



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

July | August 2008

On Watch for Emerald Ash Borer

The invasive emerald ash borer insect has made its way to the Rideau Valley. Forestry experts are asking the public to keep watch for this emerald coloured insect and signs of infestation on ash trees (thinning crowns, cracking bark and



Photo from www.gurnee.il.us

D-shaped exit holes). If you suspect you have this insect on your ash tree, call the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) at 1-866-463-6017.

You can stop the spread of this destructive pest — don't move firewood. Moving firewood, even just a few kilometres away can spread insects and disease.

If you are a woodlot owner, there is no urgent need to cut healthy ash trees in your woodlot. Your woodlot is still valuable and will continue to be productive if you follow good forest management practices. The emerald ash borer only causes damage to the wood a few centimeters under the bark, so the tree still retains its value for timber. Woodlot owners are encouraged to consult a forest practitioner for a proper forest prescription. For more, contact JIM MCCREADY, Chair of the Regional Forest Health Network at 613-257-5853 ext. 223 or visit www.inspection.gc.ca (under Hot Topics).

WANTED: Candidates for New Environmental Award of Excellence

Nominations are being accepted for a new environmental award of excellence. On October 22, 2008 three Eastern Ontario conservation authorities will hold the first ever Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala to celebrate the achievements of environmental leaders in the Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation watersheds.

Nominations are being accepted for seven different categories:

- Primary Schools (JK- grade 6)
- Intermediate/High School (grade 7-12)
- College/University
- Agriculture
- Community Groups/Individuals
- Businesses
- Municipalities

Projects could include tree planting, water quality protection, shoreline stewardship, conservation education or any other activities that contribute to the health of our watersheds. Nominations will be accepted until September 1, 2008 and winners will be announced at the Gala on October 22. Download your nomination form at www.rideauvalley.on.ca/foundation/about/award.html or for more information, contact CHARLES ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

New Floating Dock at Rideau Ferry

Thanks to a generous donation from Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation's longstanding Partner in Conservation, Fendor Glass and Aluminum, Rideau Ferry Conservation Area visitors now have the benefit of a new custom-made 24-foot by six-foot floating dock. Fendocks are lightweight, environmentally friendly docks designed to have minimal effect on the riverbed, aquatic environment and fish habitat. Thanks to the Rideau Ferry Yacht Club for donating a portion of the proceeds from the 2007 Rideau Ferry Regatta. Their kind donation helped purchase a ramp and accessories for the new dock. For more, call HEATHER at 613-489-3060 or heather.hughes@rvca.ca.

Baxter and Foley to Host Children Water Festival

New for 2008, the Water Festival is coming to both of RVCA's outdoor environmental education sites. Both Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas are hosting the Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival which provides students with experiential learning opportunities to teach them about the importance and fragility of our water supply. It's all you want to know about H₂O! Important stuff like water conservation, water habitat, ground water movement and more. This Water Festival is a free program offered by the RVCA and its sponsors to schools in the Rideau watershed. If you are a teacher and looking for a great fall field trip, this is the event for you.

- **Baxter Conservation Area
Kars, Ontario**

September 24, 2008 from 9:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Contact PETER at 613-489-3592 or peter.goddard@rvca.ca

- **Foley Mountain Conservation Area
Westport, Ontario**

September 30, 2008 from 9:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Contact REBECCA at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca

Thank you — Adobe Systems Incorporated Canada

Thank you to Adobe Systems Inc. for their generous \$5,000 donation to the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation. The donation will help enhance Visitor Services at our ten public Conservation Areas. The Foundation welcomes Adobe Systems Incorporated as a 'Partner in Conservation' and looks forward to future partnerships. HEATHER has more details, contact her at 613-489-3060 or heather.hughes@rvca.ca.



Working Together For Clean Water

The RVCA and Ottawa Rural Clean Water Programs continue to offer financial assistance to farms and rural property owners who undertake projects that protect and improve water quality in the Rideau River watershed.

Clean water projects include:

- well upgrades, replacement or decommissioning
- septic repair
- fuel storage
- erosion control
- windbreaks
- livestock fencing

So far in 2008, Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program has approved 38 projects and allocated over \$52,900. The Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program has approved 39 projects and allocated over \$66,500. Very few funds remain for 2008, but interested landowners should always apply.

To learn more about the programs and how you could get involved, contact KELLIE at ext. 1128 or MEGAN at ext. 1132.

New Life at Perth

The RVCA and Rideau Valley Field Naturalists (RVFN) celebrated the new projects and partners at the Perth Wildlife Reserve on June 20. Guests enjoyed Perth's new Butterfly Garden which is already certified as a Monarch Waystation by the University of Kansas that keeps a registry of sites all across North America. Congratulations to all the RVFN volunteers for their hard work.

With support from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund, wildlife habitat features have been improved — turtle nesting platforms, flying squirrel nests, buckthorn removal and brush piles are just some of the examples of habitat features installed for wildlife.



Guests also hiked the trail, learned with the new interpretive signs and trail brochure and enjoyed the newly renovated observation tower and lookout. KRISTY has more at ext. 1178 or kristy.giles@rvca.ca.

Source Protection Update

Public Meetings a Success!

The Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection team hosted ten public meetings across the region in June. Working with municipal partners, the meetings provided residents with up-to-date information on community municipal water supplies and funding opportunities for stewardship projects. Comments were also gathered on the draft Terms of Reference. Thanks to everyone who attended and to our municipal partners for their support.

Terms of Reference Revised

The SPC Committee considered and discussed all comments received during the public consultation period. The draft Terms of Reference was revised to incorporate specific concerns. The new document, called the Proposed Terms of Reference, is posted on our web site at www.mrsourcewater.ca. A summary of all the changes that were made to the draft versions is also available. If you would prefer a hardcopy, please call 613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext 1147 or visit our offices (8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) at:

- Mississippi Valley Conservation — 4175 Highway 511, Lanark
- Rideau Valley Conservation Authority – 3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick

All comments are due by September 5, 2008.

Clean Water Act

Another piece of the *Clean Water Act* arrived in late June with the posting of the proposed Assessment Report Regulation that describes the details required in the preparation of technical assessment reports. The posting was on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry and comments were due on August 4. You can view the documents at www.ebr.gov.on.ca (registry number 010-3873). For more, contact SOMMER at ext. 1147 or sommer.robertson@mrsourcewater.ca.



Around the Rideau

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Office de protection de la nature de la
vallée de la rivière Rideau

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 692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 www.rvca.ca

Around the Rideau circulation has risen to 3,800 Heads of Council, Councillors, senior municipal and provincial staff, interested persons and the media throughout the 18 municipalities in the Rideau Valley watershed courtesy of:



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