

# RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY WATERSHED BRIEFS

August 2012

A newsletter for municipal councillors

## 2012 Board of Directors

Andy Jozefowicz *Athens*  
Lee Armstrong *Augusta*  
Sharon Mousseau *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*  
Ken Graham, RVCA Chair *Smiths Falls*  
Mark Tinlin *South Frontenac*  
John H. Miller *Tay Valley*  
Bradley Wing *Westport*

## City of Ottawa

Alan Arbuckle, RVCA Past Chair  
David Chernushenko  
Steve Curtis  
Steve Desroches  
Ed Hand, RVCA Vice Chair  
Magda Kubasiewicz

## Our Services are Your Services — Continued!

We've said it a couple times now, but we'll say it again — the RVCA is pleased to be at your service! By working together, watershed municipalities and RVCA combine efforts and resources to provide exceptional environmental services to our watershed residents.

## Are your Municipal Residents using our Services?

The RVCA, on behalf of its watershed municipalities, offers a number of services to municipal residents. Take up is generally very good, and if it isn't good in your municipality, then let's talk and find ways to reach-out to your residents to get more involvement ([diane.downey@rvca.ca](mailto:diane.downey@rvca.ca)). So far, we've looked at Reforestation and Clean Water Programs. This month we'll look at our Shoreline Naturalization Program.

## Shoreline Naturalization Program

The Shoreline Naturalization Program is the RVCA's newest stewardship program. Initiated in 2009, the program offers technical guidance and financial assistance to waterfront property owners interested in naturalizing their shorelines.

The Shoreline Naturalization Program has continuing success with volunteer support including over thirty partner groups and the City Stream Watch Program. External fundraising efforts have allowed the program to take on additional projects including bioengineering, soil remediation and wildflower demonstration gardens.

## Program Highlights:

- Free on-site visits with qualified staff that provide simple, cost-effective advice on "how to" protect shorelines
- 75 percent incentive grant (up to a maximum of \$1,000) for approved shoreline naturalization projects
- Project planning and support:
  - shoreline planting plan development
  - types of plants to use and local sources for plant stock
  - planting advice and/or assistance
- Shoreline naturalization workshops, talks and project assistance for community or lake groups



**RVCA Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, September 27, 2012  
7:00 p.m.

Monterey Boardroom,  
Rideau Valley Conservation Centre

**Are your Municipal Residents using our Services?**

See previous Watershed Brief for other program details:

June 2012 — Reforestation Program  
July 2012 — Clean Water Program

Available online at [www.rvca.ca/news](http://www.rvca.ca/news) under Watershed Briefs.

**Why Naturalize Your Shoreline?**

A naturalized shoreline is rich with native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and other plants and has minimal human interference. Natural shorelines have many benefits including:

- Water quality protection — shoreline plants act as filters, absorbing excess nutrients and contaminants and slowing surface water runoff
- Erosion protection — shoreline plants help hold soil in place and help absorb wave energy
- Wildlife habitat improvement — natural shorelines enhances wildlife habitat by providing food, shelter, and safe travel corridors
- Added bonuses — reduces lawn maintenance, helps with flood abatement, discourages nuisance geese, and provides wind breaks

**Program Highlights:**

- 100+ projects completed
- 29,000 plants installed (trees, shrubs, wildflowers)
- 11 km of shoreline planted
- 200-300 volunteers annually
- 30+ partner groups
- \$207,500 external fundraising for staff and project costs
- \$36,500 spent in incentive grants and project costs, (projects valued at over \$133,700 including in-kind contributions)



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

**Hitting the Hot Spots — Providing Exceptional Delivery and Outreach**

RVCA Stewardship and Watershed Science and Engineering Services use our in-house monitoring data to target areas in the watershed that are in most need. Target areas will coincide with the release of our annual Subwatershed Report and Catchment Reports. First on the list is the Tay Subwatershed (2012-2013) followed by the Lower Rideau and Kemptville Subwatersheds in subsequent years.

Thanks to external fundraising including a \$90,000 grant from Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program, the Shoreline Naturalization Program will be providing projects FREE to landowners in the target areas.

Municipality	Number of Projects	Number of Plants	Kilometres of Shoreline	Number of Volunteers
Central Frontenac	3	257	111	0
City of Ottawa	60	20,951	8,426	684
Clarence-Rockland	2	61	410	0
Drummond/North Elmsley	7	1,383	260	29
Elizabethtown-Kitley	1	430	120	7
Merrickville-Wolford	4	690	648	2
Montague	1	175	54	0
North Grenville	5	650	126	0
Perth	1	285	160	24
Rideau Lakes	8	2,643	681	44
South Frontenac	2	130	48	0
Tay Valley	16	1,450	482	5
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>29,105</b>	<b>11,526</b>	<b>795</b>



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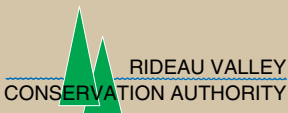
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