

RVCA Work In

North Grenville

The strength and resiliency of our local communities rely on the Rideau River and its surrounding watershed. Without lakes, rivers, streams, forests, wetlands, floodplains, natural shorelines and groundwater aquifers, we wouldn't have air to breathe, water to drink, places to boat, swim and fish, water and soil to support agriculture and industry or green spaces to explore and relax in. Simply put, natural areas sustain life. They also support economic development and property values, reduce flood, erosion and drought impacts and they are the best defense against climate change.

Since people and the natural environment are interconnected and interdependent, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) works closely with local municipalities, residents and other partners to deliver programs and services that protect, restore and enhance the Rideau watershed. RVCA's work also protects people and property from natural hazards like flooding and erosion.

Serving your Municipality

It's hard to find a municipal service that RVCA's programs don't support either directly or indirectly. We provide watershed knowledge and expertise that guides municipal decision-making, assists with emergency management and ensures sustainable development.

Our programs also support local economic development, tourism and recreation and we provide these programs in a consistent cost-effective manner across the watershed.

- **Source water protection** — develop and implement local policies to protect sources of municipal drinking water and regional groundwater
- **Flood protection and warning** — reduce the threat of loss of life and property damage, helping municipalities prepare and deal with potential flooding and flood emergencies
- **Low water response** — enable communication amongst water management agencies and water consumers and facilitate optimal management when resources are scarce
- **Development regulations** — regulate development on hazard lands (floodplains, steep slopes, unstable soil) and in environmentally sensitive areas (wetlands, shorelines and valley lands) under *Ontario Regulation 174/06 — Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation*
- **Planning services** — provide professional, technical review of planning proposals within or adjacent to natural hazards and environmentally sensitive areas for member municipalities regarding official plan amendments, zoning by-law amendments, plans of subdivision, site plans, consents/severances and minor variances
- **Septic approvals and re-inspections** — provide inspection and approval services for new or replacement septic systems under the *Ontario Building Code* and provide re-inspection services for existing septic systems to ensure they function properly, especially around lakes
- **Watershed monitoring** — collect data to better understand watershed health and pursue targeted remediation efforts for maximum benefit
- **Subwatershed and catchment reporting** — present municipalities with science-based information that allows for the adoption and implementation of policies and programs that ensure the health of watersheds and the achievement of long-term watershed management goals
- **Conservation lands** — manage 3,000+ hectares of sensitive, natural land for strategic protection of vulnerable habitats and valuable local resources

What it means in North Grenville

- The *Middle Rideau Subwatershed Report* was released in 2016 along with detailed reports for its ten catchments; this is the second reporting cycle for the Middle Rideau following the 2009 report.
- The *Kemptville Creek Subwatershed Report* was issued in 2014 along with detailed data sheets for six catchments that flow into the creek.
- Policy interpretation, implementation tools and other support was provided to North Grenville municipal staff regarding the *Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Plan*, which focuses on policies to protect municipal sources of drinking water and is required under the *Clean Water Act*. We provide specially trained Risk Management Officials and Inspectors to implement the *Clean Water Act Part IV* policies within the Municipality of North Grenville. Source Protection staff collaborated with the Municipality of North Grenville to finalize a Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report amendment for a new municipal drinking water system in the Town of Kemptville and revise the Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids policies.
- RVCA staff participate in North Grenville's Development Review Team meetings to bring constraints to the attention of proponents early in their project planning. This involvement saves proponents time and money and streamlines the review of applications leading to faster approval times.
- **51** square kilometres of hazard mapping (floodplain, steep slopes, unstable soils, wetlands, shorelines and valley lands) completed in North Grenville.
- **18** flood forecasting messages for the Rideau River watershed and **17** flood messages for the Ottawa River watershed were issued in 2019; **3** low water response messages were issued; **19** sites monitored for water levels, **10** monitored for precipitation and **6** sites monitored for snowpack.
- **14** severances, **10** zoning by-law amendments, **9** minor variances, **8** pre-consultations, **6** site plan control, **2** Official Plan Amendments, **1** subdivision review, **1** *Aggregate Resources Act* review and **1** *Environmental Assessment Act* Technical Advisory Committee input completed in 2019 under *Conservation Authority Planning Act* responsibilities.
- **25** hectares of conservation land is owned and protected in North Grenville by the RVCA and the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation.
- **17** stream water quality sites sampled as part of RVCA baseline monitoring and one stream water quality site sampled as part of the provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network located in North Grenville.
- **5** sites are sampled for water quality conditions in the spring and fall for the Ontario Benthic Biomonitoring Network.
- **1** Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network well located in North Grenville which measures water levels hourly.

Serving your Residents

RVCA works closely with watershed residents to provide friendly, technical guidance and support to help landowners develop their property in a sustainable manner. We also provide support and financial assistance to help property owners undertake stewardship projects that benefit the watershed. At our popular conservation areas, the RVCA also provides outdoor recreation opportunities and looks to educate the next generation of conservationists. By investing in our watershed — the land and the people — we are creating healthy, resilient communities.

- **Stewardship programs** — work with landowners to restore and improve our watershed through tree planting and shoreline naturalization projects; provide technical advice and assistance for on-the-ground efforts
- **Grant programs** — help landowners complete projects that improve water quality, wildlife habitat and overall ecosystem health
- **Education programs** — provide high quality curriculum-based environmental education programs and summer day camps to watershed children — creating our future watershed guardians
- **Conservation areas** — offer 11 developed conservation areas for public use and enjoyment; inexpensive, outdoor, recreational experiences including trails, boat launches, beaches, picnic shelters, education programs for schools and community groups and summer day camps
- **Property & environmental information and resources** — create and distribute environmental information; support real estate transactions with property-specific information regarding natural hazards and environmentally sensitive areas; provide peace-of-mind through septic approvals and re-inspections that systems are constructed and working properly

What it means in North Grenville

- **105** property inquiries, **20** applications, **19** complaints and **16** clearance letters processed regarding Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in 2019.
- **9,200** trees planted in North Grenville in 2019 through the Trees for Tomorrow Program with fundraised dollars totaling **\$13,891** for a total project value of **\$21,343**. To date the RVCA has completed **49** projects planting a total of **146,030** trees in North Grenville.
- **631** butternut seedlings planted in North Grenville through the Butternut Recovery Program since 2007.
- **23** Rural Clean Water projects approved in North Grenville in 2019 — **\$43,108** allocated to projects valued at **\$145,377**; **288** Rural Clean Water projects approved in North Grenville since 2002 — **\$427,477** allocated to projects valued at \$1,875,676.
- **4** Shoreline Naturalization projects completed in 2019 — **180** trees and shrubs planted totaling **58** metres of new buffer with **\$3,026** funding towards a project value of **\$3,466**; **40** projects completed since 2009 — **4,553** trees and shrubs planted totaling **1,669** metres of new buffer with **\$42,630** funding towards a project value of **\$47,339**.
- **2** conservation areas are easily accessible by North Grenville residents and students — W.A. Taylor near Osgoode and Baxter Conservation Area near Kars.

Dollars and Cents

The RVCA's 2020 budget is \$10.74 million. Levy requests amount to just over half of our revenue meaning another \$4.7 million is coming from other sources such as fundraising, grants, user fees, the province and special levies.

This means at the RVCA, every \$1 from our member municipalities translates into \$2 being invested into the Rideau

watershed for all. The RVCA is able to maximize valuable watershed programs and services through diverse funding sources and creative partnerships — work that could not be achieved without our many important partners.

North Grenville 2020 levy = \$99,975.29

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