

AROUND the Rideau



July / August 2023

New Forest School program welcomes kids and caregivers

Foley Mountain will launch a new weekly Forest School program for kids ages 2 to 5 and their caregivers this fall. The caregiver-assisted program will run every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 for 12 weeks beginning Sept. 12. Enjoy free play and forest adventures before coming together for snack and storytime around the fire! Siblings welcome to tag along if required. Contact REBECCA at rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca to learn more.



Register today!

Fall registration is now open for all Forest School programs at Baxter and Foley Mountain conservation areas. Visit www.rvca.ca/outdoor-education for complete schedules and registration details!



Sampling season!

Water Sciences students and volunteers have been working hard sampling hundreds of lakes, rivers and streams across the watershed since the spring. Other RVCA student teams are focused on stewardship projects, property maintenance, septic inspections and planning and regulations. Thank you to all students for their hard work!



Deep-rooted thanks

RVCA General Manager Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, right, presented former RVCA board chair Pieter Leenhouts with a native burr oak tree on June 22 in recognition of his service. Pieter has sat on the RVCA board since 2015 representing the City of Ottawa. Pieter served as vice chair in 2018 and then as chair from 2019 to 2022 before retiring from the Board this spring. Thank you for your tremendous service, Pieter!



Water Quality at our Beaches

Worried about swimming? The water at our beaches is tested weekly to ensure it's safe for visitors to swim. At Rideau Ferry Yacht Club and Foley Mountain conservation areas, the Leeds, Grenville & Lanark Public Health Unit conducts test and posts results on www.healthunit.org each Friday. At Baxter Conservation Area, RVCA staff test the waters each week and will post notices online and on site if a closure is necessary. Swimming is never recommended after a heavy rainfall event, in areas with heavy bird activity or if Blue Green Algae is suspected. Contact CHELSEY at chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca for more information.

Book your site visit

Making upgrades to your rural property? There's a grant for that! Book a site visit with our stewardship team to take advantage of generous subsidies for tree planting, shoreline naturalization, livestock fencing, well and septic upgrades, erosion control and much more. Depending on your location and project, up to 90% of your costs could be covered. For tree planting contact IAN at ian.cochrane@rvca.ca. For shoreline naturalization contact BRANDON at brandon.holden@rvca.ca. For clean water projects on farms and rural properties contact rcwp@rvca.ca. Visit www.rvca.ca/stewardship-grants to learn more.



Save the date! Celebrate Foley's 50th

Join us at Foley Mountain Conservation Area on Friday, Sept. 22 to mark 50 years since Foley Mountain officially opened to the public. Enjoy light refreshments and a trip down memory lane at the Interpretive Centre. Contact EMMA at emma.jackson@rvca.ca for more information.



Remembering Mary Bryden

RVCA and RVCF staff and board members mourn the passing of Mary Bryden, long-time board member for both organizations. Mary was one of the first women to sit on the RVCA board when she joined in 1979 as a Gloucester Township councillor. She served on the RVCA tribunal that guided much of the development along the Rideau River. Mary then moved to the Foundation's board in 1995 and served as chair from 2000 to 2010. The RVCA and RVCF send their deepest condolences to Mary's family, friends and the many people and organizations she impacted positively throughout her life.

AROUND the Rideau is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

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