

# News Release

## LOOKING FOR UNSUNG ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES

RIDEAU VALLEY, August 19, 2008 — Do you know someone or some group doing environmental work that helps clean the rivers, lakes, land and air of Eastern Ontario? A teacher, a class of students, a lake association, a small business or farmer perhaps? People who do it because it's the right thing to do and not because they have to? The efforts of these unsung environmental heroes bring benefits to us all and we want to find them.

Nominations are now being accepted for a new environmental award brought to you by three Conservation Authorities of Eastern Ontario. The first-ever Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala will be held on Wednesday, October 22 to show appreciation for the achievements of ordinary, everyday people helping the environment in the Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation River watersheds.

The "tri-valley" area covers more than 12,000 square kilometres from Lanark to Westport to Prescott to Plantagenet and Ottawa. Over 700,000 people live and benefit from the voluntary environmental leadership of local businesses, communities, schools, municipalities and farmers who work daily to sustain the health of our 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."

The seven award categories are: Primary Schools, Intermediate/High Schools, College/University, Agriculture, Community Groups/individuals, Businesses and Municipalities. Projects could include tree planting, water quality protection, shoreline stewardship, outdoor education or any other activities that help protect the health of our environment.

Nominations will be accepted until September 1 and winners will be announced at the Gala on October 22. This evening event will showcase the top two nominees from each of the seven categories. One winner will be announced, from a sealed envelope, for each category.

To download a nomination form please visit:

Mississippi Valley Conservation — [www.mvc.on.ca](http://www.mvc.on.ca)

Rideau Valley Conservation — [www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca)

South Nation Conservation — [www.nation.on.ca](http://www.nation.on.ca)

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More information:

Charles Billington  
Executive Director

Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation  
613-692-3571 or 800-267-3504 ext 1116

[charles.billington@rvca.ca](mailto:charles.billington@rvca.ca)

