

get your car to retrieve your canoe. Be sure to bring extra warm clothes sealed in plastic. During the paddle refreshments are available.

For more information call: Bill King (WCA) at (416) 223-4646, and Beth Williston (MTRCA) at (416) 661-6600 ext. 334.

Note: Participants in this trip will notice a big change in the river. For aesthetic reasons as well as to improve accessibility for migrating fish, two of the three weirs have been largely eliminated. At the highest weir, north of the Pottery Road bridge, two artificial rapids have been created in the 100 m below the weir. They will raise the water level so that the drop of the weir itself is only 1/2 m. The retention of some physical barrier is essential to prevent lamprey migration but will offer no hindrance to species such as salmon. An overhanging steel plate will be added to the lip of the weir. A new portage trail with improved take-out and put-in is being cleared. The lower weir south of Pottery Road will be undergoing similar treatment prior to publication of this issue of *Nastawgan*. For the present, the first weir, located at the lower end of the West Don, will remain unchanged. These improvements should result in a much more natural appearance, and it is *possible* that the rapids could be runnable at the right water level.

RIVERS CANADA

An new organization has been formed outside government, dedicated to protecting the nation's rivers and lakes. This Society for the Preservation of Rivers and Lakes in Canada (Société pour la Protection des Fleuves, Rivières et Lacs du Canada), or "Rivers Canada," has the following goals:

- Form a nation-wide network of local and regional watershed and basin conservation organizations.

- Develop a database of river issues, study and prioritize them for possible action.

- Strengthen initiatives to protect wild rivers, lakes, and wetlands.

- Promote the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of urban rivers and streams.

- Act as an NGO adjunct to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Program.

- Increase public awareness and appreciation of the river heritage of Canada.

- Work towards the development of coherent federal and provincial policies to conserve and protect Canada's fresh water resources and their energy from exploitation.

- Liaise with US-based river organizations and networks, particularly in issues regarding transboundary rivers.

- Develop a newsletter, computer bulletin board, and web page for use by local river conservation groups and watershed members and communities.

Develop a River Ethic whereby we can gauge the sustainability of proposed and actual uses of rivers and the impacts of resource use in watersheds.

Memberships, which are \$10.00 per year for an individual and \$15.00 for a family, are available from: Rivers Canada, 50 Union St., Coaticook, Quebec, J1A 1Y7; e-mail 71762.1776@compuserve.com

SHOWS AND MEETING

CANOE EXPO 1997

On 11 to 13 April 1997, Canoe Ontario, (416) 426-7170, will again present its annual canoe/kayak consumer show and educational exhibition, as always in the Etobicoke Olympium, 590 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, Ontario.

The WCA will again have a booth at this show and we are looking for volunteers to help man the booth. Please contact as soon as possible Paul Hamilton at (905) 877-8778.

WCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This important meeting will be held at Canoe Expo (see above) on Sunday, 13 April 1997, in the Main Seminar Lounge. Doors will be open at 8:30 a.m. for refreshments and conversation and the meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and end at 10:00 a.m. Enter via the main entrance and walk up the stairs where someone will collect a \$5.00 fee for entry into Canoe Expo after our get-together. (The regular admission fee for adults is \$8.00.) In addition to this discount from the organizer, Canoe Ontario are offering the room at a nominal fee balanced by a revenue guarantee. In other words, more than 50 people need to show up for the meeting, otherwise the room cost will rise to offset any shortfall in attendance. The WCA Board has taken this approach as a way of increasing the value of coming to the AGM. Thus you are provided with a quick summary of what is happening with the club's organization, while saving a few dollars in the process.

EASTERN ONTARIO AND WESTERN QUEBEC CANOE AND KAYAK SHOW

This increasingly important and informative show will be held in Ottawa at the Civic Centre on 25 to 27 April 1997. The organizers, the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association, present a wide array of equipment manufacturers, outfitters, tour companies, a range of speakers, seminars, workshops, and a demonstration pool. Tickets for the show are available at the door or in advance from the CRCA (inquire about discounts): P.O. Box 398, 446 Main Street West, Merrickville, Ontario, K0G 1N0; ph. (613) 269-2910; fax (613) 269-2908; e-mail: staff@crca.ca website: <http://www.crca.ca/>