

# Tri-valley awards to be held in South Nation Watershed

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The 3rd edition of the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala is still several months away on October 20 but it's time to start thinking about likely nominees.

Deadline for applications is September 8 at 4:30 pm. Nominations are now being accepted in eight categories: primary school (JK-grade 6), intermediate/high school (grade 7-12), college/university, agriculture, community groups, individuals, businesses and municipalities. Forms can be downloaded at [www.mvc.on.ca](http://www.mvc.on.ca), [www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca), and [www.nation.on.ca](http://www.nation.on.ca).

Projects which nominees could be involved in include tree planting, water quality protection, shoreline stewardship, conservation education and advocacy, natural beautification and other activities contributing to the health of the watersheds.

Partners in the awards are Rideau Valley Conservation, Mississippi Valley Conservation, and South Nation Conservation. This time out, the gala event celebrating awards winners will be held in the SNC watershed at the

authority's new conference centre in Finch.

Available for community functions, the centre is tailor-made for the awards night which will give SNC a chance to show it off to a wider audience, said board of directors chairman Ken Hill, who's also chairing the awards gala.

"The Tri-Valley Awards are gaining recognition and prestige as they go along," Hill said. "It's becoming a badge of considerable honour in Eastern Ontario environmental circles to win one. We're delighted to be hosting the gala this year."

Emphasizing that they're a credit to their home municipalities and to the region, Hill underlined the high caliber of candidates, finalists and eventual winners of the awards over the first two years.

The tri-valley area covers more than 12,000 square km, from Perth, to Bon Echo, to Pakenham, into Ottawa and east to Plantagenet, and south to Morrisburg. Close to 1 million people live in the combined watersheds.