

News Release

One Easy Way to Improve Water Quality — Spend More Time in the Hammock this Summer!

LOWER RIDEAU WATERSHED, June 14, 2013 — Shoreline property owners who spend more time in the hammock this summer could be protecting the health of the Rideau River and its tributaries. Being in the hammock and spending less time mowing along the waterfront could mean more natural, vegetated shorelines.

“There is simply no replacement for the beauty and function of natural plant communities along the shores of our Rideau River and its creeks and streams,” says Andrea Klymko, Shoreline Stewardship Program Manager at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). “Disturbing these long-established communities often means eroding shorelines, lower water quality, fewer birds and animals, and a loss of economic and scenic value.”

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) has just released its Lower Rideau Subwatershed Report. The report highlights the growing need for healthy shorelines to maintain watershed health. As a result, the RVCA's Shoreline Naturalization Program is offering shoreline naturalization planting projects completely free of charge to eligible landowners in the Lower Rideau Watershed for 2013 (Burritts Rapids to the Rideau Falls).

Projects generally include a confidential and no-obligation site visit, customized planting plan, the purchase of bareroot or potted trees and shrubs and full project management including planting labour.

Unfortunately, one of the first things shoreline landowners sometimes do is “clean up” the shoreline — inadvertently making the first step towards the long, slow, cumulative march to a degraded watercourse. “A much better approach is to tuck away the lawnmower,” says Klymko “Let mother nature do her job and enjoy your weekend relaxing.”

To sign up for your free site visit call Andrea Klymko at 613-692-3571 ext.1173 or Meaghan McDonald at 613-692-3571 ext.1192.

Funding for this special project has been provided by the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation, Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program, Shell's FuellingChange Program, TD Friends of the Environment and many other partner groups.

For more information on the Lower Rideau Subwatershed report, please visit the RVCA website at www.rvca.ca.

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For more information:

Meaghan McDonald
Stewardship Assistant
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext.1192
meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca

**Rideau Valley
Conservation Authority**
3889 Rideau Valley Drive
PO Box 599
Manotick, ON K4M 1 A5

613 692 3571
800 267 3504

postmaster@rvca.ca
www.rvca.ca