

Friends-to-Friends

August 2009 Newsletter

An Update from *The Friends of the Utopia Gristmill and Park*

Greetings! We hope that you are enjoying the summer.

July 1st marked the start of the third year of our lease of the *Utopia Conservation Area*.

In the year ahead and thanks to the availability of the *Utopia Community Hall*, there will be lots more activities and fundraising to help with our restoration and preservation plans for *Bell's Gristmill* and our conservation area.

This summer, we've been fortunate to receive funding from the Federal HRSDC program to enable the hiring of two of our local youth to help with park maintenance and our committee's work. (Special thanks to MP Helena Guergis for your belief in our community's efforts.)

We thought you would enjoy some of the photos from recent happenings. We would love you to circle **Saturday September 26th** on your calendar -- it's the date for our *Annual Sunflower Festival*, to be held at the *Utopia Community Hall*. There'll be a craft and bake sale in the morning followed with a chili and beer pub in the afternoon and into the evening.

Keep an eye on our web site:

www.utopia.on.ca

and Floy Catt's *Utopia* column in the *ALLISTON HERALD* for more information as we get closer to September 26th.

We so appreciate your continued support and care. Thanks!



A few moments of rest for our volunteers at our *Annual Compost Sale*! We've once again raised enough money to cover our insurance costs for the *Utopia Conservation Area*. Thanks to everyone for supporting this important event ... and to the folks at *Envirem Technologies* ... we are so grateful for your incredible donation of both the compost and trucking costs from New Brunswick.



Will and Kyle Sjerps post our welcome sign at the entrance of the *Utopia Conservation Area*. Thanks to Teresa Vincent (UCA Branding) and Jim Ordolis & Susan Antler (Visions of Utopia) for your sponsorship and sign design.



Our Spring clean-up day at the *Utopia Conservation Area* resulted in a lot of "finds". Thanks to our many volunteers who gave of their time to do this "really this shouldn't have to be done if people didn't throw things in our park" work . . .)