



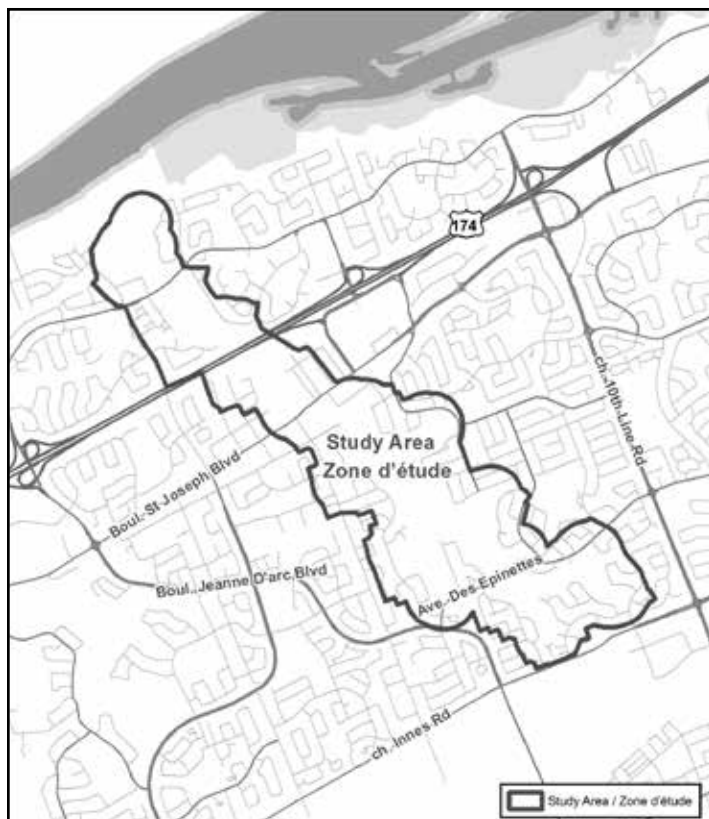
Rideau Valley
Conservation
Authority

Bilberry Creek Hazard Mapping Project

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) conserves natural resources and manages natural hazards in the Rideau River valley for everyone's benefit. In cooperation with local municipalities and the province, the RVCA identifies, studies and maps natural hazard areas along local rivers, lakes, streams and wetlands. Natural hazard areas include floodplains and unstable slopes.

The RVCA is conducting several hazard mapping studies on watercourses within the City of Ottawa. These studies are being completed through a collaboration involving the City of Ottawa and the Mississippi Valley, Rideau Valley and South Nation Conservation Authorities. To learn more, visit www.rvca.ca/ottawa-mapping-project.

Currently a mapping project is underway in your community along Bilberry Creek from Innes Road to the Ottawa River.



What is being identified?

Hazard maps for Bilberry Creek identify:

- 1) Flood risk hazards
- 2) Slope stability hazards (unstable soils and erosion)

1) Flood Risk Hazards

A flood risk study for the Bilberry Creek catchment is now available for public review.

This study includes hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, historical rainfall records, soil classification, land use and topographical data to produce estimates of the 1:100 year flood discharge. This information is then used to identify the corresponding water surface elevations and flood elevations for the watercourses under consideration.

RVCA flood risk mapping studies follow technical guidelines established under the Canada-Ontario Flood Damage Reduction Program (MNR, 1986) and the technical guide for flood hazard delineation in Ontario (MNR, 2002) as laid out by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

The resulting flood risk maps identify areas along watercourses that are vulnerable to flooding and where new development is to be restricted or prohibited in accordance with provincial and municipal planning policies.

2) Slope Stability Hazards (Unstable Soils and Erosion)

Efforts are underway to better understand slope stability and erosion hazards along Bilberry Creek. Special geotechnical studies will be conducted over the coming months to better understand site-specific conditions. This information will be used to complete the hazard mapping which will be shared with the public at a similar open house.

How are natural hazard maps used?

When completed, natural hazard mapping will be used by the City of Ottawa when updating their Official Plans and Zoning Schedules and in the review of development applications under the *Planning Act*.

The RVCA will use the same mapping in the administration of regulations made under the *Ontario Regulation 174/06 — Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation*.

The role of the RVCA's Planning and Regulation Program is to review and regulate development proposals with the purpose of reducing impacts on the control of flooding, pollution, erosion and conservation of land.

RVCA's work is important as it protects watercourses, floodplains, wetlands, shorelines and valley lands — and it protects you and your neighbours from flooding, erosion and loss of natural features and functions.

My property is now identified as being in the floodplain/flood risk area. How will this impact my property?

As part of its mandate, the RVCA regulates development in environmentally sensitive areas such as floodplains, wetlands, shorelines and waterways (*Ontario Regulation 174/06 — Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation*). As much of the Bilberry Creek Area is already developed, properties in the regulated area would require project review and approval prior to any construction projects such as new buildings (garages, sheds), additions, swimming pools, etc.

The RVCA also reviews planning applications (*Planning Act*) as they relate to natural hazards and natural heritage features and provide comments to municipalities. Development applications under the Planning Act can include severances and subdivisions for new lot creation, minor variances for new construction, reconstruction or additions, rezoning and site plan submissions.

With hazard mapping in place, the RVCA will have regulation limits that clearly outline where development, interference and alterations require approval from the RVCA. Regulation limits include buffer areas around the hazard as prescribed in provincial regulations.

What can or can't I do on my property?

It depends on the location of your property. We can help. Once we know the exact location of your property, an RVCA Resource Specialist can help determine if your property falls within the flood risk area. Call 613-692-3571 extension 1193 or 1132 to connect with a Resource Specialist, email development@rvca.ca or submit a property inquiry form available online at www.rvca.ca/regulations-planning. You can also see the maps online at www.rvca.ca/bilberry-creek.

Do you have information to share?

The RVCA welcomes every bit of information that we can obtain about the historical behaviour of local watercourses. Residents and landowners along these features may have anecdotal or documented information such as photographs or journal entries of their observations during past high water events. That kind of information can be very useful for evaluating the "reasonableness" of the flood lines shown on the maps and the study team is happy to review any past flood information that people wish to share.

This information can be shared at any time following the announcement of the mapping study to two weeks after the presentation of the mapping at the public open house. The open house allows landowners to view and comment on the draft maps and speak with Authority staff on how the new hazard lines were determined. Landowners who cannot attend this meeting can view the maps online at www.rvca.ca/bilberry-creek or at the RVCA head office by booking an appointment with a Resource Specialist at 613-692-3571 extension 1193 or 1132 or development@rvca.ca.

Interested parties are asked to submit their input within two weeks of the open house.

Hazard Mapping Open House

We welcome you to see the draft flood risk maps at the public open house. We also invite you to learn more about the ongoing work regarding unstable slopes and erosion along Bilberry Creek.

Bilberry Creek Hazard Mapping Open House

Queenswood Heights Community Centre
1485 Duford Drive, Orleans
Thursday, April 25, 2019, 4 to 8 p.m.

For more information:

For questions on how the new mapping may impact your specific property, contact:

RVCA Resource Specialists — 613-692-3571
extension 1193 or 1132 | development@rvca.ca

