

AROUND the Rideau



November | December 2019

STARBUCKS grant helps underprivileged kids experience nature

The Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation (RVCF) is proud to have received a Greener Apron Grant through The Starbucks Foundation. Thank you to Denise Pagliaro of Manotick for nominating the RVCF for this program.

To help students access our outdoor education programs at Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas, the Greener Apron Grant is just one of several generous grants supporting bus and tuition fees through the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation.

Starbucks Greener Apron is a community of passionate employees who are committed to serving the planet. From promoting environmentally conscious best practices in stores, to nominating local nonprofits to apply for grant funding, Greener Apron partners are sustainability champions making a difference in their stores and communities, every day. DIANE can tell you more at ext. 1126 or diane.downey@rvcf.ca.



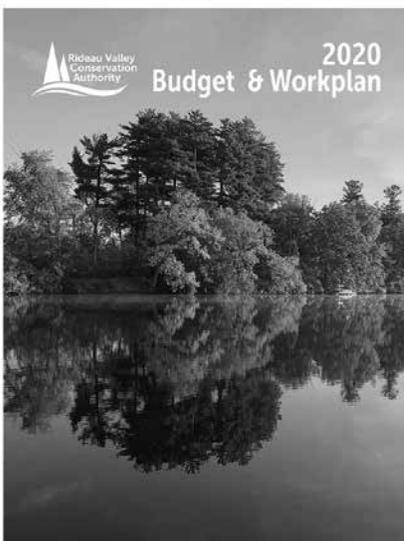
Have you checked out our blog *The River Reed?*

When you do, you will learn about Simon Lunn. He knew he needed to drill a new well and decommission his old one. What he didn't figure was that the conservation authority would hand him \$1,000 towards his costs.

Mr. Lunn received the funds through the Rural Clean Water Grants program which covers up to 90 per cent of costs for projects that protect water resources in the watershed.

Depending on the project landowners can receive up to \$15,000 as long as the work hasn't been completed by the time they apply! RVCA's Derek Matheson offers support and technical advice throughout the entire process.

DEREK 613-692-3571 ext. 1134 or derek.matheson@rvca.ca. www.rvca.ca/blog



RVCA 2020 Budget and Work Plan

RVCA's 2020 Budget and Work Plan will be available soon on our website for viewing at www.rvca.ca (under publications). The document highlights how RVCA will fund important priorities and services to our member municipalities and watershed residents. For more information call SOMMER at ext. 1214 or sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca.

Looking for that Special Gift?

How about giving the gift of living trees — plant a tree, plant a grove or even better, plant a family forest of robust, native Ontario trees. We can help you, visit www.rvcf.ca/special_occasion and get your "tree on," this Christmas! While there — check out other ways to give. Or, how about an Annual Pass? Annual passes are \$50. The pass is good for the entire year and gives access to all RVCA conservation areas. You can buy your Annual Pass by visiting www.rvca.ca/conservation-areas, click on the "purchase a pass" button on the right-hand side of the page.

Wonderful, Wild Winter Programs

Wild winter day programs are available for the kids on winter PD days! Programs are geared for kids aged six to twelve and hosted by our knowledgeable RVCA interpreters. Kids will snowshoe, put up a shelter, build campfires and cook outdoors! All camps run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost at Baxter is \$50/child and \$45 for additional children in the same family. At Foley Mountain the cost is \$45/child and \$40 for additional children in the same family. Each session can accommodate up to 25 children and preregistration is required.

- **Baxter Conservation Area Winter Adventurers Day Camp Dates** — January 24 and January 31, 2020. For more information call ANDREA at 613-489-3592 or andrea.wood@rvca.ca.
- **Foley Mountain Conservation Area Winter Adventurers Day Camp Date** — January 31, 2020. For more information call REBECCA at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca.



Happy Holidays and thank you to all our partners in conservation for a successful 2019!

The RVCA will be closed on Tuesday, December 24, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. and will re-open on Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

2019 Water Levels

Above average snow pack levels in early April indicated the potential for above average flood conditions across the Rideau Valley Watershed for Spring 2019. However, due to a rather cool April, the snow melted very slowly and even with above average precipitation in April water levels did not reach any significant flood levels across the watershed. This was not the case in the Ottawa River watershed which experienced historic flood levels in most areas due to well above average snow pack and precipitation. Both May and June were wet months but July through September were dry leading to a "Minor Low Water" status for the Rideau Valley Watershed. Wet weather returned in October with almost 150 percent more rain than normal for that month. Call BRIAN for more information at ext. 1141 or brian.stratton@rvca.ca.

City Stream Watch

Thank you to TD Friends of the Environment Foundation for its donation of \$6,148.51 to help with City Stream Watch fall community involvement projects. RVCA is also grateful to its volunteers including Carleton University students, Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency employees, and the Kanata 4th Scouts. Stream garbage clean up projects took place on Hunt Club Creek, Pinecrest Creek, Sawmill Creek and Stillwater Wetland Project. Other projects involved shoreline native tree planting and invasive species removals including the following non native plants: yellow iris, dog strangling vine, and Himalayan balsam.

For more information contact ROSARIO at ext. 1155 or citystreamwatch@rvca.ca.

Let's get social!

Not following us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram? You might be missing out on the RVCA's latest news, photos and blog posts!

Connect with us online for regular updates and information about our programs, events, volunteer opportunities and watershed conditions. Subscribe to The River Reed blog for stories about our most dedicated staff, volunteers and landowners working hard to keep the watershed clean and healthy!

- ▶ **Facebook:** @RideauValleyConservationAuthority
- ▶ **Twitter:** @RideauValleyCA
- ▶ **Instagram:** @RideauValleyCA
- ▶ **Youtube:** @RideauValleyCA
- ▶ **Blog:** The River Reed, www.rvca.ca/blog

Volunteers braved cold weather to plant trees and shrubs at a new wetland along Stillwater Creek.



Thanks very much to Enbridge for your \$5,000 to the Conservation 2020 — Giving Tuesday Campaign project!

AROUND the Rideau is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

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Ramada Ottawa on the Rideau — 613-288-3500 | www.ramadaottawa.com
 Offers 87 fully renovated rooms with balconies overlooking the Rideau River, banquet facilities, full service restaurant and outdoor pool. Pet friendly.