



## Credit Cascades

January 2010

### Making a big impact with Low Impact Development

How can we ensure new development is environmentally sustainable, and supports healthy natural heritage systems? How can we revisit the existing built landscape to bring more natural features back to our urban communities? CVC has emerged as a leader in Low Impact Development (LID), based on applying tested engineering technologies and development practices to create healthy urban environments. CVC is also working with the Canadian Standards Association and neighbouring conservation authorities to develop a nationwide LID training module. Early in 2010, CVC staff will be making presentations to area Councils about the opportunities in LID.

### Winter adventure at CVC Conservation Areas

There's no need to hibernate this winter, with affordable, active family fun at your doorstep. Try your skill (or luck) at the Island Lake Ice Fishing Derby, which runs from February 1 to 28. Enjoy skating on Wolf Lake or cross-country skiing at Terra Cotta Conservation Area, or check out the free outdoor programs at the new Terra Cotta Watershed Learning Centre, including Snowshoeing 101, Winter Survival and Feed the Chickadees.

### Fletcher's Creek 2010

CVC, along with municipal partners and other stakeholders, is continuing to roll out an intensive environmental rehabilitation program focused on the Fletcher's Creek subwatershed. This subwatershed study is providing up-to-date information on the health of the creek, and includes a wide variety of actions to protect and restore the natural landscape. Outreach and education activities will continue to engage residents in caring for their neighbourhood creek,

such as the Save the Leopard Frog school program, which saw more than 2,000 students participate in 2009.

### Pollution Prevention survey – sneak preview

CVC recently conducted a survey of Mississauga and Brampton business owners to gauge their knowledge of pollution prevention issues. Some of the preliminary findings:

- Fewer than one-third of respondents knew where their drinking water came from;
- Only 38% could name ways their business could help reduce water pollution.

The full survey will be released publicly in the coming weeks.



### Wetland Restoration Strategy

CVC is preparing to release a comprehensive Wetland Restoration Strategy that will guide future improvements to the health of wetlands in our watershed. As part of the analysis, the strategy identifies potential areas for wetland restoration, wetland rehabilitation and priority wetlands for climate change adaptation measures. The strategy will be released on February 2, in connection with World Wetlands Day.

### CVC Board of Directors

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City of Mississauga Councillor, Ward 2  
Acclaimed, Jan 22, 2010

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Acclaimed, Jan 22, 2010

**John Hutton - CVC Vice Chair**  
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Note: All City of Mississauga Councillors are also Region of Peel Councillors



## Friends of the Credit Conservation Awards

CVC is seeking nominations for the Friends of the Credit Conservation Awards, recognizing individuals and groups who have made a significant contribution to the health of the Credit River Watershed. Nominations are also being accepted for the Young Conservationist Award. Submission deadline: January 30th. For more information, please visit [www.creditvalleyca.ca/programsandservices/creditawards](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/programsandservices/creditawards)

## Friends of the Credit Stewardship Forum

The 9th annual Forum was held aboard the scenic Credit Valley Explorer this past October. Citizen environmentalists and local environmental groups met to discuss the challenges facing the local environment, and to celebrate achievements in its protection.

## Stream of Dreams

CVC's Stream of Dreams program visited five schools in the spring and fall 2009 school terms. This program for schools and community groups encourages participants to make the connection to watershed health through art. For more information about Stream of Dreams, visit [www.creditvalleyca.ca/streamofdreams](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/streamofdreams)



## Natural Heritage Systems gain ground

GTA municipalities are taking positive steps towards incorporating Natural Heritage Systems in their development plans and policies. These are occurring at multiple scales, from the regional level down to the secondary plan level. These science-based systems connect natural areas to ensure our ecosystems remain healthy and provide benefits to nearby communities for generations to come. As a technical partner of municipalities, Credit Valley Conservation is developing a Natural Heritage System for the Credit River Watershed. The Natural Heritage System can be used as an important tool for municipalities to identify and prioritize their natural areas for long-term protection, land securement and land stewardship. To learn more, contact Aviva Patel at [apatel@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:apatel@creditvalleyca.ca).

## Rising to the Challenge: Are you ready?

CVC has published *Rising to the Challenge: A Handbook for Understanding and Protecting the Credit River Watershed*. This handbook is a valuable resource for anyone who wants to know more about the local natural environment. If you or your constituents would be interested in this publication, it can be downloaded at [www.creditvalleyca.ca/education](http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/education), or email [education@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:education@creditvalleyca.ca) for a printed copy.



## Upcoming CVC Board of Directors Meetings

1255 Old Derry Road, Mississauga  
(9:15 am)

- Feb. 19
- Mar. 12

## Upcoming events:

- January 30  
Snowshoeing 101  
(Terra Cotta)
- February 1–28  
Fishing Derby  
(Island Lake)
- February 6  
Snowshoeing 101  
(Terra Cotta)
- February 13  
CVC Foundation Valentine's  
Fundraising Dinner and Dance  
(Terra Cotta Inn)
- February 27  
Winter Survival  
(Terra Cotta)

To view CVC's events calendar:

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

Credit Cascades is published quarterly and distributed to CVC's municipal contacts. Please feel free to pass this publication on to your constituents, or to cut and paste news items for community newsletters.

Contact us:  
[cvc@creditvalleyca.ca](mailto:cvc@creditvalleyca.ca)