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## **Press Release**

This year the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) has succeeded in prosecuting two individuals in the Provincial Offences Court:

A landowner pled guilty on February 25, 2025 to an offence under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and has been ordered to pay a fine of \$3,000 plus 25% in victim surcharge and fees. The offence consisted of unauthorized development in the form of the construction of a retaining wall located within the Regulatory Flood Hazard without permission from the CVCA. The unauthorized development took place at a property on Chandos Lake in the Township of North Kawartha.

The second prosecution involved unauthorized development in the form of the removal of vegetation and site alteration located within wetlands without permission from the CVCA. The unauthorized development took place at a property located on Highway 7 in the Municipality of Marmora & Lake. Charges were laid on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. After a lengthy court proceeding the landowner was convicted by the Ontario Court of Justice of three offences under section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and sentenced on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. The landowner has been ordered to pay a fine of \$12,500 plus 25% in victim surcharge and fees and have also been ordered to remediate disturbed wetland area at their own expense and in accordance with a remediation plan prepared by expert ecologists.

Crowe Valley Conservation Authority reminds landowners that development activities within a regulated area require permission from the Conservation Authority. Both property owners and contractors considering work in a regulated area should contact the CVCA to determine if a permit is required. Contacting the CVCA prior to starting any work ensures that infractions are not committed and the required permissions are obtained.