



Grand River  
Conservation  
Authority



The Grand:  
A Canadian  
Heritage River

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### Cover photo

Donna MacKenzie examines some purple loosestrife that beetles have feasted on. The beetles were introduced to control the loosestrife. Photo by Janet Baine



## Where has all the loosestrife gone?

By Donna MacKenzie  
Ontario Beetles

**H**ave you noticed that the purple hue near waterways and wetlands in the Grand River watershed is now gone?

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is a non-native plant that was introduced to North America in the 1800s. It became widespread throughout Canada and the U.S. because it had no natural predators. Purple loosestrife became so common that it affected natural communities and biodiversity — you may remember a flurry of news stories about it in the 1990s.

*Grand Actions* did a series of stories about it in 1996 and 1997 because it was such a threat. The first had the headline, “Beetles fight the purple plague.”

The loosestrife plants are dense, widely-distributed and tenacious. No herbicides were approved to treat purple loosestrife in Canada and mechanical control methods, such as digging it out, didn't work.

In the late 1980s, experts began to focus on two types of leaf-eating beetles that are natural predators — *Galerucella californiensis* and *Galerucella pusilla*. Both evolved in the native range with loosestrife and are restricted to it as a host.

Testing over many years found that introducing these beetles wouldn't threaten other North American plants. The beetles were first released in Ontario in 1992 by the University of Guelph after they had been approved in Canada and the U.S. Today there are over 400 beetle release sites across the province.

Many of the first release sites were in the Grand River watershed, where the beetles spread naturally along the waterways. The Grand River Watershed Management Plan for Purple Loosestrife was conceived in 1996 and 1997. Forty new beetle release sites were set up to control this invasive plant across the watershed by the University of Guelph, working with the Grand River Conservation Foundation, Environment Canada, the GRCA, volunteers and

others.

A 2004 follow-up study funded by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources found that beetles had spread



*Beetle introduced to control loosestrife*

throughout the watershed. The study also found that as a result of this, purple

loosestrife was controlled along the water's edge virtually everywhere in the region. The beetles also controlled loosestrife that was further away from the shorelines.

### Loosestrife now under control

The beetles are now along the Grand River's length, from Luther Marsh to Lake Erie, as well as along 30 kilometres of the Speed River from Guelph Lake to Cambridge where it joins the Grand River. Effective beetle populations control all of the formerly infested tributaries so that purple loosestrife is now under control in the Grand River watershed.

However, this doesn't mean that all healthy stands of the plant are gone. Throughout the watershed, and indeed throughout Ontario, the greatest beetle impact can be seen along the water's edge.

Today, groups and governments across Ontario continue to release beetles into watersheds and wetlands across the province in the few remaining areas where loosestrife hasn't yet been controlled.

For more information on purple loosestrife biocontrol in the Grand River watershed and in Ontario, or to obtain beetles, contact Donna MacKenzie at Ontario Beetles 519-732-7993 or [ontariobeetles@sympatico.ca](mailto:ontariobeetles@sympatico.ca). MacKenzie was the University of Guelph contact at the Biological Control Laboratory ten years ago and now provides the beetles as a part-time business.

For information about invasive species, visit [www.invadingspecies.com](http://www.invadingspecies.com) or call the invading species hotline at 800-563-7711.



*A team of new rowers competing in a rowing fundraiser at the Guelph Lake.*

## Rowing growing on the Grand

By Janet Baine

GRCA Communications Specialist

At daybreak every morning for years, Walter Kehm, president of the Guelph Rowing Club, would get rowing teams to stop on Guelph Lake, look to the shore and imagine a permanent building for their boats.

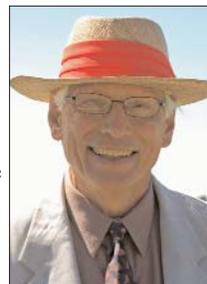
His daily visioning has paid off — the club has \$250,000 in grants and loans lined up and their building is under construction.

For Kehm and the members of the rowing club, it is a dream come true.

"I've rowed all over the world and there is nothing as special as Guelph Lake," Kehm says.

The club will waste no time in sharing their new facility with others. In 2008 it will host the Canadian Masters Championship for rowers over 27 years of age. In 2009 the Guelph Lake club would like to host the provincial university regatta and in 2010, the national university regatta.

Over the past eight years the rowing club has shared the space with the Guelph Community Boating Club and they have had temporary outdoor storage



*Walter Kehm*



### TAKING ACTION

facilities for the boats. The new permanent location is also on land leased from the GRCA that is beside the Guelph Lake Nature Centre. The new building means the 70 boats used by the rowers can be stored indoors year-round and volunteers won't need to move them into storage during the winter.

The club now has over 200 members. It offers a varsity program in the fall, a high school program in the spring, and competitive and recreational rowing for adults from May to October. The Learn to Row program, offered each spring, raises funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation and was "sold out" with 70 participants this year, many of whom went on to become club members. All the coaches are dedicated volunteers and they welcome new members.

In fact, people of all ages enjoy rowing, which is a physically demanding and precise sport based on team work.

Now Kehm is thinking about another dream — to put the Guelph Rowing Club on the international map by having an Olympic team based on Guelph Lake. Already a women's masters team made

up of Tanya Lonsdale and Fiona McCrea has done extremely well internationally, he says.

### Other clubs expand program

The rowing clubs in Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo are also expanding their programs. In August they jointly received \$149,000 over five years from the Trillium Foundation. This will be used for a professional rowing coach to develop and implement a youth rowing program at the clubs. They expect this to increase membership and volunteer participation, while also engaging children and youth in Waterloo Region in the sport. This is the first partnership of its kind in Ontario and the collaborative group is called “gRowing up on the Grand.”

### Grand River rowing clubs:

#### Cambridge Rowing Club

Galt 519-623-6715

[www.cambridgerowingclub.on.ca](http://www.cambridgerowingclub.on.ca)

#### Guelph Rowing Club

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

[guelphrowing@guelphrowing.ca](mailto:guelphrowing@guelphrowing.ca)

#### Kitchener Waterloo Rowing Club

519-893-2546

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

#### Haldimand Grand River Rowing Club, Cayuga

[www.haldimandrowing.com](http://www.haldimandrowing.com)

905-772-6348



*Ken Anderson and Carol Cowan were impressed by the help they received when they decided to take steps to improve water quality on their organic beef farm near Drumbo. Now they have received an environmental award for their work.*

## Water quality improvements net award

By Steve May  
Rural Water Quality

Carol Cowan and Ken Anderson were recently awarded the Oxford Ontario Federation of Agriculture Environmental Award for their work to improve water quality and wildlife hab-

itat on their rolling 40-hectare farm.

They began taking action shortly after buying the farm, which had been in Cowan's family for generations. A tributary of the Nith River flows through the transitional organic beef farm near Drumbo.

On a canoe trip down the Nith River, the couple encountered slumping riverbanks and cattle with unrestricted access to the water. This experience, combined with their knowledge about the Walkerton tragedy, inspired them to put together a plan to improve water quality along their own stretch of the creek. Once they started, they were surprised by the amount of help available.

“It was great to see how many good people with practical ideas there were out there to help us with the buffer,” Cowan says. Anne Loeffler of the Rural Water Quality Program at the GRCA worked with them to identify actions that would have a positive and lasting effect on the landscape. Other assistance came from Ducks Unlimited, the Ontario



*Rowing clubs along the Grand River are improving their facilities and programs to provide more opportunities for young rowers, such as these girls who participated in a summer camp offered by the Kitchener Rowing Club.*

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Oxford Stewardship Council.

Over 1,500 metres of high tensile electric fencing has been installed. This not only keeps the cows out of the creek, but it also allows for better grazing rotation, Anderson says. Funding was provided through the Clean Water program in Oxford County, the Habitat Stewardship program for species at risk, the Oxford Stewardship Council water quality program and Greencover Canada.

The part of the project that generated the most interest was the environmentally-friendly solar panel, which provides the power for the fence. Frequent hydro interruptions in rural Ontario mean the solar panel takes a lot of worry out of the electrical fencing, Anderson says. The panel was difficult to source a few years back, but now farmers are coming to him to find out where they can get a solar panel for their fences.

Over 100 trees were planted beside the creek in 2006. These will shade the waters of the creek and help provide a better wildlife corridor along the stream.

Anderson and Cowan plan to work with Ducks Unlimited to enhance this by constructing a wetland.

A blue heron took up residence through much of the past two springs and the site is also attracting ducks and migratory birds. Beneficial wildlife, such as mink, as well as a variety of native plants, add to Anderson and Cowan's enjoyment of the buffer.

For information on the programs available through the GRCA's Rural Water Quality Program, visit this section of [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca), or call Tracey Ryan, 1-519-621-2763, ext. 2269.

**The 2007 Grand River Watershed Awards** are scheduled to be given out at a gala celebration at the River Run Centre in Guelph in October.

Stories about this year's award winners will be featured in upcoming issues of *Grand Actions*.



*Rotarian Mike Thomas helps clean up Dumfries Conservation Area. The four Cambridge clubs are taking steps to improve the park.*

## Cambridge Rotary Clubs take on park

The four Rotary clubs of Cambridge have taken on a special project to improve Dumfries Conservation Area and they have received a 2006 Watershed Award.

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

Often called one of the gems of Cambridge, Dumfries Conservation Area is a large natural area with walking trails. It is used for community events, such as the annual kite festival.

But it has also suffered from being in the city and it needed some special attention.

In 2004 the four Cambridge Rotary clubs — Preston Hespeler, Cambridge North, Cambridge Galt and Cambridge Sunrise — decided to work together to help improve this conservation area. It was an important project to celebrate 100 years of Rotary International.

But Dumfries also has special significance for the clubs, because local businessman Percy Hilborn was the charter president of the Preston Hespeler Rotary Club in 1927, so he brought Rotary

Clubs to Cambridge. He also donated this land in 1967 so that it could become a park.

Fundraising by the Rotarians paid for the large sign on Hespeler Road that makes the park better known to the public. The park has been under-used, because many people didn't know about it. The sign is a step toward increasing the prominence of the park and informing people about the 75-hectare property.

The clubs also funded an interpretive kiosk to educate people about the history and activities at the conservation area. They contributed funds to place boulders along Dunbar Road and paid for a park entrance gate. A dedication ceremony was held in June 2005, at which Percy Hilborn's daughter, Elinor Hueton, spoke.

The Rotarians hold clean up and trail maintenance days at the conservation area. A committee that includes a member from each club continues to meet regularly to discuss future improvements to the park.

This Rotary centennial project is also a future commitment by the Rotary clubs to support this natural area in the centre of Cambridge.

# Think Plastics thinks environment

By Adam Hannon  
GRCA Communications Intern

**A** New Hamburg company is working with three local municipalities to recycle a type of plastic farm waste, turning it into building material.

Think Plastics Inc. uses a recycling process that converts used balewrap, a plastic film used to protect bales of hay, straw, silage and corn, into plastic lumber.



*Lisa Lackenbauer with some baleboard.*

Farmers bring the material to free drop off

areas set up in Waterloo Region, Wellington County and Southgate Township.

Most people who participate in the balewrap recycling program do it because they have an environmental conscience, says Bob Radunske, manager of operations for the waste management division at the Region of Waterloo. "Up to now, there's been no viable alternative."

A significant amount of waste has been diverted from landfills during the year that the region has participated in the program, he says.

The recycling process is an important innovation because other disposal methods for used balewrap are harmful to the environment. Until now, most farmers have burned or buried the plastic wrap. The only other option they had was to bring it to a landfill site, which meant paying a tipping fee of up to \$70 a tonne. Diverting balewrap from landfills will help to conserve landfill capacity.

Local farmers have been very supportive of the new recycling depots, says Lisa Lackenbauer, vice-president of Think Plastics.

"We haven't had any problem motivating farmers," she says. "They've been trying to get (balewrap) recycling going for years."

## 590 tonnes recycled

The company has recycled 590 tonnes of balewrap since their collection program began nearly two years ago.

Think Plastics Inc. has been producing baleboard since February 2006.

Products made from baleboard include fencing, recreational furniture and commercial and agricultural applications.

Although it is two to three times the cost of pressure-treated wood, it is less expensive than many popular composite woods.

"It's a very safe, healthy product," Lachenbauer says.

Baleboard is currently available at over a dozen retail outlets in Ontario.

Doug Konrad, manager of solid waste services for the County of Wellington, hopes Think Plastics will expand the type of materials it accepts. Currently, the balewrap must be fairly clean, white on both sides, and rolled into small bundles in order to be accepted.

Customers are responsible for unloading the balewrap and placing it into the specified area at the landfill.

"It's a good start," says Konrad, "We're doing the right thing environ-

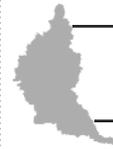


*Southgate Mayor Don Lewis removes balewrap so it can be collected and recycled. More than 40 tonnes have been collected from two transfer stations in Southgate Township, which was the first to start collecting it for Think Plastics.*

mentally."

Lackenbauer believes balewrap manufacturers should help contribute to the recycling process, just as manufacturers whose products are collected in the blue box program also contribute money for that program.

"The Ministry of the Environment should get involved in setting up some kind of system where the makers of the balewrap help get rid of the problem they're creating," she says.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Grand Valley Trail celebrates 35 years

**T**he Grand Valley Trail is a quiet cousin of Ontario's world-famous Bruce Trail.

But the association that maintains the 275-km Grand Valley Trail is working hard to get the word out so that more people will join the organization and participate in its activities. Everyone is invited to the 35th anniversary of the association which will also recognize all its volunteers on Sunday, Oct. 14 at Ruthven Park National Historic Site, near Cayuga. Pre-registration is required.

The association recently completed a renewal process and developed a five-year plan.

They've received a grant from the Trillium Foundation to hire a staff member for 18 months to increase membership and coordinate volunteers.

The trail runs along the Grand River from its mouth at Lake Erie up through Brantford, Waterloo, and Fergus all the way to Alton near Orangeville. Someday they would like to expand the trail to Luther Marsh.

The Grand Valley Trail was the brainchild of Betty Schneider, who was also the founding chair of the Grand River Conservation Foundation. She called a public meeting in Kitchener in January,



Members of the Grand Valley Trails Association work on trail improvements and maintenance.

1972 to establish trails around Waterloo County. The first section of trail was nearly 50 km from Doon to Conestogo. In Brantford a group of volunteers organized and in 1974 they began working on the section of trail between Brantford and Paris. The next year, work began on the trail between Paris and Kitchener, which opened on the first Ontario Hiking Day.

The trail is divided into four sections: the Towpath (Haldimand County), the Carolinian Crest (Brant County), the Black Walnut (Waterloo Region) and the Pinnacle (Wellington and Dufferin counties and Peel Region).

The Grand Valley Trails Association *Guidebook* was updated in 2006 and is now in its sixth edition. It is available from local book stores as well as from the GRCA, either through the website or at the head office in Cambridge. It costs \$25 for GVTA members and \$30 for non-members.

The continued existence of the footpath depends on the goodwill of landowners who have given their permission to association members to walk over their properties. No sections of the trail are owned directly by the volunteer association.

A family membership to the GVTA costs \$30 a year. Members receive a quarterly newsletter, *Trail Markings*,

which includes information about 240 hikes held annually. The hikes range from short “family friendly” ones to weekend long events. Most hikes are along the Grand Valley Trail but they also hike along the Bruce, Avon, Maitland, Ganaraska, Lynn Valley and other trails.

There are over 300 association members and they welcome new members and are looking for new board members. While there are members throughout the watershed, most are still based in the Kitchener-Waterloo area and the GVTA would like to increase their membership throughout the watershed. The board meets the first Tuesday evening each month (except January and July) in Preston at the Allen Reuter Centre.

The trail director for the Pinnacle section, Andrew Costley, is working on opening up a few sections in the north end of the trail. He needs enthusiastic people to help clear and maintain these sections of the trail. If you can help, call the GVTA voice mail 519-576-6156.

Visit the association’s website at [www.gvta.on.ca](http://www.gvta.on.ca) for more information.

Other trails associations that are members of Hike Ontario and are within the Grand River watershed are the Guelph Trail Hiking Club, [www.guelph-hiking.com](http://www.guelph-hiking.com) and the Elora Cataract Trailway Association [www.trailway.org](http://www.trailway.org).

## Latornell symposium November 14 to 16

Justin Trudeau will address delegates at the 14th annual A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium being held Nov. 14 to 16 in Alliston, Ontario.

Trudeau often focuses on engaging Canada’s youth in issues pertaining to their country, their communities, and their environment, and his presentation will be part of the graduation ceremony for new graduates of the Young Conservation Professionals Program.

The theme of this year’s Symposium — Your Watersheds, Our Great Lakes — will look at how our actions on land impact the quality and supply of this important and limited natural resource.

Other keynote speakers over the three day event include Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario; John Howard, University Hospital in London, Ont.; Gail Krantzberg, McMaster University; and Ward Chesworth, University of Guelph.

This year’s symposium will feature 185 presenters including many world-renowned leaders in environmental fields. The symposium traditionally brings together the collective strengths of experts representing a variety of sectors including academia, industry, municipal and regional governments as well as non-governmental organizations.

Over 1,000 delegates are expected to attend the symposium and participate in sessions on watershed management, natural heritage, sustainable planning, community stewardship, water, fisheries management, parks, and environmental education and communication.

“The A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium provides a practical forum for conservation experts and practitioners to discuss environmental issues, concerns, and research initiatives in a way



Justin Trudeau

that is meaningful to us in Ontario,” said Richard Hunter, Chair of the 2007 Symposium. “Given this year’s symposium theme – Your Watersheds, Our Great Lakes – we are thrilled with the line-up of speakers and exhibitors.”

Other symposium highlights include:

- A newly expanded Exhibitors’ Gallery

- A one-day Environmental Foundation Expo

- A special presentation by Walt Palmer on climate change

- Original postgraduate student environmental research

- Recognition of lifetime achievements by a number of Ontario conservationists

- A performance by Jessica Holmes of CBC’s Royal Canadian Air Farce

This year’s symposium draws attention to the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence basin, which contains about a quarter of earth’s fresh water reserves and is home to approximately 15 million Canadians and 30 million Americans. Its complexity of functions creates a delicate balance, which scientists are only just beginning to understand.

Delegates to this year’s event will explore past actions and discuss strategies to improve on the conditions within the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence basin in the context of both traditional and progressive environmental management.

The symposium started in 1993 and has become a forum for practitioners, students, academics, politicians and non-government organizations to discuss challenges and opportunities in the conservation movement in Ontario and to learn new tools, techniques and strategies for natural resource management. It has grown to be Ontario’s most prestigious and well-attended annual conservation conference.

More information on the Latonnell Conservation Symposium, including keynote speakers, is available on the website, [www.latonnell.ca](http://www.latonnell.ca) or by calling 705-424-0297.

## Nature Centre certified EcoSchool

Ontario EcoSchools certification was awarded to Laurel Creek Nature Centre in Waterloo in June.

The EcoSchools program was designed to encourage educational facilities to be environmentally friendly. To qualify for this provincial certification, the nature centre conducted audits of waste produced and energy consumed. It then developed a plan to improve these areas. A scoring system out of 100 is used to evaluate the sites based on the four main pillars of the program – energy conservation, waste minimization, providing an environmentally-friendly curriculum and school ground greening.

The Laurel Creek Nature Centre is one of five GRCA nature centres. Staff at the nature centre encourages students to put simple yet effective actions into practice, such as ensuring lights and computers are turned off when not in use, reusing, recycling or composting materials.

The nature centre’s grounds include a stream, a pond and Carolinian and

prairie communities. Initiatives such as planting an arboretum and the plans for a green roof demonstrate the commitment by the GRCA to increase environmental awareness through ongoing initiatives.

## Solar watering system available

A solar-powered watering system for cattle is available to farmers to try out to see if this type of system meets their needs.

It is now being used on a farm in Puslinch Township. The system can be set up beside a creek or waterway and brings water from the creek into the watering system so that cattle can drink from it without walking into the creek and contaminating it.

This solar watering system is available thanks to a partnership with Friends of Mill Creek, the GRCA, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Wellington Stewardship Council and the Wetland Habitat Fund.

For more information, contact Rob Messier at (519) 621-2763 ext. 2310.



Waterloo Region and the GRCA unveiled an historic interpretive plaque at 14 Mill Park Drive in Kitchener to commemorate the historic Bush Inn that was removed last year. From left are Barb Veale, Jean Haalboom, Pauline Clemis (great-granddaughter of Jacob Karcher, former owner of the Bush Inn), John Gazzola, Jane Mitchell, Harold Albrecht, Alison Jackson and Pat Wagner.



*By mid-September, rainfall had been so low that people could walk out to the island in Guelph Lake on land normally submerged under water. Rainfall throughout most of the watershed has been only half of normal during the last three months.*

*Photo by Janet Baine*

## 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).

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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



## The Grand Strategy Calendar

### **History on the Grand Local History Symposium, University of Waterloo School of Architecture, Cambridge, Saturday, Oct. 27, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

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.

**A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium, Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston, November 14-16.** This is Ontario's premier conservation conference and the theme is Your Watersheds, Our Great Lakes. For more information, visit [www.latornell.ca](http://www.latornell.ca) or see the story on page 6.

**Building Sustainable Business is the theme of the 27th Annual Guelph Organics Conference, University of Guelph Jan. 24-27.** The conference provides a comprehensive program of over 30 workshops, an organic expo and sampling fair with over 135 tables. For information, call 705-444-0923, or visit [www.guelphorganicconf.ca](http://www.guelphorganicconf.ca).

**11th Annual Heritage Day Workshop and Celebration, Six Nations Community Centre, Ohsweken, Monday, Feb. 18, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The theme of the workshop is Restoring Grand Heritage: A First Nations Focus. More information on this event will be available in the next issue of *Grand Actions*.

Support a healthy  
landscape, clean air  
and great natural places...



Give

green

this

Holiday  
Season!

**GIVING GREEN** is a great choice for that person who is hard to buy for and is an investment in our natural world for years to come. Your holiday gift of:

- \$30 will cover the cost of planting a tree in the Grand River watershed, or
- \$20 will help care for the GRCA's natural areas and trail systems, which are free to the public and add so much to our quality of life.

Your gift will entitle you to receive a beautiful personalized certificate in the name of the friend, colleague or loved one you are honouring.

**It's easy to give:**

Visit [www.grandriver.ca/foundation](http://www.grandriver.ca/foundation)  
Call 1-877-29-GRAND or  
E-mail the Foundation at [dhartley@grandriver.ca](mailto:dhartley@grandriver.ca)

Please note that orders must be placed by  
**December 14, 2007** to ensure certificate delivery.  
Charitable receipts will be issued for donations.

The Grand River Conservation Foundation supports priority programs of the Grand River Conservation Authority. These programs enrich the natural values of the Grand River watershed and encourage people to enjoy and learn from the outdoors.



The GRCF adheres to Imagine Canada's Ethical Fundraising & Financial Accountability Code.  
Charitable Registration Number: 11894 6045 RR0001

# The 27th Guelph Organic Conference, Expo & Sampling Fair

## Building Sustainable Organic Business



**Guelph University Centre  
January 24-27, 2008  
(Expo Jan. 26-27)**

- The Expo/Tasting Fair on January 26 & 27 is free to consumers and to all enthusiasts who want to meet organic food suppliers face-to-face. Students: Eco-Scholar Program (inquire).
- See over 145 booths, including over 30 organic food samplers and dozens of other vendors selling organic books, seeds and garden supplies.
- Plan to attend some of the 30 paid workshops on topics such as organic co-ops, market gardening and seeds, GENEAction films and numerous other organic topics.

For info, call  
**519-824-4120 Ext. 56205**

Brochure & full updates at  
**[guelphorganicconf.ca](http://guelphorganicconf.ca)**

Trade inquiries:  
**[organix@georgian.net](mailto:organix@georgian.net)**

**Canada's longest-running organic marketing event**