



MEDIA RELEASE

WRCC Will Mark Earth Day With Tree Plantings on Merritt Island

For Immediate Release – Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Welland – The Welland Recreational Canal Corporation (WRCC) will be hosting its annual Earth Day Celebrations on Merritt Island from 10am to 1pm. The WRCC is pleased to be working with members of the community and local area high school Environmental Clubs to help mark Earth Day.

Continued beautification and reforestation efforts on Merritt Island will take another step forward on Wednesday when the WRCC will plant upwards of thirty (30) trees, all indigenous, on Merritt Island. The trees will range in size and variety and will flourish in what is one of the most popular parks in the City of Welland. Notably, there will be local High School Environmental Clubs in attendance with Notre Dame High School sending numerous students out to help plant, clean up and celebrate Earth Day on the Canal Lands.

The community is welcome to attend and assist with Merritt Island clean up. All volunteers assisting will receive a free rental from the WRCC's Flatwater Rental Centre located this year on the North Course of the Welland International Flatwater Centre, with a small Earth Day BBQ happening around the Merritt Island Building just before 1pm.

"Taking the time to stop for a brief moment and examine our effect on the earth is an important part of Earth Day," suggested Councillor Paul Grenier. "The benefit of a balanced ecological and environmentally friendly approach to working and living is extremely important to the well being of the planet and to our community. This WRCC event recognizes the importance of Earth Day and encourages volunteerism, leadership on environmental issues and celebration of the communities where we live, work and play." If you are interested in attending please contact Erin Terreberry at 905-658-9431 or find us on-site from 9 am to 1 pm.

Celebrating Earth Day marks an opportunity to actively make our world better and to reflect on our environment, ecological systems and the effects we have on our surroundings both locally and globally. "We will be continuing efforts this year to improve natural walkways, restore natural paths, increase nesting opportunities, increase and augment gardens and flower plantings," stated Stephen Fischer, WRCC Business & Operations Manager. "Merritt Island is one of the busy places in the City and the WRCC is committed to continually beautifying the park in a responsible manner."

You are invited to assist the WRCC with Earth Day or encouraged to celebrate in some way in your neighbourhood or backyard; Mother Earth will surely benefit.

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