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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HIVA Funds Shoreline Projects

Kawartha Conservation has once again received a major boost to its Shoreline Naturalization program. They are recipients of a HIVA Environmental Fund grant, given in memory of Hala and Ivan Fedun as a legacy to the couple's love of nature.

"We are grateful to the Fedun family for their ongoing support of the shoreline program. Grants like this one represent a significant portion of our program funding," says Melissa Thompson, Kawartha Conservation stewardship coordinator.

Kawartha Conservation will use the funds on its shoreline demonstration projects currently underway in the City of Kawartha Lakes and the Township of Scugog. Grants help pay for plants and planting materials, while volunteers supply most of the labour. Under the guidance of the shoreline naturalization team, students from Fleming College and other local public and secondary schools have already donated hundreds of hours to projects across the Kawartha Watershed.

Shoreline demonstration sites aid the environment in several ways. Gardens (or buffer strips as they are called), planted along the shoreline absorb fertilizers and other contaminants, keeping them out of the water. They also reduce shoreline erosion, discourage large gatherings of geese from settling on beaches; improve fish habitat; and create habitat for wildlife such as birds and small mammals.

For more information about the Shoreline Naturalization Program, contact Stewardship Coordinator Melissa Thompson at 705 328-2271 ext. 224, or email her at mthompson@kawarthaconservation.com.

Kawartha Conservation is a watershed-based environmental organization focused on ensuring abundant clean water within a healthy landscape. It is one of 36 conservation authorities in Ontario providing natural resources management. The Kawartha Watershed includes portions of the municipalities of the City of Kawartha Lakes; Scugog; Brock; Clarington; Galway-Cavendish & Harvey and Cavan-Monaghan.

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