

# RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NEWS RELEASE

## LIVE 88.5 FM CLEANS THE AIR WAVES!

January 28, 2013 — We are delighted to announce that LIVE 88.5 FM radio right here in the Rideau Valley stands tall as Canada's first and only carbon neutral radio station and will again plant thousands of carbon dioxide-eating trees in southern Ottawa this spring.

The amount of carbon dioxide equivalent produced annually by the work of the 35 employees in the LIVE broadcast centre on Antares Drive (near Hunt Club and Prince of Wales) was calculated using the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation's (RVCF) Carbon Neutral program. Staff commuting and travel, office heating and cooling, energy consumption of all kinds was tallied using energy bills for a one-year period. Once we knew the total energy consumption, a formula converted it into the number of trees needed to absorb or "offset" that same amount of carbon dioxide.

As a result, RVCF will plant 5,700 vigorous, young, locally-grown trees in the southern Ottawa area during its regular reforestation program in the spring of 2013 to offset the carbon dioxide produced annually through normal station operation. The growing trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air taking greenhouse gas out of the atmosphere and locking it in the wood for up to 80 years.

Over the next ten years, these trees will absorb the same number of tonnes of carbon dioxide that the employees of the station inadvertently produce each year.

The three-year old LIVE Forest now covers over 20 acres of land and will eventually grow into a lovely vibrant forest of the future. These new trees increase tree cover in the Ottawa area. They absorb greenhouse gas, produce life-giving oxygen, clean our water supplies, provide wildlife habitat, buffer noise and wind, improve the soil and reduce soil erosion. Collectively, they make the Ottawa area less vulnerable to the worst effects of unpredictable and unseasonal heavy storms and increasing summer droughts. All this environmental work for free for up to 80 years! No wonder planting trees is one of the best things we can do for our environment.

"The owners and staff of LIVE 88.5 FM have made a huge commitment and contribution towards the health of their listening community," said Foundation Chair Jason Kelly. "This is a major accomplishment for any business and one that should be celebrated throughout the community."

LIVE 88.5 FM is one of two local affiliates of Newcap Radio Inc. headquartered in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Newcap is one of Canada's largest radio companies employing over 800 radio professionals across the country. Newcap holds 63 FM and 18 AM licences and is heard by millions of listeners each week throughout Canada.

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