

News Release

CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL RETURNS

MANOTICK, April 13, 2007 — The fifth annual Ottawa Children's Water Festival is returning once again to the Baxter Conservation Area near Kemptville from Wednesday May 16 to Friday May 18. Classes from grades three to five are invited to enjoy this memorable, hands-on and totally curriculum-related science program at no cost. The main themes to be explored include water conservation, soil erosion, ground water movement, well workings and water habitat ecology.

On each of the three days, as many as 10 classes of local kids will move through the 28 "Water Discovery Centres" — picking up valuable information, experiences and insights about the irreplaceable role of water in our daily lives. Professionals from local conservation organizations as well as some very knowledgeable and enthusiastic grade 8 students from Fisher Park School in Ottawa will man the Water Discovery Centres and teach the youngsters all they want to know about H₂O. Last year, over 850 students from 18 schools participated.

Teachers are asked to contact Peter Goddard, Manager of the Baxter Conservation Area, as soon as possible to confirm a time and date for their class. The program is open to grades three to five students with the bulk of the program directed specifically to the grade four curriculum. Thanks to the generous support of the City of Ottawa, this is a no-charge event. The Ottawa Children's Water Festival is also supported by the Mississippi-Rideau Source Water Protection Region and is part of the Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival group which is sponsored in part by Ontario Power Generation and TransCanada PipeLines. Other festivals will be held in Casselman, Morrisburg (Upper Canada Village) and Almonte (Mill of Kintail) in 2007.

Adult volunteers are also needed to supervise programs and assist the student instructors.

For more information and reservations, please call Peter Goddard at 613-489-3592 or peter.goddard@rideauvalley.on.ca. Everyone welcome.

Baxter Conservation Area is located on the shores of the Rideau River, five minutes south of Kars and North Gower. Owned and operated by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Baxter is 170 acres of mixed forest, open meadow, wetlands, beach, group camping areas and nut tree plantation. There are five kilometres of trails and boardwalks that provide wonderful, safe access for forest, meadow and wetland exploration.

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More information:
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