



# Living by the Lake

LAKE ONTARIO INTEGRATED SHORELINE STRATEGY - RESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER - ISSUE TWO - SUMMER 2012



In 2011, 143,737 kg of garbage was collected from 3,144 km of Canadian shoreline, including 351,238 cigarette butts, 110,018 food wrappers, 71,200 plastic bags, 65,220 caps/lids and 39,308 plastic beverage bottles.

## THE GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP

For one week in September, people across Canada will join together to take part in the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup (GCSC) to create a healthier community by cleaning up local rivers, streams and shores.

The cleanup, developed ten years ago by the Vancouver Aquarium, began on a local level but has since grown into a national phenomenon with groups participating across Canada. The GCSC has since become the largest contributor to International Coastal Cleanup, a global effort to remove harmful litter and debris from shorelines.

From Sept. 15 to 23, the Credit Valley Conservation Foundation (CVCF) will participate in the Great Lakes Shoreline Cleanup along the shore of Lake Ontario and the Credit River in Mississauga. This year our goal is to clean more than 20 kilometres of shoreline in the Credit River Watershed, and **we are looking for local residents and groups to help.**

To learn more or to sign up for a cleanup, please contact Julie McManus at 905-670-1615 ext. 247, [jmcmamus@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:jmcmamus@creditvalleyca.ca) or visit [www.landscapesforlife.ca](http://www.landscapesforlife.ca) for details.

### How You Can Help

- **Participate in:**

1. Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-Up
2. CVC's Urban Neighbourhood Planting Program
3. Monitoring local wildlife species and restoring their habitat
4. Local planning efforts ([www.mississauga.ca/parks](http://www.mississauga.ca/parks))

The City of Mississauga's Port Credit Harbour West Parks Environmental Assessment – an investigation of the shoreline, natural heritage and servicing infrastructure needs of the Port Credit Harbour West Parks (Port Credit Memorial Park West, Marina Park and JC Saddington Park).

- **Remember:**

1. Never release pets, baitfish or other animals into the wild
2. Avoid overusing road salts, pesticides and fertilizers – what you put on your lawn or sidewalk can end up in Lake Ontario
3. If you see a chemical spill call 1-800-268-6060

For more information, contact Kate Hayes – Project Leader, Restoration and Stewardship, 905-670-1615, ext. 428 or [kate.hayes@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:kate.hayes@creditvalleyca.ca).

### Low Impact Development (LID) in Action Conference

October 4 & 5, 2012 at the Living Arts Centre, Mississauga. Showcasing innovative stormwater management practices from across Canada. More info at: [www.creditvalleyca.ca/lidinaction](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/lidinaction).

## GET DISCONNECTED!

### *Downspout Disconnection Pilot Project Summer 2012*

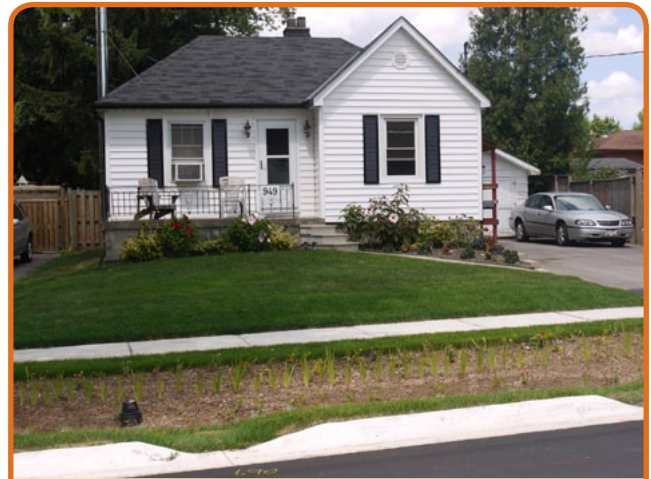
The City of Mississauga in partnership with CVC and the Region of Peel, is undertaking a residential downspout disconnection pilot project this summer in the Cooksville Creek watershed area. The purpose behind the pilot is to educate homeowners about the benefits of disconnecting their downspouts.

Roof downspouts add a significant volume of rainwater to the storm drainage system during intense storms that can lead to localized flooding. Safe diversion of rooftop drainage to rain barrels, rain gardens or onto lawns can delay flows into the storm system. A properly disconnected downspout will allow stormwater to flow away from the foundation of the house onto gardens, landscaped areas and lawns. Reducing flows in the storm drainage network can reduce erosion in local streams, improve water quality, increase groundwater reserves and reduce infiltration of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system.



*Safely diverting rain water into your lawn is one way to help reduce localized flooding.*

During the pilot, homeowners are provided with detailed information on downspout disconnection along with a step-by-step guide on how to disconnect. An instructional video for making the disconnection process easier for homeowners is available on the Downspout Disconnection webpage. While homeowners are being educated through these communications tools, rainfall and storm drainage flows are studied to determine the effects of downspout disconnections. For more information on the project, visit [www.mississauga.ca/downspoutdisconnection](http://www.mississauga.ca/downspoutdisconnection)



*A Lakeview property with a street-side perennial garden to help treat stormwater.*

## UPDATE ON LAKEVIEW'S GREEN STREET PROJECT

First and 3rd streets in Lakeview have undergone a green transformation. Apart from street resurfacing, residents will notice a number of streetscaped perennial gardens along 1st and 3rd streets. These street-side gardens beautify and protect our local environment. The gardens treat runoff from the street by filtering it through specialized sandy soils before it enters Lake Ontario – our drinking water source.

Lakeview's Green Street Project is one of the first of its kind in Canada. Residents had the option of selecting the type (perennial flower mix or traditional sod) of street side landscape they wanted. Selections were made by residents at a community BBQ hosted by Mississauga Councillor Jim Tovey, CVC and City of Mississauga.

CVC has begun monitoring the site to see how plants are keeping and how runoff is being treated by both types of street-side landscaping (perennial gardens and sod) before entering Lake Ontario. The information collected will inform the City of Mississauga and municipalities across Canada and the USA.

For more information, contact Christine Zimmer, Manager, Protection and Restoration, 905-670-1615 ext. 229 or [czimmer@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:czimmer@creditvalleyca.ca).

## GREEN NEIGHBOURHOODS - A VITAL PART OF OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

The Credit River Watershed and nearby urban streams are dotted with forested trails, meandering riparian zones (river, creek and lake edges), wetlands, parks and conservation areas. The spaces in between our parks and natural areas, our neighbourhoods and business areas, contain a patchwork of parking lots, driveways, lawns and introduced (non-native) plants. CVC's new **Green Cities Neighbourhood Planting Program** brings neighbours together to naturalize and revitalize their yards. The program is designed to help restore habitat, environmental health and natural beauty in our daily lives while contributing to the overall health of the watershed and the Great Lakes.

Planting native trees and shrubs provides habitat for birds and other pollinators. It also improves soil, water and air quality while providing shade in summer and a windbreak in winter. Flooding is reduced since



*Planting red maple enhances wooded cover of important riparian zones.*



*Staghorn Sumac makes a great edge species that provides song bird habitat.*

more rain water is able to permeate into the ground where it is stored as groundwater. Native trees and shrubs contribute to a more naturally beautiful yard and require far less maintenance than non-native plants - resulting in significant savings over time.

To enter the program, a group of four or more neighbours must commit to planting and maintaining at least 20 native trees and shrubs. Each participating household receives one free shrub or tree, a discount on the remaining plants and free delivery. CVC will help tailor a native plant list that is right for your yard and can offer limited planting assistance where needed. Minimal fees are charged for delivery and planting assistance when planting over 50 trees and shrubs. CVC provides a list of native plant suppliers that offer a diverse range of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses.

Your home is part of the local environment and what you do with your land affects the entire watershed. Cultivating native flora helps to weave



*Floral bursts of Ontario native shrub, Ninebark, make an attractive addition to a tree/shrub planting.*

your yard back into harmony with the surrounding natural beauty of our magnificent watershed.

For more information on how you can become part of CVC's **Neighbourhood Planting Program** and other **Green Cities** projects, contact CVC at 905-670-1615 ext. 442 or go to [creditvalleyca.ca/greencities](http://creditvalleyca.ca/greencities). While there, check out other resources to help you green your yard as well as our **Greening Corporate Grounds** program for businesses and institutions.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR LWC EA

Credit Valley Conservation and the Region of Peel have submitted a Terms of Reference (ToR) as part of the planning process for the Lakeview Waterfront Connection (LWC) Environmental Assessment (EA). The LWC project is intended to enhance the degraded local aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and to provide public access to the waterfront in an area that currently does not provide such opportunities.

The public can review the ToR at any time on the project website, [www.creditvalleyca.ca/lwc](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/lwc), or during normal business hours at locations listed at right.

Written comments regarding the ToR must be received before August 27, 2012. All comments should be submitted to:

Lorna Zappone, Project Officer  
Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Approvals Branch  
Phone: 416-314-7106  
Email: [lorna.zappone@ontario.ca](mailto:lorna.zappone@ontario.ca)

For further information on the EA please contact:

Kate Hayes, Project Leader  
Credit Valley Conservation, Restoration and Stewardship  
Phone: 905-670-1615 ext. 428  
Email: [khayes@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:khayes@creditvalleyca.ca)

Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and will be released, if requested, to any person.



## VIEW THE ToR:

Ministry of the Environment  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A  
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5  
Phone: 416-314-8001  
Toll free: 1-800-461-6290

Ministry of the Environment  
Halton-Peel District Office  
4145 North Service Road, Suite 300  
Burlington, ON L7L 6A  
Phone: 905-319-3847  
Toll free: 1-800-335-5906

Port Credit Library  
20 Lakeshore Road East  
Mississauga, ON L5G 1C8  
Phone: 905-615-4835

Cooksville Library  
3024 Hurontario Street, Suite 212  
Mississauga, ON L5B 4M4  
Phone: 905-615-4855

Central Library  
301 Burnhamthorpe Road West  
Mississauga, ON L5B 3Y3  
Phone: 905-615-3500

Lakeview Library  
1110 Atwater Avenue  
Mississauga, ON L5E 1M9  
Phone: 905-615-4805

Alderwood Branch – Toronto Public Library  
2 Orianna Drive  
Toronto, ON M8W 4Y1  
Phone: 416-394-5310

Long Branch – Toronto Public Library  
3500 Lake Shore Boulevard West  
Toronto, ON M8W 1N6  
Phone: 416-394-5320



For more information visit: [www.creditvalleyca.ca](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca) or contact:  
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Project Leader, Restoration and Stewardship  
Credit Valley Conservation  
905-670-1615 ext. 428  
[khayes@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:khayes@creditvalleyca.ca)