

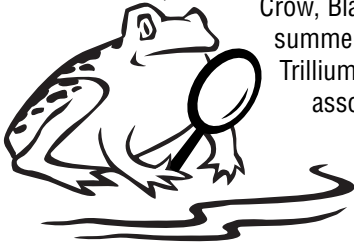


AROUND THE RIDEAU

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR
MUNICIPALITIES IN THE RIDEAU VALLEY

July • August 2003

WATERSHED WATCH



Intensive water sampling is underway on Bobs, Crow, Black, Otter, Pike and Christie Lakes this summer. Watershed Watch thanks the Ontario Trillium Foundation, FENDOCK, area lake associations and volunteers for their time and dedication to the project. For more information, contact **Marina** at (613) 692-3571 ext. 1109.

TAKING THE AIR

Come enjoy the wilderness trails, sandy beaches, scenic lookouts, fishing hotspots, goose landing zones, and lakeside picnic areas in our eight magnificent family conservation areas located throughout the Rideau Valley. To get our new free conservation areas brochure describing each park, call the **LandOwner Resource Centre** at 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-2390 ext. 1163 or jpinsonnault@rideauvalley.on.ca.

SANDI SLATER MEMORIAL WALK

The walk is progressing thanks to an unprecedented outpouring of memorial gifts in honour of Mrs. Slater. The "Official Opening" of the walk is scheduled for Saturday October 4th at the Meisel Woods property near Crow Lake in Central Frontenac. Watch for details. More from **Cliff** at ext. 1134.



DRILLING A NEW WELL?

The new well inspection pilot program is off to a good start! Since the official launch on June 16th, over twenty new wells have been drilled and inspected to confirm that they have been properly constructed. And calls keep coming in! Don't miss out on this great opportunity to get your well inspected and water tested free of charge! If you are drilling a new well and are located within the City of Ottawa, call the **LandOwner Resource Centre** at (613) 692-3571 ext. 1132 or 1128 to get involved. Thank you to all the local well contractors, and a special thanks to Air Rock Drilling Co

Ltd for their assistance in getting this pilot program up and running successfully.

OTTAWA RURAL CLEAN WATER

Ottawa's Rural Clean Water Program has been extended to the end of 2003 with a new groundwater component dealing with wells. If you are interested in applying for grants and obtaining technical help for a project (private well replacement, sewage system repair or replacement, erosion protection, waste/nutrient management, educational initiatives...) that will improve water quality of our waterways and groundwater reserves this year, contact the **LandOwner Resource Centre** at 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-3571 ext. 1128 or ext. 1132.

MAJOR CITY ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENT

The City of Ottawa and its Conservation partners (Mississippi Valley Conservation, South Nation Conservation and RVCA) signed a Memorandum of Agreement on June 11, 2003 to improve environmental protection through the municipal review process. Conservation partners will help the City with planning and development applications by providing environmental advice. This agreement will save taxpayers' time and money and help ensure the achievement of municipal environmental protection goals. More information from **Don** at ext. 1105 or dmacplan@rideauvalley.on.ca.

RIDEAU CANAL HONOURED

An embossed Canadian ash paddle was offered to Dave Ballinger, Director of Canal Operations, during the RVCA meeting held in Westport on June 26th, for the important role Parks Canada played in the creation of the Chapman Mills Conservation Area. The south Nepean Development Corporation and Minto Developments Inc also generously donated land and funds. More information from **Charles** at ext. 1116.

NEW SHORELINE STEWARDSHIP DIRECTORY!

RVCA is developing a directory of stewardship groups in the valley on behalf of the 20 or so groups in the stewardship business. Find out what these groups are doing to improve and protect our shorelines (workshops, advice, naturalization projects)! If you would like a copy or if you are interested in adding your group to the directory, please contact the **LandOwner Resource Centre** at 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-2390. It will shortly be available on our website at www.rideauvalley.on.ca and www.lrconline.com.

CONSERVATION AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the 2002 Conservation Awards winners: the Environment Committee of Ottawa South (ECOS) and Muskies Canada (Ottawa Valley Chapter), Maureen Towaij of Perth, and Lawrence Renton of Kars! Thanks to all individuals, groups and companies for your remarkable volunteer work in protecting and enhancing the Rideau Valley! More information from **Charles** at ext. 1116.

BUG ME

The RVCA's Benthic Macroinvertebrate Sampling Program is in its 5th year.



Bugs are great barometers of pollution. Some can tolerate pollution while others can't. By sampling stream-bottom invertebrates (caddisflies, damselflies, crayfish, aquatic snails and worms, etc), the program will determine changes in stream water conditions and levels of pollution over time. Aquatic invertebrates are sampled at 28 sites throughout the watershed (twice as many as in the past four years!) in May and October. More information from **Jennifer** at ext. 1108.



“Chapman Mills is a good example of how public-private partnerships can bring excellent benefits to the environment and the people of the Rideau watershed.”

Dave Ballinger, Director of Canal Operations on accepting a paddle of thanks, June 26, 2003

CONSERVATION AT IPM!

From September 17-20, 2003 Lanark is hosting the International Plowing Match, which will feature a dynamic Conservation Zone. This year’s “zone” will focus on understanding the benefits of conservation in our everyday lives. Participants include CA’s, Stewardship Councils and many other partners. Hands on displays, a managed woodlot, demonstration sites displaying septic systems, shoreline protection, agriculture BMPs and proper wellhead construction, presentations on various wildlife topics and over 40 local agencies and organizations that will have booths in the Conservation Tent. More information from **Sommer** at ext. 1128.

SHORELINE HOME VISITS

The Centre for Sustainable Watersheds in Portland offers advice and individual recommendations for your shoreline (regulations, native and invasive species, water quality, septs and others). Need assistance in restoring and improving your waterfront? Contact **Chris Brown** (brown@watersheds.ca) or **Barbara Robbins** (robbins@watersheds.ca) (613) 272-5136.



TREES FOR TOMORROW

Rainfall has made spring 2003 a good year for tree planting in the Rideau Valley. A total of 132,000 new native seedlings were planted in the Valley by the RVCA, private landowners and volunteer groups. Tree planting is a great way of improving our local environment. Interest is already strong for 2004. Call the **LandOwner**

Resource Centre at 692-2390 ext. 1128 or 1132 to get involved.

CITY STREAM WATCH

This partnered project is producing valuable new data on Black Rapids Creek, Sawmill Creek, Mud Creek (Manotick) and Cardinal Creek. Volunteer teams do Stream Assessments in 100 metre sections of each creek. By mid-July, Coordinator Brian Bezaire reports that 88 sections or 8.8 km of stream has been mapped for flora, fauna, stream characteristics and shoreline conditions. These stream valleys appear important for wildlife and fish habitat. Lots of room for more volunteers. Training and equipment supplied. Everyone welcome. Contact **Brian** at 580-2424 ext 33550 or Brian.Bezaire@ottawa.ca.

FREE LRC CATALOGUE!

The **LandOwner Resource Centre** has a new catalogue of environmental info. Call or write at (613) 692-2390 or info@lrconline.com to get one free.

GUIDE TO EATING ONTARIO SPORT FISH

Are you concerned about contaminants in Ontario Sport Fish? Get advice on fish consumption and how to clean and cook fish to reduce contaminants. This free guide provides contamination levels in fish specific to your lake. Where else? Call the **LandOwner Resource Centre**. 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-3571 ext. 1128 or ext. 1132.



WETLAND TEACHER KIT

Would you like to take your class on a field trip to a local wetland? Ducks Unlimited Canada’s **Adopt-a-Class** and **Greenwing** programs offer a wetland kit to meet the Grade 4 curriculum expectations under the Habitats and Communities science strand. Visit www.ducks.ca and www.epals.ca for more information or call 1-888-402-4444 or 1-800-665-DUCK. **The Baxter Conservation Area** is the designated site for visits in the Rideau Valley area.

CITY OF OTTAWA’S ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS DIRECTORY

Funding information from various sources supporting environmental projects such as School/Park Naturalization, “Clean-Ups”, Farming Practices, Water and Wetlands, Forestry, Outdoor recreation and more. To access the directory, visit www.ottawa.ca and to City Services, then Grants, or call **Sarah Desjardins** at 580-2424 ext. 22792.

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Many thanks to our corporate partners for their continuing support of conservation programs: the **McGarry Family of Hulse Playfair & McGarry Funeral Homes, Monarch Homes, FENDOCK** (attractive maintenance-free, structural aluminum modular docks), **Robinson’s your Independent Grocer, Bushtukah** (for great outdoor gear), **RBC Financial Services, Spincraft Electric Boats, Ontario Power Generation, and the Arrow and the Loon Pub.**



AROUND THE RIDEAU

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Office de protection de la nature de la vallée de la rivière Rideau
Box 599
Manotick, Ontario K4M 1A5
692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504
www.rideauvalley.on.ca

Around the Rideau circulation has risen to 2,500 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 our friends at:

The Base Mapping Co. Ltd, Nepean (613) 723-8100
Providing Conservation Authorities with digital topographic mapping for flood plain management.

Bell Baker, Barristers and Solicitors (613) 237-3444
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