



Around the Rideau

Environmental Information For Municipalities In The Rideau Valley

January | February 2012

Flood Forecasting and Warning

The RVCA provides member municipalities and local residents advance notice and information about potential flooding. The RVCA's Flood Forecasting and Warning System operates 12 months a year (along with its involvement with the Low Water Response Team).

When warranted, the RVCA will issue information to municipal emergency managers and the public. Three types of messages will be used:

Watershed Condition Statements — water safety or flood outlooks. These statements contain information about the current conditions of the watershed that set the stage for the possibility of flooding if the right weather patterns develop. Be informed and be aware!

Flood Watch — these messages are issued when it is perceived that flooding could result from an approaching weather system that could bring heavy rain or warm air causing a rapid snowmelt. Be prepared to activate your flood response plans if it becomes necessary.

Flood Warning — these messages are issued when it is perceived that flooding conditions definitely will be experienced. Activate your flood response now.

It is the RVCA's job to notify municipalities and residents of the potential flooding from our rivers, creeks and streams. It is up to each individual to develop a flood plan specific to their property and their needs.

Are you in a flood vulnerable area? Find out by contacting an RVCA Resource Specialist at 613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-350 ext. 1128 or 1132.

Want flood messages sent directly to your email account? Contact ANDREA at andrea.larsen@rvca.ca. You can also follow us on Twitter ([RideauValleyCA](https://twitter.com/RideauValleyCA)) or like us on Facebook!

Vote Now!

Help us make the Permanent Pedestrian Bridge at Chapman Mills a Reality!

With your vote, our pedestrian bridge project at Chapman Mills could become reality. Molson Coors Community Cheer project is considering our project for special funding, but it needs your online vote. We need at least 225 votes, but the more the better. We want Molson to know how important this project is to the community and the many neighbours who enjoy our Conservation Area.

We are hoping for \$50,000 to complete the funding needs for this \$150,000 project. **Cheer deadline is February 10, 2012!** So go now to <http://www.ourcommunitycheer.com> and search for Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation to vote for this local community project! Get details from CHARLES at ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

Coming this March — Tay River Subwatershed Report

If you love living in the Tay subwatershed, you won't want to miss this upcoming environmental report card. This March, the RVCA will be releasing the *2012 Tay River Subwatershed Report*. This is the third in the series of subwatershed reports that summarize the health of the Rideau's six subwatersheds by looking at four indicators — forest cover, wetlands, shoreline vegetation and surface water quality. Residents and municipalities in the area now have a reliable set of baseline information for tracking future trends and for targeting stewardship activities. The report also highlights the efforts being made by the RVCA, landowners and other organizations to improve conditions in the subwatershed. More detailed, technical information is available through individual catchment data sheets which will be available online at www.rvca.ca. To get your complimentary, printed copy, please contact DIANE at diane.downey@rvca.ca or 613-692-3571 ext. 1126.

Reporting Schedule:
2015 — Rideau Lakes
2014 — Kemptville Creek
2013 — Lower Rideau
2012 — Tay River
2011 — Jock River
2010 — Middle Rideau

Thank you! to all 2011 City Stream Watch Volunteers!

The 2011 City Stream Watch program had another extremely successful year, thanks to its fantastic group of volunteers! Three streams were surveyed (Beckett's Creek, Pinecrest Creek, Steven's Creek) for a total of 32.4 kilometres of stream and 324 stream surveys! Two hundred and twenty-two volunteers spent a total of 1,575 hours working on local streams, from assisting with habitat surveys, fish sampling, and removing invasive species to planting native shrubs and trees on shorelines and cleaning up human garbage from seven and a half kilometres of stream. The overall program is guided by a group of seven members: Ottawa Flyfishers Society, Heron Park Community Association, Rideau Roundtable, NDHQ Fish and Game Club, National Capital Commission, City of Ottawa and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. Thank you to our sponsors in 2011, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Canada Science and Technology Internship. To get involved with 2012 plantings, contact JULIA at ext. 1180 or julia.sutton@rvca.ca.



More Thank yous!

Warm and Cozy by the Foley Fireplace

Very special thanks to all our generous sponsors for reviving the Foley Mountain Fireplace. Come by the Interpretive Centre and enjoy it for yourself or call REBECCA for details at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca.

- Thanks to:
- Friends of Foley Mountain
 - Hudson Burnbrae Foundation
 - Kudrinko's
 - Rideau Valley Hearth and Home

YakTrax at Foley

Special thanks to the Rideau Lakes Environmental Foundation (RLEF) for supporting our outdoor programming! The RLEF helped fund the purchase of YakTrax to allow for walking and hiking in snowy or icy walking conditions. REBECCA has the details at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca.

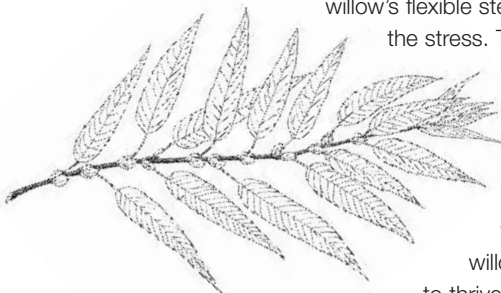
Keeping Children Safe — Spring Water Awareness Program 2012

RVCA is pleased to offer this free safety program to watershed schools. Our outdoor education staff will visit schools in March and bookings are now being accepted from teachers of grade four on a first come-first served basis. Games, demonstrations and discussion about spring water awareness just for children. Call REBECCA if you are in the Westport area at 613-273-3255 or at rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca. If you are in the Ottawa Area, call ANDREA at 613-489-3592 or andrea.wood@rvca.ca. Special thanks to our community minded partners at Ontario Power Generation for supporting this RVCA program.

“Shoreline Owners: Don’t Hate Me Because I’m Beautiful.”

Shrubby Willow (*salix*)

Perfect for where ice movement is a problem, the willow’s flexible stem can survive the stress. The gray-green foliage is pretty in the summer and the bright bark shows well in the winter. The willow’s ability to thrive in poor soils and wet conditions, plus its ability to quickly develop new roots, make it particularly useful for shoreline plantings and stabilizing banks. Shrubby willows (e.g. Bebb’s *Salix bebbiana* and Sandbar *Salix exigua*) grow up to a height of two to three metres and are easily pruned so it won’t block your beautiful river or lake view. To learn more about willows or RVCA shoreline planting grants, contacting ANDREA at ext. 1173 or andrea.klymko@rvca.ca.



Nominate Now! Tri-Valley Conservation Award

Now is the time to nominate your conservation hero for the Tri-Valley Conservation Award. If you know someone from the Mississippi, Rideau or South Nation watersheds who are doing their part to improve or maintain local water quality, then please complete a nomination form available at www.rvcf.ca. We have three new Lifetime Achievement Awards for each watershed. Nominations are being accepted until Thursday, March 1, 2012. Winners will be announced and recognized at the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala to be held at the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre in Manotick in April. Call CHARLES for more at ext. 1116 or charles.billington@rvca.ca.

Summer Jobs

RVCA will be hiring post-secondary students this summer for field and office jobs. For more information visit the student job posting in the Careers section of the RVCA website. Interested students can e-mail their resume to studentjobs@rvca.ca.

2012 Conservation Area Pass

Enjoy the great outdoors with our 2012 Conservation Area Pass. Get access to all of our conservation areas — Foley Mountain, Baxter, Mill Pond, Meisel Woods and more. To get your annual pass application, visit www.rvca.ca/careas or give us a call at 1-800-267-3504 ext. 1100.

Tweet Stuff on Twitter!

To get the latest updates on trail conditions, water levels or any Authority programs, follow us on Twitter. Our twitter handle is “RideauValleyCA” (diane.downey@rvca.ca).

Are We Friends Yet?

Look for us on Facebook and be sure to “Like Us” (diane.downey@rvca.ca).



Around the Rideau

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 692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504
www.rvca.ca

Around the Rideau circulation has risen to 3,800 Heads of Council, Councillors, senior municipal and provincial staff, interested persons and the media throughout the 18 municipalities in the Rideau Valley watershed courtesy of our generous sponsors:



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