

# News Release

## SEEKING WILLING LANDOWNERS FOR TREE PLANTING

RIDEAU VALLEY, September 15, 2010 — Community Announcement — The City of Ottawa's Green Acres program is the proud patron of one million vigorous new native trees planted over the past ten years! This tree-planting milestone was reached in May 2010 in the rural parts of Ottawa.

The Green Acres program, which started out as a partnership between the City of Ottawa, its three Conservation Authorities and the Ottawa Stewardship Council, has blossomed into a tree planting service with some very solid results: one million new trees in the ground, 1,150 acres within the City of Ottawa reforested, 1,087 landowners served, the current 26% tree cover in the city being nudged upwards.

These trees will reach free-to-grow status because the city and its partners go the extra step of monitoring and maintaining these valuable Green Acre plantings. Each of these one million trees is a little environmental cleaning station. Each cleans the air and the soil, provides wildlife habitat, gives off life-sustaining oxygen and helps prevent soil erosion. Multiply that by one million and you get some very significant community benefits for up to 80 years for a small initial investment.

"The City of Ottawa's commitment to supporting tree planting is greatly appreciated", said Alan Arbuckle, Chair of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. "To my knowledge, the city's investment in green infrastructure is second to none in Ontario. We congratulate the City for its vision and commitment to a healthy urban and rural environment."

Green Acres continues in 2011 and another successful planting season is being planned now. Interested rural landowners with one acre or more of land willing to plant a minimum of 500 trees are encouraged to contact the LandOwner Resource Centre at 613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext 1128 or 1132 for more information. The Green Acres program helps cover up to 50% of the cost of the tree seedlings, site preparation, planting and tending, and also offers technical advice and guidance to rural landowners within the city. Landowners with five acres or more may be eligible for an even greater incentive.

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More Information:

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