

May 19, 2009

RVCA Plants Over 150,000 Trees in 2009 Seeking New Sites for 2010

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's *Trees for Tomorrow Program*, in cooperation with its many partners, planted over 150,000 seedlings this spring.

Believe it or not, NOW is the time to prepare for the 2010 spring planting season! Interested rural landowners with one acre of land or more and willing to plant a minimum of 500 trees are encouraged to contact the LandOwner Resource Centre at (613) 692-3571 or 1 800 267-3504 @ ext.1128 or 1132. We will help you prepare an appropriate planting plan with the right kinds of trees in the right places. We may even be able to help you reduce your costs substantially through incentive programs.

The *Trees for Tomorrow* program is a full-service reforestation program planting trees throughout the Rideau Valley watershed. The focus is on planting shoreline buffer strips of trees and shrubs, and replanting larger parcels of idle or marginal lands with hardy, native Canadian trees of local stock. We traditionally plant over 100,000 trees each year.

We do this because each tree is a little environmental cleaning station. The rootlets hold and consolidate the soil preventing erosion. The leaves absorb greenhouse gases and release life-giving oxygen to the atmosphere. The plantation provides habitat for wildlife and birds. And the new forest itself is a major filter and cleansing system for water that soaks into the ground and feeds our wells and underground water systems. Tree planting has become one of our major tools in the continuing campaign to maintain the quality and quantity of clean water available in the Rideau watershed.

These planting projects would not be possible without the support of our many generous funding and conservation partners including City of Ottawa, Lanark, Ottawa, Leeds & Grenville Stewardship Councils, McGarry Family of Chapels, Monterey Inn Resort, Ferguson Forest Centre, Eastern Ontario Model Forest, Pratt & Whitney Canada, Trees Ontario, Ducks Unlimited, and the Valley Highlands Scouts.

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