



Grand River
Conservation
Authority



The Grand:
A Canadian
Heritage River

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Cover photo

*Skye Campbell of
Bartram Woodlands
helps with the planting
of 10,000 native tree
seedlings in the tornado-
damaged forests at
Belwood Lake.*



Tree plantings help to rebuild tornado-damaged forests

By Virginia Gauley
GRCA Watershed Forester

On Aug. 19, 2005 two tornadoes ripped through the County of Wellington, causing extensive damage to the properties and homes in their path.

Among the hardest hit areas were the Belwood Lake and Conestogo Lake conservation areas, owned by the Grand River Conservation Authority.

The winds caused severe to moderate damage to cottages and forests at these two locations. More than 30 hectares of forest at each location were affected to some extent. The damaged forests included several mixed pine and spruce plantations as well as some mature natural hardwood forests composed of white birch, red maple, silver maple, black cherry, white ash and various oaks.

Until the tornadoes struck, these areas had been actively managed for various objectives including recreation, wildlife habitat, protection of water quality and quantity, and forest diversity. They were a valuable asset to nearby cottagers and the local public. The presence of these forested areas also helped to boost the region's overall forest cover and provided a connected system of green space on the landscape.

The GRCA's initial response to the damage involved removing hazards that posed a threat to human safety. Injured trees located beside roadways, power lines, residences, recreational trails and other well-traveled areas were removed. This type of work will continue well into the future as trees continue to show signs of stress and die as a consequence of injuries caused by the tornadoes.

With this work well under way, salvage operations began in the nearby damaged forest areas and this work continues today. The main objec-

tive of the salvage operations in the forested areas is to remove some of the salvageable woody material from the forest floor. This will make room for future tree planting efforts and growth from natural regeneration, reduce the habitat available for tree diseases and insects that could lead to loss of more healthy forested areas, reduce the fire hazard associated with the large amount of dead woody material, and promote the re-establishment of a healthy and diverse forest. While undertaking these activities, every effort has been made to reduce any further damage to the site and maintain ecological function.

Although the damage to the forested areas was severe in many cases, it is apparent that natural regeneration of the area will take place very quickly in several locations as a consequence of the abundance of fast-growing, shade-intolerant species. Black cherry, white and yellow birch, white ash, and red maple all respond well to disturbance and thrive on the full light conditions in the aftermath of the tornadoes. As a result of the disturbance, there is also a large amount of tree seed on the ground that will begin to germinate in the next few months and grow into tiny seedlings that will lead to a fast greening up of the area.

There are, however, several areas that will require some help to re-establish as a healthy and productive forest ecosystem. These areas exist where there are few or no live standing trees to provide a seed source for the future and where natural regeneration is not present. Tree planting of these areas will be necessary to promote the establishment and growth of new seedlings where these circumstances exist. The GRCA will be monitoring the progression of the damaged forests for the next several years and will continue to undertake restoration efforts where it is necessary.

Realizing the enormity of this task for the future and the expense associated with this type of restoration, the Trees Ontario Foundation, a non-profit founda-



Leah Glatz (left), crew leader with forestry company Bartram Woodlands and Lukas Mundy, a tree planter, work at Belwood Lake Conservation Area.

tion established in 1994 as an independent arm of the Ontario Forestry Association, has provided the GRCA with some initial funding to undertake reforestation in the severely damaged forests located on GRCA property at Belwood Lake.

Funding provided by the Trees Ontario Foundation has enabled the GRCA to reforest approximately one-third of the damaged forest area located at Belwood Lake with all efforts being directed at the most severely damaged portions.

The mandate of the Trees Ontario Foundation is to “increase and promote the management of the forest landscape of Ontario’s private and public lands by working in co-operation with government, associations, and sponsors.”

Trees Ontario Foundation partners include Conservation Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Stewardship, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Forestry Association, Forest Gene Conservation Association, Ontario Tree Seed Plant, and several others.

The funding includes approximately \$12,500 which covered over half the cost of purchasing and planting approximately 10,000 native tree seedlings and

saplings for the restoration of tornado-damaged forests. The tree planting will help re-establish tree cover in the area and provide the forest with a jump start toward a fast recovery.

(Funding was not provided for replanting trees on residential or cottage lots.)

Trees Ontario Foundation has also provided funding for reforestation efforts at the Portage School property located near the town of Elora. Teachers at the school received assistance from community members to help Portage students take part in the planting. Approximately 1,500 tree seedlings were planted in the tornado-damaged area along the Irvine River. Replanting trees will protect adjacent river slopes from erosion and restore the forest ecosystem at this location.

For further information about the Trees Ontario Foundation, visit their website at <http://www.treesontario.on.ca> or call 1-800-387-0790.

For a copy of the Ministry of Natural Resources brochure “Tornado Damaged Forests: A guide on how to care for them”, visit the County of Wellington website at <http://www.county.wellington.on.ca>



Walt Crawford casts in the Elora Gorge. This photo was used on the cover of the Grand River Fisheries Plan.

Walt Crawford: conscience of the fish plan

Walt Crawford helped initiate the Grand River brown trout fishery, was an original member of the Grand River Fisheries Plan Committee, and an original member of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Advisory Board. He passed away after a determined fight with cancer in September 2005 at the age of 56.

By Warren Yerex,
Co-chair
Grand River Fisheries Management
Plan Implementation Committee

You meet many people during your lifetime. Many are easily forgotten but those who share common interests and values tend to stay with you and may become real friends.

To me, Walt was a friend. He was also a passionate and fierce defender of the Grand River.

Walt talked a lot about his experiences growing up around Penetanguishene. When skipping school, he learned about fishing for muskie and shooting “whistlers” on Georgian Bay when the wind and weather were just right. His ethics and respect for land and water developed in those early years.

Walt came to the Grand River watershed from Alberta, where he helped Trout Unlimited and the Bow River Chapter improve landowner relationships, undertake river assessment and improve habitat in local spring creeks. He also took advantage of the wonderful fishing opportunities surrounding him.

Before Walt and his family settled in Elora in the mid 1980s, he took his time choosing the right place to put down roots. He found the Grand River, with its steep gorge, rushing water and intimate setting. He described it to me as a “comfortable place” but thought the fishing was not what it could be.

With his dogged determination, he helped create the tailwater brown trout fishery that so many enjoy today around Fergus and Elora. Some of us still shake our heads wondering just how certain commitments were made, but the proof as they say, is in the pudding.

The Grand River brown trout program has received many accolades.

Walt inspired loyalty through dedication to the river, and his ability to get directly to practical solutions

People come from all over the world to enjoy the experiences of the Grand River. Somewhere in the background was a guy named Walt quietly patting others on the back, knowing that the process is what made this all possible.

That process was one of commitment, mutual respect and a belief in putting the resource first. That helped many people realize that the fisheries resource in the Grand River could be managed in a different, more integrated, more public way.

Walt strongly supported the development of the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan. Many of the people involved with the plan say that he was the conscience of the group, urging it to engage the public. Despite some early skepticism around empowering the public and losing agency control, the model worked.

Walt insisted that the plan start with a clean slate. He believed the fisheries resource was the public’s resource, and that volunteers should have roles as co-managers and community leaders. He believed the public had to take responsibility.

Walt helped envision a process that began by asking what the end product

would be used for. Through unconventional thinking he opened a lot of people's eyes to possibilities of true co-management where the management of the fishery was truly shared.

I personally have a lot to thank Walt Crawford for; we talked a lot about the big picture, about watershed management and the connection between the land and the river, with the fish being the proverbial "canary in the coal mine." Flourishing brown trout in the river meant that some things were right in the world; they were his indicator of environmental health and its value to the community.

I spoke with Walt regularly over the phone and in meetings and — not as often where we should have met — on the river. It's funny, but I don't remember talking that much, as we cast to those first few brown trout fingerlings, nor the days when we saw large fish dimpling the surface of some pool near a certain racquet club.

But Walt didn't always lead with his mouth. Perhaps he knew he might as often say the wrong thing as the right one. He bit his tongue a lot, although some might disagree. He most often led by example, whether by carrying a pail of fish or casting a fly. His passion and commitment were always there.

Walt inspired loyalty through dedication to the river, and his ability to get directly to practical solutions. Walt was a good man, who is gone too soon.

I certainly appreciate all of Walt's advice, his insight and his accomplishments. He may not have received all of the credit he deserved. You can't be that determined and committed without stepping on some toes. However, the plan and the people who he shared those values and ethics with, will cherish having met him.

Walt inspired a lot of change for the better of the Grand River and he was passionate for the protection of the resource. We should all be thankful that we have the privilege of being able to enjoy the fruits of his efforts.



LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION

Workshop connects researchers from across the Grand River watershed

By Jennifer O'Neill
Canadian Water Network

Never has the expression "Great minds think alike" been as relevant as it was at the Grand River Watershed Research Forum. A group of students and researchers working on projects in the Grand River watershed met to share knowledge and discuss their work at this interactive workshop.

The workshop was held for the first time in May and Warren Yerex, Aquatic Resources Supervisor at the Grand River Conservation Authority, believes a forum like this was long overdue. "A forum like this should have happened 20 years ago."

The event was held in conjunction with watershed universities, colleges, the Canadian Water Network and the GRCA. Credit for the success is due in

part to Gerald Tetrault, the Ontario activity representative for CWN and a doctoral student at the University of Waterloo.

"The people I'm meeting at this workshop all share a common goal," said Tetrault. "We're all tackling the same issues."

Organizers underestimated the level of interest that they would receive from this event. "The response was a little overwhelming to what we initially thought," said Tetrault. Originally planned for around 20 participants, an excited group of over 90 people from academics to undergrads attended and presented at the forum.

"No research is conducted in a vacuum," said Andrew Carnegie, a Masters student at Wilfrid Laurier University who is conducting his research along Schneider Creek. "There's no use in bottling up your research."

However, before this forum took place, that was exactly what was happening. The GRCA did not have enough knowledge about the research that was being done on the watershed. "We used to get students to go to the library on an annual basis to figure out what was going on in the Grand River," said Yerex. "With the induction of a workshop like this, that is no longer neces-



Representatives of the Mark Servos Lab at the University of Waterloo attending the research forum were Jen Ings, senior ecotoxicology technician (left); Jill Heinrichs, student laboratory technician; Edna Leung, work study student, and Ken Oakes, research associate.
(Photo by Jennifer O'Neill)

sary.”

“The meeting is already a success, because I just heard about new data and I needed it,” exclaimed Stephanie Guildford as she made her presentation shortly after two University of Waterloo Master students presented on water quality changes at Conestogo Lake. Guildford is doing her own research on blue-green algae blooms at the same lake.

This was really an opportunity for others like Guildford to understand what other studies were going on in their own areas of focus.

Yerex expressed his satisfaction with attending a forum such as this.

“Many people are doing projects on similar things so when I hear one person is doing a study on something like bugs; I know I don’t have to go study that for another 5-10 years. It also gives me a baseline to go from,” said Yerex.

He also noted how this sharing of knowledge has many financial benefits: “If the data has already been collected, that saves the time and energy for another group spending time in the field,” he said.

Academics and researchers were not the only ones to attend this forum. Students accounted for a large part of the audience. Sarah Yabokowski who is completing her Masters degree at University of Waterloo found the workshop especially beneficial. “It’s actually good because I’m new to water research and it’s good to learn what other people are doing in the field.”

Jonathan King who is at the beginning of his Masters degree at University of Waterloo has a full grant for his research from the Canadian Water Network

He will be conducting a study that will look at the development of organizational knowledge. For King, the coming together of the natural science and social science is fundamental for his own research. The benefit of this forum was the “developing transfer of knowledge from the science to the policy



Dr. Ramesh Rudra of the Guelph Watershed Research Group.

side,” he said.

Maggie Adams, a student presenter at the forum, found attending this workshop allowed her to see the big picture and see what other things were going on in the watershed. In the future Maggie is interested in pursuing research in water and will be looking to organizations such as the CWN for support.

The CWN is a strong supporter of students like Adams. Tetrault recounted his own experience of being a CWN student.

“When I was an undergrad, I wanted to save the world and everyone there (at the CWN) is really supportive of that and it is kind of empowering.”

Of course if wasn’t a requirement to be studying water to attend this forum. Jill Heinrichs, an undergrad at the University of Waterloo, who wants to get into optometry in the future, attended the conference just to “get involved.”

So what will be the next step for this group?

Bob Sharpe of Wilfrid Laurier University believes a forum like this is a “real opportunity to raise community awareness and bridge the gap between hard science and social science.”

For Sharpe and others, this information needs to get relayed to the community in order to get their views on the

subject. “This forum is the type of place that that could happen,” said Sharpe.

“This is the winning team.”

Although this workshop was the first of its kind, there was great interest to make this event an annual or bi-annual forum.

Jennifer O’Neill is a student at Wilfrid Laurier University entering her fourth year, she is a communications intern at the Canadian Water Network.

Brant Rod and Gun Club contributes to Conestogo fishery

A program to stock brown trout in the Conestogo River is getting help from the Brant Rod and Gun Club.

Over the past three years the club has raised more than 73,000 fingerling fish which have been placed in the Conestogo, including 33,500 in 2006 alone.

“The club has done an excellent job raising fish for this new fishery,” said Ken Cornelisse, area biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

“We stock these fish at 20 locations along the 27 km of river from the Conestogo Lake dam to St. Jacobs. Our assessment work shows these fish are surviving the summers and winters in the river and they appear to be growing well,” said Cornelisse.

In addition to the fingerlings, the ministry has also stocked adults and yearling fish it gets from a provincial hatchery.

The eight centimetre (three inch) fingerlings were stocked in late April with the assistance of the Conestogo River Enhancement Work (CREW) Group and Linwood Public School.

“It was very uplifting to see all the adults and school kids engaged in the stocking,” said Henk Ver Meulen, manager of the club’s Paul Helm Memorial Fish Hatchery.

“Getting people interested in the river is a great way to develop a sense of stewardship and protection about the



Henk Ver Meulen at the Brant Rod and Gun Club fish hatchery near Brantford.

river," said Cornelisse.

The fish stocking project is one of the 42 "best bets" – a list of projects to improve the Grand River fishery – included in the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan, which was completed in 1997.

In the summer of 2003, the Ministry of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Committee, completed an environmental assessment, recommending stocking brown trout in the Conestogo River. Later that same year, the Ministry partnered with the Brant Rod and Gun Club to raise fish for this new fishery.

Ver Meulen, the hatchery manager at the Brant Rod and Gun Club, says "successfully raising fish from eggs is something that is very satisfying to me" and that he "is grateful for the moral and financial support of the club and technical support from MNR."

Club president John Pray said "he and the club board are very proud of the hard work Henk and his assistants have done and their fantastic results".

Symposium raises awareness of Grand River fisheries work

A dinner and symposium focusing on the fisheries management plan for the Grand River watershed raised more than \$13,000 to support fisheries projects.

Grand Waters...Grand Fish Celebration Dinner and Symposium was held in Brantford and was organized by the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Committee partners. The goal was to raise awareness of the great strides that volunteers and agency staff have made towards implementing the fisheries management plan.

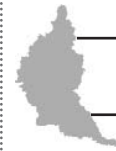
More than 160 people were on hand at the German Canadian Club in Brantford to hear presentations from key players in making the Grand River's fishery better. These presentations highlighted walleye research and the history of the fishery in the Southern Grand River area, the Exceptional Waters Program in the Brantford area, First Nations involvement with fisheries, the GRCA's Rural Water Quality Program and stewardship in the watershed.



Felix Barbetti of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters addresses the fisheries symposium.

Keynote speaker Rick Kustich from New York helped reinforce the fact that the people involved with managing and improving the Grand River's fisheries are on the right track. The organizing committee hopes to host a second dinner in 2008 and to work hard on the river so that there will be many more good news updates to present at that time.

For more information about the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan and how you can get involved contact Steve May at (519) 621-2763 x300 or visit www.grandriver.ca



MILESTONES

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

Rural Water Quality Program gets award

A program that helps farmers protect water quality on their land in the Grand River watershed has been recognized with an Award of Rural Excellence by the Foundation for Rural Living.

The Rural Water Quality program, which is a partnership of the GRCA, municipalities and farmers, was the winner of the award for the Outstanding Partnership with Business. The award was among seven presented by the foundation on April 12 in Collingwood.

The Foundation for Rural Living is a non-profit organization dedicated to building sustainable rural capacity and enhancing the quality of life for rural citizens through the growth and development of community investment in the form of philanthropy, citizenship and collaboration. Its awards recognize the excellence emerging from rural Ontario and help promote ideas to other organizations throughout the province. The Awards of Rural Excellence were first presented in 1997. Sponsors are Pioneer Hi-Bred Ltd., The Co-Operators, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food,

and Rural Affairs and Union Gas.

The awards program recognizes and honours rural communities, organizations and groups who, through programs, projects, and initiatives, act on their vision of a better rural Ontario.

Tracey Ryan, supervisor of Conservation Services for the GRCA, which administers the Rural Water Quality Program, said the award is recognition of the mutual trust that has developed among the partners.

"This award recognizes a partnership that involves seven municipalities, countless local farm organizations and more than 600 farmers who have participated in the program, as well as federal and provincial ministries."

The program was initiated by the Region of Waterloo in 1996. Since then six other municipalities have joined in: Guelph, Wellington County, Brantford, Brant County, Oxford County and Perth County.

More than \$14 million has been invested in 1,500 clean water projects.

Projects are screened by local committees made up of representatives of local government and farm organizations.

Typical projects involve construction of manure storage tanks, fencing streams to keep livestock out, planting trees and shrubs along streams, building clean water diversions in farmyards and upgrading irrigation systems to conserve water.

Over the life of the RWQP, the municipal partners have contributed more than \$5 million. Their total annual contribution is \$700,000.

The contribution by farmers in material, labour and cash has totaled \$9 million over the life of the program.

The program has resulted in a measurable reduction in phosphorus in some parts of the Grand River watershed.

The improvement in water quality in the Conestogo River was a factor in a decision to begin a brown trout stocking program in the river.

GRCA, university to help watershed work in China

The GRCA and the University of Waterloo have signed an agreement with a Chinese university and a water management agency to develop watershed management programs in Dalian, China.

Peter Krause, chair of the GRCA and Dr. Bruce Mitchell, associate provost of the University of Waterloo, took part in a signing ceremony on April 20 in Dalian. They were joined by Song Guanglu, general director of the Dalian Water Affairs Bureau and Dr. Guo Donming, vice president of the Dalian University of Technology.

The agreement will further watershed management on the Biliu River in Dalian,

The GRCA is a partner with the University of Waterloo in EcoPlan China, which is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and administered by the university. The university is helping Dalian University of Technology create a new graduate program for environmental studies and assisting with the implementation of environmental demonstration projects. The GRCA is providing advice

to the university and the City of Dalian about developing a watershed management plan for the Biliu River watershed. Representatives of the Canadian and Chinese groups have traded visits.

EcoPlan China will cover the costs of the GRCA's participation in the program.

Krause said "the members and staff of the GRCA are looking forward to sharing their experience with Dalian to build capacities to implement a program of integrated watershed management in the Biliu watershed."

Two exchanges will take place in coming months. Key technical staff from the Dalian Water Affairs bureau will visit Canada in May, with a joint GRCA-UW workshop in Dalian in June.

Water supply and management is a critical issue for the City of Dalian and the Biliu watershed is the principal source of water supply for the city.

"The agreement to join forces to protect the watershed is a direct result of ECOPLAN China, a five-year project led by the University of Waterloo, Faculty of Environmental Studies and funded by the Canadian International Development Agency," said Dr. David Wood, Research Associate Professor and Project Director for EcoPlan China.



Dr. Bruce Mitchell, Peter Krause, Song Guanglu and Dr. Guo Donming mark the signing of the agreements.



NOW AVAILABLE

New guide for Grand Valley Trail

A new and improved version of the Grand Valley Trail Guidebook has been published by the Grand Valley Trail Association. The guide includes 16 colour maps showing the entire route of the trail from Alton to Lake Erie. Each map contains a description of that section of the trail, and more. The guide is available for \$25 through the association's website at www.gvta.on.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 be seen at www.grandriver.ca

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Fax: (519) 621-4844
E-mail: dschultz@grandriver.ca
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

Print sales support fisheries projects

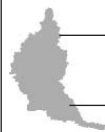
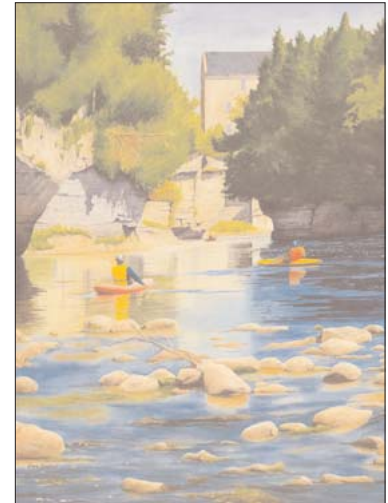
A limited edition print of a water colour painting by Kitchener artist Don Routly will help raise money to support fish and wildlife habitat improvements along the Grand River.

The painting, commissioned by the Grand River Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Committee, depicts a beautiful scene from the Elora Gorge area. These 17-by-23 inch prints were created using colorfast inks and archival quality paper to ensure that they will look great for years to come. Unframed prints are available for \$100 each (taxes and shipping extra) through the Grand River Conservation Authority office in Cambridge.

Proceeds from the sale of this print will help projects designed to enhance

fish and wildlife habitat along the Grand and its tributaries.

The prints are available from the Grand River Conservation Authority Office at 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge for \$100, or by calling (519) 621-2761 during business hours or on-line at www.grandriver.ca



The Grand Strategy Calendar

Grand River Conservation Foundation Golf Tournament, June 27,

Cambridge – This fundraising event organized by the GRCF honours the late Grant Erwin, a foundation director who died in October, 2004. Erwin's passion for the outdoors was reflected in his many efforts on behalf of the foundation, particularly as the driving force behind The Living Classroom – Campaign for Outdoor Education. The tournament will take place at the Galt Country Club. Tickets are \$225, which includes a barbeque lunch, gala dinner, prizes, a partial charitable receipt, and a day of exceptional golf. A variety of promotional opportunities are also available for sponsors of the event. To reserve a place, sponsor, or for more information, go to www.grandriver.ca/foundation, e-mail tournament chair Anita Hillis at ahillis@grandriver.ca or call the foundation at (877) 29-GRAND.

Canadian Fly Fishing Championships and Symposium, June 22-25 – Fly

fishers from across the country will descend on the Grand River near Fergus and Elora to compete for the Fourth FFC National Fly Fishing Championships. This event will see top fly fishing anglers compete between June 22 and June 25 on the Grand, Conestogo River and a local stillwater venue. Scores will be determined by who catches the most and biggest fish. A conservation symposium will be held Sunday, June 25 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Gord Brown Hall (Fergus Community Centre.) The public is welcome to attend. For more information about the event, to compete or to volunteer to help out with this national championships please contact Steve May at (519) 621-2763 x300 or smay@grandriver.ca

Last year's winners...



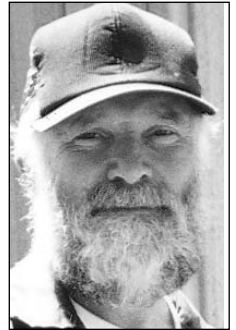
Watershed Award Honour Roll: S.C. Johnson and Son Ltd. of Brantford



Tracey Bucci and the Wilfrid Laurier-Mohawk Environmental Group, Brantford



Tony Perrotta and Greentec International Inc., Cambridge



Vlad Jelinek and family farm, Grand Valley



Waterloo Region District School Board and Waterloo Catholic District School Board



John Jackson, Great Lakes United



Arnold Vervoort and family farm, Fergus



The Hillside Festival, Guelph

Call for nominations

The Grand River Conservation Authority

2006 Watershed Awards

For more than 25 years the Grand River Conservation Authority has recognized the efforts of individuals, families, groups and corporations to improve the environment of the Grand River watershed.

The GRCA presents two awards:

- The *Honour Roll Award* recognizes a sustained record of achievement over a period of time.
- *Watershed Awards* for outstanding examples of conservation and environmental work.

Nominations

Anyone can nominate a candidate simply by filling out the form on the other side of this page.



Self-nominations are not allowed.

For corporate nominations, the emphasis will be on efforts undertaken by the company to support public or community environmental programs and projects.

Selection of winners

The winners will be selected in August by the Special Recognition Committee of the GRCA.

The winners are honoured at a ceremony during the GRCA's annual meeting in February at the GRCA headquarters in Cambridge.

Deadline for applications is July 31, 2006.



Grand River Watershed Conservation Awards

Nomination Form

The Grand River Conservation Authority presents awards annually to individuals, families, groups and corporations to honour those who have made a tangible contribution to the preservation, enhancement and improvement of the Grand River watershed and its natural heritage.

- **Honour Roll Awards** are presented for a record of achievement extending across several years.
- **Watershed Awards** are for specific projects or programs.

Type of nominee: ☐ Individual or family ☐ Group ☐ Corporation
Name of nominee:
Address: Postal code:
Telephone: Fax:
E-mail:

Brief summary of achievement

a) Describe activity, project or record of achievement. Please include when and where the project(s) or activities took place, number of participants (if applicable), and other relevant highlights in two or three short sentences.

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.....

b) What makes the accomplishment(s) special. Who benefits and how did this improve the health of the Grand River and its surrounding lands?

.....
.....
.....
.....

Supporting Material (Optional)

Please attach photographs, newspaper clippings or other materials, if available, which support the nomination.

Name of nominator: (No self-nominations, please)
Address:
Telephone: E-mail:
Signature: Date:

Please submit your nominations by July 31, 2006 to:
GRCA Special Recognition Committee, 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, Ontario, N1R 5W6
Phone: (519) 621-2761, Fax: (519) 621-4844; E-mail: grca@grandriver.ca

REGISTRATION

To register, please fill out the registration form and mail to:

Grand River Conservation Authority, c/o Brenda Armstrong
400 Clyde Road, Box 729
Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Phone: 519-621-2763 ext. 250, Fax: 519-621-3529 or
E-mail: waterforum2006@grandriver.ca

You can also register on-line at
www.grandriver.ca/waterforum/register

Please register by September 8, 2006.

Registration fee:
\$90

Student registration:
\$45

NAME

JOB TITLE

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

CITY

POSTAL CODE

TELEPHONE

FAX

E-MAIL ADDRESS

CREDIT CARD: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE

NAME ON CARD (if different from above)

☐ Please notify me by e-mail so that I can download the current issue of the Grand Actions newsletter.

Please make cheques payable to the Grand River Conservation Authority and complete a separate registration form for each person attending.

The Water Forum will be held outdoors under a "grand" marquee on the grounds of the GRCA Administration Centre. **Please dress accordingly.** A barbecue lunch is included in the registration and will accommodate vegetarian diets.

Exhibit Space is available (\$225.00 including one registration; skirted tables are \$25.00 extra) on a first-come, first-served basis. To register your exhibit, please download the form from our website at www.grandriver.ca or contact Sonia Morgan at 519-621-2763 ext. 295, Fax: 519-621-3529 or e-mail: smorgan@grandriver.ca

Morning program:

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Moderator

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.

8:45 - 9:00 a.m.

9:00 - 9:20 a.m.

9:20 - 9:50 a.m.

9:50 - 10:10 a.m.

10:10 - 10:40 a.m.

10:40 - 11:40 a.m.

11:40 - 12:10 p.m.

12:10 - 1:20 p.m.

Registration & Coffee

Doug Craig, Mayor of Cambridge

First Nations Thanksgiving – Ed Thomas

Welcome and Greetings

Hon. Laurel Broten, Ontario Minister of the Environment (invited)

Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, Co-chair, International Joint Commission

4th Annual Watershed Report - Paul Emerson, CAO, Grand River Conservation Authority

Refreshment Break

Panel Discussion: Innovation in Technologies for Healthy Waters

- Ecological Goods & Services – Robert Bailey, Delta Waterfowl
- Wastewater Treatment – Jim Higgins, Jacques Whitford
- Drain/Wetland Restoration – Dave Richards, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- Builders/Developers – Andy Oding, Reid's Heritage Homes
- Natural Channel Improvements – Bill Annable, University of Waterloo

Questions & Answers

Barbecue Lunch & Interactive Exhibits

Afternoon program:

Moderator

1:20 - 1:40 p.m.

1:40 - 2:30 p.m.

2:30 - 3:00 p.m.

3:00 - 3:15 p.m.

3:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Carl Zehr, Mayor of Kitchener

Source Water Protection Update - Lorrie Minshall, Grand River Conservation Authority

Panel Discussion: Innovations in Community Development

- Community Development – Cecilia Ferreyra, University of Guelph
- Children's Water Festivals / Grade 8 Field Course – Peter Gray, Frontline Environmental Management
- Exceptional Waters – Jack Imhof, Trout Unlimited Canada
- Rural Water Quality Program – Tracey Ryan, Grand River Conservation Authority

Questions & Answers

Wrap Up - Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

First Nations Thanksgiving – Ed Thomas



6th ANNUAL

GRAND RIVER WATERSHED WATER FORUM

Building the Toolkit
for
Healthy Waters

Friday, September 15, 2006

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Grand River Conservation Authority
400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, Ontario

The Grand River Watershed Water Forum is an important gathering of experts on key water issues, growth trends, emerging technologies and innovative solutions.

This year's forum – Building the Toolkit for Healthy Waters - will continue to provide government leaders, municipalities, businesses, farmers and others with information about new technologies, innovations and community involvement needed to protect and improve our valuable water resources.

Keynote Speakers

The Right Honourable Herb Gray, *PC, CC, QC*



Canada and the United States created the International Joint Commission because they recognized each is affected by the other's actions in lake and river systems along the border. They cooperate to manage and protect these waters.

Much of the work of the Commission consists of working with various governments to clean up the

Great Lakes, which in turn benefits the watersheds in the region, including the Grand. Both countries share the goal of eliminating pollution while promoting economic prosperity. Governments, organizations and individuals need to work together to make sure that rivers and lakes are used wisely and to repair the damage that has occurred.

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray was appointed Canadian Chair of the International Joint Commission in 2002, following a long and illustrious parliamentary career, including a number of cabinet ministries and serving as Canada's Deputy Prime Minister.

Gray is one of only a few Canadians ever granted the title The Right Honourable who was not so entitled by virtue of a position held. He is also a Companion of the Order of Canada, a designation which can be bestowed on only 165 outstanding Canadians at any given time.

Paul Emerson, *Chief Administrative Officer, Grand River Conservation Authority*

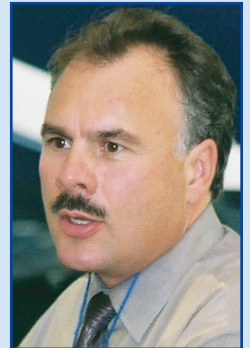
Paul Emerson grew up in Paris, Ontario. He holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies Degree from the University of Waterloo and is a member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. During his time with the GRCA his duties have ranged from general conservation labour and field inspections to responsibility for the administration of the authority's resource planning/regulation programs.



In 2000, he was appointed to the position of Chief Administrative Officer of the Grand River Conservation Authority. Mr. Emerson is a Director and Past President of the Brant Waterways Foundation, and a former Executive Committee member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

Gord Miller, *Environmental Commissioner of Ontario*

Gord Miller has served as the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario since 2000 and oversees the implementation of the Environmental Bill of Rights. As an independent officer appointed by the Legislative Assembly, Commissioner Miller monitors and reports annually on government compliance with the provisions of the Environmental Bill of Rights and reports annually on government compliance with the provisions of the EBR. He is currently serving a second five year term. Prior to his appointment, he worked for the Ministry of the Environment for 14 years.



Gord Miller has extensive experience with the environmental issues, including approval and inspection activities, municipal sewage, drinking water, solid waste management, hazardous waste, noise, air pollution and land use planning. He holds a BSc. (Hon.) in Biology from the University of Guelph and an M.Sc. in Plant Ecology.

HOSTED BY: The Grand Strategy Water Managers Working Group

ORGANIZING PARTNERS: Grand River Conservation Authority, Grand River Conservation Foundation, City of Guelph, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs, Environment Canada, Canadian Water Network, Trout Unlimited Canada, Six Nations EcoCentre, City of Cambridge, Ontario Centres of Excellence - Earth & Environment Technologies, Water and Earth Sciences Ltd., Frontline Environmental Management Inc.

Arts, Culture and Heritage of the Grand River Watershed

The Grand Strategy Heritage Working Group wants to increase awareness of arts, culture and heritage attractions in the Grand River watershed. We invite you to visit these places:

Baden

Castle Kilbride; the 1877 grand home of James Livingston, Canada's "flax mill king."
60 Snyder's Road West, Baden, (519) 634-8444, www.castlekilbride.ca

Brantford

Bell Homestead; family home of Alexander Graham Bell, idea of the telephone started here.

94 Tutela Heights Rd., Brantford, ON, (519) 756-5975, www.bellhomestead.ca

Her Majesty's/St. Paul's Chapel of the Mohawks; first Protestant church in Upper Canada, stained glass windows depict events in history of Six Nations people. 301 Mohawk St., Brantford, ON

St. Jude's Anglican Church; interior paintings and decoration contribute to its designation as a national historic site;
81 Peel St., Brantford, ON, (519) 752-0562

Caledonia

Caledonia Grand Trunk Station; tourist information centre, meeting place for community groups, and museum of local railway artifacts.

1 Grand Trunk Lane, Caledonia, ON, (905) 765-5072

Caledonia Mill; last mill of its type remaining in the Grand River Watershed, constructed over 150 years ago. 146 Forfar Street West, Caledonia, ON, (905) 765-1838, www.caledoniaoldmill.ca.

Edinburgh Square Heritage & Cultural Centre; Formerly the Town Hall, it presents Caledonia's history through permanent and temporary exhibits, and the Gillespie Clark Reference Library.

80 Caithness Street East, Caledonia, ON, (905) 765-3134, www.haldimandcounty.on.ca/museums.

Theatre Amicitia; Unique amateur theatre with two entertaining productions each year during May and November. Dinner and brunch packages are available.

173 Argyle Street North, Caledonia, ON, (905) 765-4864 or (905) 765-5941, www.caledoniatheatre.com

Cambridge

McDougall Cottage; a charming 1858 stone labourer's cottage on the banks of the Grand River;
89 Grand Ave., Cambridge, ON, (519) 624-8250

Cayuga

Haldimand County Museum & Archives; The Museum presents Haldimand's rich heritage, including an authentic log cabin (c.1835) and the archives, a valuable resource for researchers.

8 Echo Street, Box 38, Cayuga, ON, (905) 772-5880, www.haldimandcounty.on.ca/museums

Haldimand Art Works; Haldimand Art Works offers workshops, classes, juried exhibits, a gallery/gift-shop, featuring works by local and regional artists and artisans.

19 Cayuga Street North, Cayuga, ON, (905) 772-7000, www.haldimandartworks.ca

Ontario's South Coast Artist's Guild & Co-op; A gift-shop/gallery, featuring area artists and artisans skilled at blacksmithing, corn-husk creations, pottery, silks, stained glass and more.

C/O Fine Things Stained Glass, Cayuga Street North, Cayuga, ON, (905) 537-3463

Ruthven Park National Historic Site; Owned by the Thompson family, 1845-1993, the major feature of the 1500-acre estate is a fine Greek Revival mansion.

243 Highway 54, Cayuga, ON, (905) 772-0560, www.ruthvenpark.ca.

Drayton

Drayton Festival Theatre; a renovated 1902 Opera House, it has a rich history of entertaining audiences with the finest talent in professional theatre. Also, enjoy performances at the St. Jacobs Country Playhouse.

33 Wellington St. S., Box 10 Drayton, ON, 1-888-449-4463, www.draytonentertainment.com

Dunnville

No. 6 RCAF Dunnville Museum; Dedicated to the airmen trained here and the thousands of men and women who served at this Training School, 1940-44.

Dunnville Airport, Hangar No. 1, County Road 11, Dunnville, ON, (905) 701-7223 or 905-774-3068

Dunnville Community Theatre; Dunnville Community Theatre continues a 30-year tradition of producing quality family entertainment.

101 Main Street East, Box 115, Dunnville, ON, (905) 774-9491, www.dunnvillecommunitytheatre.com

Arts, Culture and Heritage of the Grand River Watershed

Fergus

Wellington County Museum & Archives; housed in the original 1877 County Poor House, the museum exhibits reflect the life stories of Wellington County people over the past centuries. The Archives provide rare historical records for researchers.

0536 Wellington Road18, R.R. 1, Fergus, ON, (519) 846-0916 ext. 221, www.wcm.on.ca

Guelph

Guelph Museum and McCrae House;

6 Dublin St. Guelph, (519) 836-1221, www.guelph.ca/museum

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre; Guelph's Public Gallery and Sculpture Garden.

358 Gordon Street, Guelph, ON, (519) 837-0010

Kitchener

Doon Heritage Crossroads; a recreated 1914 village, 2 farms and costumed interpreters bring to life an exciting era in Canadian history.

10 Huron Road at Homer Watson Boulevard, Kitchener, ON (519) 748-1914 www.region.waterloo.on.ca/doon

Homer Watson House & Gallery; homestead of Homer Watson, Canada's first noted landscape artist, it features exhibitions, classes for all ages in drawing and painting, school programming and special events.

1754 Old Mill Road, Kitchener, ON, (519) 748-4377, www.homerwatson.on.ca

Joseph Schneider Haus; restored Mennonite farmhouse with modern museum/exhibit wing.

466 Queen St., S. Kitchener, ON, (519) 742-7752, www.jsh25years.ca

J. Steckle Heritage Homestead; a not for profit charitable organization dedicated to providing agricultural, environmental and cultural education and recreation programs for children, adults and families.

811 Bleams Road, Kitchener, ON, (519) 748-4690, www.stecklehomestead.ca

Waterloo Regional Children's Museum; Discover the world of art and technology @ play!

10 King St. W., Kitchener, ON, (519) 749-9387, www.wrcm.ca

Woodside National Historic Site; the 1890's Victorian boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canada's 10th prime minister. 528 Wellington St., Kitchener, ON, (519) 571-5684, www.pc.gc.ca/woodside

St George

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead; birthplace and childhood home of woman responsible for raising the level of education for girls and co-founder of the VON, YWCA, WI, National Council of Women and three teaching facilities of Domestic Science.

359 Blue Lake Rd, St George, ON, (519) 448-1130. www.hoodlesshomestead.ca

Six Nations of the Grand River Territory

Chiefswood Museum N.H.S; Birthplace & childhood home of E. Pauline Johnson. Celebrating 150 years of built heritage along the Grand. (1856-2006)!

1037 Highway #54, Ohsweken. (519) 752-5005. www.chiefswood.com.

Waterloo

Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery; An award-winning building featuring clay, glass and enamels. Four interior exhibition galleries, Gift Shop, workshops, children's activities & special events.

25 Caroline Street North, Waterloo, ON, (519) 746-1882 www.canadianclayandglass.ca



The Grand Strategy Heritage Working Group was formed in 1995 to help increase community involvement and commitment to the celebration and management of human heritage resources in the Grand River watershed which was declared a Canadian Heritage River, along with its tributaries, in 1994.