

## Annual Report highlights successful 2022

Our newly-released 2022 annual report highlights RVCA's many accomplishments over the year, including record visitors to our conservation areas, expanded septic services, a new clean water program for rural residents and the restoration of several wetlands. Read the full report at [www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca) under About Us.



### By The Numbers

- **317,000** visitors to conservation areas
- **69** shorelines naturalized
- **3,687m<sup>2</sup>** of invasive species removed
- **353** Section 28 permit applications
- **870** property inquiries completed
- **734** septic system applications processed
- **117** sites sampled for water quality
- **196** Clean Water Projects completed
- **2,050** healthy butternut seedlings distributed to landowners



## 7 Millionth Tree Takes Root in Richmond

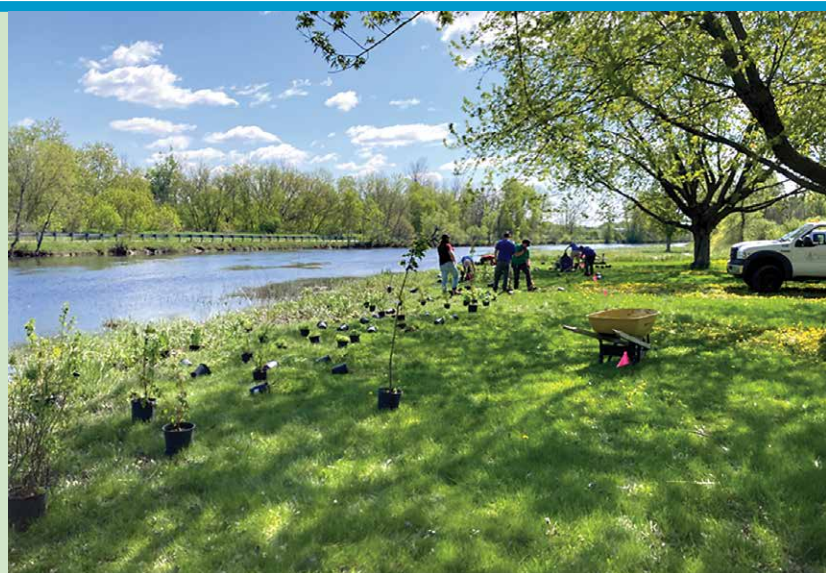
Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe and Elizabethtown-Kitley Mayor Brant Burrow helped plant RVCA's seven millionth tree since 1984 at a ceremony in Richmond on May 13. RVCA offers generous financial and technical support for rural landowners to complete large-scale planting on their properties. Ottawa landowners have planted more than 2 million trees since the program began, while Elizabethtown-Kitley landowners have planted more than 600,000.

*From left:*

*RVCA General Manager Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe, Elizabethtown-Kitley Mayor Brant Burrow and RVCA Board Chair Kristin Strackerjan with the ceremonial tree.*

## Duelling shorelines

A huge thanks to the staff and volunteers who planted nearly 1,200 native trees, shrubs and wildflowers along the shoreline at Last Duel Park in Perth on May 13. The naturalized shoreline will help reduce erosion, filter contaminants and reduce floods. Thanks to the Town of Perth and ECCC's Natural Climate Solutions funding for making this project possible. Contact BRANDON at [brandon.holden@rvca.ca](mailto:brandon.holden@rvca.ca) to learn more.







# Join City Stream Watch this summer!

There are many ways to help our City Stream Watch staff protect Ottawa's creeks and streams! Sign up for invasive species and garbage removal events on weekends, or help staff assess stream habitat conditions and water quality along Bilberry Creek (Orléans), Mosquito Creek (Riverside South), Mud Creek (Manotick) and Stillwater Creek (Bells Corners) during the week. Email [citystreamwatch@rvca.ca](mailto:citystreamwatch@rvca.ca) to join the mailing list.

## Upcoming events:

- **June 3** — Invasive species and garbage cleanup, Richmond Conservation Area
- **June 17** — Invasive species and garbage cleanup on Graham Creek
- **June 24** — Invasive species removal, Japanese Knotweed on Sawmill Creek

## Caution advised at Taylor boat launch

The boat launch at W.A. Taylor Conservation Area in Osgoode is currently limited to boats 15 ft in length or less, due to a drop-off at the end of the 16-ft ramp. Staff are working to fix the issue but advise caution when using the boat launch at this time. Contact CHELSEY at [chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca](mailto:chelsey.ellis@rvca.ca).

## Septic re-inspections are underway

Our septic inspectors have begun their work in the Tay Valley, Township of Rideau Lakes and Central Frontenac as part of the municipalities' mandatory re-inspection programs. Re-inspecting existing septic systems helps protect local water quality by catching malfunctioning or leaking systems before they contaminate the local environment. If it's your turn for re-inspection this year, you will have received a letter. Contact ERIC at [eric.kohlsmith@rvca.ca](mailto:eric.kohlsmith@rvca.ca) to learn more or visit [www.rvca.ca/septic-approvals](http://www.rvca.ca/septic-approvals).

Ottawa West-Nepean MP Anita Vandenberg, right, recognized RVCA aquatic biologist Jennifer Lamoureux for her work on restoring Stillwater Wetland during a celebration at the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre on May 24.



## Sampling has begun!

Water quality monitoring has begun across the watershed. Staff will collect multiple samples throughout the season from 143 sites on lakes, rivers and streams to assess changes to our water quality. Contact HALEY at [haley.matschke@rvca.ca](mailto:haley.matschke@rvca.ca) for surface water chemistry sampling info and JENNIFER [jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca](mailto:jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca) for biological sampling info.





## Welcome students!

RVCA welcomed 17 new and returning summer staff on May 1, thanks in part to funding through Canada Summer Jobs. Our students will spend their four months monitoring water quality, maintaining our conservation areas, leading summer camps, assisting with regulations work and more. Have a great summer!

**AROUND the Rideau** is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

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