



South Nation Conservation Watershed Update

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News From The SNC Board of Directors

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City of Ottawa Provides Landowner Grants To Improve Water Quality



The City of Ottawa provides \$250,000 to the Ottawa Rural Clean Water Grants Program for water quality improvement grants to rural and urban residents in the City of Ottawa. Rural funding for 2011 is now fully allocated; however, funding for urban residents to decommission their private water wells is still available. The program is delivered in partnership with South Nation Conservation, Rideau Valley Conservation, Mississippi Valley Conservation, and the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association.

SNC Prepared for 2012 Tree-Planting



SNC continues to work toward its objective of providing the best forestry resources data available to municipalities and partners to assist in decision making. This year, SNC was active in the planting of 100 acres, or 154,000 trees. The Board of Directors has approved the purchase of seedlings for the 2012 planting season at current 2011 pricing. Existing agreements with tree-planting contractors have been extended to the end of 2012.

Funding Secured From Regional Water Resources Committee



SNC has secured \$40,000 from the Eastern Ontario Water Resources Committee (EOWRC) for 2011 projects in the City of Ottawa and United Counties of Prescott-Russell. \$30,000 will support well-decommissioning projects and the remaining \$10,000 will help SNC investigate methods of identifying Cold/Cool Streams. EOWRC was formed in response to recommendations from regional groundwater studies. While governments have invested extensive resources to protect municipal drinking water, EOWRC and its projects are one of the few initiatives protecting the groundwater that supplies individual wells. In 2011, the Eastern Ontario Water Resources Committee (EOWRC) received \$117,000 from the City of Ottawa and the United Counties of Prescott-Russell for projects in these areas.

Fish Population and Habitat Monitoring Underway



With the assistance of local residents, an analysis of the health and abundance of fish populations in the watershed is now underway. The Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol standard is being used in the central South Nation River, Hess Creek, and Payne River areas. Hoop netting is being conducted from Crysler to Casselman. Information from the assessment is used to monitor the impacts of development and to assist in habitat restoration efforts. A healthy fish population is a key indicator of a healthy environment.

