



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

March | April 2015

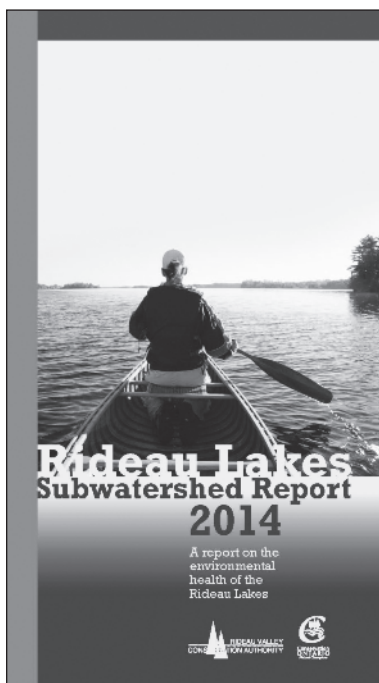


Spring Water Awareness

As warmer spring weather approaches, snow and ice melt and waterways begin to fill up with cold, fast-moving water. Children are often interested in exploring rushing streams and thawing ponds during the warm days of spring. However, these areas can be unsafe and it is important to teach about the dangers of these areas. RVCA has educational resources available through our Spring Water Awareness Program; these include background information about spring flooding, "Safety Says" video with teacher notes, activity ideas, resources and sheets for use by classroom teachers, general curriculum information, information for students to take home during flood season, posters and dam safety resource materials from Ontario Power Generation. Visit www.rvca.ca/careas/swap for more information.

Rideau Lakes Subwatershed Report

The *Rideau Lakes Subwatershed Report 2014* is now available. This is the last in a family of subwatershed reports that summarizes the health of one of the Rideau's six subwatersheds. These reports look at watershed



health indicators: water quality, forest cover, wetlands, shorelines and water quality. Residents and municipalities now have a reliable set of baseline information to track future trends and target stewardship initiatives in the Rideau Lakes. The report also highlights efforts to improve watershed health. Detailed technical catchments reports will also be available in the coming weeks. Contact MARTIN at ext. 1163 or martin.czarski@rvca.ca to learn more about RVCA's subwatershed reports or DIANE at ext. 1126 or diane.downey@rvca.ca to get your complimentary printed copy.

Jock River Project Wins Prestigious National Conservation Award

The RVCA, Ottawa Chapter of Muskies Canada, National Defence Headquarters Fish and Game Club and Ottawa Flyfishers Society are thrilled to announce that they have won the Top Canadian Fishing Industry Conservation Project Award for 2014. The Jock River Fish Habitat Embayment Creation Project saw the creation of 1,000 square metres of new spawning, nursery, rearing and feeding habitat at the Richmond Conservation Area in the City of Ottawa. This transformation will support the 40 plus species of fish that reside in the Jock River — including muskellunge and northern pike. The new wetland will provide habitat to birds, amphibians and turtles and increase overall biodiversity. It will also improve shoreline stability and protect water quality. The project is a result of wonderful partners and the hard, diligent work of supportive volunteers. Jennifer Lamoureux, RVCA Biologist, along with project partners Peter Levick from Muskies Canada attended the official presentation at the Industry Breakfast on February 13 at the Spring Fishing and Boat Show at the International Centre in Mississauga. Contact JENNIFER at ext. 1108 or jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca for more.



Left-to-right: John M. Casselman, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Queen's University, Department of Biology and 2015 Inductee into the Canadian Angler Hall of Fame; Bruce Park, Member of the Canadian Angler Hall of Fame and one of the founders of Muskies Canada; Peter Levick, President of Muskies Canada; Jennifer Lamoureux, RVCA Biologist and Ian Young, Past President of Muskies Canada

Restore Your Shore This Spring!

RVCA's Shoreline Naturalization Program is working with landowners to plant 5,000+ healthy, native trees and shrubs along waterways this spring. These new plants will help protect water quality, reduce erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. Want to participate next year? Program staff will help you design your own individualized shoreline naturalization project. Custom planting plans, native plants and assistance with planting are all available to shoreline landowners. If you live in the Rideau Lakes area, you may qualify for a FREE project this year. Site visits begin in June. Contact ANDREA for more information at ext. 1173 or andrea.klymko@rvca.ca.

City Stream Watch—2014/2015 Update

2014 saw the City Stream Watch Program (CSW) examine four creek systems —Sawmill, Mud, Black Rapids and Cardinal Creeks. 288 dedicated volunteers participated for a total of 1,116 volunteer hours. Three kilometres of six different streams were cleaned, seven invasive species removed, 28 fish sampling sites and 14 temperature probes were installed. In 2015 CSW will re-examine streams surveyed in 2009, Barrhaven, Stillwater, Mosquito and Bilberry Creeks. Streams are surveyed every six years to determine how conditions have changed and to identify restoration and stewardship opportunities. CSW relies on and encourages community volunteers to learn about and conduct stream assessments. Guided by knowledgeable RVCA staff, volunteers participate in fish sampling, stream clean-ups, invasive species removals and stream rehabilitation projects. Final reports on stream health are available at www.rvca.ca/programs/streamwatch. Contact CHELSEY at ext. 1180 or chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca to learn more or to become a volunteer.

Summer Fun at Baxter and Foley

It seems like a long way away, but now is the time to plan for summer camps! Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas offer exceptional camps — games, hikes, crafts, swimming, canoeing and overnight camps.

Baxter:

Nature Explorers Day Camps (6–12 yrs)

- July 6–10
- July 13–17
- July 20–24
- August 10–14
- August 17–21

Canoe Camps July 20–24 and August 17–21 (10–14 yrs)

For more information contact ANDREA at 613-489-3592 www.rvca.ca/careas/Baxter

Foley Mountain:

Nature Explorers Day Camp • July 20–24 and August 10–14 (6–12 yrs)

- Free Morning Programs*
- Fantastic Forests: July 9 (Group Camp)
 - Survival in the Woods August 6 (Group Camp)
 - Pond Life: August 27 (Group Camp)

Kinder Camps

- Kinders in the Woods: July 17 (4–6 yrs)
- Kinders in the Woods: July 31 (4–6 yrs)
- Kinders in the Woods: August 21 (4–6 yrs)
- Outdoor Leadership & Adventure: July 14 (9–14 yrs)
- Naturally Artistic: July 28 (6–12 yrs)
- Nature's Super Heros: August 4 (6–12 yrs)
- Home Sweet Habitat: August 18 (6–12 yrs)
- Incredible Insects: August 25 (6–12 yrs)

Full-day Programs

For more information contact REBECCA at 613-273-3255 www.rvca.ca/careas/foley

RVCA Poised to Plant 5 Millionth Tree

RVCA is preparing to plant its five millionth tree in the watershed this spring! RVCA started its tree planting programs back in 1983. Now, 32 years later, we'll celebrate by planting of our five millionth tree. This planting season, RVCA will plant 240,000 trees in the watershed. RVCA offers full service planting programs with huge subsidies that make it incredibly easy and affordable for landowners to have trees planted on their land. If you have a minimum of one acre of land and would like to plant trees on your property go to www.rvca.ca or contact SCOTT at ext. 1175 or scott.danford@rvca.ca.

Check first – You may need a permit!

If you are planning to work around lakes, rivers, streams or wetlands you may need a permit. Make sure you call the RVCA before you start work. RVCA staff can provide quick, efficient and free advice on your plans and give you guidance on permits or applications that may be needed. Helpful stewardship programs may also apply to your project (grants and technical assistance). Call 613-692-3571 or visit our website www.rvca.ca under "Planning, Regulations and Permits" to know what local rules and regulations may apply.



Upcoming Community Tree Plants

- **Brewer Park Pond Community Shoreline Tree Plant** – May 9
- **Jock River Embayment Project Shoreline Community Tree Plant** – May 16

Details will be available soon! To learn more or to participate contact JENNIFER at ext. 1108 or jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca

RVCA Welcomes New Board Members

RVCA welcomed its 2015 Board of Directors at its Annual General Meeting held on February 26. The new Board is made up of 22 members — one from each of the sixteen Middle and Upper Rideau municipalities plus six representatives from the City of Ottawa (Clarence-Rockland declines appointment). "The RVCA prides itself on being a local, grassroots, municipally-driven organization," said Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, RVCA General Manager. "We welcome new and returning members to the Board of Directors and look forward to working together to reflect the needs of our member municipalities." The Board elected Lyle Pederson (Elizabethtown-Kitley) as Chair and Ed Hand (Ottawa) as Vice-Chair. RVCA's 2015 Board is: Andy Jozefowicz (Athens); Dale McLenaghan (Augusta); Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith); Victor Heese (Central Frontenac); Ray Scissons (Drummond/North Elmsley); Lyle Pederson (Elizabethtown-Kitley); Anne Barr (Merrickville-Wolford); Vince Carroll (Montague); Gerry Boyce (North Dundas); Barclay Cormack (North Grenville); Erin Greco, Ed Hand, Pieter Leenhouts, Scott Moffatt, Ralph Pentland and Tom Scott (City of Ottawa); Judy Brown (Perth); Jeff Banks (Rideau Lakes); Joe Gallipeau (Smiths Falls); Pat Barr (South Frontenac); Brian Campbell (Tay Valley); Gerald Schwinghamer (Westport). Contact SOMMER at ext. 1214 or sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca.



Around the Rideau

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Ramada Ottawa on the Rideau — 613-288-3500, Previously The Monterey Hotel — Offers 87 fully renovated rooms with balconies overlooking the Rideau River. It is an Oasis in the city

