

TOUR OF CANARD RIVER WATERSHED

1 **Canard River** is the longest stretch of relatively continuous woodland in Essex County. It is also the largest Detroit River sub-watershed.

2 **The Canard River Provincially Significant Wetland Complex** is made up of two individual wetlands. Coastal wetlands offer particularly important habitat in the Detroit and Canard River sub-watersheds. Much of the surrounding

lands have been significantly altered by agricultural and urban development.

3 **Canard River mouth marsh** is surrounded by raised dykes supporting cottonwoods and willows. Approximately 50% of the marsh is open water. Diking of wetlands while providing habitat for some waterfowl and other fauna, isolates them from the river and reduces their function in the ecosystem.

4 **Ranta Park/Marina** - Public marina has been sold by the Town of Amherstburg and a condominium development has been proposed. Brine caverns from former operations of General Chemical also exist below this area. Development, including housing, in the wetlands threatens the integrity of the watershed ecosystem. Shoreline restoration by the DRCC is planned for Ranta Park.

5 **Bridge over the Canard River** offers elevated view of the mouth of the river as well as the wetland complex.

