

News Release

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR CLEAN WATER PROJECTS

MANOTICK, June 16, 2006 — The Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program (RVRCWP), now in its fifth year of operation, offers incentive grants to landowners for work to protect surface water and groundwater in the Rideau watershed. To date, over 300 private landowners have shared \$330,000 in grants and technical assistance. And importantly, an estimated 1.5 tonnes of phosphorus is now stopped from entering the river system every year in the rural parts of the watershed alone.

The program boundaries extend from the edge of the City of Ottawa to the top of the Tay Valley watershed west of Perth to Sharbot Lake and south through the Rideau Lakes and Kemptville Creek watershed.

If you are contemplating work on your farm or rural property, the RVRCWP may be able to help share the cost of the work. Both farm and rural non-farm property owners are eligible for grants. Eligible projects include farm wastewater management, nutrient management plans, livestock fencing from water and alternate watering systems, fuel/chemical storage facilities, shoreline stabilization for significant erosion sites and erosion control, planting creek buffers and windbreaks, septic system repairs, upgrades and decommissioning of wells, and clean water education initiatives. You may be eligible for up to \$5,000 of assistance depending on your project(s). Remember: call before you plan to start your work, projects generally must be approved before work begins.

Special thanks go to our current and past corporate and community sponsors including Kemptville Truck Centre, the Ottawa Dragon Boat Race Festival, R.W.Tomlinson Limited, Lanark Stewardship Council, Golder Associates Ltd, OMYA (Canada) Inc, AON Reed Stenhouse and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. It is through their efforts in generous partnership with dedicated landowners that the water resources in the Rideau watershed continue to be protected.

For more information and to get your application started, check the Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program website at www.rideauvalley.on.ca, look for RVRCWP under “programs,” or call the LandOwner Resource Centre (LRC) at 692-3571 or 1-800-387-5304 ext 1128 or 1132. As well, the LRC has information on the City of Ottawa Clean Water Program. (As of April 2005, local Conservation Authorities deliver the City of Ottawa Rural Clean Water Programs.)

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