

News Release

CONSERVATION AWARDS GALA EVENING HIGHLIGHTS COMMUNITY WORK

(MISSISSIPPI, RIDEAU AND SOUTH NATION WATERSHEDS)

RIDEAU VALLEY, October 10, 2008 — Thirteen finalists in eight categories from three watersheds across Eastern Ontario will be spotlighted at the first-ever Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala to be held on Wednesday, October 22 at 7 pm in the new Rideau Valley Conservation Centre (corner of Prince of Wales Drive and Rideau Valley Drive) in Manotick. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the celebration! Please consider joining us to shine a little community appreciation on the people who regularly and quietly go about environmental protection not because they have to but because it's the right thing to do. It's going to be fun.

The Gala evening promises to be an exciting mixture of entertainment, good food, conservation-minded people, live music and appreciation of outstanding community environmental work. Katfish and Kornicky, the morning team on LIVE88.5 radio, will MC the Gala. A large audience consisting of municipal, environmental and community people is expected for the event which takes place in the Monterey Boardroom at the new Centre.

The thirteen finalists vying for first and second place prizes are:

Primary Schools Category

- Drummond Central School, Perth
- Meadowview Public School, Addison

Intermediate/High Schools Category

- Fisher Park Public School, Ottawa
- St Michael Catholic High School, Kemptville

College/University Category

- Dr Frances Pick, University of Ottawa

Agriculture Category

- Tom Manley, Homestead Organics, Berwick

Community Groups Category

- Dundas Environmental Awareness Group, South Mountain
- Otty Lake Association, Perth

Individuals Category

- Gaston Patenaude, Berwick
- Michael Walters, West Carleton

Business Category

- Long Island Marine, Kars
- Ottawa Region Media Group, Ottawa

Municipalities Category

- Township of Lanark Highlands, Lanark

Winners will be announced, photographed, congratulated and everyone will be treated to a thoroughly good time at the Gala. A reception following the ceremony is catered by the world-famous Monterey Inn Resort staff. The award ceremony, door prizes, cash bar, networking opportunity, lots of finger foods, live music and information kiosks. We are asking everyone to consider a \$10 gift at the door to help offset the expenses of the evening. All proceeds will be ploughed back in to conservation tree planting in the three watersheds.

It is a pleasure to mention our excellent community partners for the Gala: LIVE88.5 radio, the Monterey Inn Resort & Conference Centre, Mountain Equipment Coop, Ottawa Region Media Group, Rogers TV and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. They are providing an array of financial and ceremony support that warms the heart.

Door prizes are offered by GOLDER ASSOCIATES, the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area and South Nation Conservation. The Conservation Awards Gala is being organized by a volunteer team from the Mississippi Valley Conservation and Foundation, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Foundation and South Nation Conservation.

For more information or for directions to the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre, please call or write: in the Mississippi area, Suzanne McFarlane at 613-259-5307 ext 225 or smcfarlane@mvc.on.ca; in the Rideau area, Charles Billington at 613-692-3571 ext 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca; in the South Nation area, Karen Mortimer at 1-877-984-2948 ext 252 or kmortimer@nation.on.ca.

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