

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NEWS RELEASE

LIVE 88.5 FM FOREST GROWS AGAIN!

January 20, 2014 — We are delighted to announce that LiVE 88.5 FM radio right here in the Rideau Valley is very proud of its standing 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 by the work of the 48 full time and 19 part time 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 the total energy consumption was known, a formula converted it into the number of trees needed to absorb or "offset" that same amount of carbon dioxide.

RVCF will plant another 5,700 vigorous, young, locally-grown trees in the southern Ottawa area during its regular reforestation program in the spring of 2014 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.

Once the 2014 plantings are in, the four-year old LiVE Forest will cover almost 30 acres of land and will quickly grow into a new, natural, vibrant forest of the future. In addition to carbon abatement, each LiVE88.5 tree is a little environmental cleaning station providing huge environmental goods and services to the people of Ottawa. The trees 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 ecological service free of charge for up to 80 years ... a lovely gift indeed.

"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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