



Backgrounder

May 28, 2008

Halton Children's Water Festival – September 23 to 26, 2008

- The goal of the Halton Children's Water Festival (HCWF) is to educate children about water conservation and water stewardship through four main water themes:
 - Water Science and Technology,
 - Water Conservation and Protection,
 - Water Health and Safety, and
 - Water and Society.
- Conservation Halton and Halton Region co-host the HCWF, in partnership with the Halton Catholic District School Board, the Halton District School Board, and the Town of Oakville.
- This is the third annual Festival and a fourth day is being added. The 2008 Festival takes place from September 23 to 26 at the Kelso Conservation Area, 5255 Kelso Road in Milton. There are over 50 hands-on learning activity centres incorporating Ontario curriculum requirements.
- The HCWF is open to over 3,600 students (900 per day) in grades two to five, including the two/three, three/four and four/five combined classes from the Halton Catholic District School Board, the Halton District School Board and Halton's private elementary schools as well as to children receiving home education.
- The Halton Children's Water Festival Honorary Co-Chairs are Milton Town Councillor and Conservation Halton Chairman Brian Penman and Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr. The Festival Organizing Committee plans and manages the Festival and has representatives from Conservation Halton, Halton Region, City of Burlington, Town of Oakville, the Halton Catholic District School Board and the Halton District School Board.
- Teachers are able to register their class on-line at www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com or by calling the Festival Coordinator at 905-336-1158, ext. 270. The cost for visiting students is \$3 per student. The festival is free of charge for adult chaperones, teachers, and

volunteers. The HCWF is accessible to people with disabilities. Teachers and volunteers should contact the Festival Coordinator to make the necessary arrangements.

- Conservation Halton and Halton Region encourages the community to come together to teach Halton's future generation about the importance of water. Volunteers can help out for any or all of the days and gain experience in community outreach, public speaking, teaching and time management. To volunteer, contact Halton Region at 905-825-6000, ext. 7337, or visit **www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com**.
- Generous in-kind and monetary donations from the community help make the festival possible. All donations help further enhance the Festival as well as the overall education children receive about water related topics.
- There are five levels of sponsorship to recognize the charitable donations from the community. To find out more details, please visit **www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com**.
 - Watershed Level Sponsor (\$10,000 +)
 - Lake Level Sponsor (\$5,000 - \$9,999)
 - River Level Sponsor (\$1,000 - \$4,999)
 - Steam Level Sponsor (\$500 - \$999)
 - Wetlands Level Sponsor (\$100 - \$499)
- Halton Region and Conservation Halton are committed to providing residents with quality programs and services that foster water conservation and protection, water health and safety, water education and water stewardship efforts.

-30-

Media Contacts:

Hassaan Basit
Water Festival Co-Chair and Director of Communications Services
Conservation Halton
905-336-1158, ext.270

Norm Miller
Communications Specialist
Halton Region
905-825-6000, ext. 7488
Toll free: 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866)



www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com
2596 Britannia Road West, RR2, Milton, Ontario L9T 2X6 Tel: 905-336-1158 ext. 284 Fax: 905-336-7014 Email: waterfestival@hrca.on.ca

