



Grand River  
Conservation  
Authority



The Grand:  
A Canadian  
Heritage River

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**Cover photo:**  
Archaeologist Gary  
Warrick and his daughter  
Courtney work  
together on an  
excavation site.



## Finding the Invisible Mississaugas of Davisville

By Gary Warrick  
Wilfrid Laurier University

*The Grand River watershed is overflowing with archaeological remains, says Gary Warrick, an archaeology professor at the Brantford campus of Wilfrid Laurier University. (He is also a member of the Grand Strategy Heritage Working Group.) His excavation of a Six Nations settlement in Brantford dating to 1800-1835 was outlined in an earlier Grand Actions article and offered a fascinating picture of aboriginal life in the early 1800s. This second article is about excavations related to the Mississaugas, who had a very low impact on the Grand.*

To an archaeologist, the Mississauga occupation of the Grand River watershed is essentially invisible.

While archaeological research up until 2003 (funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada) found and unearthed the Mohawk households of Davisville, evidence of the Mississaugas remained hidden. Both groups had co-existed peacefully on the Grand River since the 1780s and lived together at Davisville in 1825-26.

During the summer of 2004, a Mississauga encampment was identified and test excavated, revealing an interesting portrait of hunter-gatherer life in early 19th century Ontario.

Ojibwa-speakers who had inhabited southern Ontario since 1700, the Mississaugas lived on the north shore of Lake Huron, where they fought with the Five (now Six) Nations over hunting and trapping territory. By the 18th and early 19th century, they occupied the north shore of Lake Ontario, the Grand River watershed and the



*This Ojibwa encampment in 1845 by Paul Kane is similar to the Mississauga encampment at Davisville.*

Niagara Peninsula. Each year they lived in five different places: maple sugar camps in late winter, villages at the mouth of rivers for fishing during spring, villages on river flats next to fields of maize and potato during summer, deer hunting camps in the mid-summer and fall, and hunting and trapping camps during the winter.

In 1787, about 500 Mississaugas lived at the western end of Lake Ontario. But measles, smallpox, tuberculosis and alcohol abuse had reduced the population to 200 by 1819. Fishing and hunting had become difficult due to settlement and land clearance, according to historical accounts from the early 1820s. Their way of life was threatened.

Davisville was administered by Methodist missionary Alvin Torry. A frequent visitor was Peter Jones (Kahkewaquonaby), born in 1802 to British surveyor Augustus Jones and Tuhbenahneequay, a Mississauga woman from the Credit River community.

Jones converted to Methodism in 1823 and became friends with Mohawk Chief Thomas Davis. In the spring of 1824, the Credit River Mississaugas were invited to Davisville by Jones, who hoped to demonstrate that to survive, they had to become settled Methodist farmers.

Some accepted the invitation and moved in early 1824. In the spring of 1825 about 35 Mississaugas arrived and, by the summer, 45 more joined them.

The Jan. 10, 1826, census lists 79 Mississaugas as Davisville residents, although as many as 100 to 150 may

have lived there between the summer of 1825 and the spring of 1826. But there is little historical documentation of their lives: a brief mention of church service attendance, plough demonstrations, mission house construction, jacklight fishing and deer hunting. There is also a mention that the Mississaugas lived in tents or wigwams within earshot of the Methodist mission house.

Most returned to the Credit River Mission in the spring of 1826 to wait for log cabins promised by the British government. A year later, 20 cabins were occupied by 205 Mississaugas (two families per cabin). A few Mississauga families remained at Davisville as late as Jan. 10, 1827.

An archaeological survey in 2002 resulted in the discovery of several distinct concentrations of burned bone. Two test pits produced over 100 pieces of bone each and flanked Davisville 2, one of the Mohawk cabins that was partially excavated in 2001-02.

### Remarkable find

In 2003, one bone concentration (Davisville 3) 70 metres upriver of Davisville 2 was tested with six one-metre square units using mesh sieves. The results were remarkable – a layer of bone 35 cm below surface and four cm thick in three of the units. Excavated soil sifted through screen produced 14,000 pieces of bone from one square!

The only post-contact artifacts were a piece of iron scrap, a strike-a-light (for fire starting) fashioned on local chert, and a piece of lead shot.

In 2004, 18 additional one-metre squares were excavated at Davisville 3 and the soil from 15 of them was flushed through screen using water. This produced 22,732 bone fragments, 44 lead shot, 13 glass seed beads, three gunflint flakes, two pieces of a blue-edged ceramic plate, one piece each of iron, lead and brass scrap, and one shell wampum bead (string wampum).

Despite the highly fragmented and burned condition of the bone, over 90 per cent of it was identified as mammal, with species including deer, muskrat,

beaver, freshwater drum, redhorse, sturgeon, bass, and passenger pigeon. No domestic species were identified.

The archaeological remnants of the Davisville 3 Mississauga encampment looks identical to hunter-gatherer camps in northern Canada, which also have smashed, burned bone (90 per cent of food bone is heat-altered), few artifacts (primarily glass beads and lead shot), and dense concentrations of refuse surrounded by relatively clean areas. Northern hunter-gatherers kept their living areas extremely clean.

The traditional hunter-gatherer nature of the 1825-26 Mississauga residents of Davisville is striking, considering that six months after leaving, they were living in log cabins and plowing fenced fields on the Credit River.

Compared to their Six Nations neighbours, the Mississaugas owned few material possessions and carried camp gear on their backs, like modern wilderness campers. They left few permanent traces. Throughout the 18th and 19th century, Mississaugas hunted, fished, gardened, and camped on the banks of the Grand River, especially on the floodplains and forested uplands of Kitchener Waterloo, Blair, Cambridge and Brantford.

This invisibility of their ancestors is a source of pride for contemporary Mississaugas. The light ecological footprint they left stands in marked contrast to the farms and settlements of 19th century Ontario. When talking about the Ontario heritage, it is important to remember the Aboriginal heritage buried in the ground and in the remembered stories of the Six Nations and Mississaugas of New Credit.



*Davisville 3 site excavations.*

# Bald eagles return to the Grand River

By Bob Scott,  
Exceptional Waters Coordinator,  
and Tony Zammit, GRCA Ecologist

**B**ald eagles are living proof that the quality of the Grand River is improving.

In recent years eagles have been staying around the middle Grand between early December and March or April.

Historically, the eagle population radically declined throughout North America and even disappeared from southern Ontario by the 1970s. This was due to high levels of contaminants, especially the pesticide DDT, that built up in fish, which are the eagle's main food. The eagle eggs either didn't hatch or the young had deformities, such as crossed beaks, which prevented them from growing into adults.

But DDT was banned, and from 1983 to 1987 the Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and GRCA co-operated to successfully reintroduce bald eagles. Over the four-year span of the project, 32 eaglets were released at the Long Point National Wildlife Area and Taquanyah Conservation Area, near Cayuga. Eaglets were transplanted from the healthy population on the shores of Lake of the Woods in northwestern Ontario and released on the north shore of Lake Erie. The intention was to augment the eagle population on the Erie lakeshore and help them re-establish.

According to Bird Studies Canada, the number of successful nests along the north shore of Lake Erie has increased from less than five in 1980 to nearly 20 in 2000. Bald eagles in southern Ontario produce on average about 1.3 young per active nest. New eagle territories have been established in areas that have not been occupied since the late 1970s.

The result is that bald eagles can now



*Bald eagle.*

*(Photo by Dave Jolly)*

be seen as far south as the Dunnville area, where they are nesting, and as far north as Luther Marsh. During the winter months, they are frequently seen between the north end of Cambridge and the Cockshutt Bridge in the south end of Brantford. This area is attractive to them because sections of the water do not freeze solid, due to a combination of riffles and the influx of groundwater that provides enough warm water to keep the river from freezing. This makes the healthy fish population accessible to the eagles, which will also scavenge dead animals and occasionally take geese or ducks when fish are not available.

## Monitoring bald eagles

A group of volunteers, many with close ties to the Kitchener Waterloo Field Naturalists and *rare* (formerly Cruickston Charitable Research Reserve), have been monitoring bald eagles during the winter for several years along the reaches of the Grand River between Kitchener and Paris.

"The information we gather during our monitoring is passed on to Art Timmerman of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, who also receives anecdotal observations from people up and down the watershed," says Bill Wilson of Cambridge, who coordinates the group along with his wife, Heather.

The volunteer observers use a formal protocol and are looking for specific information such as the number of adults and sub-adults overwintering in the area, the eagles' flight paths up and down the river, where they perch during the day to hunt, what they eat, where they roost at night and the effects of ice cover on their distribution. The volunteers monitor the river for eagles from 12 locations every other Saturday during the winter. Using telescopes and binoculars, they keep at least 300 metres away so as not to disturb the eagles. This winter, additional observers in the Brantford area plan to begin monitoring, extending the coverage to south of Brantford.

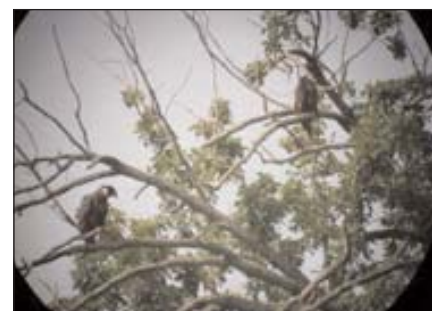
## Spotting an eagle

You can identify an eagle by its large size and wide wing span, which can be greater than two metres. The wings are held straight across rather than arched. A main identification for adult eagles is the snow white head and tail, which can be prominent against a blue sky.

It takes four to five years for an eagle to develop a white head and tail, so young eagles can be difficult to identify.

Like hawks, eagles soar on thermal updrafts without moving their wings for extended periods. They tend to circle around, each time moving higher in the sky. It takes a sharp eye and patience to sight an eagle, often with a measure of plain luck thrown in. Be patient and keep an eye to the sky. Seasoned watchers look way up and perceive lots that others miss.

Bald eagles generally stay with one mate, unless the mate dies or disappears, which prompts the remaining bird to



*Eagle in a tree in the southern Grand.*

*(Photo by Derek Morningstar)*



*Young bald eagle on a cold January day.  
(Photo by John Millman)*

seek another. Adult females lay one to three whitish eggs in an enormous nest constructed of branches high in a tree. The eggs are incubated for 35 days by both adults. The young are fed for 10 to 12 weeks until they have developed feathers and learned to fly. Eagles can live up to 28 years in the wild and 36 or more years in captivity.

Tags can often be seen on their legs. If you see one with a tag, please note the colour and whether it is on the right or left leg and report this information to the GRCA or Bird Studies Canada. Check the birding section of our website, [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca), for details on reporting rare species.

Our best sightings have been happenstance. While driving across the high level bridge in Paris, an eagle was flying up river of the bridge and it gave a tremendous flypast. Other sightings in the Paris area have been very high. At the footbridge in south Cambridge, while watching a red-tailed hawk in flight with binoculars, an eagle was spotted so far above that it was only a speck in the sky, visible only with binoculars. Eagles have been seen perched in riverside trees in the Paris area and spotted by a shopper from the window of a Paris store.

Though common and widespread in northern Ontario, the bald eagle is still considered a rare breeder in southern Ontario, and is currently listed as an endangered species in Ontario.



## MILESTONES

Milestones are progress or products of *The Grand Strategy* Joint Work Plan.

### Ruthven's \$2 million transformation

A \$2-million conservation project at Ruthven Park, a national historic site overlooking the Grand River near Cayuga, has been completed.

The completion was celebrated on a hot, humid day with the official reopening of the 1840s Coach House at the park. Ruthven is the former home of the Thompson family, who owned the 1,500 acre (607 hectare) estate near Cayuga for five generations, from the 1840s until 1993.

"With this restoration, a Canadian cultural and natural historic treasure will be preserved for future generations to experience and enjoy," said Minister of Environment Stéphane Dion.

The conservation project was administered by the Lower Grand River Land Trust Inc., the non-profit organization to which the family donated to the land trust in 1994. They provided half the funds through the interest on the endowment and other funds, such as admission and special events, says Marilyn Havelka, the chief administrative officer at the park. The other \$1 million came from Parks Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage.

The important 19th century buildings

on the site — the mansion, gate house and coach house — were conserved, and the building envelopes were made watertight to deter any further deterioration. Washrooms and a kitchen were put into the coach house for the convenience of visitors, program enhancements and barrier-free access.

Ruthven was designated a national historic site in 1998, because it is a fine example of a country estate laid out by David Thompson I (born in 1793), who was a principal promoter of the Grand River Navigation Company and elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, serving as Haldimand County's first member in 1841. Future generations continued to play an important role in Canada's political and military history.

The mansion is in the Classical Greek Revival style of architecture. The coach house was built around the same time as the mansion, and it was in such poor shape that it had been propped up by support beams since the mid-1990s. These blocked the doorway to the tack room, so no one could go inside until renovations began.

An archaeologist worked closely with the team to help find out how the building was constructed as well as how the uses of the building changed over time.

The site is open to the public, who may tour the mansion, enjoy the grounds or walk on the trails.

To find out more about the park, call Ruthven at (905) 772-0560 or visit the park's web site at [www.ruthvenpark.ca](http://www.ruthvenpark.ca).



**Coach house at Ruthven Before...and after:** Held up by posts since the 1990s, the coach house is now restored. It is now the location of a kitchen and washroom facilities.

## New railway opens in Upper Grand

The 10.5-km Upper Grand Trailway officially opened Sept. 17 after three years of planning.

The community wasted no time in putting it to good use, because the next day they held their first annual Terry Fox Run on the trail. The trail is just south of Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area and runs north of County Road 109, extending from the hamlet of Waldemar in Amaranth Township to the East Luther West Luther Townline.

The Trailway was built on the foundation of 114 years of transportation history. This section of the former Canadian Pacific Railway was built in 1870 to serve East Luther Grand Valley until the last freight train passed through in 1984. Ownership of the right-of-way was turned over to the township in 1998 and a small group of citizens started working on turning it into a multi-use recreational trail in 2001.

A key element of the trail is a \$48,400 pedestrian bridge over Boyne Creek that replaced a bridge removed when the railway abandoned the line. It was paid for with a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and helps "bridge the gap" with several other trails, including the Trans Canada Trail—Elora Cataract Trailway.

"My mom was the founder of it. She had a vision four years ago to preserve it as a green belt," says Kim Davison, co-chair of the Upper Grand Trailway Association (UGTA).

Financial support came from the Ministry of Recreation and Tourism (\$6,000), TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (\$1,000 for birdhouses) and the Grand River Conservation Foundation's community grant (\$2,000) which paid for seedlings that were planted last year, Davison says.

The UGTA launched a fundraising campaign and found several corporate sponsors as well as many contributions

from members of the community. Many volunteers, including 40 high school students, worked on the project.

For more information, e-mail [ugta@sympatico.ca](mailto:ugta@sympatico.ca) or call (519) 928-2973 or (519) 928-2464.



## LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION

### Greentec supports outdoor education

A Cambridge company, Greentec International Inc., is partnering with the Grand River Conservation Foundation (GRCF) to raise an anticipated \$200,000 for outdoor education by the end of 2007.

The fundraising will take place through the company's fundraising division, Thinkgreen.



*Tony Perrotta with boxes of inkjet cartridges to be recycled.*

"I always had a passion for the environment and always wanted to have my own business," says company president Tony Perrotta. "I really fell in love with what I'm doing, the environmental aspect of it."

Greentec started in his garage 10 years ago and now receives print cartridges and used cell phones from across North America and Europe at its new Cambridge facility. About 30 million

cartridges are used annually in Canada and those received by Greentec are sorted, tested and sent back to the manufacturers to be reused. Any that can't be reused are broken down into their raw materials and made into new products.

The cell phones collected are sold for reuse, reducing the number that end up in landfill sites.

Cartridges that go to the landfill site are made from high quality plastic that takes thousands of years to decompose, while cell phones contain lead, Perrotta says. Both types of e-waste emit toxic contaminants that can leach into water.

While the bulk of these recyclable items come to Greentec from companies that receive payment for them, about 10,000 groups from across North America also collect the items to raise money for themselves or other organizations through Greentec's Thinkgreen division, the charitable side of the company started in 2002.

Through Thinkgreen, the company supplies everything a group needs to run a collection program and also covers shipping costs. Thinkgreen has diverted over 540,000 cartridges and cell phones from landfill sites. It has also provided nearly \$900,000 to its participants.

Now, Greentec is making the GRCF its charity of choice under the Thinkgreen program, encouraging new and existing participants to donate the rebates they receive to the Foundation. The aim is to raise \$200,000 for the Living Classroom — Campaign for Outdoor Education by the end of 2007.

"We are really thrilled to have Greentec involved," says Living Classroom Campaign chair Marilyn Murray. "They have a remarkable long-term vision for the environmental health of our community — for the land itself, and for the education of our future environmental ambassadors. The Foundation is grateful for the major role they are playing in helping kids to learn about the natural world we all share."

Greentec wants to raise environmental awareness, starting with the younger generation.

"Greentec has been supportive of the GRCF for a number of years through the Thinkgreen program," Sara Wilbur, director of development at the Foundation, says. "Now they are taking a big next step by expanding the program into the community."

"Outdoor education is an important part of a child's life. We need leaders like Greentec to make sure that these programs are sustained and to promote a greener community by minimizing how much we contribute to landfill."

Through partnerships with Tree Canada and American Forests, Thinkgreen sponsors the planting of one tree seedling for every 12 recyclable cartridges or cell phones that are returned. To date, 19,500 trees have been planted, removing over 3,000 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere. Next spring for Earth Week, Tree Canada is expected to plant trees on GRCA property.

To register, organizations can contact Natalie Cutler, manager of the Thinkgreen program, at (888) 265-2895 ext. 255, or visit the web site at [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com)

## Heritage award for Veale

Barbara Veale, co-ordinator of policy planning and partnerships for the GRCA, received the Dr. Jean Steckle Award for heritage education from the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation.

The award was provided for Veale's work in educating watershed residents about the heritage features and values of the Grand River watershed and Waterloo Region. Veale is a long-time employee of the GRCA who led the designation process for the Grand River as a Canadian Heritage River in 1994. She is a lead organizer for the annual Heritage Day Workshop held each February in different parts of the watershed. She chaired the organizing committee for the fourth Canadian River Heritage Conference in 2004 and led a public participation process to develop the Ten Year Monitoring Report submitted to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board in

2004. The award also cites her for her contributions to Grand Actions and for compiling the annual Grand Actions Registry.

The award is named in honour of the late Dr. Steckle and was first presented in 2003.



Barb Veale

Veale received one of two special awards this year—the second went to Leon Bensason, the heritage planner in Kitchener who received the Sally Thorson Award of

Excellence for his work to establish the City of Kitchener's heritage planning functions and positions.

The five recipients of the 2004 Awards of Excellence of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation were Marg Rowell (Waterloo), Bob Rowell (Waterloo), University of Waterloo School of Architecture (Cambridge), Caitlin Jo Reuse (Wilmot Township) and Pat Rosebrugh (Cambridge).



## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Trails workshop Oct. 21

On Friday, Oct. 21, a second trails workshop will focus on trail links for the Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin area and will be held at the Grand River Conservation Authority head office in Cambridge.

The theme for the workshop is *Vital Connections for Healthy Communities*. The keynote speaker will be John Bellini, President and CEO for the Trans Canada Trails Foundation. Other speakers include Dr. Liana Nolan, medical officer of health for the Region of Waterloo, Hugh Handy, Senior Associate Planner with the GSP Group, and Louie Di Palma, Director of Recreation, Ministry of Health Promotion.

The workshop will provide participants with updates on a host of trail issues, including information about the Ontario Trails Strategy. There will be a report on gaps in the existing trails network. Small group activities will allow participants to provide their ideas about how we can ensure that critical links are built.

Registration is limited to 100 on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is \$40. Registrations will be accepted until Oct. 14. For more information, contact Lawrence Murphy, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit, 125 Delhi St., Guelph, ON, N1E 4J5, or call (519) 821-2370 ext. 2264 or

## Latornell Symposium

The A. D. Latornell Conservation Symposium is Ontario's most prestigious and well-attended conservation conference.

It attracts over 800 delegates including international researchers and practitioners, conservation authorities, federal and provincial agencies, municipalities, university students, private businesses and community groups.

This year marks the 12th anniversary of the symposium. It will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn and Conference Centre in Alliston, from Nov. 16 to 18.

Safe and plentiful water resources are critical to all aspects of our lives, and protecting these resources is the key to ensuring the health of all Ontarians. The theme for this year's symposium is Healthy Waters, Healthy Communities. It will explore the important links between water and health across a number of different sectors, including source water protection, natural heritage, sustainable planning, forests, fisheries and land management.

With Ontario's continually growing population and an escalating demand for limited resources, watershed managers today face an increasingly complex challenge of balancing three sometimes-competing interests: economic, human,

and environmental.

Protecting human health must take priority, however, and healthy waters will ensure healthy communities. This certainty is illustrated by the tragic event in Walkerton which happened five years ago. It is fitting that the symposium recognizes this anniversary, in respect for Walkerton's residents and because of the lasting impact it continues to have on how water is managed in Ontario.

The main sponsors for the event, Conservation Ontario and the Centre for Land and Water Stewardship, University of Guelph, partner with many other Ontario groups and agencies to organize and deliver a remarkable event.

For more information about the symposium, check out the web site at [www.latornell.ca](http://www.latornell.ca)



**NOW AVAILABLE**

## Stewardship guide

*Caring for Your Land: A Stewardship Handbook for Oak Ridges Moraine Landowners*, contains a wealth of information that is equally applicable to landowners in the Grand River watershed.

Created by Stewart Hilts and Peter Mitchell of the Centre for Land and Water Stewardship at the University of Guelph, the book is full of practical information.

The introduction says, "Caring for Your Land will help you develop a greater understanding of your land, and help you see the land more clearly with its pattern of land uses or habitat types that we call ecosystem elements. You will find 12 ecosystem elements described with practical suggestions for things you can do to protect or enhance these features". The elements include septic systems, trails, woodlands, wetlands, grasslands and wildlife.

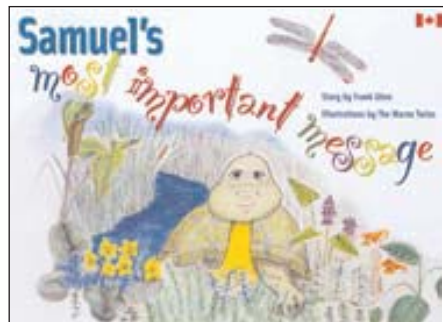
While the concepts behind good land

stewardship are outlined, a strong message of the book is to seek advice from professionals, government agencies and conservation organizations. *Caring for your Land* is available for \$10 a copy from [jscarro@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jscarro@uoguelph.ca), or from the Department of Land Resource Science, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1. Ten or more copies are available at a discount.

## Samuel's Message donated to schools

Each school in the Grand River watershed will get a copy of the book *Samuel's Most Important Message* by retired educator Frank Glew.

This book tells children about the importance of a healthy habitat and is based on a story from the author's life experience as an environmental advocate. Samuel is a Blanding's turtle who was found by Glew in a pond at the Huron Natural Area in Kitchener. He is the hero of the story, as he stretches his



long yellow neck to tell people a thing or two about the importance of the natural environment.

Glew has a doctorate in Environmental Science and is the recipient of eight environmental awards and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award 2002. His dream was to become a children's author and he has published four books, each with a study guide that explains how it fits into the Ontario science curriculum.

Each of the 560 schools in the watershed was provided with a copy of this book as a result of generous donations by the Retired Teachers Association of Ontario, J.K.P. Beckell Foundation and the George Lunan Foundation. The

money is expected to come through the Grand River Conservation Foundation in November, when Glew will give a presentation to the retired teachers, but most schools already have the books, he says.

His other three books are *Butterfly Wishes* (2003), *That Chickadee Feeling* (2002) and *When I Grow Up I Want to be Just Like My Dog* (2002). All these picture books are illustrated by Marlene McBrien and Myrna McBrien and are available by calling the author at (519) 742-6617 or e-mail [fsglew@kwigs.net](mailto:fsglew@kwigs.net)

## New wetland guidelines

New Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Guidelines for Wetlands are expected to lead to greater protection of wetlands throughout the Grand River watershed.

Mandated by the GRCA's current Wetlands Policy, an EIS is a report that addresses the potential impacts of development on wetlands and other parts of the natural heritage system. The EIS is typically prepared by a qualified ecologist in consultation with GRCA and municipal staff.

The EIS guidelines were developed by GRCA staff in consultation with member municipalities, neighbouring conservation authorities, and other public agencies that help implement the GRCA's Wetlands Policy.

The guidelines will provide a standardized set of study guidelines specific to wetlands, and will also improve the quality of reports submitted to support development applications.

The new guidelines are now available on the website [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) in the planning section.





Trumpeter swans have been reintroduced and are now breeding in the watershed. This family regularly travels Mill Creek to visit Shade's Mills Conservation Area in Cambridge.

(Photo by Janet Baine)



## The Grand Strategy Calendar

**Trails Workshop II, Oct. 21, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., GRCA Headquarters, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge.** Follow-up workshop for trail users, trail providers, and municipalities to discuss trail linkages in Waterloo, Wellington and Dufferin. For information, contact Lawrence Murphy (519) 821-2373 ext.2264.

**Woodlot Management Workshop Saturday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., KW Optimist Camp, Heidelberg.** The workshop is open to anyone with a woodlot or who is interested in woodlot management and is being put on by the Waterloo Stewardship Network and the Waterloo Wellington Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association. For more information contact Al Murray, Waterloo Stewardship Network, 519-826-4920.

**Annual meeting of the Canadian Chestnut Council (CCC), Saturday, Nov. 5, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., OMAF Centre, Woodstock.** Progress on the breeding programs in the U.S. and Canada to develop blight-resistant American chestnut trees will be featured. Dr. William MacDonald of West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, is the guest speaker. Concerns about the survival of the native trees in Ontario will be discussed, and problems concerning the many aspects of chestnut tree growth will be addressed. For more information, contact Charles Hooker, Secretary CCC (519) 942-8085.

**Grand River Tailwater Fisheries Research Symposium, November 24, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. GRCA Headquarters, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge.** The Grand River Tailwater Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Committee will be discussing research needs and opportunities at this one-day gathering for fisheries professionals, researchers and interested parties. For more information or to register contact Stephen May (519) 621-2763 x300 or e-mail smay@grandriver.ca

**Heritage Day Workshop and Celebration, February 20, 2006, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Cambridge.** "Heritage...A Political Hot Potato?" is the working title of the workshop, sponsored by Heritage Cambridge, the City of Cambridge and the GRCA. Location and details to be announced.



## DID YOU KNOW?

- A male swan is a cob
- A female swan is a pen
- A young swan is a cygnet
- A group of swans is called a bevy
- Swans are the largest North American waterfowl

• They are one of three species reintroduced in Ontario (the other two are bald eagles and peregrine falcons)

For more information on birds in the Grand see the new section of the GRCA's web site at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca)

## About this newsletter

This newsletter is produced bi-monthly as a communications tool by the Grand River Conservation Authority on behalf of the partners in *The Grand Strategy*. This newsletter can also be seen on the web site at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca)

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Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of January, March, May, July, September and November. Submissions may be edited for length or style.

Tax deductible donations and sponsorships toward the cost of producing this newsletter are always welcome.

**Publications Mail**  
Agreement #144871

# Trails Workshop

Friday, October 21, 2005 8:30 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

Grand River Conservation Authority, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, Ontario

## *Trail Links for Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin*

### *Vital Connections for Healthy Communities*

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together trail groups, politicians, municipal and recreation planners, municipal engineers, healthy communities/animators, health care professionals, and media to create an action plan to build vital trail linkages in the Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin Area. This workshop is a follow up to one held in 2003 that initiated a process to identify gaps in our regional trail network. The 2005 workshop will:

- ❶ provide an update on the status of the Trans Canada Trail and opportunities and challenges associated with connecting the national trail system in this area
- ❷ provide an update on the progress of the Ontario Trails Strategy
- ❸ discuss the vital connections provided by trails to our quality of life
- ❹ report on critical gaps in the existing trail network within the Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin area.
- ❺ create an action plan for building these critical links.

#### Morning Program- GRCA Auditorium

8:30-9:00 a.m. **Registration** (coffee and muffins will be available)  
9:00-9:10 a.m. **Welcome – Peter Krause, Chair, Grand River Conservation Authority**  
9:10-9:40 a.m. **John Bellini, President & CEO, Trans Canada Trail Foundation**  
9:40-10:00 a.m. **Louie Di Palma, Director of Recreation, Ministry of Health Promotion**  
10:00-10:20 a.m. **Refreshment and Networking Break**  
10:20-10:40 a.m. **Hugh Handy, Senior Associate Planner, GSP Group Planners, Urban Designers & Landscape Architects**  
10:40-11:00 a.m. **Dr. Liana Nolan, Medical Officer of Health, Region of Waterloo Public Health**  
11:00-11:40 a.m. **Panel Discussion with Morning Speakers**  
11:40-12:00 p.m. **A Business Case for Trails, Karen Armstrong, Wellington- Dufferin-Guelph Public Health**

#### Buffet Lunch – GRCA Foyer

#### Afternoon Program – Breakout Rooms/Auditorium

1:00-1:15 p.m. **Trails and Priority Linkages in Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin: A Digital Mapping Presentation, Lawrence Murphy, Chair, Trails Working Group**  
1:15-1:55 p.m. **Breakout Discussion Groups**  
1:55-2:10 p.m. **Refreshment and Networking Break**  
2:10-2:40 p.m. **Breakout Discussion Group Summaries**  
2:40-3:00 p.m. **Discussion & Wrap-up, Joan McKinnon, City of Waterloo Trails Advisory Committee**

To Register, please complete this form and send with payment to Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, c/o Julie Eckert, 125 Delhi St., Guelph, ON N1E 4J5 Phone: 519-821-2370 or 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2256 Fax: 519-836-7215

Cheque payable to: Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Can we include your contact information on our list of participants for the registration package? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Registration is limited to 100 on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration Fee: \$40 (includes lunch).**

***Registrations will be accepted until October 14, 2005***

For more information, contact Lawrence Murphy - Phone: 519-821-2370 or 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2264 Email: Lawrence.Murphy@wdghu.org

**ORGANIZED BY:** Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, Region of Waterloo Public Health, Community Heart Health Network, Guelph Hiking Trail Club, City of Guelph, Cambridge Trails Advisory Committee, City of Waterloo Trails Advisory Committee, Wellington County Stewardship Council, Grand Valley Trails Association, Township of Guelph/Eramosa, Township of Woolwich, Township of Wellesley, Town of Orangeville, Credit Valley Conservation, and Grand River Conservation Authority.