



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

September | October 2011

Free Shoreline Planting

Making Shorelines Natural project staff are still accepting requests for site visits for properties along Becketts Creek, Bilberry Creek, Sawmill Creek, Stevens Creek and the Jock River. Interested property owners along these creeks are eligible for a complimentary planting project on their shorelines thanks to funding from Environment Canada. All planting projects include a site visit, planting plan, native plants and planting by RVCA staff. ANDREA can tell you more at ext. 1173 or andrea.klymko@rvca.ca.

Water Festival

Teachers! Here's your chance to provide a memorable, interactive and fun learning experience about water for your students . . . and best of all, it is free! The Eastern Ontario Water Festival is coming to the RVCA's Baxter Conservation Area on October 6. The festival is a full-day, water-themed environmental education program that complements Ontario Curriculum. Book now because space is limited. For more details, visit www.rvca.ca/water_festival.

Participate in the Perth Survey

We are welcoming public input for our Perth Wildlife Reserve Management Plan. We are updating the site's master plan and reviewing changes to current management objectives. For a paper copy, please contact the RVCA office at 613-692-3571 ext. 1100 or simply go online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/PerthMGMTPlan.

A public open house is also being planned for November 2 at the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley Municipal Office from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Participants will be able to review the draft management plan and provide additional feedback. For more details, contact KRISTY at ext. 1178 or kristy.giles@rvca.ca.

Fall Foliage at Foley

Looking for a Sunday drive destination? Don't forget about Foley Mountain. Fall colours are just around the corner and Foley provides spectacular views. Take a stroll down the Jack Herbert Mobility Trail that offers 955 feet of barrier free access for those with walkers, wheelchairs or strollers and leads to an impressive view of Upper Rideau Lake and its lush shoreline. And of course there's always the breathtaking panoramic view from Foley's Spy Rock. Six dollars gets you and your car full of passengers into the park. Learn more about Foley Mountain at www.rvca.ca/areas/foley.

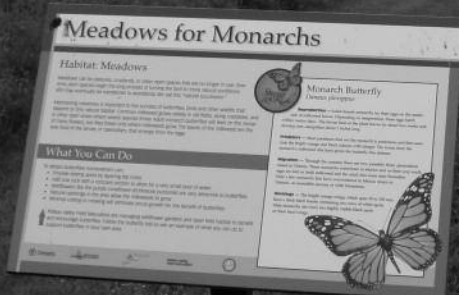
10th Annual Lake Links Workshop

Join us for the 10th Annual Lake Links Workshop, "Developing Eastern Ontario Lakes Sustainability," at the Perth Civitan Hall on Saturday October 29, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This annual event brings together citizens, representatives from local lake and river associations, government and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. Expert speakers will provide decision-making tools you can use whether you're a shoreline property owner, lake association member, environmental planner or want to know what's in store for our region. Admission is \$12 and includes lunch and refreshments. For more information or to register, contact BARBARA KING, Centre for Sustainable Watersheds info@watersheds.ca or 613-272-5136.

Watch your Wake on the Rideau

Parks Canada is hoping to slow boats down to improve safety and reduce wake. Watch for new signs that will clearly identify where the "no wake zones" begin and end. For more information visit www.parksCanada.ca/rideau. Our eroding shorelines will thank you.

Located on the Tay Marsh, the Perth Wildlife Reserve nurtures a variety of diverse plant and wildlife species promoting biodiversity. Deer, ducks, Canada geese, rabbits, butterflies, turtles, wild turkeys and bluebirds are some of the wildlife that is found on the 257-hectare site. This conservation area is specifically geared to wildlife management, but offers close to four kilometres of trails for public use.





Water Levels

It has been a dry summer and water levels continue to decline throughout the Rideau watershed. Boaters on some lakes may be finding a few shoals and rocks that they have not seen before so extra care is needed. Visit www.rvca.ca and click on "Current Watershed

Conditions" for monthly information and graphs of flows and levels on the rivers and the reservoir lakes. PATRICK can tell you more at ext. 1110 or patrick.larson@rvca.ca.

Steve Simmering Conservation Land Endowment

The Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation (RVCF) is pleased to introduce a new fund that will help maintain public wilderness and waterfront land for the people of the Rideau Valley in years ahead. The Simmering family, the RVCA and the Conservation Foundation are honoured to present this endowment fund named in honour of Steve Simmering — a well-respected, successful businessman from the Ottawa area. More and more families are donating their beloved summer and rural properties to the Conservation Foundation to be kept in a natural state for perpetuity. This fund will provide a reliable and consistent cash flow to care for these lands. Consider making a donation at www.rvcf.ca or call CHARLES for more information at ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

Butternut Seed Collection



RVCA has beat the squirrels to the punch this August by collecting 16,000 butternut seeds from healthy, DNA tested, native pure butternut parent trees (we are quite choosy aren't we?!). These special seeds are now being sown into nursery beds at the Ferguson Forest Center and we are hoping for a 50 percent germination rate or about 8,000 butternut seedlings. These seedlings will grow for one year and be ready for planting in the spring of 2013.

Want to learn more about our endangered butternut trees and the RVCA's Recovery Program visit www.rvca.ca and click on "Protecting our Land" in the index on the left.

Contact ROSE at 613-858-3678 or rose.fleguel@rvca.ca for more information.

Congratulations Pike Lake!

Congratulations to the Pike Lake Community Association for the completion of their lake stewardship guide, *Keeping Pike Lake Healthy: Our Lake Stewardship Handbook with Practical How-Tos*. The handbook provides an overview of Pike Lake, the issues it faces and simple actions that individuals and

the community can do to help keep Pike Lake healthy. In addition to this guidebook, the Pike Lake Community also recently released a book: *Voices of Pike Lake*. More than 40 Pike Lake community members contributed to the book, which celebrates the people, places and events associated with the history of Pike Lake. Congratulations to all involved. For more information contact KAY ROGERS at cameronrogers@xplornet.ca.

Shoreline Owners: Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus Stolonifera*) Love it! Plant it!

This shrub with dark red branches is not only very attractive in the winter, but birds will love the fruit. Averaging one and a half to two metres in size, it has pretty white flowers in late May and white bluish fruit in late summer. This shrub is perfect for shorelines as it can endure flooding for periods of up to a month. A very adaptable plant, it grows well in clay or sandy soils, hilly terrain and poorly drained areas. It is perfect for steep slopes and shorelines with a developed root system that retains soil and stops erosion. Learn more about shoreline planting by contacting ANDREA at ext. 1173 or andrea.klymko@rvca.ca.



Jock River Catchment Data Sheets

Get detailed information on the groundwater features, land cover, riparian zone conditions, surface water quality features and more for each of the Jock's seven tributaries. Visit www.rvca.ca and look under "New Publications" for a link. MARTIN can answer your questions at ext. 1163 or martin.cazrski@rvca.ca.

The Trillium

The RVCF is slowly growing a magnificent practical and sustainable program of protection for our local environment. Learn more about the RVCF's popular programs and activities in their new newsletter called *The Trillium* (online at www.rvcf.ca after October 1). Sincere thanks to the generous people and businesses in the valley who make it all possible. CHARLES can tell you more at ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

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Around the Rideau

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