

AROUND the Rideau



September / October 2024

Baxter offers new PD Day camps in the great outdoors

If you're looking for a unique activity for your kids this school year, Baxter Conservation Area now offers outdoor day camps on most PD Days scheduled by the OCDSB, OCSB, UCDSB and CDSBEO boards. Kids aged 6 to 12 can spend the day in the forest exploring topics like Outdoor Survival Skills, Navigation, Winter Ecology and Animals and Habitats, depending on the season. Families can register for one day at a time or for all 2024/2025 PD Days at once. Learn more at rvca.ca/outdoor-education or contact ANDREA at andrea.wood@rvca.ca.



Fall at Foley Mountain: Plan ahead for your best visit ever!

Heading to Foley Mountain Conservation Area to take in the fall colours? Make it your best visit ever when you follow these tips:

- Go early or on a weekday to avoid crowds
- Bring change for the parking machine – credit can be slow!
- Venture beyond Spy Rock to enjoy the park's 10 km of trails, including the accessible Mobility Trail
- Spend the day! Pack a picnic and enjoy a scenic lunch on the mountain
- Whatever you do, don't forget your camera.

Learn more and plan your trip at rvca.ca/foley-fall-colours or contact REBECCA at rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca.



Fall is Fabulous across the Valley!

There are many great spots across the watershed to bask in the beauty of fall. Mill Pond Conservation Area offers six kilometres of crisp and colourful trails, while Meisel Woods will get your heart pumping and your senses stirring with a rugged walk through the forest along Beaver Lake. Even Chapman Mills Conservation Area offers an urban oasis this time of year, with fiery sumac, purple asters and golden reeds lining the Rideau River. Find your Fall trail at www.rvca.ca/conservation-areas!



Accora Village Cares for Graham Creek

Bayshore-area Graham Creek received some extra love this season thanks to a partnership with nearby Ferguslea Properties, owner of Accora Village. Ferguslea supported extra stream clean-ups and invasive species removals along the length of Graham Creek throughout the season, and hosted a community creek clean-up for its residents on August 10. To support similar watershed science efforts in the watershed contact our Foundation through DIANE at diane.downey@rvcf.ca. To learn more about community volunteer opportunities with City Stream Watch contact citystreamwatch@rvca.ca.





Greek Fest leads on sustainability as a Carbon Neutral partner

Opa! Ottawa Greek Festival once again went carbon neutral this summer through the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation, planting 275 local seedlings to offset the festival's electricity, gas and propane use. Want to do the same? Our Foundation offers an easy and affordable carbon neutral program, which allows you to offset a one-time event, specific sectors such as transportation, or your organization's annual emissions. Local trees planted on your behalf not only soak and store your carbon emissions, but also add critical habitat, shade, flood control and natural beauty right here in the Rideau Valley. Contact DIANE at diane.downey@rvcf.ca to learn more or visit rvcf.ca.

Have Your Say: Proposed Amendments to Source Protection Policy

Public consultation will open this fall for several policy amendments to the *Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Plan*, which require updating to align with provincial legislative changes. Proposed policy changes apply to the management of road salt, fuel tanks, agriculture, pesticides, fertilizers, chemical storage, snow storage and more. If your residence or business is located near a municipal well or intake, these changes may impact you and the activities on your property. Digital copies of the proposed amendments will be available at mrsourcewater.ca under Consultation. Hard copies can be viewed by appointment at the RVCA head office in Manotick. Contact MARIKA at marikalivingston@mrsourcewater.ca to learn more or to provide written comments.

The Power of Planned Giving

The RVCF was thrilled to welcome so many participants to its Planned Giving Workshops in Westport and Sandy Hill this summer to discuss the power of leaving a charitable gift in your will. We extend a heartfelt thanks to Zachary Gaulin at Kelly Santini LLP and Adrian Brown and Rick Young at IG Wealth Management, who each generously donated their time to share their knowledge about estate and financial planning. Missed out? Don't worry! The Foundation plans to offer a virtual edition of the workshop over the coming months. Contact info@rvcf.ca to stay in the know once details are confirmed.



Save the Date: Annual Lake Links Workshop

Change is inevitable, but this year's Lake Links Workshop will dive into how to plan for it. Join Watersheds Canada, RVCA and community partners at the 23rd annual Lake Links workshop, "Planning for Change: The Ripple Effect of Lake Planning" on Saturday, October 26. Please note the new location at the Elgin Lions Community Hall. Tickets are on sale now at watersheds.ca. Contact MEAGHAN at meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca to learn more.

AROUND the Rideau is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

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