numerous smaller tributaries and over 155km of shoreline
- We serve eight member municipalities
- We own and manage over 28,000 acres of land
- 50.2% of Funding is Self-Generated
- 43.0% Municipal Levy Funding
- 6.8% Provincial Funding



# Changes for 2026



- The proposed Category 1 and General levy increase for 2026 operating costs is **\$54,715** across eight member municipalities.
- The total proposed Category 3 levy increase for 2026 operating costs is **\$7,222**
- The total proposed levy increase for 2026 capital costs is **\$15,800**.
- This equates to a total levy increase of **\$77,737** (above numbers totaled).
- In 2026, GSCA's self-generated revenue is anticipated to increase by approximately **\$99,878** overall.
- Increase in expenses driven by standard wage increases (\$95K) and non-levy related materials and supplies for Stewardship and Forestry (\$125K).

# Draft 2026 Levy Apportionment\*

Municipality	Proposed 2026 Levy	Increase from 2025 (\$)
Arran-Elderslie	\$55,038	\$1,357
Blue Mountains	\$606,025	\$33,416
Chatsworth	\$62,146	\$1,182
Georgian Bluffs	\$260,283	\$8,185
Grey Highlands	\$172,731	\$6,678
Meaford	\$279,622	\$9,131
Owen Sound	\$367,376	\$13,242
South Bruce Peninsula	\$271,126	\$4,546
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,816,672</b>	<b>\$77,737</b>

\*The levy formula uses the past year's Modified Current Value Assessment, based on MPAC values as provided to GSCA by the Province

# 2026 Levy – Cost to Taxpayers

## Overview – Modified Current Value Assessment (MCVA)

- Conservation authority levies are based on the current value assessment (CVA) of properties within a municipality.
- This assessed value is modified based on the percentage of a municipality within the watershed.
- The levy rate per \$1000 of assessment is the same across the watershed. In 2026, that cost is proposed to be \$0.12797 per \$1000 of assessment.



This means that a house assessed at \$530,000 would pay \$67.82 per year toward the levy.

This is up \$1.10 per household per year from 2025.

## Next Steps:

- Municipalities were circulated this draft budget on **December 5, 2025**, and have been provided approximately **54 days** to review the draft budget and provide any input.
- GSCA Board of Directors will meet on **January 28, 2026**, to consider municipalities' input and review the budget
  - Levy vote weights are based on the modified CVA formula
  - Total Budget vote is one-member, one-vote





**Grey Sauble**  
CONSERVATION

**THANK YOU**

