

NEWS RELEASE

SERIOUS TREE PLANTING GOING ON HERE — FOUR MILLION TREES SINCE 1983!

RIDEAU VALLEY, APRIL 11, 2011 — The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) and its funding, administrative and planting partners will plant their four millionth tree in the watershed this spring since the tree planting program began in 1983. This special tree is hidden among the 200,000 seedlings scheduled for planting between now and early May in the 200-km long watershed planting ground between the City of Ottawa and South Frontenac Township north of Kingston.

This major milestone of four million trees means we are smack dab in the middle of some very serious tree planting. Thanks to the many, community-minded funding partners throughout the years, over \$5 million has been raised to support tree planting since 1983. The total value of the team's reforestation effort including the landowner contributions is closer to \$6.4 million and has resulted in over 4,500 acres of abandoned land back in trees.

The generous financial partners for the 2011 plant include the Carleton University Charity Ball, Chris Simmonds Architect Inc, City of Ottawa, Conservation Ontario Biennial Tour 2010, Ducks Unlimited, LiVE885 Radio, McGarry Funeral Homes and Chapels, Monterey Inn Resort and Conference Centre, Mississippi Valley Conservation and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Rural Clean Water Programs, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources 50 Million Tree Program, Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association, Ottawa Stewardship Council, Pratt & Whitney Canada Inc, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation's Memorial Tree and Carbon Neutral Programs, Tree Canada and the many landowners who willingly offer their properties as planting sites throughout the valley.

This serious Eastern Ontario tree planting team is steered by the City of Ottawa, dozens of community-minded landowners, Mississippi Valley Conservation, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ottawa Stewardship Council and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority.

Even as we plant the very impressive 2011 crop of trees, it is time to prepare for the 2012 spring planting season. Interested rural land owners with one acre or more of land suitable for planting and willing to plant a minimum of 500 trees are encouraged to call the LandOwner Resource Centre at (613) 692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext 1128 or 1132 for information and site visits.

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More information: Dan Cooper, Private Land Forestry Manager, RVCA
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