

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NEWS RELEASE

OMYA GIVES \$10,000 FOR WATER CONSERVATION IN THE TAY

March 17, 2014 — In celebration of Canada Water Week (March 17-23), Omya Canada Inc of Perth has made another huge gift to assist the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation with on-the-ground water conservation projects throughout the Tay River valley (one of three major tributaries to the Rideau River). The funds go directly to the Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program which offers grants and know-how to farmers and rural landowners for projects to protect or improve water quality in local streams. This timely donation brings the total Omya donations to \$85,000 over the past ten years.

The average landowner grant to Clean Water Projects in the Tay Valley subwatershed over the past few years is \$1,335. These projects include grassed waterways, fencing cattle away from streams, alternate (often solar) watering solutions once the stream is fenced, water education projects, milkhouse washwater processing, repair or replacement of faulty septic systems and upgrading of wells, all of which help keep the Tay clean and healthy. Over the years, OMYA has been directly responsible for helping to finance almost 64 additional clean water projects which otherwise would not have been possible.

Foundation Chair Jason Kelly said "We are delighted to have the confidence and the loyal support of Omya Canada Inc to provide corporate leadership in our efforts to maintain the high quality of life we all enjoy here in Eastern Ontario."

The 800 square kilometre Tay River subwatershed is a beautiful, natural jewel of a valley containing the headwaters of the Rideau River system itself. The Tay River begins its journey on the Canadian Shield at Carnahan Lake south of the Town of Sharbot Lake before meandering northeastwards receiving overflow from 55 lakes, eventually descending through rich farmland and the Town of Perth before emptying into Lower Rideau Lake at Port Elmsley.

Omya Canada Inc makes quality dry ground calcium carbonate products used by the paint, plastics and building products industry. Omya's Perth plant on Rudsdale Creek (tributary to the Tay River) is one of two Omya plants in Canada.

For more information on Canada Water Week events, please visit <http://canadawaterweek.com>.

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