

NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNITY SHORELINE TREE PLANTS WITH CITY STREAM WATCH! CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

RIDEAU VALLEY, APRIL 6, 2011 — City Stream Watch is joining forces with the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation's Making Shorelines Natural program to plant close to 5,000 native shrubs and trees on three tributaries- Stillwater Creek (Bells Corners), Black Rapids Creek (Barrhaven) and Mud Creek (Manotick) — this spring. Volunteer planters are needed to help get these young trees and shrubs into place on shorelines in our community by mid-May.

Dates and sites for planting:

- **Stillwater Creek:** Saturday, April 30, 8:30am to 12pm
- **Black Rapids Creek:** Saturday, May 7, 8:30am to 12pm
- **Stillwater Creek:** Sunday, May 15, 8:30am to 12pm

The plantings along **Mud Creek** are smaller, private sites. If you are interested in assisting with tree planting on Mud Creek around Manotick during weekdays in May, please contact Julia with the dates and times you would be available, and scheduling will be on an individual basis.

Interested volunteers are asked to sign up and receive detailed site directions by contacting Julia Sutton, City Stream Watch Coordinator at citystreamwatch@rvca.ca. Any time that you can give is helpful and much appreciated. All necessary training, equipment and supervision is provided on-site and there is no cost to volunteers. This is a great chance for members of the community to get involved in making their city more beautiful and healthy!

Potential riparian planting sites have been identified through the City Stream Watch's macro stream surveys since 2003. Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program recently approved a \$75,000 grant to Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation to work with streamside landowners in the City of Ottawa to replant and improve up to four kilometres of tributary shoreline over the next two years.

Planting native shrubs and trees along these tributaries will create a more aesthetic and effective buffer along the streams, improve fish and benthic habitat, create more shade for the stream, filter contaminants, slow stormwater runoff and provide a greater diversity of habitat for wildlife.

In an effort to cut down on waste from our riparian planting events, please bring your own drinking water bottle. We will provide water at the site, but please bring something reusable to drink out of. Snacks will be provided. Please dress for the weather, rain or shine, and wear sturdy footwear.

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More information:

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City Stream Watch Coordinator
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citystreamwatch@rvca.ca

City Stream Watch is a community environmental partnership program sponsored by City of Ottawa, Heron Park Community Association, National Defence Headquarters Fish and Game Club, Ottawa Flyfishers Society, Rideau Roundtable and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority.

To find information about the City Stream Watch Program: <http://www.rvca.ca/programs/streamwatch/index.html>