

e-Bulletin

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To Unsubscribe

Send an email to watershed@muskokaheritage.org

MWC Stewardship Paper

Environmental stewardship encompasses a broad range of issues and actions, from reducing resource consumption to restoring disturbed landscapes. It is reflected in the kinds of houses we build and the way we manage them, our transportation, the choices we make as consumers, and the responsible way we use rather than abuse the land, air, water, forests and wetlands.

Environmental stewardship involves:

- protecting natural systems
- using natural resources effectively and efficiently
- making the environment a key part of our priorities, values and ethics
- leading by example
- holding oneself accountable
- believing in shared responsibility
- anticipating the needs of future generations as well as our own
- exceeding and not just meeting expectations related to environmental protection

Learn more about Stewardship opportunities and challenges in Muskoka. Check out MWC's Stewardship paper.

Do you own more than 5 acres and want to learn about how to conserve the ecological integrity of your property? The Muskoka Stewardship Program can help. Contact stewardship@muskokaheritage.org for more information about the program.

Muskoka Moving Forward Visioning Initiative

It's not too late to provide your input!

Current Vision

"A predominantly forested landscape that supports diverse and functioning ecosystems including lakes, wetlands, forests, barrens and open fields. Interspersed with the natural setting are small to mid-sized communities and rural and waterfront development that provide a wide range of economic opportunities and lifestyle options."

The District Municipality of Muskoka is currently in the process of reviewing the existing vision for the region. The vision helps to shape the future of Muskoka and guides policies in the Muskoka Official Plan.

Collecting public input is a key component of the process and they want to hear from all residents, businesses, and organizations. There is still time for you to provide your input by completing a short <u>online survey</u>. Comments will be collected until September 1, 2010.

Check out The District Municipality of Muskoka website for more information about the <u>Muskoka Moving Forward Visioning Initiative</u>.

Freshwater Petition

Add you name to a <u>petition</u> to ask that the federal government adopt a <u>Canadian Charter of</u> Water Rights and Responsibilities and apply its principles when developing all federal policies.

There is a need for a common statement of values and principles regarding care of freshwater in Canada. This petition contains a draft Canadian Charter of Water Rights and Responsibilities for consideration by the government and to foster debate among all members of Canadian society.

- The Preamble of the Charter states common values concerning freshwater.
- The Articles of the Charter describe core principles that guide the use, distribution and management of freshwater resources in Canada.
- The Charter must form a key part of a National Freshwater Strategy.

Sign the petition and let the federal government know that freshwater is important to you!

