

News Release

NOW AVAILABLE — UPDATED KEMPTVILLE CREEK WATERSHED PLAN

KEMPTVILLE WATERSHED, May 7, 2007 — Together with the stakeholders in the watershed community, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority has completed the first review and update of the Kemptville Creek Watershed Plan.

The original Kemptville Creek Watershed Plan was completed in 1999 and addressed a number of ongoing water and land management issues within the drainage area of Kemptville Creek.

The updated report looks at what recommendations were successfully put in place from the original report and re-evaluates watershed health seven years later. The updated report also identifies new goals, objectives and actions that address today's Kemptville Creek area.

Five key issues were identified in this update process: water levels (including beaver activity and operation of the Oxford Mills dam, water quality (especially in Kemptville), groundwater supply and quality, development, and education and community action.

The updated plan also suggests actions that government agencies, non-government groups and the average citizen can take to improve the health of the watershed. Suggested actions include taking a new approach to water level management, forming a Kemptville Creek Community Action Group to promote community action to deal with watershed issues and providing a one-window service for stewardship information and for permits required to work on the creek.

"The success of the watershed plan largely lies in the hands of the watershed community. We need to embrace the plan and do what each individual or government agency can to address the issues," stated Cathy Willoughby, Chair of the Kemptville Creek Watershed Plan Update Steering Committee. "There are lots of great ideas here about how the health of the watershed can be improved, we just need the stakeholders to get involved and help do it."

Copies of the watershed plan update are available from the RVCA. Contact Lynn Preston at 613-692-3571, 1-800-267-3504 extension 1171 or at lynn.preston@rideauvalley.on.ca for more information.

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