



A project of the Eden Mills Millpond Conservation Association Inc.

Newsletter # 44 January 17, 2011

Ongoing Progress and Recognition Too!

- **David Suzuki commends Eden Mills Going Carbon Neutral**

*“...Congratulations!
(Yours) is a wonderful model that offers
direction and inspiration for other communities.
At this critical juncture, people need to know there are options,
that others have floundered around and
then found the creativity and imagination
to develop a plan then work to achieving it.
Well done.”*

- **UN Recognition for Green Legacy Program**



In November the United Nations Billion Tree Program recognized the contribution of Wellington County's **Green Legacy Program** and now includes them in their international register. To date Green Legacy has planted more than 1,000,000 trees and is the largest municipal tree-planting program in North America! Eden Mills knows the power of this organization, and its nursery manager, superman Rob Johnson, from the past three years of Earth Day plantings and the school program at Rockwood Centennial. **Green Legacy has just produced a film documentary on the program, which we will be screening in the near future in Eden Mills.**

Wellington County Warden Joanne Ross-Zuj and Mark Van Patter, Senior Planner show off the UN certificate in the photo.



The UN Program has registered almost 11,000,000,000 trees planted towards its 13,000,000,000 (Yes! 13 **billion** tree) goal. The program's Nobel-prize winning Kenyan patron, Professor Wangari Maathai, is the subject of a film documentary *Taking Root* which Libby and Glenn Little screened in their backyard cinema last summer, and which is available in our permanent resource library.

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- **Libby Little is recognized for her tree-planting Initiatives**

Eden Mills' own **Libby Little** also received well-deserved formal recognition for her contributions as an individual to expanding the tree-planting initiatives in Wellington County. Senior Planner Mark van Patter said, "Libby's gone a long way to helping us build bridges with other organizations. (Libby) Little was on the committee for some time, and was a valued member during that time. (Libby) Little was instrumental in developing relations with other organizations as well. Without her help, I don't think the Green Legacy would be doing as well as it is today."

- **Trail from Eden Mills to Rockwood approved**

Landowners between Eden Mills and Rockwood **have signed an agreement** with the Township to permit use of their land in formalizing a trail from Guelph Line to Rockwood. Eden Mills Going Carbon Neutral has been encouraging this initiative from the beginning. Special thanks for their constant vigilance and representation go to Tim Laing, Jack Darmon, Barb Marshall, and Libby and Glenn Little..

For the full stories, visit the website news page:

<http://www.goingcarbonneutral.ca/index.cfm?page=MediaCoverage>

- **Eden Mills Community Hall sees decrease in fossil fuel use**

The 2010 figures are in for the Hall. **The numbers show a general decrease over the past 5 years.** There may be ups and downs associated with hall use and weather, but we have to assume that higher awareness of energy issues and the new roof and energy-efficient light bulbs added in 2009 must be making some difference as well. This is just the first chapter in bringing the Hall closer to carbon neutrality! Thanks to Keith Daniels for keeping track.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Propane Annual Usage (Litres)</u>	<u>Hydro Annual Usage (kWh)</u>
2005	7698	16990
2006	4172	16190
2007	5362	16570
2008	6352	14152
2009	6056	12677
2010	4632	11810

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- **Environmental Science Students Work Program 2011
Footprint Survey to be Bi-annual**

Last year's change to using village volunteers to distribute the Survey proved to be very successful. Full confidentiality was assured by the students undertaking all the analysis and reporting of individual results to residents. The village effort was really well coordinated by Kathie Lamie and all the volunteers dedicated a lot of time and energy in assuring a good response rate. Lee Wisener provided important expertise in the analysis.

This more neighbour-to-neighbour approach to the survey was very time-consuming for the volunteers. Therefore, we have concluded that a biannual survey is going to be the most effective way to proceed. Last year's survey showed that we are making progress! Our collective community footprint has decreased by more than 6% since the beginning of the project – against the still, sadly general, Canadian **upward** trend. BRAVO all!

This offers a great opportunity for the University of Guelph students to undertake a detailed research study every second year. This year they are hoping to develop a **“made in Eden Mills” carbon offsetting scheme**. Much more on this in a later Newsletter, but the key notion is that anyone wishing to purchase offsets can ensure that the funds go to worthwhile village projects. Lee Wisener, Charles Simon, Brian Husband, and Ward Chesworth are guiding the work of the students.

So, be prepared! The next carbon footprint survey will take place in early 2012 – tabulating your energy-use results from 2010. Don't forget to keep your records and to note any changes you have made to decrease your household/transportation carbon emissions. The survey guidelines are on the website for easy reference. We are making a difference!!

- **Going Carbon Neutral Resource Library**

If you visit the going carbon neutral website, you can now see the full listing of the many books and DVD's we have on hand. **You are welcome to borrow them!** We hope one day to have a book shelf at the hall where they will be on permanent display. We were able to make these purchases with the assistance of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's Go Green fund. Among them are some resources designed for young people. Some are controversial, some informative, some inspiring, some entertaining, some simply stunningly beautiful.



For the moment, please contact Linda Sword for DVD's at lsword@xplornet.ca or 853-1896.

Or, for books, please contact Anna Simon at annasimon.edenmills@everus.ca or 856-0938.

www.goingcarbonneutral.ca