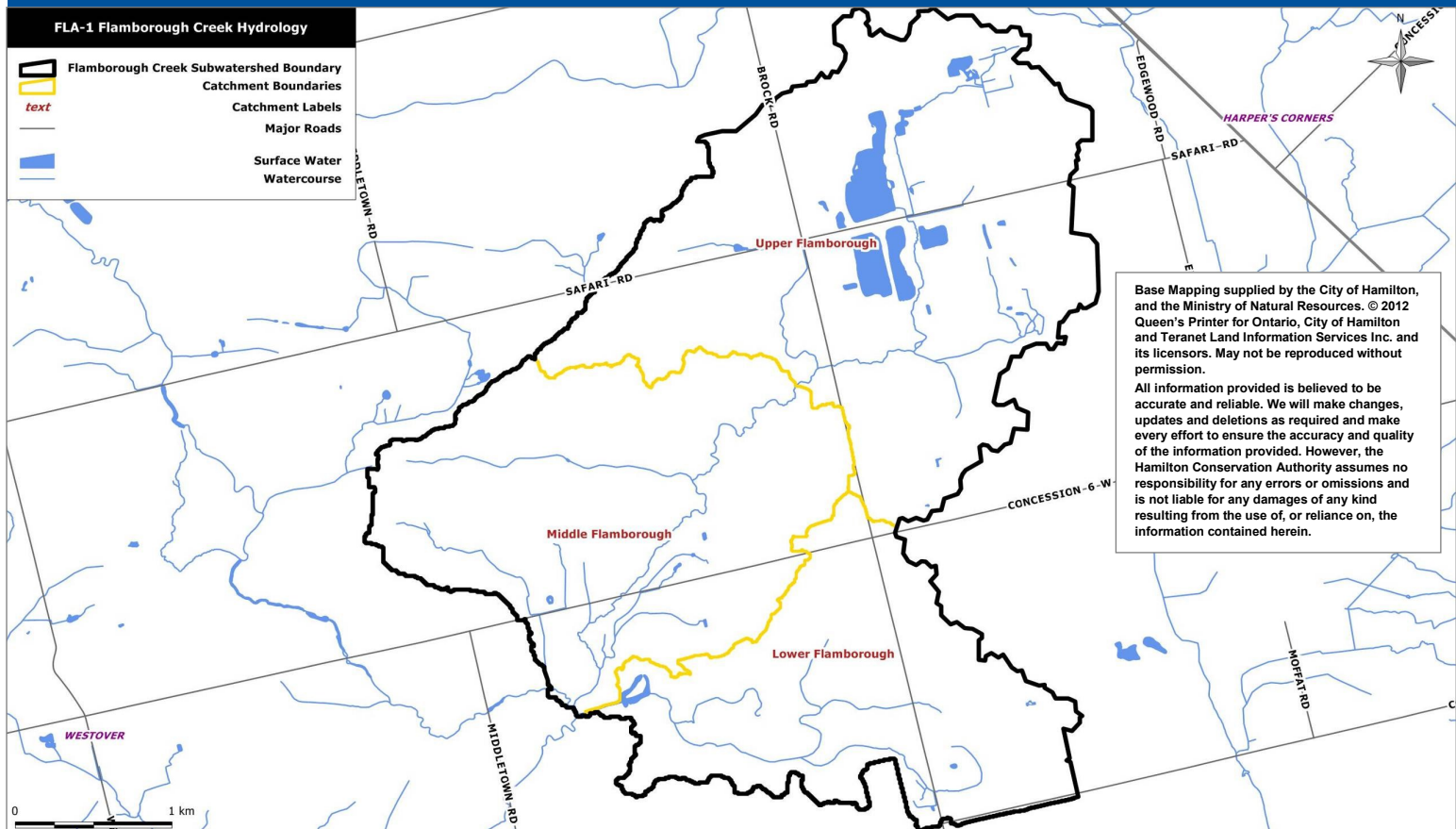


FLAMBOROUGH CREEK SUBWATERSHED



The Flamborough Creek subwatershed is part of the Spencer Creek watershed and lies within the former municipal boundary of Flamborough within the City of Hamilton. Surveying of Flamborough started in 1793. Early settlement in Flamborough was concentrated in West Flamborough near Spencer Creek. In the Northern reaches of the Flamborough Creek subwatershed, settlement was slower as transportation routes were limited and wetlands limited agriculture.

Flamborough Creek begins in the 7th Concession West, between Brock and Edgewood Roads, and receives groundwater discharge from the Hayesland Swamp. It joins with Upper Spencer Creek in the area of Concession 6 Road West and Middletown Road. The combined length of Flamborough Creek and all its tributaries is 27.4 km.

Flamborough Creek subwatershed in comparison to Environment Canada's 'How much Habitat is Enough' Guidelines

Landscape Feature	Guideline	Subwatershed Status
Wetland	6%	22%
Streambanks Naturally Vegetated	75%	20.8%
Forest	30%	29%
Impervious Surface	<10%	0.2%

Flamborough Creek has historically been characterized as coldwater habitat.

Sustained coldwater habitat has the potential to support Brook Trout. Rare species that have been found in this subwatershed are the Brown Snake, Canada Warbler, Cerulean Warbler and Acadian Flycatcher.



The top two environmental stresses in the Flamborough Creek subwatershed, as identified within the Spencer Creek Stewardship Action Plans, are:

- **Insufficient riparian buffers (recommended width of 30 metres for coldwater systems) along creeks, and**
- **Water takings during periods of low water**

What are we doing to protect the coldwater habitat and health of the Flamborough Creek subwatershed?

The Hamilton Conservation Authority's (HCA) Aquatic Resource Monitoring Program has three stations in Flamborough Creek that are monitored in year one of a three year cycle. The program collects information on fish, fish habitat and benthic invertebrates to assess and track changes in the health of the aquatic ecosystem.

The Hamilton Watershed Stewardship Program works with the public and private property owners to develop and implement initiatives and restoration projects that create and enhance natural areas and habitats in the HCA watershed. The program offers free on-site consultation to private property owners who have natural features on their properties. Property owners that undertake restoration projects that create or enhance natural habitats or water quality may be eligible to apply for financial assistance.

What can landowners do to restore and protect the cold water habitat and health of Flamborough Creek?

1. Re-establish riparian buffers where there are none.
2. Increase the width of existing riparian buffers.
3. Retire marginal farm land.
4. Implement soil best management practices to reduce water erosion, wind erosion, sheet or tillage erosion, rill or gully erosion.
5. Increase efficiency in water use as much as possible.



Riparian Buffer along Both Sides of the Creek

Sources: Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) 2012. Flamborough Creek Subwatershed Stewardship Action Plan and the Canada-Ontario Environmental Farm Plan, Fourth Edition Workbook, 2013.



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**Are you interested in
information about how you
can protect water quality and
habitat on your property?**

**Call to arrange a free on-site
consultation!**