



Around the Rideau

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN THE RIDEAU VALLEY

November/December 2017



Focus on Forestry

Forestry Programs, Prepped & Ready!

RVCA forestry staff are prepped and ready to hit the ground running for this spring's tree planting and forestry programs. Here's what's been happening:

- Site preparations are all complete for this coming spring
- The final tree order has been placed
- 170 survival assessments completed on past planting projects
- Preparations are underway to plant the six millionth tree
- Forestry Management Plans for RVCA Conservation Lands are being completed for the 2018 Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program deadline

If you have at least one acre of land and are willing to plant 500+ trees you can sign up for 2019's spring tree plant — it's never too early to plan. For more information on these stories, contact SCOTT at ext. 1175 or scott.danford@rvca.ca.

Eastern Ontario Woodlot Conference

Since 1987 this informative conference brings woodlot owners from across the region together to discuss topical issues. Each February the conference is held in Kemptville and it is made possible by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Eastern Ontario Model Forest and local chapters of the Ontario Woodlot Association. Stay tuned for more details.



RVCA Forestry Staffer April Stevenson poses with ten-year-old red and white pine tree plantation — those trees are "lookin' good."



2018 Winter Adventurers PA Day Camps

Fill up those PA days with winter fun! Programs are geared for kids aged six to twelve and are led by our knowledgeable RVCA interpreters. Learn how to snowshoe, put up a shelter, build campfires and cook outdoors! Each session can accommodate up to 25 children. Pre-registration is required. All camps run from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Baxter's camp dates are January 26, January 31 and February 16, 2018. Foley Mountain's camp date is January 31, 2018.

To register for Baxter contact ANDREA at 613-489-3592, andrea.wood@rvca.ca — the cost is \$45/child and \$40 for additional children in the same family. To register for Foley Mountain contact LEAH at 613-273-3255 or leah.roberts@rvca.ca — the cost is \$40/child with \$35 for additional children in the same family. You can download the registration form at www.rvca.ca, select "outdoor education," then choose "day camps" at either Baxter or Foley Mountain.

Seasons Greetings

RVCA will be closed from December 22 at 4:30 p.m. until January 2, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Ottawa Septic System Office Submission Deadlines for December 2017

- Applications (New/replacement/Renovations/file search): Friday, December 15, 2017 @ 4:00 p.m.
- Inspections: Friday, December 15, 2017 @ 4:00 p.m.

Note: Submissions received AFTER deadline date noted above shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by Chief Building Official and/or held over to Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

A group of students enjoy snowshoeing at Baxter Conservation Area

Rideau Corridor Recognition Awards

We're happy to announce that the RVCA's Perth Wildlife Reserve won a Rideau Corridor Recognition Award and is considered a model for how the environment and heritage of the Rideau Corridor (Tay Canal) may be enhanced through a range of creative and quality protection and awareness-building activities. The Reserve helps protect the Tay Marsh Provincially Significant Wetland and Jebbs Creek wetland and engages visitors with its Butterfly Garden and trail, bird-watching tours, the Tay Marsh lookout, interpretive panels on natural and cultural heritage, and protected areas to support species at risk. Thank you to the Friends of the Tay Watershed for nominating us.

Rebecca Whitman, Supervisor at Foley Mountain Conservation Area, also received an honourable mention in the Community Building category. She was recognized for her passionate protection of the natural environment and firm belief in educating the next generation as a key to sustaining the local ecosystem to benefit humans, flora and fauna. Since 2008, Rebecca has led outdoor environmental education programs combining modern technology with traditional outdoor activities. Contact DAN for more information at ext. 1124 or dan.cooper@rvca.ca.



RVCA General Manager Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Foley Mountain Conservation Supervisor Rebecca Whitman and RVCA Field Operations Technician Scott Muldoon pose with their plaques from the Rideau Corridor Awards

City Stream Watch Plans Ahead

There may be snow on the ground but that doesn't mean the City Stream Watch team is hibernating. In 2018 staff and volunteers will complete monitoring assessment for Nepean Creek, Ottawa east Tributary (Martins Corner), Taylor Creek (Petrie Island), Mud Creek (Gloucester) and Black Creek (Gloucester). The program conducts aquatic habitat surveys on 23 stream throughout the City of Ottawa and encourages volunteers to sign up and help in the monitoring and enhancement of these vibrant city streams. The program offers volunteer opportunities in the form of workshops and demonstration events, shoreline restoration projects, invasive species removals, stream clean ups and stream habitat assessments. To find out more or to sign up for our mailing list visit www.rvca.ca/volunteer/city-stream-watch. Contact ROSARIO for more information at ext. 1155 or rosario.castanon.escobar@rvca.ca.

Nature Inspiration Awards

RVCA's City Stream Watch Program received a nod from the Canadian Museum of Nature's Nature Inspiration Awards! The Award recognize individuals and organizations that, through their work or specific projects, encourage Canadians to take an interest in natural history, create links with nature and contribute to its preservation. Our City Stream Watch Program was recognized



as a finalist in the Not-for-Profit Organization (Large) category. The winner in this category was the Royal Ontario Museum for their Blue Whale exhibition. The ceremony was held at the Canadian Museum of Nature on November 8, 2017. Contact JENNIFER for more information at ext. 1108 or jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca.

Ultimate Aquatics Workshop

Held on October 21, this workshop highlighted RVCA's monitoring and collection methods for benthic macro-invertebrates (bottom dwelling aquatic bugs used as indicators of the biological health of waterbodies) and fish. The afternoon session was led by the Ottawa Flyfishers Society (ottawaflyfishers.com) who discussed the relationships between habitat, stream function and benthos and how they relate to fly fishing. The club also provided hands on instruction in fly fishing for the volunteer participants. We want to thank everyone who attended the workshop and especially the Ottawa Flyfishers Society for their collaboration. Contact ROSARIO for more information at ext. 1155 or rosario.castanon.escobar@rvca.ca.



Staff demonstrating RVCA's monitoring and collection methods

Foundation Memorial Programs

The Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation has two wonderful programs for friends and families to honour loved ones that have passed away. The Memorial Bench Program provides comfortable, contemplative benches as a lasting tribute to family and friends who so enjoyed nature and the peace and quiet of our conservation lands. As well, the Memorial Tree Program plants trees in memory of departed loved ones or friends. Contact MICHAEL for more information at 613-692-6823 or michael.poliwoda@rvcf.ca.

Memorial Bench Program

These six-foot long, sturdy, Canadian-made benches in two styles can be installed permanently in any of the established conservation areas of your choice in the valley. Each bench features a commemorative plaque with the name of the honoured person and a few words from the family. To find out more, visit www.rvcf.ca/memorial_benches/index.html.

Memorial Tree Program

The Memorial Tree Program offers several options. You can plant a single tree, a small grove of trees (five trees) with tending included, a large grove of trees (10 trees) with tending as well as a family forest (25 trees) with tending included. All trees are planted on sites within the Rideau Valley. These trees are planted without name plates or planting location identified but family and friends know there is a vibrant, native tree growing as a tribute. The idea of natural areas with lovely mature trees help us all cope with the difficult times in our lives, get details at www.rvcf.ca/memorial_tree/index.html.



Around the Rideau

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