



RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY WATERSHED BRIEFS

October 2011

A newsletter for municipal councillors

2011 Board of Directors

Andy Jozefowicz *Athens*

Lee Armstrong *Augusta*

John Campbell *Beckwith*

Tom Dewey *Central Frontenac*

No appointment *Clarence-Rockland*

Ray Scissons *Drummond/North Elmsley*

Lyle Pederson *Elizabethtown-Kitley*

Jim Anderton *Merrickville-Wolford*

Vince Carroll *Montague*

Gerry Boyce *North Dundas*

Barclay Cormack *North Grenville*

David Crowley *Perth*

Rob Dunfield *Rideau Lakes*

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Smiths Falls

Gary Davison *South Frontenac*

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Bradley Wing *Westport*

City of Ottawa

Alan Arbuckle, RVCA Chair

David Chernushenko

Steve Curtis

Steve Desroches

Ed Hand

Magda Kubasiewicz

Source Water Open Houses — Draft Policies and Funding

Open houses are being held to share draft source protection policies with the public. These policies would place requirements or restrictions on the types of activities taking place near municipal wells and upstream of municipal surface water intakes. The goal is to keep contaminants out of drinking water sources. New funding will also be announced to help property owners in these areas implement certain risk mitigation measures. Let us know what you think about the draft policies by December 2, 2011 so we can revise policies where needed. Open houses are 4 to 8 p.m. with a presentation at 6 p.m. (sommer.robertson@mrsOURCEwater.ca).

- ▶ November 14 – Richmond Fairgrounds
- ▶ November 16 – Almonte Old Town Hall
- ▶ November 21 – Carp Fairgrounds
- ▶ November 22 – Merrickville Community Centre
- ▶ November 24 – Perth Legion

Rideau River Lane Flood Wall Repairs

Preventative maintenance work has recently been completed on the Rideau River Lane Flood Control Wall. Located in the Old Ottawa South Community (north bank of Rideau River just west of Bank Street opposite Billings Bridge Shopping Centre), the reinforced concrete wall was built in 1996 and protects 14 flood vulnerable townhouse units. Concrete sealant was injected into approximately 50 linear metres of cracks in the 15-year old structure. This preventative maintenance work extends the service life of the structure by reducing deterioration of the concrete due to water penetration and freeze-thaw action throughout the winter months. Costs for the project approach \$10,000 and are supported by pre-approved grants under the Provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program and a special levy payable by Ottawa as the benefitting municipality (bruce.reid@rvca.ca).

Britannia Village Flood Control Project

Back in 2007, Ottawa City Council gave the green light for a remedial flood control project for the Britannia Village community located in the City's west end along the scenic shores of the Ottawa River. Engineering consultants from Delcan Corporation have presented two options to the Community Liaison Working Group (CLWG) for consideration. The design options take into account the comments and concerns of landowners whose properties would be most directly affected by the construction and maintenance of the flood control barrier. The refined designs are much more acceptable; however, the overall cost is expected to exceed the cost ceiling approved by the City of Ottawa Council. Members of the CLWG are considering their position and whether or not the benefitting community would be prepared to increase its contribution towards the project's cost. The RVCA awaits further direction from the City about next steps (bruce.reid@rvca.ca).



Tri-Valley Awards – Nominate Your Environmental Hero

Here's your chance to shine a little recognition on your environmental hero — the 2011 Tri-Valley Awards are now accepting nominations! If you know someone in the Mississippi, Rideau or South Nation Watersheds who are doing their part to improve or maintain local water quality, then please complete the nomination form available online at our foundation website — www.rvcf.ca. There are three new categories for a total of 11: primary school, intermediate/high school, college/university, agriculture, community group, individual, business, municipality and Lifetime Achievement in each of the three valleys. The Tri-Valley Gala will take place Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre (charles.billington@rvca.ca).



Board of Director's Meetings

Thursday, December 15, 2011

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MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES: Please consider nominating your municipality for its strong environmental performance in 2011 — new recycling program, tree planting, garbage diversion, septic re-inspection service, new official plan, etc.



New Addition to Foley Mountain

Since the early 1990s, a pine log barn has sat idle at the Perth Wildlife Reserve. Thanks to special funding through the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities, the RVCA has moved the barn to the Foley Mountain Conservation Area. The logs and rafters were dismantled, numbered and reconstructed and the 28 foot by 44 foot building will now be used to store education materials for the some 3,000 students who participate in the curriculum-based programs offered at Foley (kristy.giles@rvca.ca).

Regulatory Flood Levels for Bobs Lake and Big Rideau/Lower Rideau Lake

RVCA is steadily working to complete its inventory of regulation limits mapping. There are many inland lakes in the watershed where the regulatory (1:100 year) flood level and corresponding flood lines have not been defined. Having the flood level defined will help the general public, landowners and RVCA staff understand where regulations are in effect. RVCA staff will be better able to evaluate and approve development or site alteration proposals on the shorelines of our lakes.

RVCA staff have just completed two separate technical studies to determine the regulatory flood levels for Bobs Lake and Big Rideau/Lower Rideau Lake. Field surveys, hydrotechnical analysis and modeling tools were used to establish the flood levels. Flood risk limits could not be drawn in the absence of good quality topographic maps. The studies recommend the following:

Big Rideau/Lower Rideau Lake Regulatory Flood Level =

124.51 to 125 metres above sea level

Bobs Lake Regulatory Flood Level =

163.07 to 163.87 metres above sea level

To view the technical studies that determined these numbers, please visit the RVCA website at www.rvca.ca/watershed/surface_water_quantity/floodrisk_overview.htm (ferdous.ahmed@rvca.ca).

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Photo: Simon Lunn