



MEDIA RELEASE

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New conservation lands protect Springwater forest

Donation by John and Rosemary Dunsmore preserves 114-acres forest for future generations



Stone marking the 114-acre donation of the Dunsmore Management Area unveiled on June 4, 2019.

Springwater Township, Ontario (June 4, 2019) – The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) officially dedicated the new Dunsmore Management Area in Midhurst, Springwater Township, earlier today.

John and Rosemary Dunsmore generously donated this 46-hectare (114-acre) forested property to the NVCA through Environment Canada's EcoGift Program.

"We worked over 30 winters in this bush using selective cutting and good managed forest practices," said John Dunsmore. "The NVCA has agreed to take over our managed forest plan and continue this effort."

Heavily logged in the 1920s, the forest has regenerated into a sanctuary for wildlife. It forms a corridor between the provincially significant wetlands in Dalston and those around Little Lake.

The Dunsmores' gift is part of the NVCA's conservation lands acquisition program, which looks to secure properties that protect ground and surface waters, as well as areas that offer significant habitat for wildlife.

"We want to protect this natural area so future generations could enjoy all it has to offer," added Mr. Dunsmore. "The forest is a refuge for animals and plants, and connects two wetlands. Protecting it will help to preserve the wetlands and help combat climate change."

Over the past 40 years, NVCA has acquired close to 13,000 acres of conservation lands through partnerships and donations.

"We are fortunate to have many committed conservation stewards like the Dunsmores in our watershed," said Byron Wesson, director of conservation lands with the NVCA. "Thanks to their generous donations, the NVCA is able to protect and preserve some of the most environmental sensitive lands in our region."

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About NVCA: The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands. www.nvca.on.ca

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