

For Immediate Release

Forbes Creek Aquatic Rehabilitation Hike Shares Successes of Environmental and Residential Developments

Cambridge, Ontario. September 17, 2009...The environmental rehabilitation of a downstream section of Forbes Creek in Cambridge will be showcased to the community on Tuesday, September 29th as the City of Cambridge and Mattamy Homes unveil the results of a year long effort to re-establish the natural habitat of the creek.

Construction of the project began in the summer of 2008 which focused on about 300 metres of the Forbes Creek stream that drains from areas upstream of Regional Road 24 to the Speed River. Over the years, the channel had been dammed at six locations which created barriers to fish migration. The Forbes Creek Subwatershed study completed by the City in 2002 recommended removal of the barriers and re-establishment of a natural channel.

"The project presented great opportunities to improve upon the natural habitat while facilitating an important residential development in our city," says April Souwand, Sr. Environmental Planner for the City. "Specific environmentally sensitive designs were incorporated to ensure the proper functioning and flow of the creek which allowed for improvement of the long term viability of the waterway."

The Mattamy Mill Pond subdivision in Hespeler is situated on 98 hectares of land just north of the Hespeler Mill Pond. Mattamy, as part of their development proposal, partnered with McCormick Rankin Corporation, Ecoplans Limited and MTE Corporation to develop a detailed design for the rehabilitated section adjacent to their \$250 million residential project. When the work is completed, there will be approximately 2000 people living in the area and an impact of some \$4 million on the tax roll for Cambridge.

"It's an important initiative that significantly improves the natural setting for fish, frogs and other wildlife while our City grows," notes Souwand. It extends the public trail system and provides a new area to appreciate nature close to home.

The public hike will begin at the storm pond south of Baldwin Drive, off of Guelph Avenue starting at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 29th. It is slated until 7:30 pm but is expected to wrap up earlier than the time allotted. Rain or shine, the community of Cambridge will have an opportunity to see the development, meet with the key people on the project management team and

learn more about the environmental initiatives that are being implemented by the City of Cambridge.

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The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca

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