



1078 Bruce Road 12 | P.O. Box 150 | Formosa ON
Canada | N0G 1W0 | 519-364-1255
www.saugeenconservation.ca
publicinfo@svca.on.ca

SENT ELECTRONICALLY ONLY: sfernando@southgate.ca

June 22, 2025

Township of Southgate
185667 Grey Road 9
RR 1
Dundalk, Ontario
N0C 1B0

ATTENTION: Shavindra Fernando, Planning Assistant

Dear Shavindra Fernando,

RE: Minor Variance A6-25
126152 Southgate Road 12

Roll No.: 420709000400300

Lot 26 Concession 8
Geographic Township of Proton
Township of Southgate

The above-noted application has been received by the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) in accordance with the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation (Ontario Regulation 686/21) made under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act). SVCA staff have reviewed the proposal for consistency with SVCA's environmental planning and regulation policies made in conformance with the Provincial Planning Statement, CA Act, O. Regulation 41/24, and associated provincial guidelines. Where a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) exists between a planning partner and the SVCA, staff have reviewed the application for conformity with the natural hazard policies of the applicable Municipality or County.

Purpose

The purpose of the application is to recognize the existing front yard for a single detached dwelling and three accessory structures.



Background

Regarding this proposal, SVCA were made aware of unauthorized development on the property in 2024. SVCA conducted a site inspection to the property on November 15, 2024, and met with the owners and building department staff. In SVCA comments dated January 14, 2025, SVCA considers the unauthorized works to be approved after the fact by SVCA staff.

Recommendation

The proposed application is acceptable to SVCA staff.

Documents Reviewed by Staff

SVCA staff have received and reviewed the following documents submitted with this application:

- 1) Site Plan;
- 2) Notice, received by the SVCA on July 14, 2025; and
- 3) Application dated November 15, 2024.

Site Characteristics

Current SVCA mapping shows that the majority of the property is within the SVCA's Screening Area. The natural hazard features affecting the property include wetland/swamps and watercourses that are tributaries of the Saugeen River, and any floodplain of the wetland/swamps, and watercourses.

Areas of the property are mapped as Hazard Lands in the Grey County OP and Township of Southgate OP, and zoned EP in the Township of Southgate Zoning By-law. The Hazard Lands Area designation and EP zone generally coincide with SVCA hazard lands mapping for the property, which is appropriate to represent the natural hazard features.

Based on the plan submitted with the application, the area of existing development will not be within the EP zone or Hazard Land Area designation. The buildings are not in the EP zone.

Provincial Planning Statement (PPS, 2024)

In accordance with s. 7 of O. Regulation 686/21, SVCA shall act on behalf of the Province or as a public body under the *Planning Act* (PA) to ensure municipal decisions made under the PA are consistent with the natural hazards policies of the PPS, Chapter 5.

Chapter 5 of the PPS, 2024 states in part that development shall be directed away from areas of natural or human-made hazards where there is an unacceptable risk to and not create new or aggravate existing hazards.

It is the opinion of the SVCA that the proposal is consistent with Chapter 5 of the PPS, 2024.

Township of Southgate and County of Grey Official Plan Policies

The following comments are made in accordance with MOU with the Township of Southgate. As mentioned above, areas of the property are mapped as Hazard Lands in the Grey County OP and Township of Southgate OP, and zoned EP in the Township of Southgate Zoning By-law.

Based on the plan submitted with the application, the area of existing development is not within the EP zone or Hazard Land Area designation. The buildings are not in the EP zone.

Section 5.5.2 of the Southgate OP and Section 7.2.3 of the Grey County OP state in part that buildings and structures are generally not permitted in the Hazard Lands land use type. Based on the plan submitted with the proposal, the proposal would be consistent with the Southgate OP and Grey County OP.

Conservation Authorities Act and O. Regulation 41/24

Within SVCA's regulated areas and in accordance with the CA Act and O. Regulation 41/24, a permit from the SVCA is required to change or interfere with watercourses or wetlands and for development activities in or adjacent to hazardous lands, wetlands, river or stream valleys, Great Lakes and inland lake shorelines. When reviewing an application, SVCA staff must assess the proposal for impacts to the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, or unstable soil or bedrock, and ensure the activity will not create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard, might jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction of property. Provided staff are satisfied the proposal is consistent with SVCA's policies, designed to mitigate these risks, a permit can be issued.

To determine the SVCA Approximate Regulated Area on the property, please refer to the SVCA's online mapping, available via SVCA's website. Should you require assistance, please contact our office directly.

SVCA Permit

As mentioned above, regarding this proposal, SVCA provided comments dated January 14, 2025, that stated in part that SVCA considers the unauthorized works to be approved after the fact by SVCA staff, therefore a permit from the SVCA is not required.

Drinking Water Source Protection

The subject property appears to SVCA staff to not be located within an area that is subject to the local Drinking Water Source Protection Plan.

Summary

SVCA staff have reviewed the proposal for consistency with SVCA's policies made in conformance with the Provincial Planning Statement, CA Act, O. Regulation 41/24, and associated provincial guidelines. Where a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) exists between a planning partner and the SVCA, staff have reviewed the application for conformity with the natural hazard policies of the applicable Municipality or County.

Given the above comments, it is the opinion of the SVCA staff that:

- 1) Consistency with the Natural Hazard policies of the PPS, Chapter 5 has been demonstrated.
- 2) Consistency with local planning policies for natural hazards has been demonstrated.

Please inform this office of any decision made by the planning approval authority regarding the application. We respectfully request to receive a copy of the decision and notice of any appeals filed.

Should you have any questions, or require this information in an accessible format, please contact the undersigned.

A6-25

July 22, 2025

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Sincerely,

Michael Oberle

Environmental Planning Technician

Sageen Conservation

MO/

cc: Raul and Maria Raposo, owners (via email)

Barbara Dobreen, Authority Member, SVCA (via email)