

NEWS RELEASE

JOCK RIVER SUBWATERSHED REPORT — NOW AVAILABLE

RIDEAU VALLEY, AUGUST 16, 2011 — Live in the Jock River Watershed? Interested in its environmental health? The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) has released the *2010 Jock River Subwatershed Report*. This information-loaded report summarizes the health of the Jock River Subwatershed 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 Jock River watershed drains 555 square kilometres. The Jock flows 75 kilometres from its wetland headwaters in Beckwith and Montague Townships near Franktown, through the rich agricultural lands in the former municipalities of Goulbourn and Nepean, and finally through Barrhaven in Ottawa's South Urban Community to the Rideau River just north of Manotick.

The health of any watershed is heavily influenced by the good stewardship activities and decisions taking place on the land every day. Landowners in the Jock River watershed are doing their part to improve, protect and restore the watershed's natural features. These can be simple things like keeping shorelines natural and planting trees to more complicated municipal planning and development projects that protect surface water quality and aquatic habitat through the creation of riparian buffers, and application of stormwater best management practices.

The *Jock River Subwatershed Report* is part of the RVCA's watershed management mission that recognizes the connections between local awareness, local concern and local action as we work for environmental protection, preservation and enhancement. This information is used for decision-making at all levels (individual, family, municipal, county, provincial). These monitoring efforts help us better understand watershed trends and help focus resource management actions where they are needed the most.

This is the second subwatershed report following the release of the *2009 Middle Rideau River Subwatershed Report*. These are summaries, but more detailed information is available online through catchment data sheets.

For your copy of this report or to view the catchment data sheets, visit www.rvca.ca and look under "What's New" or contact Martin Czarski at 613-692-3571 ext 1163.

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