# Batawa

June 2014

## The Batawa Bulletin

**#068** 



#### **Renowned Naturalist Visits Batawa**

Michael Runtz, a professor in the department of biology at Carleton University, visited Batawa recently to study butterflies and dragonflies in our oak savannah. Happily, butterflies were in abundance, with 19 species spotted within just a few hours, but unfortunately so too was the invasive plant species "dog strangling vine." This plant very quickly overtakes and strangles all other plants around it, making control of this invasive species crucial. Michael's newest book, *Dam Builders: the natural history of beavers and their ponds*, is forthcoming this year. You can find photos and videos from Michael's visit to Batawa on our Facebook page. Keep your eyes out for Michael's return.

#### News from the Ladies of Sacred Heart

The Ladies of Sacred Heart will resume in September. Summer mass is Saturdays at 5 p.m. Stay tuned for the Ladies' Apple Pie Fest in October. People will be able to order their unbaked apple pies ready for the freezer. The Ladies wish all a safe summer.

#### Lawn & Garden Contest

Judging by the Trenton Horticultural Society will occur on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Each home in Batawa will be judged on environmental practices, appeal, creativity, and design. Judging will be conducted from the curb. Residents may want to consider incorporating conservation practices and sustainable design, as well as creativity and beauty. Some suggestions include:

- 1) Use of rainwater instead of potable water
- 2) Use/reuse of yard waste (i.e. grass clippings, compost)
- 3) Mulching to hold in moisture
- 4) Planting drought-tolerant native plants
- 5) Grass length

Prizes will be awarded to the top three homes. The contest is now in its eighth year. Good luck to all!



🦟 Chair - Sonja Bata 🐔

## **Did You Know?**

A long-time favourite swimming spot for Batawa residents was the Trent River just at the end of Parry Drive. The spot sits along the trail that follows the river, which was used by the Iroquois long before Samuel de Champlain even arrived. That historic trail is now the Loyalist Parkway, Hwy 33.



Young Batawa residents enjoy a summer dip in the Trent in this undated photo.

### **Save Those Pop Bottles!**

The Batawa Ski Hill Summer Day Camp program could use some empty 2 litre pop bottles for their summer activities. Would you kindly donate yours to them? Bring them down to the Ski Hill office anytime Monday-Friday, 9am to 5pm. Thanks for your help!









# **Factory Update**

More changes are noticeable at the factory. The exterior is being sandblasted to reveal the original concrete beneath layers of paint. Forms for the stairwells are being poured (above left), and one of the windows is being framed in (above right) to serve as a design template for the rest of the factory. As always, we are grateful to the community of Batawa for their patience as this exciting project continues.



