



Grand River  
Conservation  
Authority



The Grand:  
A Canadian  
Heritage River

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### Cover photo

*An aerial photo of the former reservoir on Marden Creek taken shortly after the dam was removed. A small stream is now meandering through the area. Photo by Hugh Smith.*



## Marden Creek runs free

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

**M**arden Creek, a small tributary of the Speed River at the north end of Guelph, is moving freely for the first time in nearly two centuries.

The last old dam on the creek was removed this fall. A short time later, a beautiful small brook trout was found in the lower part of the creek in the former reservoir. Brook trout could not survive at this location during the 181 years that the stream was dammed. A photo of this trout with three perfectly lined up red dots is being e-mailed among the many people and organizations that have had a hand in this project, as if the small fish were the miracle of a long-awaited newborn baby.

Brook trout thrive in coldwater streams and were once common throughout the watershed. They need cold, clean water to survive and are considered an indicator species of the health of the stream. While the dam was in place, the water was warm and not so clean. As a result, trout could not make their way all along the stream and into the Speed River. The small dam

was the last barrier on the creek. For anyone who understands local fisheries, this is exciting news.

“It’s awesome. This project was done with the best approach by letting the creek decide where to go, instead of a hard engineering approach,” explains Jennifer Wright, aquatic biologist at the GRCA who reviewed the changes. Eventually the mud that was at the bottom of the pond will be covered with vegetation and the new stream bank will be naturalized.

This is a major step towards improving the health of the Speed River watershed. It is an important component to an 11-year project, initiated by the Wellington County Stewardship Council and Trout Unlimited Canada. In 2009



*The little brook trout found in the stream that was a reservoir for 181 years.*

*Photo by Larry Halyk*

Trout Unlimited received a Watershed Award for their work. The dam was on property owned by the Ignatius Jesuit Centre, which received a watershed award for other environmental work in 2007.

This project involved many other partners. The Ministry of Natural Resources, the Grand River Conservation Authority, the Wellington County Water Stewardship Program, World Wildlife Fund, the Species at Risk Farm Incentive program and the Community Fisheries and Wildlife Involvement Program have been key supporters.

### First dam in 1832

The first dam on the site was built in 1832 to provide water power for a saw mill. It was replaced by the current structure in 1929. This was the last remaining barrier to fish and other aquatic wildlife.

The dam was within a two kilometre stretch of Marden Creek that flows through the 40 hectare parcel of land designated by the Jesuits to be restored to an old-growth forest. Together, the forest and creek restoration projects represent a big step forward for watershed health.



Clare Rennie



Families heading off to plant trees at the Guelph Rotary Forest..

## Clare Rennie receives award for Guelph Rotary Forest

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

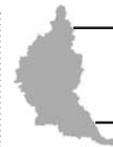
Clare Rennie, the quiet leader behind the Guelph Rotary Forest, grew up on a farm with lots of bush where his appreciation of trees began.

"I've had an interest in the environment all my life," Rennie says. The Guelph Rotary Forest will see 60,000 trees planted by thousands of community volunteers by 2020, creating a 40-hectare forest on the outskirts of the city.

For his work on this project, Rennie has received a 2010 Grand River Watershed Award given to organizations and individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to conservation.

"I'm a dreamer," said Rennie, who has been a Rotarian for 10 years. "I'm constantly thinking if there is a better way of doing things for the good of the people. I take a sales approach. If I get an idea that I'm convinced is good, I form an argument and sell it."

This is what he did when he proposed the Rotary forest project to the club's environmental committee. He then found "champions who live and breathe the project." Rennie developed this management style during his career when he managed as many as 1,000 employees.



### WATERSHED AWARDS

His career in agriculture included time as a University of Guelph faculty member and as assistant deputy minister with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture.

After retiring, he spent several years going back and forth to China working on a dairy cattle and milk quality improvement project for the Canadian International Development Agency. This garnered him the Friendship Award from China. He also saw first-hand the devastating impact of pollution and the deforestation of hillsides. That is part of what motivated him to take action in his own community.

Planting at the Guelph Rotary forest began in 2008 and a quarter of the trees have now been planted. The Rotary club pays for the trees and organizes a planting event that has grown to attract 1,000 people and resembles a festival with entertainment and an environmental expo. The club also work closely with the Guelph Lake Nature Centre which brings school groups in to do plantings.

This event has captured the imagination of Guelph residents. People of all

ages, all abilities and all backgrounds come to plant trees on Earth Day. Grandmothers are dragged out of bed early by enthusiastic young planters, families bring their children and youth groups turn this into an occasion.

Each group that plants trees with the nature centre has a group photo taken and is also provided with the GIS locations of their trees, so they can return and see how the trees are growing.

Tree canopy in Guelph is only 27.5 per cent. Forty per cent canopy cover is needed in order to have a healthy watershed in urban areas. The Rotary Club of Guelph is also committed to help bring the urban tree canopy up to 40 per cent by 2020, which is also the 100th anniversary of its founding.

This spring, Rennie also received the highest possible honour from Rotary International, the Service Above Self Award. He is only the third recipient of this award from the district and the second from Guelph.

His interest in trees goes back to those sugar maples on the family farm where he grew up. Some of these were native and others were planted through an early Ontario government tree planting program. They became part of his family's livelihood as they sold firewood, lumber and maple syrup. Who knows how the trees now being planted in the Guelph Rotary Forest will capture the minds of the many people who are planting them?

"Clare is not only a visionary of new possibilities, but always gets the job done with unfailing diplomacy and determination," said Rotarian Bob Palmeteer.

A video about this and other awards is on [www.youtube.ca/grandriverca](http://www.youtube.ca/grandriverca).

### **Guelph Tree registry:**

Guelph residents who plant a tree are requested to let the club know by completing an online form at: [http://www.rotaryclubofguelph.com/tree\\_form.php](http://www.rotaryclubofguelph.com/tree_form.php).

# 111th Christmas bird count runs from Dec. 14 to Jan. 5

By Duane Brown  
Resource Interpreter

**D**ec. 14 until Jan. 5 are the dates for the 111th annual Christmas bird count.

Each year thousands of backyard birders, amateur naturalists and ornithologists across North America converge on birding areas to count all the birds they can find. A bird count area is a 24-kilometre diameter circle divided into sections. Each section is surveyed by a team of birders on a single day over 24 hours.

You don't have to be an expert to participate. Some people choose to count the birds at their backyard feeders while others will be out for an entire day from before dawn til dusk to call for owls. Each bird count area has a coordinator who organizes the count, compiles the data and sends it to the National Audubon Society.

It started in the 1800s as a very different kind of event — the annual side hunt. People chose sides or teams and whoever shot the most birds and mammals was the winner.

In 1900, American ornithologist Frank Chapman foresaw the decline of some species. He suggested an annual Christmas Bird Census. On Christmas day 1900, Fannie E. Jones in Toronto took part in the first ever Christmas Bird Count. Today the bird counts do not have to be on Christmas day but can take place any day during the two weeks centred on Christmas Day.

It is a fun event giving people the chance to explore natural areas and learn about birds. The information they collect is used to track population trends locally and nationally. Bird count data was used to recognize the decline in black duck populations and more recently an increase in dove populations in North America.

At the end of the bird count day there

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?



is usually a gathering or wrap-up to compare what was found, have some warm food and share stories of the day. At one count I participated in, we heard Great Horned Owls calling in an area where we had never heard them before only to find out at the wrap-up that it was another group of birders calling from the edge of their bird count area.

If you would like to participate there are several Christmas Bird Counts in the Grand River watershed including Guelph, Kitchener/ Waterloo, Cambridge, and Brant County.

For information, visit the website for Bird Studies Canada [www.bsc-eoc.org](http://www.bsc-eoc.org).

### **Bird Count Contacts**

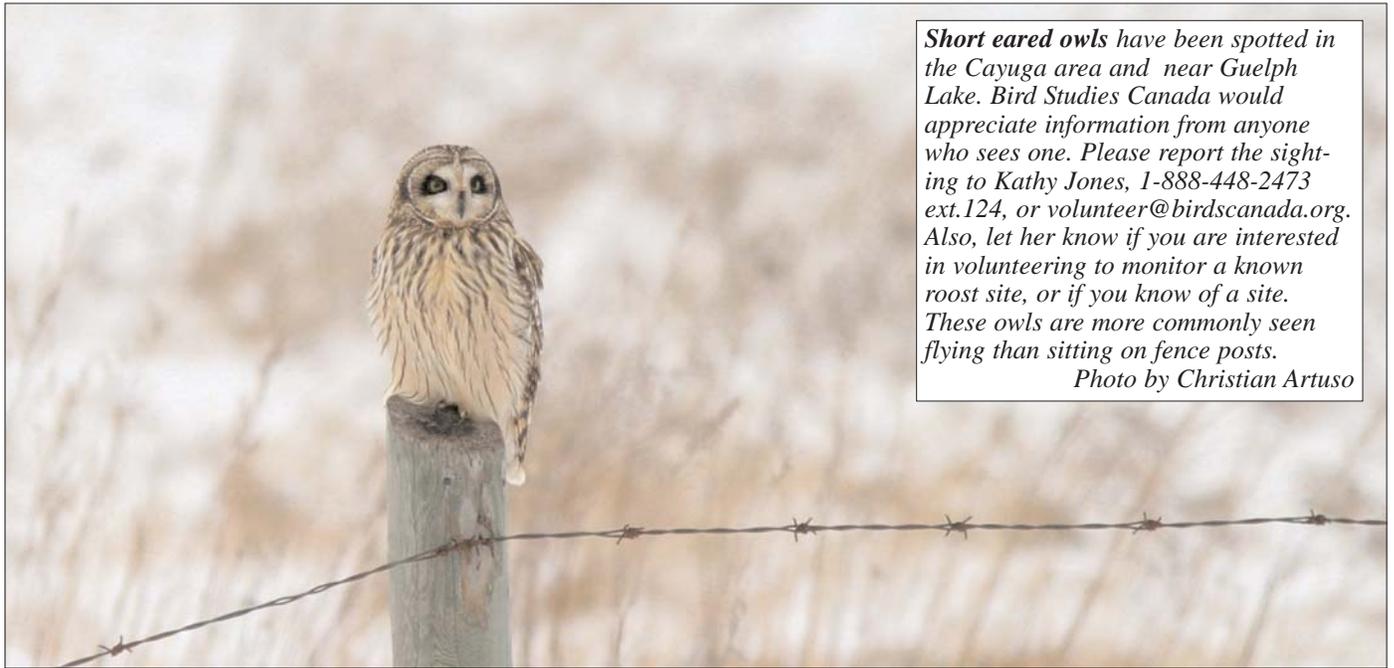
Guelph: Mike Cadman, 519-822-9834 or [cadman1@sympatico.ca](mailto:cadman1@sympatico.ca)

Cambridge: Levi Moore 519-747-2080, [lcmoore\\_04@yahoo.ca](mailto:lcmoore_04@yahoo.ca)

Kitchener-Waterloo: Mike Burrell 519-699-4695, [lpbo@bsc-eoc.org](mailto:lpbo@bsc-eoc.org)

Brant County: Duane Brown 519-442-7269 [dbrown@grandriver.ca](mailto:dbrown@grandriver.ca)





*Short eared owls have been spotted in the Cayuga area and near Guelph Lake. Bird Studies Canada would appreciate information from anyone who sees one. Please report the sighting to Kathy Jones, 1-888-448-2473 ext.124, or volunteer@birdscanada.org. Also, let her know if you are interested in volunteering to monitor a known roost site, or if you know of a site. These owls are more commonly seen flying than sitting on fence posts.  
Photo by Christian Artuso*

## Register for Feb. 11 Heritage Workshop

The next Heritage Day Workshop will be held on Friday, Feb. 11 at the Breslau Community Centre at 200 Woolwich St. South in Breslau.

The focus of the workshop is on the rural heritage of the Townships of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot. It is a sequel to the successful workshop hosted by the three townships in 2009. The theme is *Culturally Created Communities: Rooted and Growing in the Townships*. The workshop will explore facets of rural life and heritage and the contributions they make towards building healthy, prosperous and vital communities.

The annual event focuses on the rich Grand River heritage and is held in a different part of the watershed each year. It is co-hosted by the Heritage Working Group of The Grand Strategy and local municipal and heritage partners.

The program for the day features prominent community leaders talking about agricultural and Mennonite heritage as well as panel discussions featuring the Elmira Maple Syrup Festival, Wellesley Apple Butter and Cheese

Festival, the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale and from three successful local businesses: The Erb Group of Companies, Wallenstein Feed & Supply Limited and Home Hardware Stores. Entertainment will be provided by No Discernable Key and the Elmira Theatre Company.

A reception will be hosted at the Runways Café, Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre, Region of Waterloo International Airport.

### To Register

A registration form is attached to this issue of Grand Actions and can also be found on the websites of the GRCA, the three townships and Waterloo Region. If you would like additional information, please contact Barbara Veale at 519-621-2763 ext. 2274 or [bveale@grandriver.ca](mailto:bveale@grandriver.ca); or Jeremy Vink 519- 669-1647 ext. 6038 or [jvink@woolwich.ca](mailto:jvink@woolwich.ca).

There is no cost to attend but donations will be gratefully accepted. On-line donations can be made through the Grand River Conservation Foundation's secure website at [www.grcf.ca](http://www.grcf.ca). Registration is limited. Participants must be pre-registered to attend the event.

## Free well testing

If you have a well, you can have a certified water advisor come and test it at no charge.

Testing is done thanks to Well Aware, a program of Green Communities Canada, delivered in Waterloo Region by the Residential Energy Efficiency Project (REEP) and in Guelph and Wellington by the Elora Environment Centre.

Well Aware has helped hundreds of well owners protect their wells, their drinking water and our common groundwater.

Both organizations do free water protection visits for well and septic owners. They will come right to your home at a convenient time and provide free confidential information and education. The advisor will look at groundwater flow, assess risk factors, check the wellhead safety, provide information about septic systems and provide tips to avoid costly repair bills. You will also be shown how to sample for testing and learn about funding sources for well upgrades and decommissioning. A water stewardship kit is given to well owners at no charge.

Book by contacting REEP at 519-744-9799 or [wellaware@reepwaterloore-](mailto:wellaware@reepwaterloore-)



*New Canadians spent a day at Laurel Creek Nature Centre to experience the outdoors and learn about nature close to home.*

*Photo by Alex Paroski*

gion.ca or call the Elora Centre at 519-846-8464 or [bewellaware@eloraenvironmentcentre.ca](mailto:bewellaware@eloraenvironmentcentre.ca).

For more information about the many educational opportunities provided by the Well Aware program please go to [www.reepwaterlooregion.ca](http://www.reepwaterlooregion.ca).

## **New Canadians enjoy the outdoors**

**N**ew Canadians in Waterloo Region had the chance to enjoy nature at Laurel Creek Nature Centre one fine Saturday in October.

They learned about environmental opportunities close to home at a Green Action Day on Oct. 19.

“The children enjoyed playing outside, catching frogs and gaining insights on the natural life around them, while the adults found out about various opportunities to get involved with other environmental organizations,” said Rodrigo Goller, project coordinator and organizer of this event. “I believe that enjoying outdoor recreation activities throughout the four seasons is an integral component for the successful settlement and adaptation of immigrants, so they can become fully participating members of Canadian society.”

He works for FutureWatch Environment EDEP, a Toronto-based

not-for-profit environmental organization. The event was part of the Green Opportunities pilot project funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

The Green Action Day created a culturally-sensitive space for newcomer adults and families to find out about environmental organizations. It also allowed environmental organizations to set up displays and meet with the recent immigrants. A total of 65 newcomers and 17 people from the environmental sector came to the event. The fun day included a guided nature hike, a pond exploration activity, games and displays.

“The nature centre served as an ideal location for participants to share a fun-filled day of networking and outdoor recreation,” Goller said. Several organizations participated in the project in Waterloo, and a similar event was held in Guelph earlier in the fall.

### **A regional forum**

The next step in the Green Opportunities Project will be a regional forum held in Guelph early next year. This will give environmental sector practitioners from Waterloo, Hamilton, Wellington, Peel and Halton regions the opportunity to learn about FutureWatch research and specific tools and best practice examples of how to improve their engagement of diverse communities.



## **LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION**

# **Neutral village preserved**

**A**n archaeological dig across Strasburg Creek in the south end of Huron Natural Area in Kitchener has uncovered 10 or more remnants of longhouses, ancient garbage piles and shards of pottery, pipes, spear tips and arrow heads. Some of the artifacts date back 500 years, others to 4,500 or even 9,000 years.

Located next to the creek, this part of the HNA was used many times over by earlier ancestors of the Neutral tribe. The site indicates a late-Woodland lifestyle consisting of longhouses situated in villages, including summer homes situated closer to crops but within a kilometre of the main village. The largest longhouse is estimated to be nearly 90 metres long.

Kitchener has worked with Six Nations and the Ministry of Culture to put together a plan that respects and protects the site, while also providing opportunities for education and stewardship.

Kitchener will receive \$175,000 from TD Friends of the Environment for environmental projects at the HNA, including for trail development and interpretative signs. Associated with this, the archeological site will be preserved. An elevated boardwalk will be constructed



*One of the artifacts found at the village.*



*In addition to the archaeological work on the village, there is also a turtle monitoring program at the Huron Natural Area. The biggest turtle they have found is estimated to be more than 100 years old and weighs more than 50 lb. or 23 kg.*

to allow people to visit while ensuring the remains of the ancient village are protected.

HNA is the largest and most valuable natural area at 107 hectares on the south side of Kitchener. The natural area includes Strasburg Creek, a coldwater stream, provincially significant wetlands, forest, meadows and significant species. The scenic hiking trails, boardwalks and lookout areas provide access to an amazing cultural and natural area.

The city, the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB) and the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) aim to maintain or improve the ecological integrity and stewardship of the park, and to help educate park visitors about the indigenous ecosystems.

### Site Protection

The site is registered under the Ontario Heritage Act, which means that anyone removing an artifact or causing damage can be charged with the maximum fine of \$1 million. As well as this protection, the site will also be protected by a city bylaw.

Trail construction and measures to protect the site are being completed. Over the winter, the city will work on a number of initiatives to tell the commu-

nity the stories of the Neutral Nation village, the artifacts and its people. These include:

- interpretive signage along trails
- educational walks
- opportunities to display the artifacts
- web-based information

Next spring, the city plans to hold a large public event at HNA for people to see and learn more about this special place.

### Environmental projects at RIM

The City of Waterloo will also receive a \$175,000 grant from TD Friends of the Environment to implement the TD GreenLab project at RIM Park. Funding will support the development of best practices in water conservation, including a green roof and a water harvesting system. In addition, the TD GreenLab funding will support the development of an online component for visitors and school groups to learn more about environmental best practices at RIM Park.

The project is nearing completion and a grand opening celebration is planned for spring of 2011. This complex is possible thanks to the generosity of a number of organizations including TD,

Federal and Provincial governments, and the Waterloo Minor Soccer Club.

More information is available on the City of Kitchener website at [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca).

*Information and photos courtesy of the City of Kitchener.*

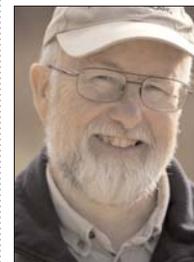
## Pioneer conservation awards to Henderson and Hilts

**G**il Henderson of St. George and Stewart Hilts have received 2010 A.D. Latornell Conservation Pioneer Awards.

These awards are given annually at the Latornell Conservation Symposium, which was held in November and is named after the late Art Latornell, an active conservationist who trained at the University of Guelph.

### Stewart Hilts

Over the course of a 40-year career, Dr. Stewart Hilt's contributions to the conservation community have been significant both as a professional and a vol-



*Stewart Hilts*

unteer. As a professor at the University of Guelph's Department of Land Resources Science, Hilts' commitment to experiential learning and teaching outdoors has provided his students with

an introduction to environmental stewardship and conservation.

Often called the grandfather of stewardship in Canada, Hilts first became involved in conservation as a high school student in a local woodlot preservation project. He carried this penchant for the environment to the University of Guelph where he spearheaded the university's B.Sc. (Environmental Science) degree program.

Hilts founded the A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium, sponsored jointly by the University of Guelph's

Centre for Land and Water Stewardship and Conservation Ontario, representing the network of 36 conservation authorities.

Committed to mentoring young conservation professionals, Hilts helped to found a career development program called the Young Conservation Professionals. It is a comprehensive personal and professional development program designed to encourage young leaders within the conservation sector in Ontario. Using residential retreats, interactive workshops, and guided, on-the-job practice, it has trained nearly 100 young conservation professionals since 2005.

### Gil Henderson

Gil Henderson is a man of many accomplishments. In addition to his significant contribution to protect Ontario's natural environment, he is a veteran of the Second World War and a four-time Olympian in trapshooting.

Henderson's conservation accomplishments extend over 40 years. In the 1960s, Gil and his wife, Molly, amassed 365 hectares of farmland in Brant County and entered into an association with Ducks Unlimited Canada to protect the many wetlands on their property. The property was often used



*Gil Henderson*

by members of Ministry of Natural Resources and the conservation authorities as a good example for other landowners showing the benefits of such measures as fencing off wetlands to livestock and leaving vegetative buffers around the edges.

Among Henderson's most significant work was his involvement with Harry Lumsden in the recovery of trumpeter swans in Ontario. With his significant input, the species was reintroduced in Ontario. When the project began in 1982 there were no wild trumpeter swans in

Ontario. Just 14 years later the species was no longer considered to be at risk. Many pairs are currently nesting at the Brant County farm.

In 1999, Molly became terminally ill and it was at that time that the couple secured their legacy by donating 162 hectares of farmland in St. George to the Tim Horton Children's Foundation. Tim Horton Onondaga Farms ensures that Gil and Molly's efforts to educate about the environment and how to care for nature are still being met.

Videos on both these award recipients can be seen on [www.youtube.ca/adlator-nell](http://www.youtube.ca/adlator-nell).

## Pilot wastewater optimization project

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

Reduced wastewater spills and efficient use of multi-million dollar equipment are the goals of the wastewater optimization pilot project that is taking place in Grand River watershed.

The project is bringing plant operators from the watershed together to learn about optimization and to share their experiences.

"We're two-thirds of the way through the pilot project and everybody seems to be very engaged," said GRCA water quality engineer Mark Anderson.

The GRCA is working with municipal water managers to ensure their wastewater treatment plants are working

as well as possible. Solutions to problems come from the plant operators themselves, because each operation has a unique set of challenges. The municipalities and Six Nations that operate the 30 wastewater treatment facilities discharging effluent into the waterways were all invited to participate. Two plants within the watershed — Guelph and Haldimand — have already undertaken optimization and the results have been good. Guelph has had fewer and smaller spills and their success was noted by Ontario Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller in his annual report this past fall.

Optimization is a two step process:

**Step 1:** Identify the administrative, operational and maintenance factors that limit performance of a wastewater treatment facility.

**Step 2:** Systematically address those limiting factors, starting with the highest priority issues.

This program has the important side benefit of potentially reducing capital and operating costs and improving regulatory compliance. Optimization is a cost-effective compliment to wastewater infrastructure upgrades, which are very costly.

This pilot project is seeing local wastewater professionals participate in a collaborative process to evaluate and assess their wastewater treatment plant using a proven framework. This pilot project will bring the tools for optimization to the operators who can apply them to the wastewater plants that they oper-



*Touring the Guelph wastewater treatment facility.*

ate in the Grand River watershed.

“We are also hoping that it will create a community of operators so they can share their experiences. It is getting everybody talking about optimization and what it can achieve,” Anderson said. “Wastewater optimization is the right thing to do. It embodies sustainability, financial responsibility and reduced environmental impact. It also taps into the wealth of experience held by the operational staff at each plant. We are very excited about this process.”

The project has received \$57,000 in funding from the source protection program through Ontario Stewardship.

## About Grand Actions

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### Do you want to search for a past article?

Current and back issues are available online at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

### Do you want to submit to Grand Actions?

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

### Contact information:

Janet Baine, *Grand Actions* editor  
Phone: 519-621-2763, Ext. 2302  
E-mail: [jbaine@grandriver.ca](mailto:jbaine@grandriver.ca)

This publication is printed on Rolland Enviro100, an FSC certified, environmentally-friendly paper. The paper is manufactured using 100% post-consumer fibre and is processed chlorine-free using biogas energy.



A student from St. Aloysius School in Kitchener gets ready to return his snow shoes after an invigorating trek through Shades' Mills Conservation Area with his class. Nature centres offer outdoor education programs to students throughout the school year. Snowshoeing is available at Shade's Mills, Apps' Mill and Laurel Creek.. Some conservation areas are also open for winter activities. Check [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) for details.

Photo by Janet Baine



## The Grand Strategy Calendar

**The 17th Annual Environmental Sciences Symposium, "The Changing Arctic: Past, Present and Future" Jan. 29, 2011 in Rozanski Hall of the University of Guelph.** For more information and to register, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~envsymp](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~envsymp).

**30th Annual Guelph Organics Conference, Generation Organic: celebrating 30 years for the original green movement, University of Guelph, Jan. 27-30.** This conference provides a comprehensive program of workshops, an organic expo and sampling fair. For more information visit [www.guelphorganicsconf.ca](http://www.guelphorganicsconf.ca) or call 519-824-4120 ext. 56205.

**14th Annual Heritage Day Workshop and Celebration, the Breslau Community Centre at 200 Woolwich St. South in Breslau. Feb. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Culturally Created Communities: Rooted and Growing in the Townships.** The event is free and donations are welcome. Registration and program information is posted on [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) and a registration form is attached. A reception at the end of the day will take place at the Runways Café, Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre, Region of Waterloo International Airport

**Note: Events at the GRCA's conservation areas and nature centres are listed in the calendar section at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).**

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# GRAND ACTIONS

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Let us know...

Please complete this form and return it in the postage-paid, self-addressed envelope.

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

Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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I prefer to be notified by e-mail at the time a new issue is posted to the GRCA website.

Please remember to include your email address. Note: The newsletter is available in PDF format in colour for downloading, printing or forwarding.

Please take me off the Grand Actions mailing list.

Comments and Suggestions:

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I am enclosing a voluntary donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to go toward the cost of newsletter publication and distribution. Please make cheque payable to the **Grand River Conservation Foundation** and note on the cheque that your donation is for the Grand Actions fund. The foundation is a legally separate organization which channels funds to GRCA projects. Donations by credit card can be made online at [www.grcf.ca](http://www.grcf.ca). All donations will receive a tax receipt (Registered Charity #11894 6045 RR0001). The foundation will have your contact information and adheres to Imagine Canada's Ethical Fundraising and Accountability Code. The website is [www.grcf.ca](http://www.grcf.ca).

We appreciate your donations!

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Thank you!



Grand River  
**HERITAGE DAY  
WORKSHOP 2011**

CULTURALLY CREATED COMMUNITIES ■

## Grand River Watershed

### 14th Annual Heritage Day Workshop & Celebration

Friday, February 11, 2011 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Breslau Community Centre, 200 Woolwich Street South, Breslau ON

## Culturally Created Communities: Rooted and Growing in the Townships

**Morning Program** – Moderator: Joe Pavia, News Director, 570 News Radio

- 8:30-9:00 a.m. **Registration** (beverages & muffins will be available)
- 9:00-9:20 a.m. **A Glimpse of the Townships: More than Meets the Eye** - DVD Presentation
- 9:20-9:30 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks**
- 9:30-9:50 a.m. **Mayors' Trivia Challenge**
- 9:50-10:20 a.m. **Keeping our Townships Growing: The History and Evolution of Agriculture** - Mark Reusser, Zone Director, Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- 10:20-10:45 a.m. **Refreshment Break & Displays**
- 10:45-11:15a.m. **Township Tales** - Elmira Theatre Company
- 11:15-11:45 p.m. **Focus on Festivals: Celebrating the Townships** - Cheryl Peterson, Elmira Maple Syrup Festival; Bob Reid, Wellesley Apple Butter & Cheese Festival; Janice Harder, New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale

**Buffet Lunch – Displays**

**Afternoon Program** – Moderator: Susan Cook-Scheerer, 'daytime' Associate Producer, Rogers Cable TV

- 1:00-2:00 p.m. **Growing Successful Businesses in the Townships** - Vernon Erb, President and Chairman, The Erb Group of Companies; Rick Martin, General Manager, Wallenstein Feed & Supply Ltd.; Terry Davis, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, Home Hardware Stores Limited
- 2:00-2:30 p.m. **Folk Music Traditions – 'No Discernable Key'** with Dave Neufeld, James Bender, Dwight Steinman, Fred Martin, and Bruce Bechtel
- 2:00-2:30 p.m. **Our Mennonite Heritage** - Marlene Epp, Conrad Grebel University College
- 3:00 p.m. **Reception** - Adventures in Aviation ~ Past, Present and Future

Registration is free but space is limited. **All participants must be preregistered.**

Registrations will be accepted until **Friday, February 4, 2011** or until the registration is at capacity.

Donations to help defray costs will be gratefully received and can be made online at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) or at the event.

To register, please return the completed form or send the appropriate information to Cynthia Martin at the Township of Woolwich. **Email:** [cmartin@woolwich.ca](mailto:cmartin@woolwich.ca) **Phone:** 519-669-6041 **Fax:** 519-669-4669 **Address:** 24 Church Street West, P.O. Box 158, Elmira, ON N3B 2Z6

Registration forms are also available at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Organization (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please check if you will be staying for lunch

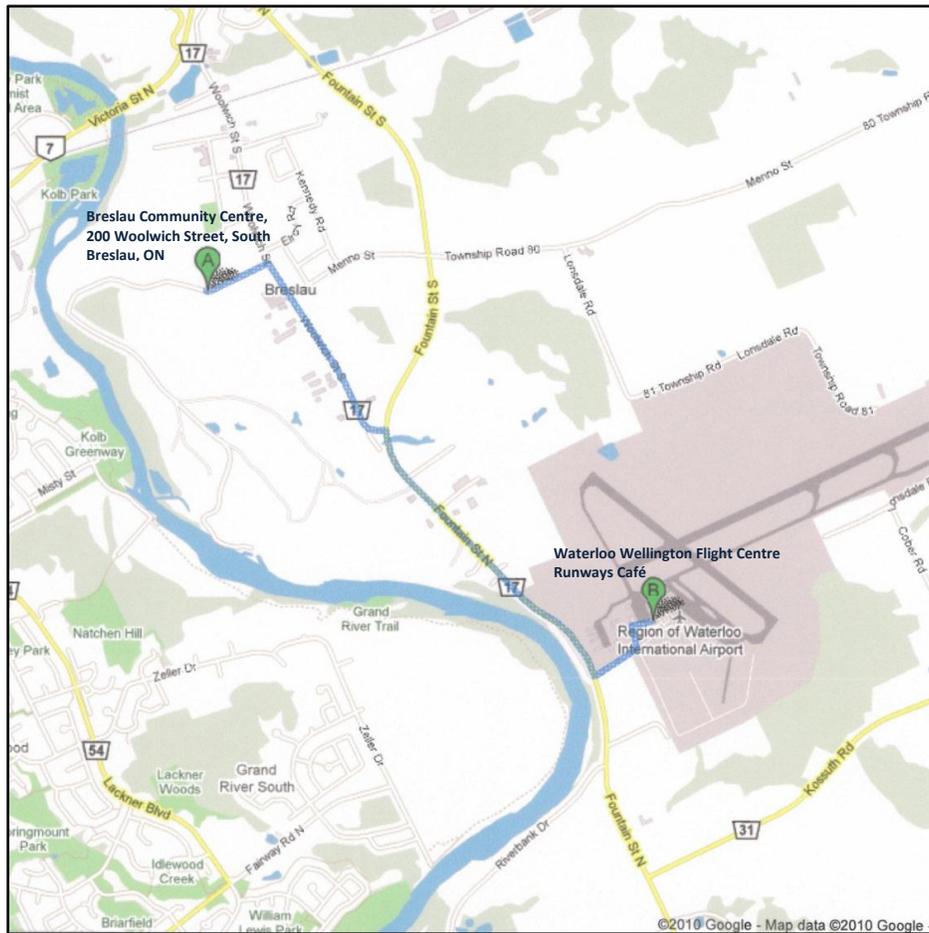
HOSTED BY: Heritage Working Group of The Grand Strategy

SPONSORED BY: Townships of Wilmot, Woolwich, and Wellesley, Region of Waterloo, Grand River Conservation Authority

ORGANIZED BY: Townships of Wilmot, Woolwich, and Wellesley, Region of Waterloo, Grand River Conservation Authority, Heritage Working Group, Wellesley Township Heritage & Historical Society, Heritage Wilmot, Parks Canada, Breslau Recreation Association



## Breslau Community Centre and Runways Café, Breslau ON



The venue for the 2011 Heritage Day Workshop is the Breslau Community Centre, a brand new facility in Breslau in the heart of the new Riverland community, adjacent to the Grand River.

The reception will be held at the Runways Café in the Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre at the Region of Waterloo International Airport. The Café is a short 5 minute drive from the Community Centre. The Waterloo Wellington Flight Centre was established in 1932 and has grown into one of Canada's top flight schools. The facility has been newly renovated and tours will be offered during the reception.