

# DESABLE WATERSHED NEWSLETTER



Online at  
Yahoo group:  
**DREAM\_PEI**

Mail us:  
P O Box 123  
Crapaud PE  
COA 1J0

## Spring Public Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2009

at 7:00 pm

Kelly's Cross Community  
Center.

For More Information,

### Committee Contacts:

**Kelley Arnold 675-4745**  
**Ron Arvidson 658-2566**  
**Norah Gorman 658-2535**  
**Angela Larter 658-2516**  
**Joe Matters 658-2843**  
**Cindy Newson 658-2387**  
**Thomy Nilsson 368-1265**  
**Eric Rieber 658-2792**

## Barlowe Speaks at UPEI

On March 4, author, environmentalist and humanitarian **Maude Barlowe**, recognized internationally for her work on global water justice, spoke at UPEI on *The Global Water Crisis*. Barlowe noted that 30 percent of Canadians depend on groundwater sources for their water – the very sources that are under threat from pollution, the bottled water industry, and climate change. PEI is 100 percent dependent on groundwater and 9 of our watersheds are at critical levels of nitrate contamination. Islanders were urged to make several demands of ourselves and our government – to claim water as a human right and name it a public trust belonging to *all* people, the ecosystem, and the future; demand the adoption of province-wide drinking water standards; demand free water testing; demand the ban of commercial bottled water in public spaces; and demand our provincial government lobby for a change in water policy at the national level.—A. L.  
Another event is at UPEI AVC on May 3

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- **Summer Jobs**
- **Our Thanks for avian abode**
- **CABIN freshwater program**
- **Birding DeSable in May**
- **Green up your buffer zone**

## SENSATIONAL SPRING, SWEET SUMMER RETURNS

Spring is well along now, and with it, watershed activities renew. Many of you dropped in at the booth DREAM shared with Tryon group this year at the Garden Show ( booth donated by Dept of Environment, Energy and Forestry). Hopefully you will also choose to attend the upcoming public meeting in Kelly's Cross, this time with **guest speaker Fred Cheverie**, discussing pilot restoration efforts in Souris estuary. Those who are concerned about DeSable estuary won't want to miss this. See this issue for more **great outings in May**, and an offer of free trees for your watercourse locations.

Students who may want to be **employed this summer** restoring area streams **should read page 2 and apply soon**.

In addition to CAMP ( estuary monitoring program) continuing, CABIN (freshwater monitoring program) will begin in fall, pg 2.

### See you in May :

\*Thurs., May 7, 7:00 pm General meeting ALL WELCOME, Kelly's Cross Community Center: guest speaker Fred Cheverie; plus information on new CABIN program; '09 summer restoration work plan; request your buffer zone plantings; and sign up for CAMP citizen estuary research ( one weekday a month).

\*Mon., May 11, Training session for CAMP (call 658-2387)

\*Sat., May 23, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon; **Volunteer Day at Linden Hill Pond**, featuring **noon-time Barbeque**. Call for info.

\*Mon., May 25 CAMP 2009 begins in DeSable estuary.

\*Sat., May 30, 8:00 am, *Birding DeSable*, at Ron's (see pg. 2).

\*Sat., May 30, Watershed residents tree pick-up for buffer zone plantings. Location T.B.A.



Pleasant section of DeSable River, just north of Route 13, Kelly's Cross

### New Buffer Zone Regulations

Check regulations carefully. The minimum fine is now \$3000.00 Corporate fine begins at \$10K. **No living trees or shrubs can be cut down within the buffer without a watercourse alteration permit. A permit is also required to add or remove material from a watercourse or buffer, to carry on stream enhancement, to disturb soil, to apply pesticides, or to operate vehicles (some ex-**

### \*A Day at the Shore for You,

\*Interesting new experience,  
\*Knowledge that you're helping to understand changes in the Maritime environment, and are part of the process to get this estuary healthier. It is easy and educational and experts will be there too. If you may take part in even one CAMP'09 session, call or come to the Meeting for info.

### Town Hall Meeting on Water

Was held on Mar. 18/ 09 at the *Guild* in Charlottetown. For those of us who missed it, Andrew Lush of Hunter-Clyde Watershed Group noted the event, with its various guest speakers. He has an excellent synopsis of the evening, covering PEI's key water issues on a page on his group's website, and you are welcome to review it at: <http://hcwg.editme.com/WaterTownHall>

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## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS SO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

You've noticed that your membership is constantly sought? It is not so much for the \$10.00 annual fee, although no one denies money helps good works. Your membership is support. It is an added hand on the rope in a storm. Members guide directions and empower requests for funding from public and private sources. These sources are sought by other groups as well as ours, so the process is somewhat competitive. Membership numbers make requests for funding and other services echo more loudly. If the work that has been done in this watershed since 2005 matters to you, and moreover, if you feel the work that can and needs to be done in future must proceed, then show your support to DREAM. By mail, or in person at the meeting, please become or renew as a member of your watershed group this month.

# SUMMER WORK IN WATERSHED

Subject to funding, this year there is an ambitious plan to work on streams in both upper and southerly areas of the watershed. Debris that is clogging stream channels gets removed, devices like brush mats are built to protect stream banks from collapse and catch silt in the water, and other simple devices are installed to deepen channels. Limited numbers of trees are strategically planted to stabilize stream banks and add species diversity. If this is work that you think is important and or would like to work outdoors this summer, please apply as follows: for **supervisor** position, apply to DREAM. **Workers** should apply to at least one or both (recommended) DREAM and Jobs for Youth, **as soon as possible:** Jobs for Youth, Central Jobs Registry, forms at Employment Development Agency, 1st floor, Sullivan Building, 16 Fitzroy St., Charlottetown or complete online or download at [www.gov.pe.ca](http://www.gov.pe.ca), or Google "Central Jobs Registry PEI". Send **resumes** to **DREAM Summer Jobs, PO Box 123, Crapaud PE C0A1J0**. Please state which position applied for; "supervisor" or "worker".

\*Watershed groups do much more than restoring waterways and so always welcome and need volunteers of all ages. For returning students in Grades 11 and 12 there is added incentive in the Provincial Community Service Bursary Program, which funds college or university training at \$5.00 for each hour of volunteer effort, minimum \$150. Information is online. Please contact DREAM if this interests you.

# GREENING SPACES-FREE BUFFER TREES

In the last two years, DREAM has worked with landowners to introduce many hundreds of hardwood and softwood **trees and shrubs** into this watershed from **Greening Spaces Program** of Dept of Energy, Environment and Forestry. These were planted by individual landowners or DREAM staff and volunteers to enhance buffer zones effectiveness and plant variety. Depending on the site and species, planting will restore treed buffer where there is field, stabilize steep slopes, reinforce thinly treed areas, slowly replace alders by limiting their sunlight, re-introduce depleted species and add genetic diversity to stocks. **Greening Spaces Program 2009** :By late May DREAM hopes to have available: white spruce, white pine, red oak, yellow birch, black ash, maple, red osier dogwood, wild rose, as well as tree collars and site selection mini-guides. **If you would like to plant in your land buffer, please contact DREAM to place orders. Plants pick-up will be on Saturday, May 30, location to be announced at May 7 Public Meeting .**

# NEW FRESHWATER MONITORING PROGRAM

This autumn DREAM is taking part in the Canadian Aquatic Bio-monitoring Network program (CABIN). CABIN is a collaborative program developed and maintained by Environment Canada to provide a consistent method for monitoring and assessing the biological health of freshwater in Canada. Bio-monitoring methods are used to complement or enhance chemical and physical water quality monitoring. The CABIN program looks at the presence or health of benthic macro-invertebrates (i.e. bottom-dwelling aquatic bugs visible to the naked eye) in order to assess the condition of the aquatic ecosystem as a whole. While the results of chemical testing provide us with a 'snapshot' of ecosystem health, biological conditions allow us to assess the 'big picture'. Kelley and Angela are beginning CABIN training, which will enable DREAM to use bio-monitoring as an inexpensive screening tool to identify problem areas. Areas of concern can then be monitored and compared with appropriate reference sites from the CABIN national database. Data collected can then be used for remediation purposes.-A.L.

ceptions). Buffer zones are now 15 meters, minimum, within which dead limbs may be removed, nature paths maintained. Grass mowing is permitted. Trees, shrubs and grass may be planted, if using only hand tools.*This is a review only, and should not to be regarded as legal information. Please consult Watercourse and Wetland Protection Regulations at [www.gov.pe.ca](http://www.gov.pe.ca), or call 368-5052*

## Birding DeSable - A Walk In the Woods

On May 30 **the public are invited** to join Ron at 8:00 AM (rain date June 7), to explore the woods along the DeSable River and the Farrar Road in search of migrating and local birds. At this time of year there are numerous Wood Warblers and other birds in our area, both moving through and in the process of establishing a local nesting territory. We will search out some of those in the DeSable Watershed. Be sure to dress for the day and wear comfortable and water-proof footwear. Meet at 928 South Melville Road. Call Ron at 658-2566 for more info.

Ron is again participating in the **Maritime Breeding Bird Atlas** and would welcome any information you may have regarding birds nesting in your area. If you are interested in participating in the MBBA, Ron will provide information or you can check it out yourself at <http://www.mba-aom.ca>. This is a 5 year study, with this season and next remaining, and is seeking more volunteers. Anyone with a pair of binoculars and bird watching experience, or even a desire to learn about birds, can participate. You don't need to be an expert.- R.A.

## Thanks for their ongoing support and efforts:

Leo MacDonald's Bluefield industrial arts class for building bird houses for Linden Hill Pond area, and Fr. Paul Egan for donating bat boxes and bird houses, and his cheerful paintwork on same.

**DREAM INC.  
P. O. BOX 123  
CRAPAUD PE  
C0A 1J0**

## JOIN DREAM INC. PLEASE CLIP & MAIL NOW TO

I want to: A) be a member of DREAM Inc. Enclosed is my annual membership fee \$ 10.00\_\_\_  
B) donate the following amount to this worthy cause \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = Total\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
C) donate my time by volunteering for \_\_\_\_\_  
I would like to be informed of events and news by email (my e-mail is below) \_\_\_(✓)  
I may be interested in having plantings on my property, and would like to know more \_\_\_(✓)  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional), e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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