Your direction for natural beauty

by Deborah Quaile

Whether you're looking to canoe a heritage river, enjoy a breathtaking view from a lookout, see soaring cliffs, or spectacular waterfalls - Your Guide to

Conservation Areas in Ontario will provide the answers.

Conservation Ontario recently published 100,000 copies of a new full colour map/guide, Your Guide to Conservation Areas in Ontario. It is available at GRCA Conservation areas, at the GRCA internet store at www.grandriver.ca, and 250 retail outlets across Ontario.

The full-colour, detailed map presents 246 conservation areas stretching from Windsor to the Quebec border and north to Thunder Bay.

On the reverse side are phone numbers and extensive information for each site, such as whether or not the terrain is wheelchair accessible, sites for group or individual camping, unique features of the spot, and other facilities available. There are also directions to the conservation areas.

Most parks are open from May to Labour Day, and many are open year-round for all season activities.

Dick Hunter, General Manager of Conservation Ontario, comments, "Conservation authorities preserve hundreds of thousands of acres of land and water in watersheds across the province. We're hoping that this new guide leads more people to visit and enjoy the beautiful conservation areas in Ontario."

The map costs \$3.99 (taxes included), with money going to support the good works of conservation across the province.

Mall sponsors third annual Volunteer Recruitment Day

by Stacey Massey

There's nothing more satisfying than volunteering.

Whether it's a few hours a week spent visiting with a senior, an afternoon spent mentoring a youngster or efforts expended to raise funds for a worthwhile organization, the rewards are priceless.

There are numerous opportunities in the community to volunteer and there's one ideally suited to every individual. During this, the International Year of Volunteers, it's a golden opportunity to get involved in the Halton community. The third annual Volunteer Recruitment Day, hosted by Milton Mall, is the perfect place to find out where your interests and skills would be best focussed.

On September 15, the mall will open its common area to community groups so they might recruit new volunteers and let people know what their non-profit organization is all about.

"We have participants from Meals on Wheels, the Deidre Scholtz Foundation, Milton District Hospital, Army Cadets . . ." Sandra Marling of the Milton Mall Management Office said. "Anyone who's looking for volunteers is welcome and it also creates an awareness of the services available."

When looking to volunteer it is important to find an organization that you will enjoy working for. The day allows those interested in volunteering to meet with members of various organizations and discuss whether both parties would benefit from future involvement.

Following the recruitment day's first run three years ago, a survey conducted by Milton Mall showed that everyone was very pleased with the outcome of the open house. Mrs. Marling said participants were happy to recruit as few as two new volunteers.

"Everybody was really positive," she said.

This year's event will no doubt be just as successful as the previous years. The mall provides non-profit Halton organizations with the space, complete with table and chairs, free of charge for the day. It can comfortably accommodate about 30 parties and Mrs. Marling expects at least 20 organizations to participant this year.

"It's promising to be a popular event," Mrs. Marling said.

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