



LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY, RAMSEY LAKE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK TOGETHER TO PROTECT WATERWAYS
Laurentian campus 'rain garden' will filter stormwater, create habitat

SUDBURY, ON (SEPTEMBER 17, 2015) – Members of the the Ramsey Lake Stewardship Committee will join faculty, staff and students at Laurentian University to plant a rain garden near the main entrance of the Sudbury campus on Friday, September 18th.

A rain garden is a shallow depression, planted with deep-rooted native species that thrive in damp or wet soil. Rain gardens can help to reduce flooding as they soak up runoff from downspouts, driveways and parking lots, while acting as a filter to keep pollutants from draining into waterways.

“This garden will clean stormwater before it reaches Ramsey Lake, while also providing habitat and food for birds, bees and butterflies,” said Lilly Noble, Co-Chair, Ramsey Lake Stewardship Committee. “Planting more native species helps to heal the landscape, improves biodiversity, and protects lakes and rivers from erosion and pollution. We hope people will come to the rain garden and find out what they can do in their yard or on their shoreline, to protect our lakes.”

Among the plants to be included in the rain garden are wild bergamot, bayberry, highbush cranberry, cardinal flower and blue flag iris. (For full list of plantings, see attached.)

The Ojibwe name for Ramsey Lake is *Bimitimagamasing*, “water that lies on the side of the hill.”

“We are pleased to partner with the Stewardship Committee to create this garden on campus,” said Laurentian University’s Manager of Energy and Sustainability, Kati McCartney. “It is a sustainable, natural way to treat storm-water, and it can serve as a teaching opportunity for our School of the Environment.”

Laurentian University and the Ramsey Lake Stewardship Committee acknowledge the following supporters of the rain garden project:

- TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
- City of Greater Sudbury
- Southview Greenhouse
- Futurescape Landscaping
- Landscape architect Jennifer Harvey
- Master gardener Linda Hachez
- Department of Facility Services, Laurentian University

About Laurentian University

Laurentian University offers an outstanding university experience in English and French, with a comprehensive approach to Indigenous education. Laurentian University, situated on the traditional territory of the Anishinabe peoples of Atikameksheng First Nation, prepares students as agents of change and empowers them to create innovative responses to local and global challenges. Laurentian's students benefit from small class sizes and exceptional post-graduation employment rates. With nine Canada Research Chairs and nineteen research centres, Laurentian is a recognized leader in its specialized areas of research strength, which include mining innovation and exploration, stressed watershed systems, particle astrophysics and rural and northern children's health. Laurentian University has secured over \$100 million in research income in the past five years.

For more information on Laurentian University visit www.laurentian.ca

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