



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

November | December 2008



RVCA Headquarters Takes Gold

The Rideau Valley Conservation Centre has just been certified as Ottawa's and Eastern Ontario's first gold level LEED-certified building! LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is considered to be the worldwide standard in measuring building environmental sustainability. The Conservation Centre is a building that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability by meeting higher performance standards in environmental responsibility and energy efficiency.

"Building to LEED standards costs more money at first, but the payback comes very quickly in energy savings alone," commented RVCA Chair Alan Arbuckle. "Our member municipalities felt it was important that the Conservation Authority show leadership in environmental matters starting with the construction of our new office space." The extra initial costs associated with the LEED designation was partly funded through fundraising efforts. A group of community-minded conservation colleagues donated over \$250,000 to help RVCA build this amazing public asset in southern Ottawa. For more, contact CHARLES at ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

Thanks to the vision of member municipalities and the generosity of private sector sponsors in the Rideau Valley. Working together we are making environmental and economic sense.

Visit us at 3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick.



Winners at the 2008 Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala.

Conservation Award Winners

Kudos to the winners of the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards. The first-ever Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala was held on Wednesday, October 22 to show appreciation for the achievements of everyday people helping the environment in the Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation River watersheds.

"The Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala allows us to publicly recognize and thank those who put time and effort into improving the health of our watersheds," said Mary Bryden, Tri-Valley Gala Committee Chair. "These environmental heroes large and small are a source of pride and a real inspiration to us all. We are delighted to honour them and showcase their work."

Special thanks to our gala sponsors: LIVE 88.5, the Monterey Inn Resort & Conference Centre, Mountain Equipment Coop, Ottawa Region Media Group, Rogers TV, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, GOLDER ASSOCIATES, the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area and our three local Conservation Authorities (MVC, RVCA and SNC).

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Season's Greetings

The RVCA wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Our office will close at noon on December 24, 2008 and will re-open for business at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 5, 2009.



TRI-VALLÉE CONSERVATION AWARDS
PRIX D'EXCELLENCE EN CONSERVATION DES TROIS VALLÉES

GALA

WINNERS

Primary School Category:

1. Meadowview Public School, Addison
2. Drummond Central School, Perth

Intermediate/High School Category:

1. St. Michael Catholic High School, Kemptville
2. Fisher Park Public School, Ottawa

College/University Category:

1. Dr. Frances Pick, University of Ottawa

Agriculture Category:

1. Tom Manley, Berwick

Community Group Category:

1. Otty Lake Association, Perth
2. Dundas Environmental Awareness Group, South Mountain

Individual Category:

1. Gaston Patenaude, Berwick
2. Michael Walters, Ottawa

Business Category:

1. Ottawa Region Media Group
2. Long Island Marine, Kars

Municipal Category:

1. Township of Lanark Highlands



RVCA General Manger, Dell Hallett (far right), presents Karen Hunt and David Reesor of the Otty Lake Association the Tri-Valley Conservation Award for the Community Group

Flood Risk Mapping for Kemptville Creek and Barnes Creek

If you didn't have a chance to attend our open house on November 12, but would like to see and comment on the draft flood risk maps, please contact FERDOUS at ext. 1170 or ferdous.ahmed@rvca.ca.

RVCA engineers created the new maps using recent data and advanced, industry-standard engineering methods. However, in any flood risk-mapping project, there is some uncertainty and approximations. The RVCA wants to minimize the uncertainty by making use of every bit of information that we can obtain about the historical behaviour of the Kemptville Creek and Barnes Creek. Residents and landowners along the river may have anecdotal or documented information such as photographs or journal entries of their observations during past high water events. That kind of information can be very useful for evaluating the "reasonableness" of the flood lines shown on the maps and the study team is anxious to review any past flood evidence that people wish to share.

These maps should be finalized in early 2009 and will be used by planners to determine where development should and should not be located. These maps, like their counterparts on river systems across Ontario, are the cornerstone for keeping people and property safe during high water events.

Thanks!

Baxter Conservation Area's outdoor education programs and the Foley Mountain Children's Nature Discovery Centre are both getting some well-needed education resources, thanks to the J.P. Bickell Foundation. This generous donation is purchasing a class set of binoculars and nature field guide books. RVCA's two flagship outdoor education centres provide important conservation education programs to over 15,000 Eastern Ontario children annually.



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vallée de la rivière Rideau
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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:



- The Base Mapping Co. Ltd, Nepean** (613) 723-8100
 Providing Conservation Authorities with digital topographic mapping for flood plain management.
- Bell Baker, Barristers and Solicitors** (613) 237-3444
 Effectively providing quality legal services in Eastern Ontario for over 40 years.
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