

# AROUND the Rideau



July / August 2021



A huge thank you to Michel and Philip Charron, who raised more than \$500 for Nature for All during their birthday celebrations! The 10-year-old Metcalfe twins asked for donations to Nature for All in lieu of birthday gifts this year. They're pictured on the new accessible mat installed at Baxter beach earlier this spring.



## Nature for All planking on \$25,000 for Baxter bridge project

Plank by plank, together we can bridge the gap in accessibility at Baxter Conservation Area. Nature For All has launched its public Plank by Plank campaign to raise \$25,000 for the 1,000 wooden planks required to build a new boardwalk and bridge at Baxter.

Donate one plank for \$25 or adopt a metre for \$100. You can also donate a metre of accessible railings for \$50 or buy a bag of hardware for only \$10. Of course, all donation amounts are welcome to reach the campaign goal. The Nature For All project has a total cost of about \$1 million. For more information contact DIANE at [diane.downey@rvca.ca](mailto:diane.downey@rvca.ca).



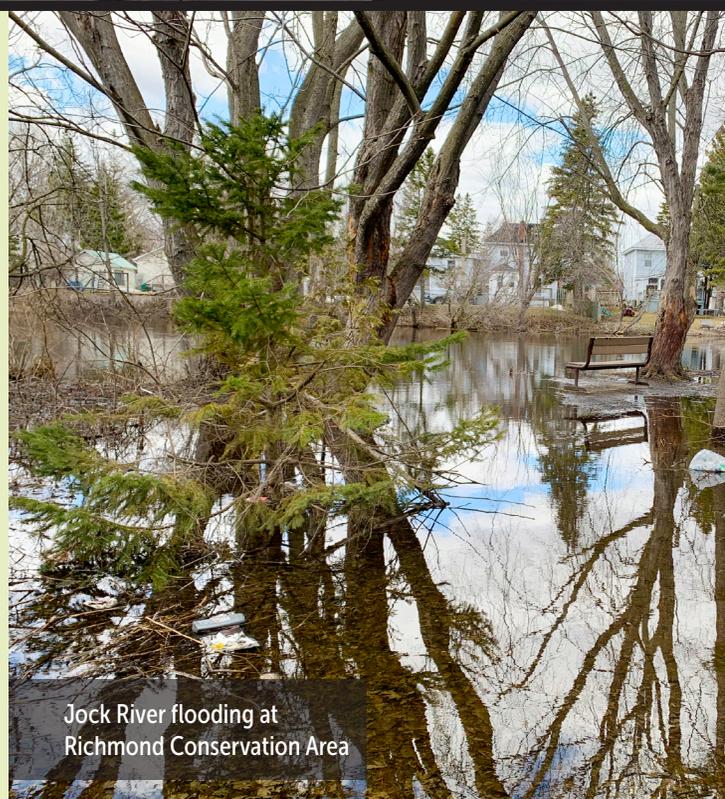
Baxter bridge and boardwalk is in need of TLC!

## Upper Jock River open house planned for fall

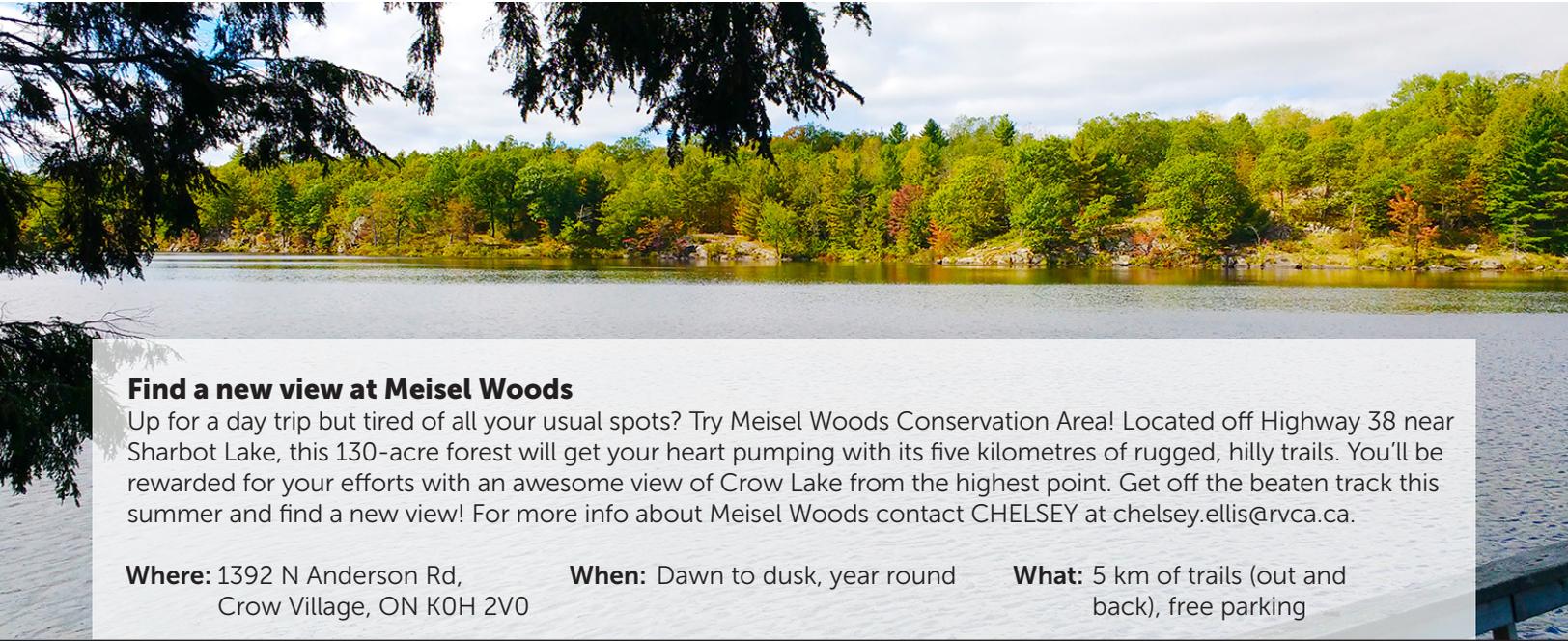
RVCA is working on several hazard mapping studies in co-operation with local municipalities to identify, study and map natural hazard areas along local rivers, lakes, streams and wetlands. Work is ongoing for the following areas:

- Stevens Creek (North Gower)
- Monahan Drain (Kanata South)
- Mosquito Creek (Riverside South)
- Bilberry Creek (Innes Road to Ottawa River)
- Upper Jock River Hazard Land Mapping Study (Beckwith Township)
- Middle Rideau River (from Burritt's Rapids to Smiths Falls)
- Wolfe/Sand Lake System

Staff plan to host an open house for the Upper Jock River study in Fall 2021. For more information about our ongoing hazard mapping projects visit [www.rvca.ca/watershed-monitoring-reporting](http://www.rvca.ca/watershed-monitoring-reporting). You can direct questions or comments to FERDOUS at [ferdous.ahmed@rvca.ca](mailto:ferdous.ahmed@rvca.ca).



Jock River flooding at Richmond Conservation Area



**Find a new view at Meisel Woods**

Up for a day trip but tired of all your usual spots? Try Meisel Woods Conservation Area! Located off Highway 38 near Sharbot Lake, this 130-acre forest will get your heart pumping with its five kilometres of rugged, hilly trails. You'll be rewarded for your efforts with an awesome view of Crow Lake from the highest point. Get off the beaten track this summer and find a new view! For more info about Meisel Woods contact CHELSEY at [chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca](mailto:chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca).

**Where:** 1392 N Anderson Rd,  
Crow Village, ON K0H 2V0

**When:** Dawn to dusk, year round

**What:** 5 km of trails (out and back), free parking

**Despite recent rain, minor low water conditions continue**

The Rideau Valley Low Water Response Team maintained a Level 1 low water advisory for the watershed when it met for the third time on August 10. Although increased rainfall has brought some local areas back to normal levels, rainfall has varied across the watershed leaving other areas still quite low. The low water response team is led by the RVCA and includes member municipalities and government agencies. The team is asking residents and businesses to reduce non-essential water use as much as possible during the dry period. For more information contact BRIAN at [brian.stratton@rvca.ca](mailto:brian.stratton@rvca.ca).



A very dry Barnes Creek, North Grenville, June 2021



Rebecca Whitman gets creative with online learning

**Virtual visits keep outdoor education alive for schools**

The global pandemic once again cancelled in-person school field trips this spring, but Foley Mountain site supervisor Rebecca Whitman and Baxter site supervisor Andrea Wood got creative to continue delivering their outdoor education programs online. Thanks to a TD Friends of the Environment grant through Friends of Foley Mountain, Rebecca delivered 40 free live virtual programs to 776 staff and students this spring. At Baxter, Andrea teamed up with the Ottawa Catholic School Board to create a virtual field trip pilot program, which included live and pre-recorded educational programs. Thanks to all the staff, students and partners who let the outdoors into the classroom this year! For more information contact REBECCA at [rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca](mailto:rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca).



The RVCA Board of Directors sends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Guy Desjardins, mayor of Clarence-Rockland and sitting board member at the authority. Mr. Desjardins passed away on July 3.

**AROUND the Rideau** is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

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[www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca)

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**Ramada Ottawa on the Rideau** — 613-288-3500 | [www.ramadaottawa.com](http://www.ramadaottawa.com)  
Offers 87 fully renovated rooms with balconies overlooking the Rideau River, banquet facilities, full service restaurant and outdoor pool. Pet friendly.