



**TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT  
COUNCIL AGENDA  
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:00 P.M.**

- 1. MOTION TO CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**
- 2. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**
- 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE**
- 4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- 5. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT**
- 6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**
  - 6.1 Council Meeting Minutes June 9, 2014**

**Recommendation**

**THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as presented:**

**Regular Council Meeting June 9, 2014.**

- 7. PUBLIC MEETINGS**
- 8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**
  - 8.1 Cathy Harrington, Community Care Concepts  
Trisha Robinson, Wilmot Family Resource Centre  
Program Partnership Update**
    - 8.1.1 REPORT NO. PRD-2014-09  
Update on the Program Partnership Initiative**

**Recommendation**

**THAT Report PRD-2014-09 be received for information.**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 CAO – no reports**

**9.2 CLERKS – no reports**

**9.3 FINANCE – no reports**

**9.4 PUBLIC WORKS**

**9.4.1 REPORT NO. PW-2014-12  
Utilities Service Vehicle**

**Recommendation**

**THAT the tender submitted by Expressway Ford for a Ford F450 Cab and Chassis c/w Service Box in the amount of \$59,563.18, net of the HST rebate, be accepted.**

**9.5 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – no reports**

**9.6 FACILITIES AND RECREATION SERVICES**

**9.6.1 REPORT NO. PRD-2014-08  
Wilmot Splash Pad Project – Final Design and Costing**

**Recommendation**

**THAT PRD 2014-08 be endorsed.**

**9.7 FIRE – no reports**

**9.8 CASTLE KILBRIDE – no reports**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**10.1 Grand River Conservation Authority – GRCA Current, June 2014**

**10.2 Grand River Conservation Authority – Grand Actions, May/June 2014**

**Recommendation**

**THAT Correspondence Items 10.1 to 10.2 be received for information.**

**11. BY-LAWS**

**12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**13. QUESTIONS/NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**15. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

**15.1 By-law No. 2014-29**

**Recommendation**

**THAT By-law No. 2014-29 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council at its Meeting held on June 23, 2014 be introduced, read a first, second, and third time and finally passed in Open Council.**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**Recommendation**

**THAT we do now adjourn to meet again at the call of the Mayor.**



**TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014**

**TELEVISED  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present: Mayor L. Armstrong, Councillors A. Junker, P. Roe, B. Fisher, J. Gerber,  
M. Murray**

**Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer G. Whittington, Director of Clerk's Services  
B. McLeod, Director of Facilities and Recreation Services S. Nancekivell, Director  
of Development Services H. O'Kafka, Fire Chief M. Raine, Director of Finance  
R. Tse, Manager of Accounting P. Kelly**

**1. MOTION TO CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**

**2. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor L. Armstrong asked that thoughts be given in memory of the RCMP Officers in Moncton who died tragically.

**4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**5. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST  
ACT**

**6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**6.1 Council Meeting Minutes May 26, 2014**

**Resolution No. 2014-123**

**Moved by: M. Murray**

**Seconded by: A. Junker**

**THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as presented:**

**Regular Council Meeting May 26, 2014.**

**CARRIED.**

**7. PUBLIC MEETINGS**



**8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS****8.1 Teresa Brown and Kenton Frey, Baden Corn Festival Committee Co-Chairs  
2014 Baden Corn Festival Update****8.1.2 REPORT NO. CL2014-20  
Noise By-law Exemption Request  
Baden Corn Festival****Resolution No. 2014-124****Moved by: M. Murray****Seconded by: J. Gerber**

**THAT an exemption to the Noise By-law as requested by the Baden Corn Festival Committee for the purpose of the Second Annual Baden Corn Festival occurring on Saturday, August 9, 2014 from 8:00 am to 12:00 midnight, at various locations in the Settlement Area of Baden, be granted.**

**CARRIED.**

The presentation of Baden Corn Festival Committee is attached as 'Appendix A' to the minutes.

Ms. Brown and Mr. Frey gave Council an overview of the event from 2013 and summarized many of the highlights for the event occurring on August 10, 2014. They spoke of the many vendors, activities, displays, food vendors and entertainers that will attend the Festival, some from last year but other new attractions as well. The layout for the event was displayed for Council's reference and they concluded their presentation by discussing the expenses, revenues, sponsorships and the amount given back to community by way of community projects.

Councillor B. Fisher noted that a tremendous amount of work goes into organizing this event and he commended the Committee for their efforts.

**8.2 David, Marskell, CEO  
THEMUSEUM Update**

The presentation of THEMUSEUM is attached as 'Appendix B' to the minutes.

Mr. Marskell provided a brief update of activity at the museum. He shared a power point of images from the last several years and spoke of THEMUSEUM's recent ten year anniversary. Highlights included exhibits on Warhol, Titanic, China, Yoko Ono and their current exhibition Unwrapping Egypt. Mr. Marskell also discussed school programs and how more than 300 students from Wilmot visited THEMUSEUM this year. He welcomed the opportunity to help promote the Baden Corn Festival, and other area attractions.

Mr. Marskell thanked the Council Members, indicating that he was not requesting anything but hoped Council would support THEMUSEUM as others and Regional Council do.

Councillor A. Junker advised the delegation that he is amazed at the variety of events/exhibits that the organization provides and commended them for their efforts. He also commented on the loss of Joan Euler who was a long serving Board Member at THEMUSEUM who was very involved with its history, and has recently passed, indicating that she will be greatly missed. Mr. Marskell concurred.

### **8.3 Theresa Dietrich and Kathy Skowron, WALDA Committee Chairs WALDA Q'ing for Life Update**

Ms. Dietrich advised that W.A.L.D.A. - Wilmot Area Life Donation Awareness is hosting its second annual competition BBQ event, 'Q'ing for Life', at the New Hamburg Fairgrounds on Saturday June 14 2014. She was proud to announce that New Hamburg is now home to the Canadian National Bacon Championship. The Grand Champion from each division will win a Golden Ticket to the World Food Championship in Vegas. All of this is in support of organ and tissue donation awareness. She advised Council that registering consent online at [beadonor.ca](http://beadonor.ca) is the only reliable way to make your wishes known. Since starting WALDA our local registrations rates have risen from 30% to 40%..

WALDA also hosts a series of summer concerts at Kirkpatrick Park in New Hamburg, featuring guest speakers from the Gift of Life and local musicians. These concerts have become a great way for residents to get out and enjoy the benefits of living in New Hamburg.

This year Q'ing for Life will host 20 BBQ teams, a 9 hole Mini Putt (courtesy of Wilmot Rotary), New Hamburg Full Throttle Show and Shine, a Vendor Market with over 30 vendors, beer garden, great food and live music. Ms. Dietrich concluded her presentation by stating that with all of this family fun Wilmot is sure to be able to stake claim that as a "Donor Community".

Councillor J. Gerber thanked the delegation, indicating that he has seen the impact on the community and the actions of it. He also advised that opportunities for the public to participate in the cooking activities do exist.

### **8.4 Craig Miller, Committee Member New Hamburg Full Throttle Update**

The presentation of New Hamburg Full Throttle is attached as Appendix 'C' to the minutes.

Mr. Miller gave Council an overview of how the event began and what had occurred in 2013. He discussed the 2014 event and what is planned for the growth of the event.

Mr. Miller advised that it is the group's intent to donate funds towards the New Hamburg Fire Department.

### **8.5 Don Wagner, Moparfest Committee Member Moparfest Update**

The presentation of the Moparfest Committee is attached as Appendix 'D' to the minutes.

Mr. Wagner provided a brief history of the Moparfest Event noting that it began with the KW Optimist Club and that Gary Hoffman was the founding member. When interest outgrew the Heidelberg location of Moparfest in the 1970's, it was suggested that the event be relocated to the New Hamburg Fairgrounds where the success of the event led to a two day show. Since that time various additional clubs joined in addition to the Optimist Club. Mr. Wagner advised that this excellent organizational structure works so well that not once over the years have there been any difficulties. Last year \$160,000.00 was raised, now reaching a running total of 2.6 million dollars raised to-date.

To celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Moparfest, new prize opportunities exists for faithful attendees:

- a) a trip for two to 2015 Daytona 500 and
- b) a trip for two to the 2015 Berrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction in Las Vegas, Nevada

Both opportunities are sponsored by Imagine Travel. The long term position of Moparfest requires a continuous push to maintain a high level, successful event and it was decided that a full time Chairperson would be hired. This person coordinates all of the meetings and has a very long list of duties. The organization holds a permanent office at the Stanley Building and is focused on reserving the Moparfest of the past and supporting youth work.

In closing, Mr. Wagner stated that the Moparfest Committees wished to thank Wilmot for its outstanding support over the years and hope that sharing some of the information tonight will encourage everyone to join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of August each year.

Councillor P. Roe commended the organization for a world class event.

#### **8.6 Val Johnson and Aggie Berry, St. Agatha Strawberry Fest Committee Strawberry Festival Update**

The presentation of the Strawberry Fest Committee is attached as Appendix 'E' to the minutes.

Ms. Johnson illustrated for Council the family fun at the StrawberryFest event occurring on June 21, 2014 including the local artisans, petting zoo, face painting, games, musical entertainment, food booths and , of course, the locally grown strawberry products. They encouraged more residents to volunteer to help with the event. They concluded their presentation by noting that the proceeds raised help local projects, local charities and community improvements.

Councillor P. Roe commended the group for their successful events and thanked them for allowing him to participate as a judge for the pie tasting event.

#### **8.7 Warren Bechtold, Optimist Club of Petersburg President Petersburg Optimists Father's Day Breakfast and Car Show Update**

Mr. Bechthold advised that the Father's Day Breakfast and car show events have become very popular with the public and are well attended. The car show is coordinated by Ron Weber throughout the season (25 events) and the fundraising done by the Optimist Club of Petersburg is given back to the community and as well, goes towards childhood cancer. He advised that it is the intent of the Club to contribute towards the Petersburg Park. He thanked Council for the opportunity to promote the upcoming events.

#### **8.8 Carolyn Coakley, Castle Kilbride Advisory Committee Member Castle Kilbride Summer Update**

The Castle Kilbride Summer Update presentation is attached as 'Appendix F' to the minutes.

Ms. Coakley highlighted the many events occurring at the Castle during the summer season including the Maids Tea and Tour, the Princess Tea and Tour, the Flax Empire Exhibit which celebrates the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the starting of the J&J Livingston Linseed Oil Company and the Capturing the Castle art exhibit in the Belvedere Gallery. To conclude the presentation, Ms. Coakley played for Council short audio clips of each of the artists performing at the highly successful Summer Concert Series occurring on the front lawn of the Castle every Thursday evening in July and August.

### **9. REPORTS**

#### **9.1 CAO – no reports**

**9.2 CLERKS – no additional reports****9.3 FINANCE****9.3.1 REPORT NO. FIN 2014-20  
Ice Storm Assistance Program****Resolution No. 2014-125****Moved by: M. Murray****Seconded by: A. Junker**

**THAT the Township of Wilmot submits an Expression of Interest in the amount of \$33,306.24 under the Ice Storm Assistance Program for damages that occurred during the December 2013 ice storm; and further**

**THAT Council delegate authority to the Director of Finance/Treasurer to submit claims on behalf of the Township of Wilmot.**

**CARRIED.****9.4 PUBLIC WORKS – no reports****9.5 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – no reports****9.6 FACILITIES AND RECREATION SERVICES****9.6.1 REPORT NO. PRD 2014-07  
Tender 2014-20 Parking Lot Paving Works****Resolution No. 2014-126****Moved by: M. Murray****Seconded by: A. Junker**

**THAT Tender 2014-20 to Supply and Place Asphalt Pavement in Parking Lots be awarded to Brantco Construction for the bid price of \$72,710.06 net of the HST rebate.**

**CARRIED.****9.7 FIRE – no reports****9.8 CASTLE KILBRIDE – no reports****10. CORRESPONDENCE****10.1 Grand River Conservation Authority – General Membership/Strategic Planning Meeting  
Minutes, May 8, 2014****10.2 Muscular Dystrophy Canada – Thank You Letter**

**Resolution No. 2014-127****Moved by: A. Junker****Seconded by: P. Roe****THAT Correspondence Items 10.1 to 10.2 be received for information.****CARRIED.****11. BY-LAWS****12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS****13. QUESTIONS/NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 13.1 Councillor A. Junker thanked Mayor L. Armstrong for proposing to the Region, a four way stop at the intersection of Bridge and Queen Streets in New Dundee and for raising an issue relative to the yield sign at this intersection. Several constituents who had observed frequent disregard for the yield sign at this intersection had expressed the need to convert the yield sign to a stop sign.
- 13.2 Councillor J. Gerber noted the upcoming roller skating events at the WRC (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month) and that the events are posted to the community events digital signs and on the Township's website.

**14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION****15. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW****15.1 By-law No. 2014-28****Resolution No. 2014-128****Moved by: A. Junker****Seconded by: B. Fisher****THAT By-law No. 2014-28 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council at its Meeting held on June 9, 2014 be introduced, read a first, second, and third time and finally passed in Open Council.****CARRIED.**

Mayor L. Armstrong expressed appreciation to Rogers for broadcasting the Council meeting.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution No. 2014-129**

**Moved by: M. Murray**

**Seconded by: B. Fisher**

**THAT we do now adjourn to meet again at the call of the Mayor.**

**CARRIED.**

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk**



## VENDORS!!!

- Over 60 vendors in open air market
- Local Food & Crafts
- "I just wanted to say thank you for having us!! Looking forward to next year"
- "The event was a real success for us!"
- "Congratulations on a amazing event."







## ACTIVITIES & DISPLAYS!!!

- Dunk Tank
- Taoist Tai Chi demonstration
- Kids Obstacle Course
- Settlers of Catan
- Antique Tractors & Equipment
- Castle Killbride
- RC Boats
- Mill Tours



## ENTERTAINMENT!!!

- Innovative Dance
- Cowboy Up
- Eric Traplin
- Mike Fisher and Brad Canning
- Tropical Steel Band







## AND MORE ENTERTAINMENT!!!

- Vanyah
- Kelvis and the Burning Love Band
- Laura Rose
- Fiddlestix



## FOOD!!!

- "My family spent part of the day at the festival and they had a blast. So I wanted to congratulate you on job very well done!"
- "I just wanted to send a note to tell you how much fun I had at the festival."
- "Congratulations to you and your crew for a first rate festival!"





## THE LAYOUT!!!



## THE NUMBERS!!!

- Budgeted Expenses - \$ 29,000.00
- Actual Expenses - \$22,000.00
- Amount Raised Through Sponsorships - \$16,000.00
- Total Revenues - \$26,500.00
- Funds Raised for Community Projects - \$4500.00





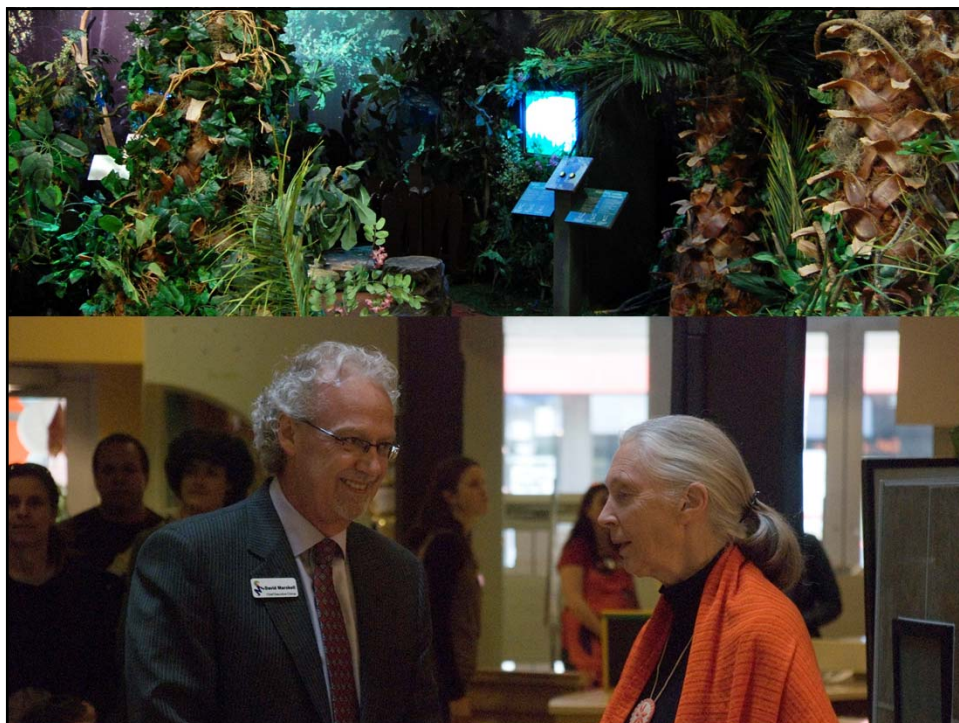
THANK YOU!!!

- Corn Fest II – August 9, 2014























## March Break



## High School Confidential & Pop the Gator Reunion





## A Russian Accent



## Sex Dialogues



## Engaging High School Students 1<sup>st</sup> Annual MERGE



## The Brush Off

- Junior Brush Off 2013:
- Eve Ameen, Waterloo Collegiate
- Veronica Swiech, Waterloo Collegiate
- 
- Brush Off 2012:
- Jared Praught
- Laura Renwick
- 
- Brush Off 2013:
- Amy Ferrari
- Catherine Soza
- Dan Zybala
- 
- Brush Off 2014:
- Todd Badensee
- Amy Ferrari
- Laura Renwick



## 400+ Grade 4 Students for Medieval Week



## An Evening with Roberto Alomar



# Working to hard be Waterloo's Museum

## Participate, Collaborate and Sponsor

- Button Factory Sketching Class
- Canada Day event at Columbia Lake
- Movies in the Park in Waterloo
- Winterloo
- Princess Cinemas
- Waterloo Town Square – Avatar, Surface Tension
- Summer Lights Festival June 21<sup>st</sup>
- CIGI Speakers
- Displays at Conestoga Mall
- Gay-Straight Alliance Conference at the Waterloo Inn
- Host Waterloo Children at Summer Camps

## Working with Waterloo Organizations

State of the Art Supplies, Queen of Hearts CostumesR  
 Roylco  
 University of Waterloo  
 Wilfrid Laurier University

# Unwrapping Egypt from Egypt





## Unwrapping Egypt May 15 2014 – January 4, 2015



## Thank you Wilmot Township

- We are woefully underfunded compared to other museums in this region and across Canada.
- We are on our feet swinging and are determined to awe, inspire and enlighten this community!



## How it all started...

- A few guys who ride together decided we should try and put New Hamburg on the map for motorcycles
- Charity for the event was chosen
- Plans were underway to raise money for a Splash Pad
- We also decided this would be an annual event and each year give the proceeds back to a local charity
- Next year we will pick another "Wilmot Township" - Charity



# First Annual Event

NHFT-June 8, 2013

- Poker Run
- \$500 cash prize for first place (Best Hand)
- \$100 gift card to Milestones Grill and limo transportation (Worst Hand)
- A Show and Shine Competition
- Commemorative t-shirt
- A BBQ Lunch Ticket (Q'ing for Life)
- Prizes for most participants



## 2013-Sponsors

- In order to make this event possible we require local support:
- Baden Coffee Company Inc
- The Old Country Restaurant
- Blue Sky Marine
- Expressway Ford
- The Waterloo Arms
- McDonalds
- Out of town support came from:
- KW Honda
- Two Wheel Motorsport
- Zdeno Cycle
- Apex Cycle
- Kitchener Harley Davidson



## The Poker Run



- Riders could register on-line in advance or at a pre-registration night hosted at The Waterloo Arms
- Legion - start
- At 10:30 we were stands up
- We left New Hamburg in Parade format
- Each rider rode to pre-defined stop points
  - Apex Cycle
  - Zdeno Cycle
  - Two Wheel Motorsport
  - Xclusive Elements
  - Wellesley Chop house
  - The Waterloo Arms
- At each point riders drew a card to make their poker hand
- Once all stops were done cards were handed in and ranked by a professional poker player
- After a very successful first event New Hamburg Full Throttle donated \$2,200 to the Wilmot Splash Pad Fund

## NHFT-2014 Promises to be even BIGGER!!!

- We have Dan Johnson a trials bike rider coming to put on a demonstration
- Rob Esposito will be providing audio support
- Many vendors / displays
- Hoping for the event to grow to over 200 riders



# ~~AMB CARE~~ WILMOT TOWNSHIP MEETING JUNE 9/2014 16TH-17TH

## (1) HISTORY:

IN ORDER TO SPEAK OF MOPARFEST - START WITH OCC.

(A) GARY HOFFMAN - <sup>NEW 1966</sup> FOUNDER - ADD CHARGER, - MEET VICTORIA PARK 1977 OVER 50

(B) BUT FOUND THERE WAS MORE INTEREST IN ALL CHRYSLER (MOPARS)

(C) 1977 - AUGUST THE FIRST <sup>MOPARFEST</sup> SHOW <sup>KW OPTIMIST</sup> IN AELBURG

(D) EVENT OUT-GREW HEIDELBURG & THE PRESIDENT PAUL MAYS SUGGESTED NEW HAMBURG FAIRGROUNDS.

(2) MOVED TO NH  
 THE EVENT WAS ONLY A 1 DAY SHOW WHEN IT MOVED TO NH. IN 1994. IT WENT TO 2 DAYS IN 1996 AND WAS ALWAYS SUCCESSFUL EVEN IF IT RAINED <sup>TICKET</sup> CAR GIVEAWAYS & MOPARFEST PARTICIPANTS. (HAD TO BE THERE)

(3) STRUCTURE: AS SHOWS PROGRESSED & CONTINUED TO GROW THE OCC DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH MEMBERS TO HANDLE & SO ~~THE~~ THE APPROACH WAS MADE TO BRING 5 CLUBS IN ADDITION TO OCC, NH O/NH COUNCIL / KW OPTIMIST / NH LEGION / NH JR. HOCKEY ALL 6 CLUBS HAD INPUT & HANDLED CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE EVENT - AND ALL CLUBS HAD AN EQUAL VOTE - MATURITY RULES ON ALL ISSUES.

4) RESULTS: <sup>DOUBTS ABOUT STRUCTURE</sup> WHERE AT FIRST WE HAD TO DO THIS - NEED 400+ PEOPLE I CAN HONESTLY SAY THIS STRUCTURE WORKS SO WELL - THAT NOT ONCE OVER THE YEARS DO I REMEMBER ANY DIFFICULTIES. AN EXCELLENT GROUP OF CLUBS! LAST YEAR ALONE \$160,000<sup>00</sup> RAISED NOW REACHING A RUNNING TOTAL OF 2.6 MILLION

## Now AT 35TH ANNIVERSARY

TO CELEBRATE WE COLLECTIVELY WANT TO ADD NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR FAITHFUL ATTENDEES.

- (A) TRIP FOR 2 TO 2015 DAYTONA 500
  - (B) TRIP FOR 2 TO 2015 CLASSIC CAR AUCTION - BARCEL JACSON LV. NEV
  - (C) 2 NEW UPSTAIRS IN APELA A CRAFT SALE VENDING AREA
- SOMETHING FOR THE WOMEN TO DO AT THE SHOW.  
(BEFORE WE COULD OFFICALLY OFFER THIS ON OUR WEBSITE & TO OUR EVENT FLYER - LOCAL WORD OF MOUTH ALMOST FILLED THE APPROX 40 SPOTS (LOCALS MOSTLY)

## LONG TERM POSITIONS

EVENT SUCH AS McDARREST - BEING SUCCESSFUL EVERY YEAR EVEN IN SPITE OF THE WEATHER - DON'T STAY SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT A CONTINUOUS PUSH TO MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF EVENT. EVERYONE IS GETTING OLDER - PRIORITIES CHANGE AND THAT CAN BE DISASTROUS IF THIS IS ALLOWED TO HAPPEN. WE SAW THIS <sup>COMING</sup> YEARS AGO & I WAS DECIDED TO HIRE A FULL TIME CHAIR PERSON - AND THAT IS PATT SCHERZER. SHE COORDINATES ALL OF OUR DUTIES - CALLS MEETINGS EACH MONTH & DOES A VERY LONG LIST OF DUTIES. WITHOUT THIS IN PLACE - THE (UP TO 18 CLUBS) - GETTING FUNDS EACH YEAR - MAY ACTUALLY NOT SURVIVE.

ALMOST ALL YOUTH WORK FOCUSED & WAY BACK THE OCC HAD 2 GOALS - PRESERVE MORALS OF THE PAST & SUPPORT YOUTH WORK  
NOW A PERMANENT OFFICE AT STANLEY BUILDING



CHANGE: LONG TERM:  
OVER THE YEARS WE RODED/CHANGE<sup>D</sup>/ADAPTED - PREPARED  
& REFUSED TO BECOME STAGNANT AND WITH OUR  
PRESENT STRUCTURE I FORECAST CONTINUED SUCCESS -  
I DON'T KNOW OF ANY OTHER THIS LARGE THAT  
RAISES ANNUALLY WHAT MOBARFEST DOES -

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CLOSING: MOBARFEST COMMITTEES WANT TO THANK  
THE TOWN OF NEW HAMBURG FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING  
SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS, AND WE HOPE THAT  
SHARING SOME OF THIS INFORMATION TONIGHT -  
THAT YOU CAN GET UP WITH US ON THE 3RD  
WEEKENDS OF AUGUST EACH YEAR.

Thank You!





## PRESS RELEASE

**What:** The 13th Annual St. Agatha StrawberryFest  
**When:** Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 10AM – 6PM  
**Where:** St. Agatha Community Centre (Erb Rd. West)

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

The 13th Annual StrawberryFest, is being held on Saturday June 21st, 2014 at the St. Agatha Community Centre commencing at 10am.

With emphasis on locally grown strawberries, the event offers a wide variety of treats for all ages, including pies, milkshakes, jam, and an abundance of fresh strawberries for sale.

Several fun activities during the day include live bands, kids games and rides, face-painting, animals, local artisans, all day food booths, and a chicken dinner. For adults, there is a strawberry dessert contest, silent auction, as well as a beverage area to relax and socialize, while enjoying the music. The BBQ chicken dinner will be available starting at 4:30.

We are always looking for some hard-working, friendly, volunteers to join our crew. Many community service hours for high school students are available. Please do not hesitate to contact us for more information on volunteering or to share your comments on our past events.

Through this festival, we strive to promote local, healthy eating, St. Agatha's surrounding businesses, and both family and community spirit. This is a non-profit community project. Proceeds raised will fund approved local projects, local charities, and community improvements.

### ONLINE

Check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stagathastrawberryfest.com](http://www.facebook.com/stagathastrawberryfest.com), follow us on twitter at [www.twitter.com/aggieberry](http://www.twitter.com/aggieberry) (especially the day of the event for up to the minute details! Hashtag: [#2014StrawberryFest](https://twitter.com/hashtag/2014StrawberryFest)), and get more information on our website: [www.stagathastrawberryfest.com](http://www.stagathastrawberryfest.com).

### CONTACT

[strawberryfeststagatha@gmail.com](mailto:strawberryfeststagatha@gmail.com)

Box 14, St. Agatha, Ontario N0B 2L0





# Castle Kilbride

Advisory Committee  
Update  
*June 9, 2014*

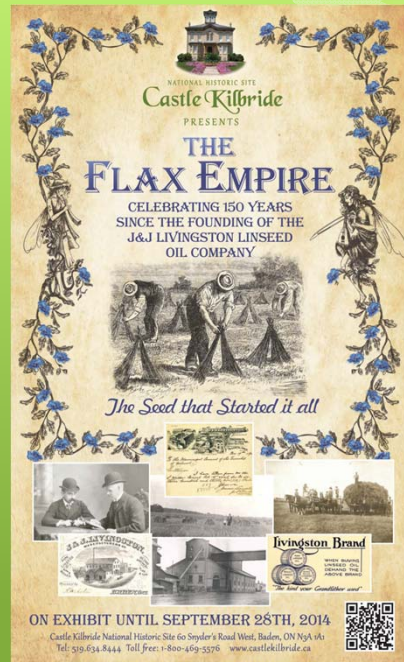


Maids Tea & Tour  
June 16 - 26

# Princess Tea & Tour

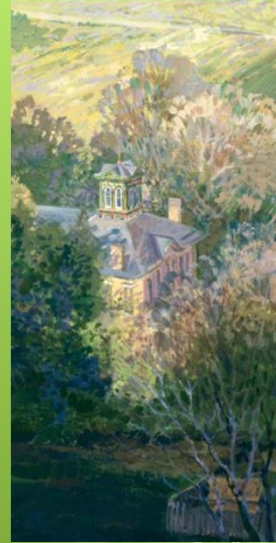


# The Flax Empire Exhibit





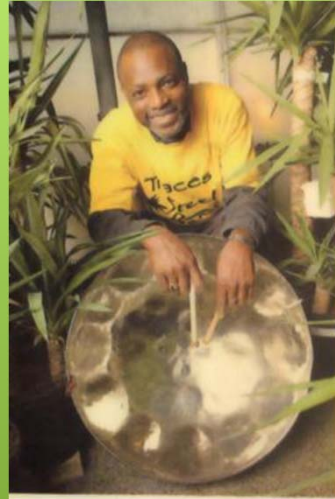
## Capturing the Castle Exhibit



## Summer Concert Series



Traces Steel  
Drum Band  
July 3




Roberta Hunt from  
Red Hot Ramble  
July 10






## Hitch a Ride (a Tribute to Boston)

July 17 




## Lance Russwurm & Friends

July 24 



## Rescue Junction

July 31 



## Me & Mine with Mike & Diana Erb

August 7 





Barefoot Boogie  
Band  
August 14 




Cazu Latin Band  
August 21 

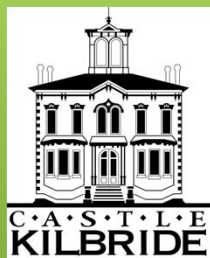




## The Shananigans

August 28 

**See you at the  
Castle this  
summer!**



[www.castlekilbride.ca](http://www.castlekilbride.ca)



## ***Township of Wilmot*** **REPORT**

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**REPORT NO.** PRD-2014-09  
**TO:** Council  
**PREPARED BY:** Vicky Luttenberger, Manager of Recreation & Community Services  
**DATE:** June 23, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** Update on the Program Partnership Initiative

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### **Recommendation:**

“That Report PRD-2014-09 be received for information.”

### **Background:**

In 2011, the Township of Wilmot entered into a partnership with Wilmot Family Resource Centre and Community Care Concepts for the operation of the Optimist Youth Centre and the Active Living Centre at the Wilmot Recreation Complex. The partnership arrangement allows the three parties to take an integrated approach for the delivery of recreation programs and social support services to the residents of Wilmot.

### **Discussion:**

For the past two years the Facilities & Recreation Services department has been working in partnership with Wilmot Family Resource Centre and Community Care Concepts to provide better access to programs and services currently offered in the community but also to expand programs and services to the residents of Wilmot. Through this unique approach, the collaborative has been able to secure both capital and operational funding that they wouldn't be able to secure on their own, design, develop and implement programs and activities that “fill the gap” to meet the needs of residents, find sponsors for programs, equipment and activities, engage youth and connect/partner with other organizations in the Region to provide additional programs and services at little or no cost that will improve the physical and/or mental health of our community. (A list of the programs and services offered by Community Care Concepts, Wilmot Family Resource Centre as well as the Facilities & Recreation Services department has been attached for information.)

As the partnership initiative continues to address the needs of residents, new programs and services will developed and coordinated. The introduction of new programs will be based on

survey results, feedback received on questionnaires and comment sheets by participants and patrons at the facility.

**Strategic Plan Conformity:**

Strategy: Providing recreational opportunities for the community.

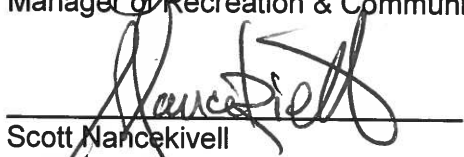
**Financial Considerations:**

N/A

**Conclusion:**

The Programming Partnership Initiative has provided the Township of Wilmot with a unique opportunity to work closely with other service organizations in the community. This collaborative approach not only helps us to address the recreational needs but also the physical and mental well-being of the community. Overall, our efforts should improve the quality of life in Wilmot.

  
Vicky Luttenberger  
Manager of Recreation & Community Services

  
Scott Nancekivell  
Director of Facilities & Recreation Services

  
Reviewed by CAO

## Current Recreational Programs and Activities

### TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

Active Living Centre Drop-In  
Optimist Youth Centre Drop-In  
Public Skating

Recreational Swims  
Swimming Lessons  
Seniors' Shuffleboard Program

Walking Track  
Public Outdoor Trails

#### *Children & Youth*

Art for Aspiring Young Artists  
Bounce Fit for Youth  
Bounce Fit for Children  
Drum Fit for Youth  
Drum Fit for Families  
Hatha Yoga for Teens  
Monkeynastix- Babynastix  
Monkeynastix- Tremendous  
Toddlers

Monkeynastix- Playful  
Preschoolers  
Monkeynastix- School Aged  
Painting like Picasso  
Quantum Play  
Story Time Yoga  
Sportball Junior  
Sportball Parent and Child  
Sportball Multi-Sport Drop Off

Ying-Yang Yoga for Teens  
Youth F.I.T.  
Youth Yoga  
Zumba Kids  
Wilmot's Youth Action Council  
Specialty (Summer) Camps

#### *Adults*

Art for Adults  
Ballroom Dancing  
Before the Bell  
Beginner Yoga

Body Pump  
Bounce Fit  
Butt & Gutt  
Co-ed Bootcamp

Family Drum Fit  
Men's 20-20-20  
Relaxational Yoga  
Step & Stability

#### *Active Adults & Seniors*

Gentle Yoga

Zumba Gold

### COMMUNITY CARE CONCEPTS OF WOOLWICH, WELLESLEY and WILMOT

Meals on Wheels  
Gentle Exercise Program  
Home at Last  
Falls Prevention Program  
Home Maintenance

Diabetes Education Program  
Assisted Transportation  
Active Living Centre  
Friendly Visiting  
Telephone Reassurance

Community Luncheons  
Adult Day Programs  
Foot Care Clinics  
Homemaking

### WILMOT FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

#### *Children & Youth Services*

Family and Kids Drop In Programming  
Boredom Busters  
Teen Fun Zone  
Youth Drop in Centre  
Kids Café  
Child Care Registry  
Toy Library  
Wilmot Young Achievers

#### *Family and Adult Services*

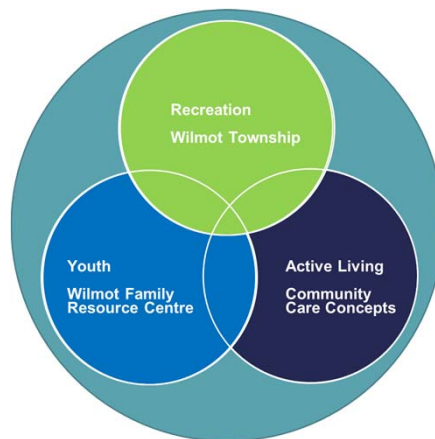
Family Violence and Prevention Program  
Family Outreach Program  
Employment Services  
Food Bank  
Healthy Start  
Speech and Language Services  
Family Cooking Classes



# Program Partnership Update

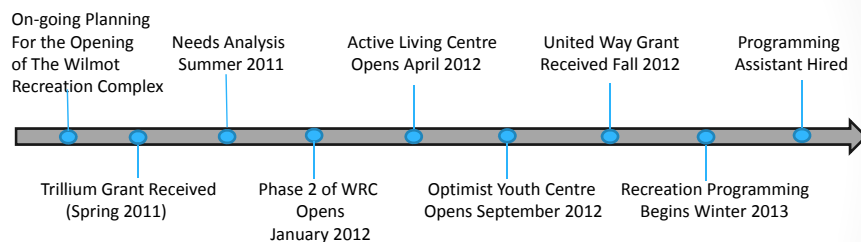


## Mission and Mandate



A collaborative approach that provides a central point of access to a continuum of services that address the social, recreational, physical and health needs of the residents.

## Highlights- Where We've Been



## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Township of Wilmot

To Provide:

Program Space as a Community Hub  
for Programs and Services

General Interest, Recreational &  
Activities, Fitness Programs

Specialty Summer Day Camp  
Programs

Youth Action Council

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Community Care Concepts

Social Supports for Seniors

Social Leisure Activities  
Health & Wellness Programs  
Community Dining Program

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Wilmot Family Resource Centre

Social Supports for Youth

Youth Drop in Programs  
Family Drop In Programs  
Youth Action Council  
Early Years Program

## Where We Are Going...

Our goal is to strengthen the foundation that the partnership was built upon and to respond to community needs by adding new programs and expand access to services.

We will achieve our goal by:

- Increasing access to the Active Living Centre and the Optimist Youth Centre
- Identifying programming needs, trends and gaps in service for both youth and active adults
- Expanding the continuum of programs and services
- Enhancing our capacity to serve the community

## QUESTIONS?





## ***Township of Wilmot REPORT***

---

**REPORT NO.:** PW-2014-12

**TO:** Council

**PREPARED BY:** Gary Charbonneau, Director of Public Works

**DATE:** June 23, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Utilities Service Vehicle

---

### **Recommendation:**

That the tender submitted by Expressway Ford for a Ford F450 Cab and Chassis c/w Service Box in the amount of \$59,563.18, net of the HST rebate, be accepted.

### **Background:**

This new truck will replace a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado truck, which will be sent to the auctioneers. The new vehicle will be utilized as a general purpose service truck and work platform for meter installations, water and sanitary sewer repairs and carries tools and equipment that are used in maintenance activities. This vehicle is extensively used and is an essential component in the Utilities department.

### **Discussion:**

We received tenders for the supply of a service vehicle and the tender results, net of the HST rebate, are as follows:

Expressway Ford (New Hamburg)	\$59,563.18
Ridgehill Ford (Cambridge)	\$62,343.26
Parkway Ford Sales Ltd. (Waterloo)	\$63,037.27

**Strategic Plan Conformity:**

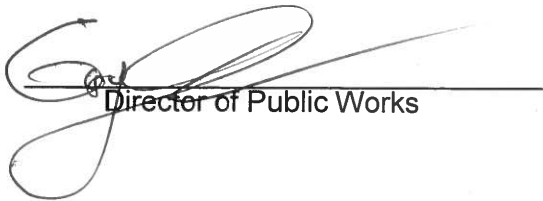
We have a prosperous community through maintaining our infrastructure.

**Financial Considerations:**

The approved 2014 Capital Budget includes \$63,000 for the purchase of a new service vehicle. This amount is comprised of \$34,100 from the water reserve fund, \$27,900 from the wastewater reserve fund and \$1,000 from the sale of the old truck.

**Conclusion:**

That the tender submitted by Expressway Ford be approved by Council.



Director of Public Works



Reviewed by CAO



## ***Township of Wilmot*** **REPORT**

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<b>REPORT NO.</b>	<b>PRD 2014-08</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>Scott Nancekivell</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>June 23, 2014</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Wilmot Splash Pad Project – Final Design and Costing</b>

---

### **Recommendation:**

**That PRD 2014-08 be endorsed.**

### **Background:**

On May 26, 2014, Council approved PRD 2014-06 to award the final design and construction of the Wilmot Splash Pad Project to Openspace Solution Inc.

The Splash Pad Proposal Evaluation Team (“Team”) has been working with Openspace Solutions Inc. over the past several weeks to finalize the design and costs for the project.

### **Discussion:**

Through meetings held with Openspace Solutions on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 11<sup>th</sup>, the overall footprint of the splash pad was adjusted slightly, and several spray feature elements within the original proposal were changed to capture the vision of the entire “Team”.

As a result, final cost estimates for the Wilmot Splash Pad Project are \$350,500 including consulting fees, construction costs, site amenities, signage and contingencies. Colour renderings for the project are attached for information.

The splash pad includes three different play zones that cater to toddler, youth, and pre-teen age groups, which incorporate unique and interactive spray features for each age category. The central feature includes a “mega-soaker” dump bucket that dumps up to 190 litres in a giant, diffused splash every minute. Interactive elements include a “tuney tube” musical feature that plays music and sprays water when activated, as well as various colourful ground sprays for toddlers/youth. The “spin soaker” consists of a giant spinning ball that sprays water in a large diameter when spun manually by the children. “Splash blaster” water guns are a very popular feature within the pre-teen zone on the pad. A gushing “poly palm” tree will keep moms, dads and kids cool on a hot summer day. A total of 18 spray elements will delight all who come to play at the Wilmot Splash Pad.

Site amenities include sidewalks from the splash pad and accessible playground to the outdoor access washrooms at the aquatic centre, a 20'x20' shade structure, benches, picnic tables, landscape stones, trees, etc.

**Strategic Plan Conformity:**

Strategy: Providing recreational opportunities for everyone.

Action: Develop a splash pad.

**Financial Considerations:**

Total funding available for all aspects of the project is currently \$397,350 (includes cash, pledges and grants). Cost calculations associated with the final design and site layout are inclusive of all water treatment/control equipment, concrete pad, infrastructure, spray features, landscaping and site amenities (shade structure, donor recognition elements, etc.).


A report will be presented to Council in 2015 which proposes a framework for the use of any remaining funds on future equipment replacement and maintenance costs for the splash pad following its commissioning in the spring of 2015.

**Conclusion:**

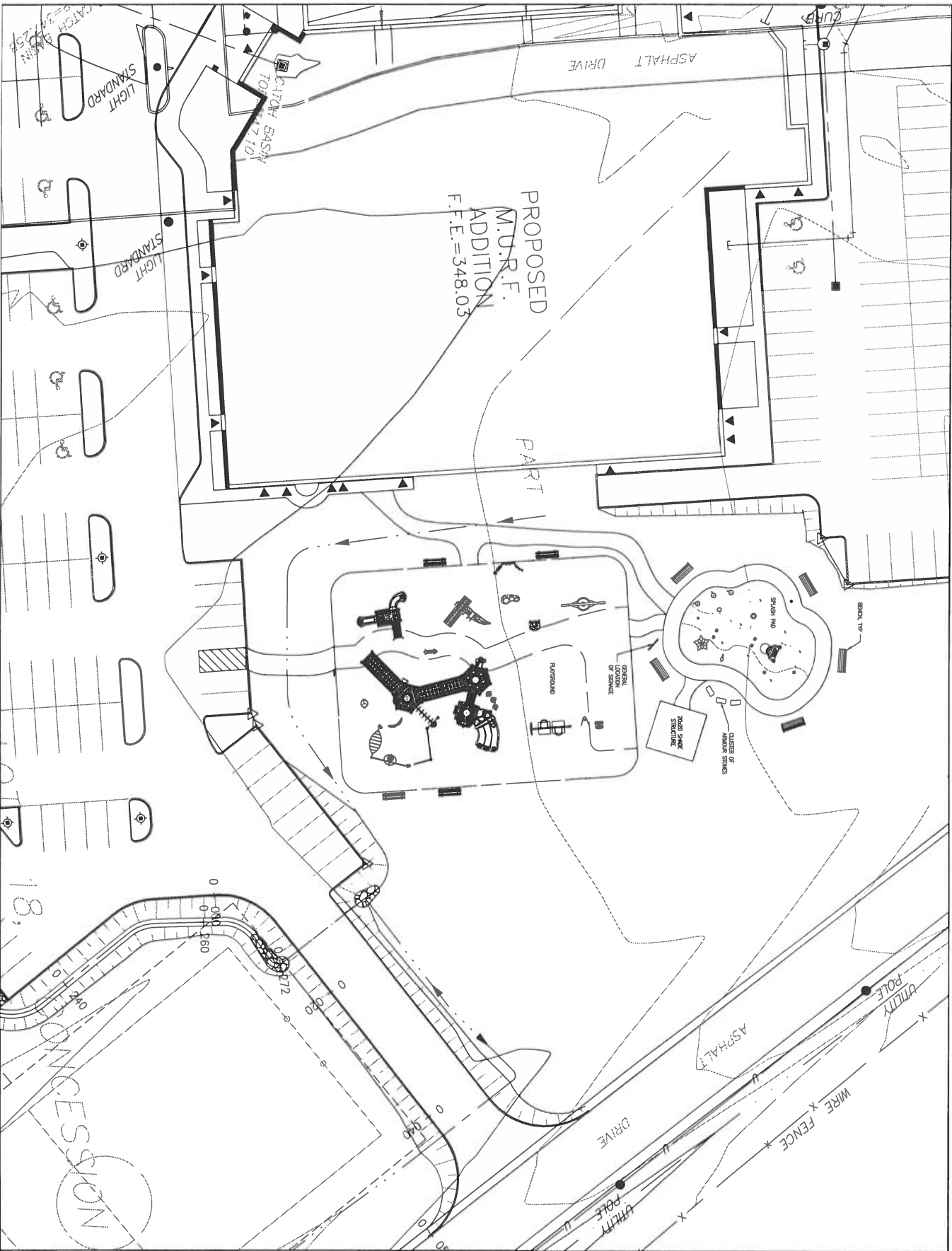
The "Team" and Openspace Solutions Inc. have agreed on the final design and cost calculations for the Wilmot Splash Pad. Based on the proposed work schedule, site works will commence in September of this year, with all infrastructure being installed by mid-October 2014. Final installation of spray features and commissioning of the splash pad will occur in the spring of 2015. Coloured renderings for the project have been included for information.

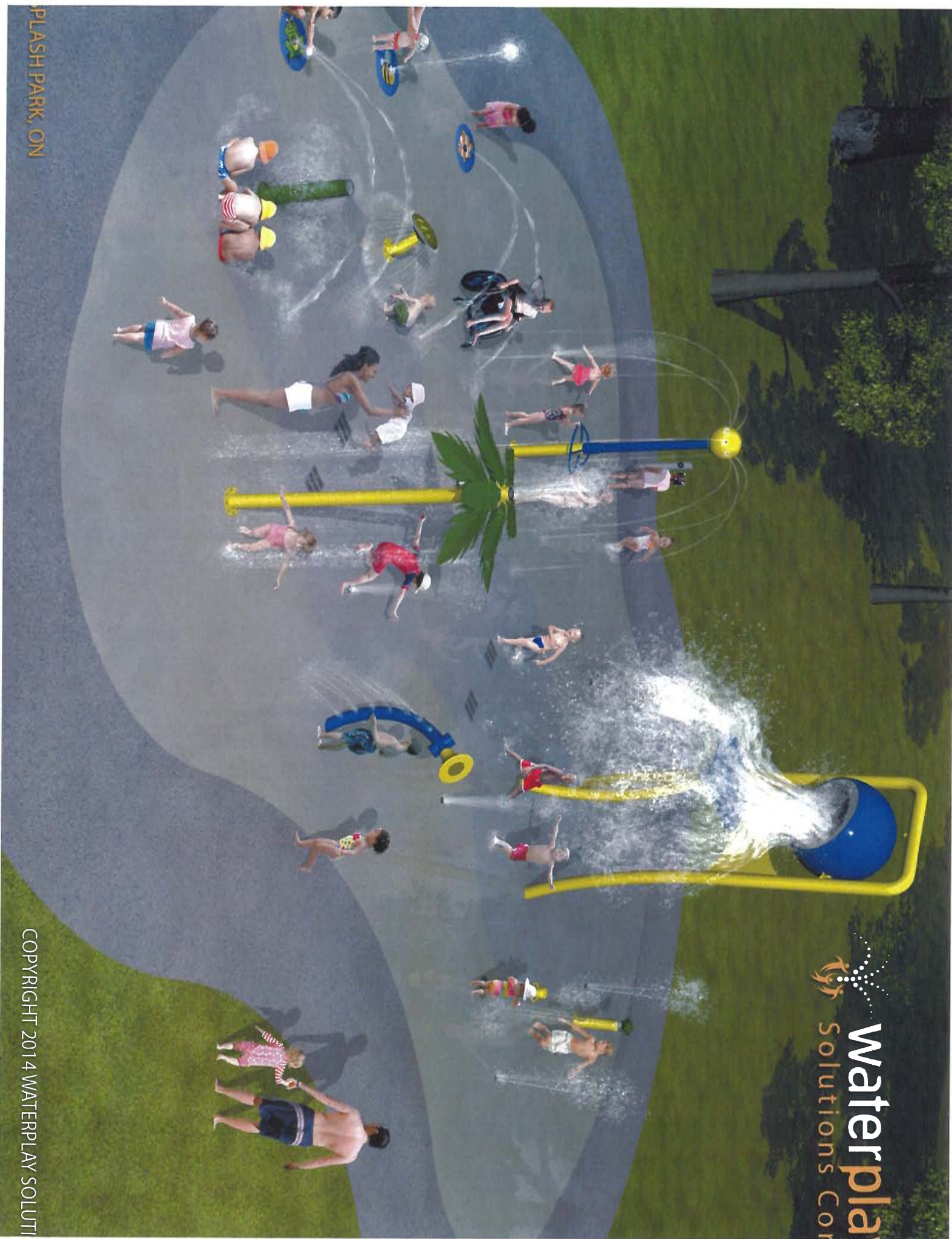
Members of the "Team" will be in attendance at the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Facilities & Recreation Services

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewed by CAO













# GRCA Current



June 2014 • Volume 19, Number 6

## GRCA General Membership

**Chair** Jane Mitchell

**Vice-Chair** Vic Prendergast

**Townships of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancthon and Southgate and Town of Grand Valley**  
Tom Nevills

**Townships of Mapleton and Wellington North** Pat Salter

**Township of Centre Wellington**  
Joanne Ross-Zuj

**Town of Erin, Townships of Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch**  
John Brennan

**City of Guelph**  
Bob Bell, Maggie Laidlaw

**Region of Waterloo**  
Les Armstrong, Todd Cowan,  
Jan d'Ailly, Rob Deutschmann,  
Jean Haalboom, Ross Kelterborn,  
Geoff Lorentz, Claudette Miller,  
Jane Mitchell, Warren Stauch

**Municipality of North Perth and Township of Perth East**  
George Wicke

**Halton Region** J. Barry Lee

**City of Hamilton** Jeanette Jamieson

**Oxford County** Bruce Banbury

**County of Brant**  
Brian Coleman, Steve Schmitt

**City of Brantford**  
Robert Hillier, Vic Prendergast

**Haldimand and Norfolk Counties**  
Lorne Boyko, Fred Morison

## Farmland to forest at Conestogo Lake

New forests are rising on old farm fields in Mapleton Township in an effort to improve water quality in streams feeding Conestogo Lake reservoir.

About 70,000 trees are being planted this year and next on two parcels of land totalling 40 hectares (100 acres) on the north side of the reservoir.

The GRCA is planting a variety of species that are native to the area, including spruce, tamarack, white pine, bur oak, silver maple and cottonwood.

In addition to the new forests, the GRCA will also do some reshaping of the landscape to create some seasonal wetlands that will also help improve water quality and provide additional habitat.

As the trees grow in coming years, the areas will quickly become home to a variety of animals, such as deer and wild turkeys. Later, as the forests mature, it's expected that several bird species including scarlet tanagers, ovenbirds and great horned owls will take up residence.

A 12 hectare parcel near Wellington Road 10 and Concession Road Five has been planted this year. The second parcel of 28 hectares is near Concession Road 5 and Sideroad 15. About 18 hectares has been planted this year and the rest will be planted in 2015. The land was acquired by the GRCA when it built the reservoir in the 1950s. It has been leased to farmers since then.

## Cool with average rainfall

Rainfall in May was close to or above the long-term average throughout the watershed.

The average temperature in May was 11 degrees, about 1.2 degrees cooler than normal at the Shand Dam climate station.

Reservoir levels at Shand, Conestogo, Luther and Guelph Lake were within the normal operating range for the time of year, and close to their normal maximum operating level.

A watershed conditions statement for water

safety was issued on May 16. Canoeists, kayakers, anglers, hikers and other recreational river users were warned to be alert to high water in much of the Grand River system at that time.

## Continued help for Whitemans irrigators

Farmers in the Whitemans Creek area of Oxford and Brant counties can tap into a program that will help them adopt new irrigation techniques to reduce the impact of water takings on the creek.

The Whitemans Creek Drought Contingency Planning Pilot Project is part of the Water Adaptation Management and Quality Initiative (WAMQI). It is successor to the Water Resource Adaptation and Management Initiative that took place in the Whitemans Creek area in 2013.

The program will help farmers who hold Permits to Take Water to develop drought contingency plans. It will also showcase innovative technologies and solutions for agricultural water conservation and efficiency. That way, farmers can get the water they need while reducing the impact on the creek.

For example, the 2013 program helped restore several old farm irrigation pond to store water during wet days so it can be used during dry spells.

In addition, the 2014 program will support projects that encourage the efficient use and management of nutrients to protect water quality.

For further information on the project, contact Sue Brocklebank, GRCA Conservation Specialist at 519-621-2761, Ext. 2278 or at [sbrocklebank@grandriver.ca](mailto:sbrocklebank@grandriver.ca).

## Beach sampling begins

The beach sampling program for 2014 got underway at the end of May, as it does every year.

The signs at the beaches read "Swim at Your Own Risk" until test results are in. From late May to Labour Day, the GRCA and local health units regularly test the water at designated beaches in





Grand River Parks to ensure the water meets the guidelines set for swimming areas in Ontario.

Beaches are posted when levels of E. coli bacteria exceed the Ministry of Health guidelines. A posting is a recommendation that swimming should be avoided or that individuals swim at their own risk.

Beach postings often occur after heavy rains. In urban areas, stormwater washes fecal material from dogs, cats, birds and other wildlife into storm sewers that flow directly into nearby rivers and lakes. Contamination can also come from waterfowl that congregate at reservoirs, so please do not feed these animals.

Beach conditions are posted in the Newsroom on the GRCA website and watershed health units also provide this information.

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## Movies under the stars at Shade's Mills

Come watch movies under the stars starting at dusk every Friday night beginning June 6 until the end of September at Shade's Mills Park on Avenue Road in Cambridge.

The movies are free for GRCA Park Membership and day pass holders. Or, up to six people in a vehicle can gain admission for a special flat fee of \$10 on Friday nights starting at 7 p.m.

This has been very successful for the last few years. People come from all over. Visitors should bring lawn chairs and blankets to sit in front of the big screen. Cancellations due to poor weather or schedule changes will be posted on Facebook and twitter or call the park at 519-621-3697.

Movies start shortly before sunset, and the times vary between 8:45 p.m. during the longer days of June and July to 7:15 p.m. in September.

There is a full slate of activities on [www.grandriver.ca/events](http://www.grandriver.ca/events) with over 80 events listed in June and July.

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## 2014 Tree Facts

- Across the entire watershed, the GRCA will plant about 400,000 trees this year, including 95,000 on its own land and 300,000 in partnership with private land owners.
- The GRCA operates a nursery near Burford, in Brant County, where it grows



The wet spring was great for trees, but not so good for the people who were planting them. However the 92nd Kitchener Sparks and Brownies had better luck at the end of May, when they planted trees at Shade's Mills Park. Thanks to the Girl Guides of Canada national service project, native trees and shrubs were donated. Resident pollinators and wildlife will benefit from the trees as they grow. About 400,000 trees were planted across the watershed this spring and planting extended throughout May and even into early June.

more than 150,000 trees a years from 60 different species.

- Since it was created in 1934, the GRCA has planted more than 27 million trees on both private land and its own land.
- The Grand River watershed was 85 per cent forest 200 years ago. However, tree cover dropped to just five per cent by 1900 as land was cleared for farming and urban areas. Today, the tree cover has rebounded to about 19 per cent. Environment Canada suggests a healthy watershed needs a tree cover of about 30 per cent.
- To learn more about the GRCA's tree planting program, go to the Tree Planting section of the GRCA website. The GRCA will help private landowners develop planting plans, plant the trees and find grants to offset costs.

also event listings through until October. It is expected that the booklet will be published each year and it is supported by advertisers.

Check out the link to the publication at [www.grandriver.ca/Parks/Your-GuideToGrandRiverParks.pdf](http://www.grandriver.ca/Parks/Your-GuideToGrandRiverParks.pdf).

This issue of *GRCA Current* was published in June 2014.

It is a summary of the May business conducted by the Grand River Conservation Authority board and committees as well as other noteworthy happenings and topics of interest.

The Grand River Conservation Authority welcomes the copying, forwarding and distribution of *GRCA Current*.

**Next board meeting:** Friday, June 27 at 9:30 a.m., GRCA Administration Centre.

Reports mentioned in *GRCA Current*: [www.grandriver.ca/MeetingReports](http://www.grandriver.ca/MeetingReports).

For coming events, please see [www.grandriver.ca/Events](http://www.grandriver.ca/Events).

The *Grand Actions* newsletter is available online at: [www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions](http://www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions)

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## New park booklet for 2014

Park booklets for Grand River Parks were completed and have been distributed throughout the parks and tourism organizations.

This new publication includes a section on each park, information about recreational activities and GRCA programs. There are





# GRAND Actions

The Grand River watershed newsletter



May/June 2014 • Volume 19, Number 3

## What's Inside:

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## Cover photo

*Community members stock fish in Mill Creek, Cambridge, each year.*

Photo by Robert Messier.



## Trout stockers big and small

**By Janet Baine**

GRCA Communications Specialist

For 12 springs, Waterloo resident Brad Knarr has volunteered to organize the brown trout release into the Conestogo River.

An electrician by trade, Knarr is also a keen angler. It takes him a week of legwork to get ready for the two stocking days when thousands of small fish arrive at the river.

"It's my way of giving back to the fish and the river," says Knarr, who is quick to add that he has no intention of giving up his volunteer position.

The week before the stocking begins, Knarr knocks on the doors of the landowners — mostly farmers whose properties border the river. They generously allow volunteers onto their property each year, but they need to be asked and to know when the volunteers will come.

Fish are brought from a Ministry of Natural Resources hatchery — either Chatsworth Fish Culture Station in Grey County or the Harwood station south of Peterborough, both of which are

a few hours away.

The fish can survive only for a short time after the long trip from the hatchery. There is a rush to get them into the river quickly to give them the best possibility of survival.

Dozens of volunteers show up set for a full day of work no matter the weather on fish stocking days. They are members of Friends of the Grand River and the Conestogo River Enhancement Workgroup (CREW) as well as others who want to help. For example, staff from Google's Kitchener office spend the day stocking fish using rented canoes. Google has a program to allow staff members to volunteer for a day and still get their wages. Student volunteers from Linwood Public School come each year thanks to their teacher Kathy Puskas, who organizes the field trip for them.

The overwhelming success of the trout stocking in the Grand River began 25 years ago, and volunteer Al Newsome has taken responsibility for this part of the program for the past few years. Newsome and Knarr both do the same thing on







High school students in hip waders bring some brown trout in a bucket to their new home in the Grand River.

different rivers.

They line up volunteers by sending out an email message which gets posted online and passed around among people who have volunteered before. There is always a good mix of ages and backgrounds for volunteers.

“Most volunteers are fisher people who fish the river or just want to help because it’s fun. They range from doctors and lawyers to teachers and general workers. There is a common bond. They all want to help and perhaps give something back, Knarr says.

The volunteers bring bucket after bucket of fish to the river at a variety of spots. Or they load up canoes with trout and then release them a few at a time as they paddle down the river.

“Some projects, such as stocking, benefit tremendously from the extra help and enthusiasm provided by the citizens. It is really impressive to see how they take charge



Brad Knarr gives directions to volunteers.

of programs such as this,” says Robert Messier, an ecologist with the GRCA.

In the beginning, stocking was led by the staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources, but now Knarr and Newsome have taken the lead.

The Ministry of Natural Resources staff have the vitally important job of bringing the fish, thanks to the Ministry of Natural Resources Fish Culture program.

### Brown trout are not native

Brown trout are not a native fish species, but they have adapted well to conditions in the Grand and Conestogo rivers. This is especially true below the two big dams — the Conestogo and Shand. These dams are operated in a way that brings the cold water from near the bottom of the reservoir into the river below the dam. The cold water cools down the water for many kilometres downstream, making it cold enough for brown trout. This is called a tailwater fishery.

For many of the anglers who participate in the stocking program, this is a way to give back to the river and help improve the fishery.

Knarr grew up in the area and remembers fishing the local rivers as a child. After the stocking is all done, he takes another day off work to go fishing on the Conestogo.

Newsome is on the Grand River every day during trout season. He now knows all 38 locations where the trout are stocked, so he knows where to find them.

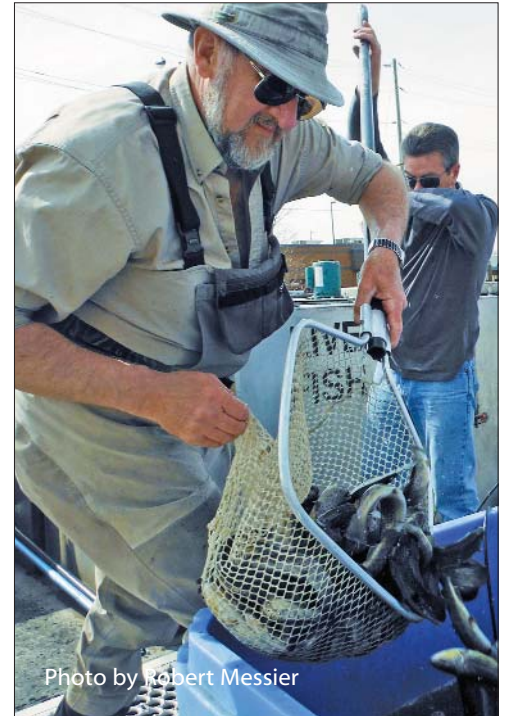
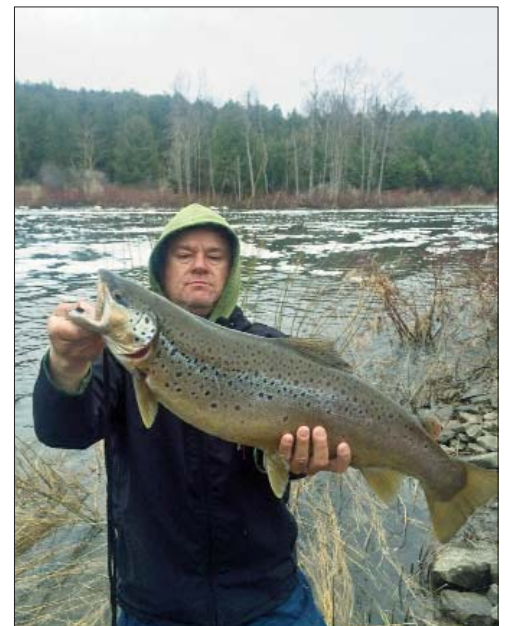


Photo by Robert Messier

Al Newsome has organized stocking of the Grand River for the past few years, but has volunteered with the program for almost two decades. He started in order to find out where the fish are, but now it is his way of giving back to the river that he fishes five hours a day during trout season. Newsome lives on Lake Scugog, but is a seasonal camper at Elora Gorge Park.



This trophy brown trout caught in early May in the tailwaters below Shand Dam measured 29" by 18" and weighted in at over six kilos. It is one of the brown trout provided by the MNR fish culture program.



## Heritage river facts

# From the longest river to the shortest

**A**ltogether 1,150 kilometres of rivers have been designated as Canadian Heritage Rivers within the Grand River watershed, including the Grand and its four main tributaries.

Nearly a million people live within this watershed which is the biggest in southern Ontario. It covers 6,800 square kilometres and is bigger than Prince Edward Island. All the creeks, streams and rivers add up to about 11,000 kilometres of waterways within the Grand River system.

Do you know which main tributary is the shortest, which is named after a famous Scottish river and which one the Tragically Hip wrote a song about?

### The Grand River

- 311 kilometres long
- **Origin of the name:** The river has had many names, but the one which stuck came from the French explorers.
- The source is near Dundalk.
- Has a large reservoir in the north called Belwood Lake that is formed by the Shand Dam.
- Millrace Park, Cambridge, has had a Canadian Heritage River plaque since 1994.

### The Nith River

- 167.5 kilometres long
- **Origin of the name:** Named after the seventh longest river in Scotland which flows through Dumfries, Scotland.
- The Nith River is the longest tributary of the Grand River from its source, north of Millbank in Wellesley Township, to Paris, where it enters the Grand River.
- The troublesome Nith River has no reservoir and floods occasionally around New Hamburg and Ayr.
- During high flows, the Nith has excellent whitewater for paddlers between Canning and Paris, where it enters the Grand River.
- Scott Park, New Hamburg, has had a Heritage River plaque since 2004.

### The Conestogo River

- 87 kilometres long

## HERITAGE RIVER

- **Origin of the name:** Early Mennonite settlers named the river the Conestoga because of its resemblance to the Conestoga River in Pennsylvania. In 1865, the postmaster of the Village of Conestogo altered the name to Conestogo, and an 1895 history book stuck with this spelling for the river as well, so this spelling remains today.
- The second longest tributary of the Grand River, the Conestogo originates near Damascus in North Wellington and enters the Grand River at the Village of Conestogo.
- It incorporates the biggest reservoir in the watershed, Conestogo Lake.
- The Conestogo River has a stocked brown trout fishery, with stocking managed and carried out by volunteers each spring.
- A Heritage River plaque was placed in St. Jacobs in 2004.

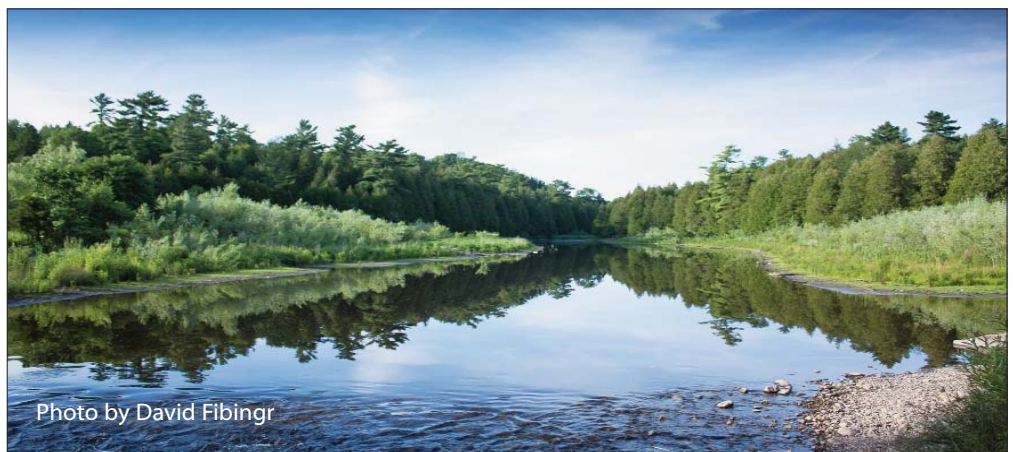
### The Speed River

- 71 kilometres long
- **Origin of the name:** John Galt named the Speed River because he was impressed by the power of the river's current. The name was intended to connote success, fortune and prosperity, according to the book *Cambridge: the Making of a Canadian City* by Kenneth McLaughlin.

- There's a Tragically Hip song called the Speed River and inspired by this river.
- Starts southeast of Fergus close to Erin and flows through Guelph Lake Park to Cambridge, where it joins the Grand River.
- Guelph Lake Dam is on the Speed River
- Guelph's John Galt Park, has had a Heritage River plaque installed in 1999.

### The Eramosa River

- 40 kilometres long
- **Origin of the name:** Local history books say it is named after Un-ne-mo-sah, an Indian word meaning dog. There is also evidence from books and the internet that it could refer to a specific kind of dog: black dog, dead dog or dog leg. Exactly which native language is murky. There is no "m" in any of the Six Nations languages. Ojibway dictionaries give "animosh" as the translation for dog. A book called *The Dog's Children: Anishinaabe Texts Told by Angeline Williams* tells many Ojibwe/Anishinaabe stories about half-dog people.
- Starts near Ospringe and flows through Guelph where it joins the Speed River at the Boathouse.
- It is the shortest of the four main tributaries of the Grand River.
- Lots of groundwater enters the Eramosa River, keeping its waters cool and clean.
- A Canadian Heritage River plaque was placed in Halton Hills in 2004.



The Eramosa River as it runs through Rockwood is the smallest of the designated tributaries.



# Sarsons receive conservation award

**By Janet Baine**

GRCA Communications Specialist

Enthusiasm and careful attention to details are bringing world-class runners to Run for the Toad at Pinehurst Lake Conservation Area between Paris and Cambridge, Ontario.

The couple behind the Run for the Toad trail race, George and Peggy Sarson, received a 2013 Grand River Watershed Award from the Grand River Conservation Authority for their dedication to getting people outside and improving the facilities at Pinehurst Lake.

Twelve years ago, the Sarsons, residents of Waterloo, thought that the Carolinian forest and rolling landscape of Pinehurst near Ayr would be ideally suited to a trail event. George had been there when he was younger and the memory stayed with him. Their first Run for the Toad attracted around 200 runners who raced on a 12.5-kilometre loop for a total of 25 or 50 kilometres. Their top priority then and now is to ensure that each participant and spectator is treated with dignity and walks away feeling happy and fulfilled at the end of the day.

"If we were going to do it, we wanted to do it right," George Sarson said.

This year there were 1,250 participants in the race, which is now Canada's top trail

## TAKING ACTION

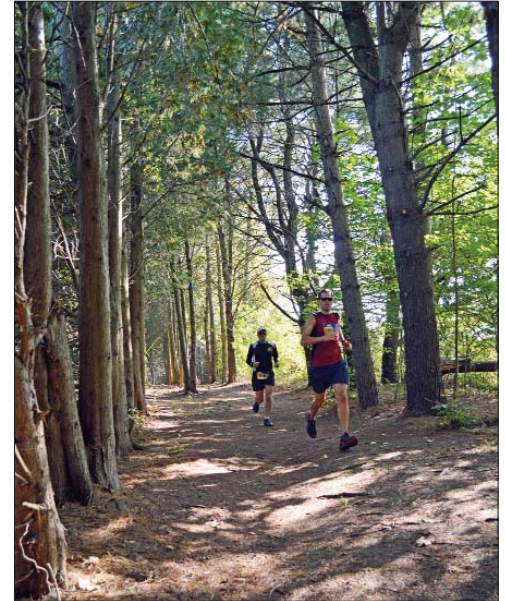
race. The Association of Canadian Ultramarathoners (ACU) turned this event into its 2013 championship venue, so top long-distance runners from Canada, the United States and Britain are vying for the \$7,000 prizes. The Sarsons could not be more delighted.

"The enthusiasm this year is beyond my wildest dreams. I can't even describe it," George said. There are 125 volunteers helping the Sarsons, but volunteering is so popular that there is also a waiting list.

"The Sarsons have been tireless in their efforts to improve the trails. They have become strong ambassadors for Pinehurst and the GRCA. The event connects people to the environment through shared outdoor activity. The Sarson's passion for the outdoors is contagious," said GRCA CAO Joe Farwell, who also enjoys running at Pinehurst.

In fact, many GRCA staff members have Run for the Toad as a result of their enthusiasm. There are four events- 25 and 50 kilometre runs, a 25-kilometre walk and a team relay.

A training day in July attracted nearly 400 participants last year to run the trails at Pinehurst. Thanks to thousands of volunteer



Running the trails at Pinehurst.

hours on the part of the Sarsons and their team, the trail is well maintained. They both also work full-time, but this is their passion.

A tent city at the event includes a medical response unit with 35 people, an exhibition area with the top brands in running and children's activities and films organized by the GRCA's nature centre staff. The Sarsons know that training takes time and dedication, and they make sure all family members are happy during the race, no matter what the weather. At the starting line spectators can be five deep, and there are bleachers at the finish line as well as many places suitable for photos. This is all topped off with a sit-down catered post-run spread that offers delicious and nutritious food.

The trail has been transformed from "a billy goat path" to one of the top five in Ontario, Sarson estimates. Funds raised from runners, who have the opportunity to donate when they register for the run, and from the event itself have resulted in new kiosks, benches, interpretive signs and improvements to the park. The new boathouse is a small gift from Peggy.

"My volunteer role here is pretty darn rewarding. It keeps my wife and I in touch with each other. We want to leave a legacy that's going to benefit the GRCA, and we are all about healthy lifestyle," Sarson said.



George and Peggy Sarson at Pinehurst Lake, where the Run for the Toad takes place each fall.





Myles Henderson visits a tree planted long ago on GRCA property. As the saying goes, the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago and the second best time is now.

## Spring planting tradition

**By Janet Baine**

GRCA Communications Specialist

Giving nature a helping hand by planting trees each spring is a growing tradition throughout the Grand River watershed.

“Many people do it because they grew up planting trees. But this can also be the beginning of a new tradition for many families,” says GRCA forestry specialist Myles Henderson. “It can spread through the neighbourhood or throughout families. This is very noticeable in rural areas.”

While Henderson began planting trees as a child with his dad on their rural property, he is now teaching his young son about trees as well as organizing community plantings. He and other GRCA staff members organize events each spring.

The GRCA had eight planting events in watershed communities this year. Many other GRCA planting projects are geared to specific groups of volunteers, such as students, companies and community organizations. These volunteers are helping to plant trees while also connecting with nature and having fun. Up and down the

watershed, other community organizations will also be starting off spring by getting young trees in the ground.

At some planting events, such as the Guelph Rotary Forest, GPS locations of the trees are given to volunteer planters, so they may come back years later to see how their trees are growing. This can be deeply satisfying, as the trees grow much bigger than the people who planted them.

In rural areas, GRCA staff help landowners with planting projects. Many are expanding forests started by their parents, grandparents or previous owners of their properties, or transforming barren lands. These projects have many benefits for the environment and also the landowners themselves, who will enjoy the birds and wildlife they bring and the shade and wind protection that trees provide.

Sometimes, several members of the same family who live close to each other will all plant on their own properties. Find the biggest trees, and you may also find the neighbour or family member who originally started planting. This is because interest in tree planting grows as the seasons pass and the benefits become noticeable.

In addition, contractors have been hired to plant 290,000 trees from north to south this spring, which is about on par with last year’s tree planting numbers.

The most northerly of these projects is on a private property close to Shelburne, and the most southerly is in Haldimand County.

About 38,000 trees were sold directly to landowners by the GRCA, both online and over the phone, and these will be picked up at the GRCA. A tree sale took place May 9 for watershed landowners. These are mostly native trees and are not nursery-quality trees but are suitable for large rural properties.

Ice storm, severe weather and emerald ash borer in 2013 damaged forests throughout the Grand River watershed, increasing awareness of how vulnerable local forests are to severe weather. These downed branches and trees are not all bad, because this creates an opportunity for forests to be renewed.

“That loss creates an opportunity for new growth. It is giving the forest a chance to reinvigorate and make space for new trees to grow up, making the forest more diverse. Down the road it may be that hole in the tree from the lost branch that can be a nesting place for an owl,” Henderson says.



Volunteer Peter Wilhelm checks one of the bird boxes he has installed.

## Bird man at Doon Valley

**By Todd Doering**

Superintendent, Doon Valley Golf Course

The longtime golf players at Doon Valley Golf Course, nestled beside the Grand River in south Kitchener, know volunteer Peter Wilhelm as the “bird man.”

Wilhelm came to Doon Valley 10 years ago after he moved into a new condominium next door to the course. He proposed setting up bird nesting boxes on the golf course.

At the beginning in 2004 there were about 50 nesting boxes. In 2011, after the expansion of the golf course, more space brought the nest box total to 74 boxes. These are checked and maintained by Wilhelm.

The eastern bluebird is a cherished sight for birdwatchers across its range, and many volunteers in the Grand River watershed install and monitor nesting boxes. The small, shy bird and its well-loved song is a harbinger of spring.

Peterson-style nesting boxes are installed at Doon Valley. These are known to attract



bluebirds, but they also attract other cavity nesters such as tree swallows, chickadees and wrens. Working through a local connection, almost 200 hatchlings were banded during



Bluebird

the 2006 and 2007 seasons.

There have been problems with predators throughout the years. Squirrels and raccoons needed to be kept away but the non-native house sparrows were a

much bigger problem. After the bird banders recommended to trap them, the number of bluebird and tree swallow fledglings slowly increased (eight bluebird fledglings in 2006 vs. 31 in 2013; 32 tree swallow fledglings in 2004 vs. 294 in 2013).

We are aware that our golf course is only a very small area of the Grand River watershed, but many small actions have a positive impact on the whole.

## Camp adventures

**G**rand River nature centres are great places for kids to connect with nature this summer.

The GRCA has updated and increased the variety of summer camps on offer at the five nature centres locations (Belwood Lake, Rockwood, Guelph Lake, Laurel Creek and Apps' Mill).

"Many kids really enjoy staying with us for a few weeks experiencing some different camps. Every week is different and there are many more camping opportunities than we've ever had before," said Tracey Ryan, manager of environmental education and restoration at the GRCA. A few camps are already sold out, but there are still many different types of camps for kids six to 16 years old.

Camp information is available on [www.grandriver.ca/naturecentres](http://www.grandriver.ca/naturecentres) and camp registration website is [www.grandriver.eventbrite.ca](http://www.grandriver.eventbrite.ca).

In addition, nature centre staff are providing many visitor service programs suited to families at the Grand River parks. For more on these programs and on other GRCA events, check [www.grandriver.ca/events](http://www.grandriver.ca/events).

## FOUNDATION

# Natural playground and amphitheatre

By Janet Baine

GRCA Communications Specialist

**A** new natural playground and amphitheatre is in the works for Shade's Mills Conservation Area.

Logs, stones, grass and wood will form the play structures, instead of the metal and plastic that is used in traditional playgrounds. There will be an obstacle course, a slide built into a hill, stones to climb on and poles.

Knowing that the playground needed to be replaced at Shade's Mills, park superintendent Brian Hunt investigated natural playgrounds to see if this could work for his park. These play areas offer many other benefits. It will be less costly for the GRCA to install, because some of the materials can be found on GRCA land. For example, some of the trees that have been lost due to the ice storm last December are being salvaged for this project.

"The original playground at Shade's was removed a few years ago, so right now we don't have a playground," explains Hunt. "Natural playgrounds are up-and-coming and they better reflect what the GRCA is all about, so this makes a lot of sense. They help reconnect kids with nature."

### Toyota amphitheatre

This summer, the first part of the natural

playground will be installed — the Toyota natural amphitheatre that will be used for nature centre programs, special events and the very popular Friday night movies under the stars. The new amphitheatre will have tiered armour stone and grass seating and a platform at the base. This part of the project has been funded by the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Company, with funds coming to this project through the Grand River Conservation Foundation. The amphitheatre will cost about \$30,000 to install. So far \$40,000 of a total of about \$105,000 has been raised for the natural amphitheatre and playground.

"It is a pilot project for the GRCA with the hope that projects like this could be built at other Grand River parks in the future as fundraising efforts allow," says Cam Linwood, development co-ordinator with the Grand River Conservation Foundation. "As the traditional playgrounds need to be updated and replaced, we could replace them with natural playgrounds." Contributing to projects such as this is an ideal way that donors can support facilities used by the local community.

If you would like to make a contribution to this project, please contact the Foundation at 519-621-2763, ext. 2372 or [foundation@grandriver.ca](mailto:foundation@grandriver.ca).



Natural playgrounds help reconnect kids to nature.

# RAIN program helps prevent damage and protect rivers

By Cheryl Evans  
RAIN Program Manager

As the snow melted and the rain poured down one grey spring day in 2013, Kitchener residents James Barr and Jackie McGinnis helplessly watched their basement fill with water.

An overwhelmed sump pump couldn't handle the amount of water flowing toward their foundation. After they cleaned up the 15-cm deep pool of water in the basement, they called REEP Green Solutions in Kitchener to ask about a free RAIN home visit so they could stop the flooding from happening again.

RAIN, an urban stormwater education program, is a Green Communities Canada program delivered locally by REEP Green Solutions, in partnership with the cities of Kitchener and Waterloo. It provides workshops, presentations, best practice tours, online resources and one-on-one consultations.

Over the past century, intense land development in urban areas has covered over natural areas such as forests, meadows and



The RAIN program helped Jackie McGinnis and James Barr solve a water problem.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

wetlands that can soak up and store high volumes of water during rainfall events.

In today's cities, rainwater rushes off of hard surfaces, such as pavements and rooftops, picks up pollutants and rushes quickly into rivers. This leads to increased erosion, flooding and poor water quality. The goal of the RAIN program is to help property owners reduce the risk of flood damage and to soak up water on their properties in order to protect rivers.

In Kitchener and Waterloo, property owners can qualify for up to a 45 per cent reduction on their stormwater utility fees if they can demonstrate that they are using city-approved best practices.

### Free home visits

Barr and McGinnis met with a certified RAIN guide for a 90-minute discussion about the water challenges they faced. Their guide helped them come up with a practical, action-oriented plan, and told them how it would save money. They also received a summary report.

Keen do-it-yourselfers, Barr and McGinnis set to work right away. They regraded the soil around their home so a slope would direct water away from their foundation. They also installed rain barrels at two of their downspouts in order to use their rain as a garden irrigation resource. They made sure to direct the overflow from their rain barrels and their eavestroughs to absorbent lawn areas at least 10 feet away from their house to prevent it from making its way into their basement.

They were very happy with the results, which included receiving a 20 per cent credit on their stormwater utility bill and keeping their basement dry during subsequent storms.

This spring they will install two more rain barrels and will create two sunken gardens, known as rain gardens, to soak up additional water. They will also replace their cracked

and leaking eavestroughs. Once they have completed this work, they will receive the maximum stormwater credit of \$32 a year for soaking up thousands of litres of water during heavy rains.

Thousands of home, business and institutional property owners have soaked up a collective total of 553 million litres of water per year on their properties through this program.

RAIN home visits are available to Kitchener residents only this year but a free RAIN home visit workshop at REEP House for Sustainable Living is open to everyone. The house is located at 20 Mill Street in Kitchener. It is also open to the public each Saturday from noon to 4 p.m for educational tours. Expanded services for Kitchener and Waterloo business and institutional owners this year include free RAIN Business Visits, workshops and presentations to interested groups.

For more information, or to register for workshops and RAIN Home or Business Visits, visit [www.reepgreen.ca](http://www.reepgreen.ca) (there are some great resources and videos) or call 519-744-9799.

## Waterloo countryside tours

An updated package of four Historic Countryside Tours in Waterloo Region is now available.

These tours were put together in 2006, and have been redesigned. They now include new historic and scenic attractions along routes in the townships of North Dumfries, Woolwich, Wilmot and Wellesley.

The tours are a great resource for cyclists, hikers, day trippers, heritage enthusiasts, local residents and visitors. They take two to three hours to drive and include stops at many heritage locations such as buildings, bridges, landmarks and trails.

The maps are also available on the Region of Waterloo website. The tours are now customizable and available for both handheld and tablet devices.

The tour packages are available at many locations including the Waterloo Region Museum, Joseph Schneider Haus, the Kitchener Public Library, and the Region of Waterloo administrative headquarters and libraries.





**Conestogo Dam at work:** The reservoir system was working overtime in April as you can see the area below the Conestogo Dam (left) was flooded when the reservoir was full. Compare that to the photo (right), taken in the same location last July, when water from the reservoir was being released from the reservoir to meet the needs of communities downstream.

## THE GRAND CALENDAR

### Grand Opportunities Fly Fishing Forum, June 7

A day of on-river seminars and many related events about fly fishing sponsored by Friends of the Grand River. This is a great way to learn more and meet other anglers at Belwood Lake Conservation area.

### Groundswell Conference on Groundwater Innovation, June 16 to 18, University of Guelph.

Creating shared value for groundwater communities, researchers and technical innovators featuring Alexandra Cousteau as keynote speaker. Details are available on [www.groundswellconference.com](http://www.groundswellconference.com)

### Party In The Park, June 22, Guelph Lake Park

Bring your family and friends and come out to kick off summer with a full day of fun for everyone. Events include critter shows, water fun, beach games, a scavenger hunt, craft tables, geocaching and giveaways, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., free admission.

### Conestogo Lake Fishing Derby, July 6

Try your luck at catching catfish,

smallmouth bass and pike in the annual event. Prizes awarded for the longest fish in adult and children's categories, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Meet at the boat launch. This is one of many fishing derbies on the Grand River. It costs park admission plus \$1.

### Healthy Hikes challenge at many locations until the end of October

The Healthy Hikes events offered by the GRCA are part of a provincial challenge that allows people to win prizes when they participate in Healthy Hikes events. These events at the GRCA are primarily geared to families and children and are taking place until the end of October. Healthy Hikes events are taking place at many GRCA parks, including Rockwood, Laurel Creek in Waterloo, Pinehurst Lake near Paris, Brant, Elora Gorge and Shades' Mills in Cambridge. A complete listing is available on [www.grandriver.ca/events](http://www.grandriver.ca/events).

**Note:** Events at the GRCA's conservation areas and nature centres are posted on [www.grandriver.ca/events](http://www.grandriver.ca/events).

## About Grand Actions:

*This newsletter is produced bi-monthly by the Grand River Conservation Authority.*

### More information:

Current and back issues as well as complete subscription information is available online at [www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions](http://www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions).

### Submission deadlines:

The 15th of February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions may be edited for length or style. Photos and event information are welcome. We do our best to publish items, but we are not able to guarantee publication.

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