



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

September | October 2010

Central Frontenac

Central Frontenac started a septic re-inspection program in the township this summer through the Mississippi-Rideau Septic System Office (MRSSO) in Lanark. This is excellent news for the residents of Eagle and Sharbot Lakes where the township will sponsor 30 re-inspections each over the next three months. Faulty, old, under-sized septic systems remain one of the prime threats to water quality in cottage country. Hats off to the Central Frontenac council for this investment in the future of their lakes! Property owners can call the township at 613-279-2935 or the MRSSO at 613-259-2421 (eric.kohlsmith@rvca.ca) to get information and an appointment.

MRSOURCEWATER.CA

Please visit the new improved Source Water Protection website for the Mississippi and Rideau watersheds. Easy navigation, the latest information, open house and meeting dates, progress towards the Source Protection Plan for the 12 municipal drinking water systems in the region...or call SOMMER, Co-Project Manager at ext 1147 (sommer.robertson@mrsourcewater.ca).

Fish Habitat Mapping

RVCA and MNR (through the provincial Species at Risk Stewardship Fund) are teaming up on a \$62,000 project to begin the process of aquatic species recovery in the watershed. It uses RVCA's experience and extensive database of fish and fish habitat to identify areas of preferred habitat on local creeks and streams for the three fish species at risk (Bridle Shiner, Pugnose Shiner and River Redhorse). The end result will be a catalogue of potential habitat restoration sites for the three local species. JENN for more at jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca or ext 1108.

Blueberry Creek

Flood risk maps are now available for the majority of the Blueberry Creek watershed, a tributary of the Tay River located northwest of Perth. The lower portion of the watershed, up to the railway bridge, was mapped as part of the Tay River project in 1981. With the up-to-date topographical information available thanks to the Source Water Protection program, the rest of the watershed (up to the limits of the topographic maps) has been mapped and is now in use as a municipal and RVCA planning tool. More from FERDOUS at ext 1170 or ferdous.ahmed@rvca.ca.



New Blueberry Creek Maps — the solid line is the updated floodplain and the dashed line is the updated regulation limits.



Rideau Paddling Guides

Ken Watson has added a new feature to his informative Rideau Information website...Rideau Paddling Guides for most reaches of the river from Kingston to Baxter Conservation Area (at the moment). It's a work in progress and Ken hopes to be finished

sometime this fall. Trip Planner, maps, paddling FAQs, distances, points of interest, etiquette...its all there. You can check it out at <http://www.rideau-info.com/canal/paddling/index.html>. Please send your comments direct to KEN at rideauken@gmail.com.

Rural Clean Water

The incentive programs to help protect surface and groundwater quality continue to be popular. Available 2010 funding for both the Rideau Valley (\$80,000) and Ottawa Rural Clean Water (\$140,000) programs was fully allocated by mid-August on 97 approved projects in the watershed. Landowners with potential clean water projects are encouraged to call the LandOwner Resource Centre to discuss their options. Call 613-692-3571 ext 1128 or 1132 or kellie.adams@rvca.ca.

Turtles in Ottawa

Stew Hamill and David Seburn are gathering information on turtle species at risk in the Ottawa area for the Canadian Wildlife Service and you can help! They are checking for habitat, site locations, population size and movements of four turtles: Blanding's, Map, Musk and Spotted Turtles. Public information on any sightings and locations of these species within the City of Ottawa in 2010 would be most helpful. Photo confirmation would be a bonus. Details from STEW at 613-269-3415 or shamill@ripnet.com.

Ottawa's Tree Cover

The City of Ottawa's Green Acres program has just zoomed past the one millionth tree planted and is looking forward to another great planting season next spring. Interested rural landowners with one acre or more of land and willing to plant a minimum of 500 trees are asked to call the LandOwner Resource Centre at (613) 692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext 1128 or 1132. We help prepare a planting plan and may even be able to help reduce your costs substantially through incentive programs. Each new tree is a little environmental cleaning station for air and water and definitely a stem in the right direction. Vacant or dormant field or farm property in rural Ottawa? Please give us a call.

Lake Update 2009 and 2010

Watch for updates to the lake water quality data on the RVCA website (click on Protecting our Water, then Watershed Watch) this fall. RVCA monitors 39 lakes in the watershed each year and reports the findings in the summary table on the website. Many thanks to the lake residents and association members who provide volunteer time and materials (boats & know-how) to assist with the Watershed Watch program on their lakes. MUCH APPRECIATED!! More from PATRICK at ext 1110 or patrick.larson@rvca.ca.

Foundation Reception

Hard to believe that the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation is 40 years old! Everyone associated with the Foundation...our donors, our members, our friends, neighbours and supporters is invited to the 40th Anniversary Reception from 5 – 7 pm on Monday, Sept 27 at the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre in Manotick. Good food, good conversation, commemorative tree plant, speeches, memories and networking with one of the oldest and most respected Conservation Foundations in Eastern Ontario. Thanks to the Monterey Inn Resort & Conference Centre for catering with their usual flair and generosity. MICHELLE for more at ext 1177 or michelle.paton@rvca.ca.

Terry Fox Extension

The City of Ottawa paid for the identification, collection and grafting of "scions" (short budded pieces of new branch) from a healthy Butternut tree which was showing signs of resistance to the canker disease and which was, unfortunately, in the path of the new road. Rose Fleguel, RVCA's Butternut Recovery Technician, grafted the scions onto Black Walnut root stock which will be planted into the Eastern Ontario Butternut Archive at the Ferguson Forest Centre in Kemptville in 2012. Thanks to the City of Ottawa, MNR and Dillon Consulting for this small cooperative project to try and save the DNA of healthy Butternuts. ROSE for details at 613-858-3678 or rose.fleguel@rvca.ca.

Big Biennial Tour

The Mississippi and Rideau CAs are hosting the upcoming provincial Biennial Conservation Tour from Sept 19-21 at the Monterey Inn Resort & Conference Centre on the Rideau near the Hunt Club bridge. Three days of tours, talks and demonstrations of Eastern Ontario conservation projects and down east hospitality. Close to 100 General Managers, Chairs and senior conservation staff will be here. Huge thanks to our beloved local sponsors

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Special thanks to Equator Coffee and the Village of Merrickville-Wolford for sponsoring the tour's refreshment breaks. Information from DIANE at ext 1124 or diane.downey@rvca.ca.



Around the Rideau

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

Box 599, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick, ON K4M 1A5
 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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