LANARK COUNTY

MEDIA RELEASE

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Lanark County's Enhanced Adopt-A-Road Program

The Enhanced Adopt-A-Road Program is a way for environmentally conscious citizens and groups to contribute to a better environment and more beautiful County Road System. This program also provides awareness of the challenges the County faces in maintaining clean roadways and managing noxious and invasive plants.

Businesses, church or school groups, community organizations and informal groups of three or more volunteers may adopt sections of county roadways. Volunteers help with roadside litter collection twice a year, monitor and manage invasive plants, particularly wild parsnip, and enhance roadside pollinator habitat.

Rosemary Tayler, who coordinates two Enhanced Adopt-A-Road groups in Lanark Highlands commented, "This program is ideal for those wanting to get a bit of light exercise, fresh air, and be close to nature. You will enjoy seeing lots of wildflowers, hearing the sounds of nature and feeling satisfied at the end of your walk knowing the roadways are clean and beautiful."

Lanark County's Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) Plan relies on a variety of methods to control invasive species on roadsides. The long-term goal of the plan is to reduce these invasive species infestations and to establish diverse roadsides with abundant pollinator habitat. Volunteers can receive native plants and seeds to enhance pollinator habitat in the roadsides and to fill in the gaps left by wild parsnip.

"While the County has a plan to control wild parsnip and other invasive species on its 561 kilometers of roadsides, the Enhanced Adopt-A-Road Program is a valuable part of the County's integrated approach. Currently, volunteers in this program help manage wild parsnip by hand on 60 kilometers of roadsides," said Terry McCann, Director of Public Works at Lanark County.

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For more information on the Enhanced Adopt-A-Road Program, please contact:
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