



Grand River  
Conservation  
Authority



The Grand:  
A Canadian  
Heritage River

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*Joe Entz, one of the partners of Entz, Fentz, is building a fence to keep cattle out of Hunsberger Creek for Mark Hoffman and Marilyn Israel. Photo by Anne Loeffler*



## Should farmers be compensated for their environmental work?

By Tracey Ryan  
Supervisor of Conservation Services

**S**hould farmers be paid for the work they do to protect the environment?

That's a question that's getting a lot of attention in agricultural circles these days. The notion of paying farmers to provide "environmental goods and services" is an idea whose time appears to be near. In various parts of Canada, studies are under way to see if it is possible to quantify the environmental benefits provided by farmers and then determine if there is a way to compensate farmers for their efforts.

One version of this is called "Alternative Land Use Services" or ALUS. A pilot project began in Manitoba three years ago, and the system is currently being tested in Norfolk County in Ontario as well as in Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The concept may sound new but, in fact, it's

similar to one that is already in practice in a large portion of the Grand River watershed.

The local effort is part of the Rural Water Quality Program, a partnership of municipalities, farmers and the Grand River Conservation Authority to protect water quality on rural land. The Rural Water Quality Program provides direct payments to farmers who take fragile land, such as steep slopes and areas along watercourses, out of production and return it to a natural state.

This program provides financial incentives to farmers to undertake a wide variety of projects. They can obtain grants to build manure storage tanks, erect fences to keep cattle out of streams or improve their fertilizer and fuel handling systems.

Five municipalities contribute more than \$750,000 annually to the fund — the Region of Waterloo, Brant County, Wellington County and the cities of Brantford and Guelph. The participating farmer also has to invest cash, materials

and labour in the projects. The program is administered by the GRCA, which



Tracey Ryan

works closely with farmers to make sure the projects are effective.

Right from the start of the program in 1999, it has paid farmers in Waterloo and Wellington to take fragile land out of production and to plant trees as a way to reduce erosion and protect water quality.

Farmers are eligible for grants of up to 80 per cent of the cost of planting the trees as well as a cash payout for retiring the land.

### Buffer strips are effective

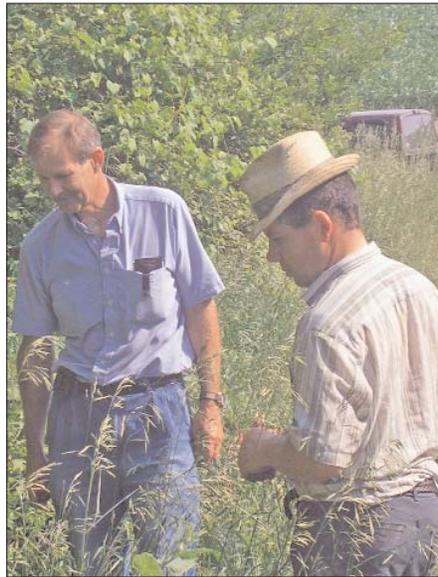
For example, farmers in Waterloo Region and Wellington County are eligible for land retirement payments of \$250 per acre per year for three years. Since 1999 about 345 hectares of land has been retired. This includes the establishment of more than 100 kilometres of buffers along rivers and streams. About 140 farmers have participated and collected a total of \$396,000.

“This money is being offered to encourage farmers to plant trees along streams and waterways,” said Eric Hodgins, chair of the Waterloo RWQP committee and also the manager of water resource protection for the Region of Waterloo.

“Buffer strips are one of the most effective ways of improving water quality and stream health,” he said. “We’re trying to keep the soil out of our creeks and rivers and improve water quality for everyone in the watershed.”

In many “environmental goods and services” systems, the payments are permanent, essentially amounting to an annual rent to the farmer for the environmental benefits.

In contrast, the payments under the Grand River watershed’s Rural Water Quality Program last for only three years. That’s because the farmers who



Water resources engineer John Palmer discusses the best way to improve a culvert with a Wellington County farmer.

helped develop the program wanted to provide financial assistance to landowners to recognize their commitment to the project, but it was never meant as rent or land purchase.

Still, those in favor of advancing these ideas could learn a lot from the Grand River program, say participants.

“If the federal and provincial governments are looking for pilot projects, they should look at the long-standing and successful Rural Water Quality Program as an example of a well-functioning environmental goods and services program,” said Hodgins.

Stewart Cressman, a farmer and a member of the Waterloo committee, agrees.

### Recognize farmer’s contributions

“Ten years ago our steering committee recognized the importance of valuing the farmer’s contribution of land to these projects, so we developed a performance incentive. It just made sense,” said Cressman.

In fact, noted Cressman, the Waterloo committee adapted the idea from a federal government permanent land cover program of the early 1990s that also included payments to farmers who took land out of production.

The incentives for land retirement

and tree planting are just part of the Rural Water Quality Program. Since its beginning, more than 1,700 projects have received more than \$5.8 million in financial assistance. Farmers have also received valuable technical advice about water quality projects. The program was developed by farmers and stakeholders, including the municipalities, and continues to be managed by those groups.

*Tracey Ryan is the Supervisor of Conservation Services for the Grand River Conservation Authority. Her department provides assistance to rural landowners on ways to protect and enhance water quality. It administers the Rural Water Quality Program throughout the Grand River watershed. For more information, contact the Grand River Conservation Authority at (519) 621-2761, ext. 2269.*



## MILESTONES

### Making research connections

About 100 researchers gathered at this year’s Grand River Watershed Research Forum hosted by the GRCA and sponsored by the Canadian Water Network and the Canada Research Chair



Mark Servos

for Water Quality.

A tremendous amount of research is being done on the Grand River, but researchers have had a hard time finding out what others are doing to ensure their research has the maximum benefit.

The research forum was initiated as one means to implement four Memoranda of Understanding that the GRCA has signed with the watershed post-secondary educational institutions (University of Waterloo, University of Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga College) in support of *The Grand Strategy*.

“The Grand River is a big success story, but there are still a lot of science challenges,” explains Mark Servos, the scientific director of the Canadian Water Network and Canada research chair in water quality at the University of Waterloo.

“People forget that we are surrounded by the Great Lakes, but we don’t have a lot of available water here.”

The research forum was first held last year as a way for researchers to get to know each other, he said. This year there was discussion on research needs, and next year Servos expects the forum to move further into the science, so research can better meet the needs of water managers.

Researchers from the four watershed institutions as well as others in Ontario attended the forum and presented their research.

GRCA staff made a half dozen presentations and information about 15 projects were presented by graduate students in biology, chemistry, geography, engineering and recreation.

New ways of connecting were explored at the end of the research forum.

“It’s really hard for us to keep track of what research is being done in our watershed. We just don’t have the resources,” says Barbara Veale, coordinator of policy, planning and partnerships at the GRCA. She is interested in promoting research and educational projects that help the GRCA learn more about the impact of human activity on watershed health. She also wants to foster relationships with a network of researchers and ensure that research findings inform policy and management decisions at the GRCA.

One of the challenges is bringing researchers from different sectors and different institutions together.

“We want to continue to grow the research forum to serve the community of researchers and water managers,” Servos said. “It is a wonderful way of making connections and creating a synergy among research groups.”



*The rail-trails are one of many foundation projects.*

## Watershed Award for three foundation past presidents

**T**hree Grand River Conservation Foundation past presidents — Robert Murray, John Harris and Marilyn Murray — retired from the foundation board in 2006 and they received a Watershed Award for their longstanding commitment to the foundation.

Watershed Awards are given out each year by the GRCA to organizations and individuals that make an outstanding contribution to conservation through environmental work.

The Grand River Conservation Foundation formed in 1965 to play a key role in raising funds for conservation projects that the GRCA could not otherwise undertake. Over the years the amount of money raised has increased dramatically from a few thousand dollars to up to over \$1 million annually. The number and scope of completed projects is impressive.

Bob Murray is a Brantford resident who joined the foundation 28 years ago and was president from 1987 to 1990.

He helped raise funds to preserve the old mill at Apps’ Mill Nature Centre,



*Robert Murray*



### LOOK WHO’S TAKING ACTION

chaired the foundation’s planned giving committee and helped establish the conservancy forests.

Under his leadership, a water network was set up to enable watershed universities to research regional water issues. A large natural area of wetlands near Keldon, north of Luther Marsh, was preserved during his tenure.

John Harris of Cambridge joined the foundation in 1972 and was president from 1990 to 1994. He led the \$1.5 million fundraising program to develop the GRCA’s four rail-trails that are now used annually by thousands of hikers and cyclists.

A true conservationist, Harris helped found the Ruffed Grouse Society of Canada and the Grand River Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, two organizations that have spearheaded projects in Luther Marsh.

Marilyn Murray lives in Guelph and joined the foundation in 1986, serving as



*John Harris*

president from 1997 to 2000.

Murray, a former fundraiser at the University of Guelph, set up the foundation's endowment fund and is best known as the chair of the \$2.2 million Living Classroom — Campaign for Outdoor Education. For the past five years this program has ensured that elementary school children in the watershed have a chance to learn about the outdoors at a GRCA outdoor education centre.



Marilyn Murray

During the past year, Murray became the first chair of the Grand Champions program, a new volunteer group.

Together Robert Murray, John Harris and Marilyn Murray brought the foundation a long way towards success as an important part of the work of the GRCA. Collectively, they contributed 81 years of volunteer service.

"During my 20 years as a volunteer board member, I have watched it evolve and grow into a mature organization, providing critical financial support for projects and programs administered by the GRCA," Murray says. "I could not have envisioned such growth when I first became involved and I am extremely proud to have been a part of its evolution."

## Working to preserve Carolinian forests

David Morris of Brantford was honoured with a 2006 Watershed Award for his efforts to preserve and enhance the shrinking Carolinian forests of southwestern Ontario.

These awards are given out each year by the GRCA and Morris was one of seven award recipients.

"I grew up on the edge of one of the biggest Carolinian forests in Canada in the Dundas Valley. As I got older, I realized how important these forests are," Morris explains.



David Morris collects seeds for the rare Carolinian trees that he grows and gives away to help preserve these important species.

The Carolinian forests start south of Cambridge, and they take up only one quarter of one per cent of Canada's land, but hold half of the rare and endangered species of plants and animals in this country. The Carolinian region has a warmer climate than any other part of Ontario and supports ecosystems found nowhere else in Canada.

The name "Carolinian" was coined by early botanists who noticed that hardwood forests in the area have many species of trees found as far south as the Carolinas. This is the land of the flowering dogwood, sassafras, hickory and tulip trees and it is recognized as a nationally significant resource.



David Morris

Carolinian forests are also being lost to other land uses.

"This is the most densely populated place in Canada and in the next 25 years, the population in the Carolinian zone is going to grow by a third," Morris says. "I find when I give talks, that half the people have never heard of it, so I give them basic information about where they live and the special

nature of it."

Morris collects the seeds of the less common Carolinian trees and plants them in a tree nursery he has set up on his property in Brant County near Ancaster. Currently he has about 500 trees in his nursery. He gives these trees away for no fee to people who want them.

"It feels wrong to sell a native tree. If that is the philosophy, if it is just a business, we'll never save the Carolinian forest," Morris says.

By learning about these trees, people become more aware of the unique value of rare trees and it then means more to them to own and care for a rare tree, such as a tulip tree or a Kentucky coffee tree.

Perhaps the best known Carolinian tree, the American chestnut, is not one Morris grows, because he focuses on ones with less of a profile, some of which are difficult to grow.

"I have found that lots of people grow some very special species and yet these are almost never accounted for in Carolinian conservation strategies," Morris says. "As a bio-geographer, I can tell you that these planted trees can be critically important to the long term survival of the species in Canada, as well as their distinctive genetic lines."

## Major reforestation at Luther Marsh supported by Ontario Power Generation

Ontario Power Generation is supporting a three-year reforestation program at Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area in the headwaters region of the Grand River watershed.

OPG will invest more than \$260,000 to plant more than 136,000 trees on 152 hectares of land by 2010.

The trees will be planted as part of a program to convert former farmland into natural habitats, including wetlands, grasslands and forests, said Martin Neumann, supervisor of terrestrial resources with the GRCA.

"Habitat restoration will be a significant and expensive element of the work we do at Luther Marsh over the next decade," says Neumann. "We're very happy to have OPG as a partner in this project."

Steve Hounsell, senior advisor for sustainable development with OPG, said the company wants to help build and restore healthy ecosystems across Ontario.

"Healthy ecosystems, with their natural diversity of life, provide the ecosystem goods and services to absorb our wastes, clean our air, clean our waters and provide productive soils free of contaminants to feed and sustain healthy people," Hounsell says.

He pointed out that planting trees also helps reduce global warming by offsetting greenhouse gas emissions from

OPG's fossil-fueled power plants. Since 2000, OPG has supported the planting of more than 2.8 million trees. Included in that is \$85,000 paid for tree planting on 70 hectares at Luther Marsh between 2002 and 2004.

Luther Marsh is the GRCA's largest landholding and is one of the most significant natural areas in southwestern Ontario. The 5,915 hectare property straddles the border between Dufferin County and Wellington County, just west of Grand Valley.

Luther Marsh reservoir, created by the construction of Luther Dam in 1952, plays an important role in ensuring water supply to downstream communities. Water is stored in the 1,950 hectare reservoir in the spring and is gradually released through the summer to ensure there is a minimum flow in the Grand River as it flows through Dufferin and Wellington counties.

In 1980, Luther Marsh was selected as an outstanding natural area of provincial significance by the Ministry of Natural Resources, because of its natural features such as bogs and upland forests, and because it provides a critical habitat for herons and ospreys. More than 130 species of birds have been reported in the area, which is also home to several rare reptiles, including the spotted turtle, Blandings turtle, Butler's garter snake, and northern ribbonsnake.



*Terrestrial resources manager Martin Neumann, Steve Hounsell of OPG, natural heritage specialist Kelly Jamieson and Luther superintendent Robert Bell.*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Water Forum: Global realities, local solutions

Water issues will be examined from every angle — the ground up and space down — at the seventh annual Grand River Watershed Water Forum in Cambridge on Friday, Sept. 14.

Tickets are now available for the forum, which has the theme "Water: Global Realities — Local Solutions." It will include presentations and panel discussions looking at water issues and innovative solutions for tackling them. Several keynote speakers have been lined up for the event.



*George Rotor*

George Rotor, co-CEO of Engineers Without Borders is a graduate of the University of Waterloo. He founded Engineers Without Borders in 2000 as a way to tap into the Canadian engineering community in the fight against global poverty.

Gilles Leclerc at the Canadian Space Agency is a geophysicist by training. He has been director general of the Space Technologies Branch since 2004 where he is responsible for research and development on advanced space systems and their applications in earth observation, satellite communications and exploration.

Henry Lickers of the Mohawk Council of Akwasasne studied biology and geography at Trent University and the University of Waikato in New Zealand. He is Environmental Co-ordinator for the Mohawk Council of Akwasasne.

Brian Denney, CAO of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority will

speak about “The Living City” which provides a broad vision to build a foundation of healthy rivers and shorelines, regional bio-diversity, sustainable communities and business excellence in Canada’s largest urban area.

Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario since 2000, oversees the implementation of the Environmental Bill of Rights. Each year, he brings his own unique observations to the Water Forum by serving as the wrap-up speaker, summarizing the broad themes of the day’s presentations.

The Water Forum will also include the fifth Annual Watershed Report, presented by Paul Emerson, chief administrative officer of the GRCA.

The morning panel discussion is about protecting our water. It features John Johnston of the University of Waterloo, Saad Jasim of the Walkerton Clean Water Centre and Ian Smith of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

The afternoon panel discussion is about emerging issues and innovative solutions including Cam Walsh of the City of Guelph, Quintin Rochfort of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters and Jake Debruyn of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

In addition to the presentations and panels, there will be displays and exhibits highlighting innovative water technologies and services, as well as environmental programs of business, government agencies and environmental organizations.

The forum will be held on the grounds of the Grand River Conservation Authority at 400 Clyde Road, Cambridge from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

More information on registration, exhibit space and sponsorships is available on the GRCA website at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) under the heading “Conferences: 2007 Water Forum.” The cost of the day-long forum is \$90 (senior and student rate of \$55) which includes lunch.



*This tram runs along a six kilometre trail in Kitchener and is for people who are not able to walk the trails.*

*Photo by Adam Hannon*

## **People who can’t walk the trails can ride the tram along Kitchener trail**

By Adam Hannon  
GRCA Communications Intern

**S**eniors and people who are not able to walk on trails can enjoy nature using an electric tram that operates between Grand Valley Garden Village and Pioneer Tower in Kitchener.

A six-kilometre stretch along the Grand River takes three hours one way, because the tram usually travels at a walking pace and makes stops along the way every 15 or 20 minutes so that passengers can dismount.

“It’s about going out and enjoying nature,” says Thomas Kaufmann, president of Canadian Recreational Excursions Inc. “Everyone can do it.”

The tram is made up of converted golf carts that are powered by electric batteries and pulled by a lead vehicle. It can be configured in different ways: it has two coach carts, a campfire trailer (to carry coolers and cooking equipment) and an open trailer, which can carry up to 12 kids. The tram can’t accommodate anyone in a wheelchair,

but Kaufmann hopes to build this in the future. There is also a two-seater excursion vehicle.

It uses about 75 per cent electric power, and Kaufmann is aiming for 95 per cent.

Prices start at \$50 for four adults for an hour, but Kaufmann plans to apply for a grant to operate the service, which is the first program of its kind.

He also has a number of small buildings he would like to set up along the trail. They would allow passengers to sit comfortably outside when the tram stops. The pavilion-style structures are low-impact, portable, and made out of lumber.

Sue Gallagher, a recreational therapist at an adult group home in Waterloo was on the first ride with a couple of residents of the home. She says the trolley gives them a chance to experience nature in a way that they had not been able to before.

“It’s nice to have these little coaches,” she says. “You feel like you could touch what’s outside.”

## Erosion control workshop attracts crowd

About a hundred people attended a workshop on erosion control held at the GRCA in June and many others have signed up to attend similar workshops in the future.

"The Grand River watershed is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada and as a result, there is lots of construction here," says Gus Rungis, the GRCA's senior water resources engineer. "Urban development strips topsoil bare for a time and the land is denuded of vegetation, so controlling erosion and sediment while construction is underway is necessary from an environmental perspective."

New guidelines for erosion and sediment control were released by the conservation authorities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe in December and this workshop gave developers in this watershed a chance to learn about the guidelines and explore this issue. The new guidelines shift the focus towards pre-

venting erosion from happening in the first place, rather than mechanisms to remove sediment from waterways. This can mean putting vegetation back on the land as soon as possible, Rungis says.

The workshop covered topics such as the aquatic impacts and legislation and municipal monitoring perspectives based on the example of Laurel Creek in Waterloo. Developers also had an opportunity to describe what erosion control methods have worked for them.

Erosion and sediment control on urban construction sites has been a recurring topic with the GRCA Homebuilder Liaison Committee, which recommended holding the workshop. Those attending this workshop included people from municipalities, consulting firms, conservation authorities and those involved with urban land development. Rungis said that the GRCA is considering offering similar workshops in the future and it can also provide the workshop to interested groups.

"It is great to see so much interest and commitment to learning about this important topic," Rungis said.



*Fishing was fun on the Speed River on free family fishing weekend in July.*



**NOW AVAILABLE**

## New canoe book on paddling the Grand

A popular guide to canoeing and kayaking on the Grand River has been significantly updated and given a new name, just in time for the new season.

*Paddling the Grand River* is the successor to "Canoeing on the Grand River," which was first published in 1982 and sold more than 25,000 copies.

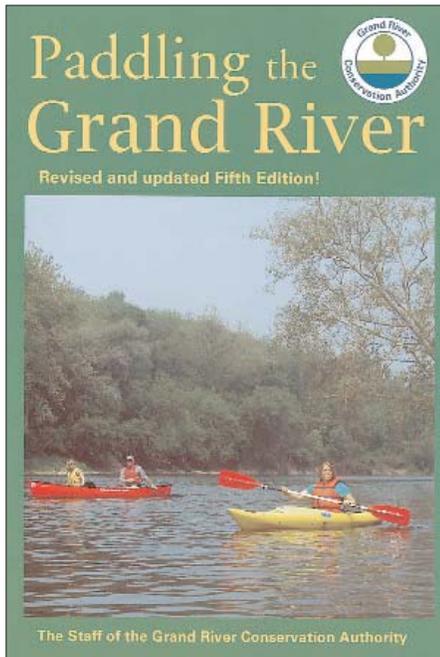
The new book is a collaboration between the Grand River Conservation Authority and Canadian publisher, James Lorimer and Co. of Toronto. The book is available from bookstores throughout the Grand River watershed, or online at the GRCA Store at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

The 96-page guide, which retails for \$19.95, includes indispensable information to help canoeists and kayakers enjoy the Grand, a Canadian Heritage River.

Canoeing and kayaking enthusiasts have long enjoyed the experience of paddling the Grand, a 300 km meandering waterway whose banks display some of the area's most interesting human and natural history.



*Salem Public School students Louis Pick and Cody Bowman plant one of 500 trees along the bank of the Irvine Creek on the Coffey Farm north of Fergus. Wellington County's the Green Legacy program supplied the trees. Students learned as they planted thanks to GRCA resource interpreters, Greg Meredith and Dan Schneider.*



*Paddling the Grand River* follows the Grand from Belwood Lake just upriver of Fergus, past Waterloo, Kitchener and through Cambridge, Paris, and Brantford to Port Maitland at the mouth of the Grand at Lake Erie. The Grand is renowned for its recreational paddling opportunities, its water quality, and its fishing.

Numerous colour photographs show paddlers some of the visual highlights of the river. The text describes trips ranging

from two hours to five days travel. Details on local sights, fishing, accommodation, parking, outfitters, and suppliers are included. Aerial photos showing the portages around the dams and GPS locator numbers are new features that add value to this classic.

Paddling the Grand River is perfect for anyone considering a trip on the Grand, and is invaluable for an afternoon's excursion or a multi-day adventure on this beautiful heritage river.



## The Grand Strategy Calendar

### About Grand Actions

This newsletter is produced bi-monthly by the Grand River Conservation Authority on behalf of the partners in *The Grand Strategy*. Current and back issues are available online at: [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

#### For information on

##### **The Grand Strategy contact:**

Barbara Veale, GRCA,  
400 Clyde Road, Box 729,  
Cambridge, ON, N1R 5W6  
Phone: (519) 621-2763 Ext. 2274  
Fax: (519) 621-4844  
E-mail: [bveale@grandriver.ca](mailto:bveale@grandriver.ca)

##### **For newsletter submissions contact:**

Janet Baine, GRCA  
Phone: (519) 621-2763, Ext. 2302  
Fax: (519) 621-4844  
E-mail: [jbaine@grandriver.ca](mailto:jbaine@grandriver.ca)  
Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, December. 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

**15th Annual Mill Race Festival of Traditional Folk Music, Cambridge, August 3 to 5.** This free festival is presented by the The Mill Race Folk Society. The festival's focus is on traditional forms of folk music and dance from a variety of cultures. Programs are available at the festival and at local music shops. For more information, visit [www.millracefolksociety.com](http://www.millracefolksociety.com).

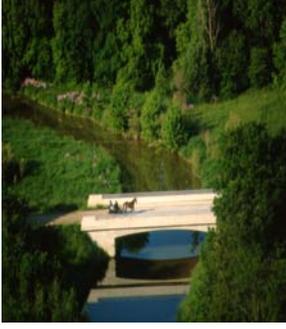
**7th Annual Grand River Watershed Water Forum, GRCA Administration Centre, Cambridge, Friday, Sept. 14.** This year's forum, Water: Global Realities ~ Local Solutions, will provide government leaders, municipalities, businesses, farmers and others with information about new technologies, innovations and community involvement needed to protect and improve our valuable water resources. Visit [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) and click on "Water Forum" for program information and to register.

**At Husking Time Women's Conference, Chiefswood National Historic Site, Ohsweken, 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday Sept. 15.** This outdoor event is taking place for the second time and it provides an Iroquoian perspective to healing and wellness through several workshops. For more information, visit [www.chiefswood.com](http://www.chiefswood.com) or call (519) 752-5005.

**Youth Outdoors Day, Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Saturday, Sept. 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** For youth 10 to 17. Register online at [www.youthoutdoors-day.com](http://www.youthoutdoors-day.com), or e-mail [Linda.M.Freeman@ontario.ca](mailto:Linda.M.Freeman@ontario.ca), or call Linda at (519) 826-4922.

**The Grand River Biothon, Apps' Mill Nature Centre, Brantford, Sept. 29 & 30.** Over 24 hours, volunteer teams search to discover and record as many different living things as possible to raise money to support environmental education at the nature centres. A free family event on Sunday features live animals, hikes, T-shirt tie-dyeing, a children's penny sale, demonstrations, live music, and a silent auction. For more information contact Apps' Mill Nature Centre (519) 752-0655, or Sara Wilbur, Grand River Conservation Foundation (519) 621-2761 ext. 2272.

**History on the Grand Local History Symposium, University of Waterloo School of Architecture, Cambridge, Saturday, Oct. 27.** This day-long symposium includes keynote speaker Dr. Ken McLaughlin (chair of the history department at St. Jerome's College) and several concurrent panels, each with a moderator and a theme. While there is no charge, there is an optional \$25 fee to cover the lunch provided by Melville Cafe. Register before the event by contacting Jim Quantrell, Archivist, City of Cambridge [quantrellj@city.cambridge.on.ca](mailto:quantrellj@city.cambridge.on.ca), or (519) 740-4650 ext. 4610. Prior registration is encouraged, but people can also register on the day of the event.



# Policies for the Administration of the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

Ontario Regulation 150/06

The Grand River Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation, Ontario Regulation 150/06* was formally approved in May 2006.

Any person proposing to develop or grade in valley lands, wetlands, Lake Erie shorelines, inland lakes and other hazardous lands must apply to the GRCA for a permit under the *Regulation*.

In 2006, the GRCA initiated a comprehensive review of its current policies and practices with respect to the administration of the *Regulation* with the goal of consolidating and updating its policies.

A draft of these policies has now been completed. The application of a comprehensive and up-to-date set of policies is important to ensuring that all applications made for permit under the *Regulation* are dealt with in a consistent, timely and fair manner.

The draft has now been posted to the GRCA website at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) for public review and comment by September 30, 2007. Copies of the report are available online or by contacting:

Grand River Conservation Authority  
400 Clyde Road, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W6  
Phone: (519) 621-2761 or Toll free: 1-866-900-4722  
Fax: (519) 621-4844  
Email: [grca@grandriver.ca](mailto:grca@grandriver.ca)

Comments are due by **September 30, 2007** and should be addressed to:

Barbara Veale, Coordinator of Policy Planning and Partnerships  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
Phone: ext. 2274 Email: [bveale@grandriver.ca](mailto:bveale@grandriver.ca)