



Dear Roots & Shoots members,

It's almost summer and many of you are looking back on all the Roots & Shoots projects you've done this school year and are saying, "Wow, We've really made a difference". You certainly have! This newsletter is but a glimpse of what you've accomplished and shared with us in the past few months. Enjoy the recap, and as you prepare to head into a great summer, send along any ideas you have for celebrating the summer solstice.

Stay tuned for some exciting changes to the Roots & Shoots program that will be implemented in the fall. This summer, the Roots & Shoots team in Montreal and in Guelph will put their heads together to create new Roots & Shoots display boards, a regional outreach team, an ECE resource kit, an Every Day Ideas booklet, a revised Coordinator's Manual, How to guides, a Youth Leadership Guide, and a new Website.

See you in the fall, have a very "green" summer,  
Valérie Girard,  
Membership Coordinator

## It's in the Bag!

Join KidPower and D.A.S Roots & Shoots groups in the Roots & Shoots North American Reusable Bag Campaign.

By participating, your group can:

- **Get the facts.** Start by researching the amount of resources needed to recycle plastic bags.
- **Raise awareness.** Promote the use of reusable bags through projects that make them available and fun to use. Talk to consumers and store owners.
- **Raise funds.** Sell your reusable bags to raise funds for your Roots & Shoots projects.
- **Connect.** Share your project with other Roots & Shoots groups across Canada through the Roots & Shoots Yahoo group.

Check out how other Roots & Shoots groups are running their project and purchase your own Roots & Shoots reusable bags at: [www.rootsandshoots.org](http://www.rootsandshoots.org).

## What are Roots & Shoots groups doing?

Well, lots! And all interesting—take a look inside. Every page includes stories of projects.

Like their projects and want to know more? Connect with these groups through the Roots & Shoots Yahoo group: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RootsandShoots\\_Canada/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RootsandShoots_Canada/).



Bruce Peninsula  
Environment Group



KidPower  
Roots & Shoots



D.A.S.  
Public School



Waterford  
Public School



West Island College  
Roots & Shoots



Harrow  
Roots & Shoots

# June 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 World Enviro. Day	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9	10
11 Canadian Rivers Day	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Wildlife Clubs of Seychelles Roots & Shoots group go on a bird watching expedition

## Photo Tips

Roots & Shoots is always looking for great photographs of members engaging in their community projects. Good photos help groups get community support and funds for new projects.

A good photograph is one that tells a story and expresses action.

**Be prepared** – Have a camera and film or memory card at the site of your next project.

**Keep it tight** – Rather than a wide shot to try and include the whole group, try taking closer shots of just a few people in action. It's more interesting.

**Capture the action** – Action and emotions can go far to tell the story of your project. Try to capture the moments when someone smiles, laughs, or looks surprised. Or when someone hammers a nail, wields a shovel to plant a tree, or cuddles a puppy at an animal shelter.

**Get creative** – Experiment with new angles, lighting, locations and actions. If you missed a perfect shot, ask the person to do what they just did again, if possible. It must look natural though.



## La Vita e Bella Roots & Shoots group writes...

Last Christmas our family decided that instead of celebrating Christmas by exchanging gifts, we would take our 'buy nothing Christmas' mission one step further by travelling to volunteer in a developing country.

We went to the Dominican Republic to volunteer critical humanitarian assistance, solidarity, warmth & compassion to one of the Dominican Republic's most vulnerable and impoverished populations. Today, most of the Dominican Republic's sugar cane fields have closed, leaving tens of thousands of batey residents unemployed and living in horrific conditions. (Bateyes are impoverished rural communities originally built to house Haitian migrant cane cutters working on sugar cane plantations.)

We visited a different batey each day, bringing many donations: clothing, medical supplies, books, shoes, baseball equipment, etc. Our family and friends raised over \$7000 for projects within the bateyes, such as transportation for teachers to reach the children and for improving water systems. We brought food we had prepared for lunch each day and we served it to them. We also helped dig trenches and install a pipeline to bring water to the school. We taught art classes every day with the children.

I experienced first hand that a "need" is clean water, food to eat, clothing, and shelter. In North America, it is so easy to get caught up in consumerism. Our goal as a family was to embrace positive social change in the developing world and inspire others to do the same. I believe we achieved this.

Jade Morningstar, 12 years old, La Vita e Bella Roots & Shoots group

## Bruce Peninsula Environment Group

Under the guidance of Parks Canada ecologist Scott Parker, the Bruce Peninsula Environment group participated in two Parks Canada research projects: freshwater fish monitoring and forest biodiversity plot monitoring.

Roots & Shoots members were able to see research in action, and to contribute to data collection. They tested the water quality and helped to identify and measure fish that were caught in minnow traps. They had up close experiences with a variety of



fish species, and learned about proper handling of fish and aquatic critters.

Group members then participated in tree coring to count rings to age trees in a forest plot, and used equipment to measure tree height.

Their data will be incorporated into the results of Parks Canada's research program.

For more information on this project, contact group leader Jennifer Barratt-Parker: [scottandjennparker@sympatico.ca](mailto:scottandjennparker@sympatico.ca).

## D.A.S. Roots & Shoots Group

Inspired by Jane Goodall's quote about shoots breaking through brick walls, D.A.S. Roots & Shoots group brainstormed about "bricks" in their neighbourhood, community, and world. Each member created their own brick with a word, picture or comment on it, focused on the human, animal or environmental community.

The group then brainstormed about their "shoots" breaking through the brick walls with ideas and solutions. Each member then created a shoot.

The goal of the project was to introduce the main themes and focus of Roots & Shoots (humans, animals, environment) and to emphasize the small things, the "shoots", that each child can do, even though some of the problems identified seemed huge.

As the group is located in downtown Toronto, many of the children talked about gun violence, bullying, sexism, and war. The bricks were used to create a brick wall with shoots bursting through them. Dr. Jane's quote is centred in the middle of the display.



The sweetest shoot was created by the youngest grade 1 member. It said, "Hug a Tree".

For more info on this project, contact group leader Nadja Lubiw-Hazard: [n.l.hazard@sympatico.ca](mailto:n.l.hazard@sympatico.ca).

## Green Dragonfly Roots & Shoots Group

visit them at [www.geocities.com/greendragonflyclub/](http://www.geocities.com/greendragonflyclub/)



Homeschool group Green Dragonfly Roots & Shoots discussed the origin of dandelions in Canada as well as common perceptions about them—weed or herb?

The group researched the different ways dandelions have been used in the past and talked about how we use chemicals to control them in the pursuit of the perfect lawn.

They then decided to try some dandelion recipes. The group spent a couple hours collecting young dandelion greens and digging up many dandelion roots. The dandelion drink has at least one enthusiastic fan! They also used the greens in a stir fry with a little olive oil and baby carrots. The result was very yummy!

Group members have developed a new appreciation for what most people consider to be a nasty "weed".

For dandelion recipes, please contact group leader Debbie Johnston: [greendragonflyclub@yahoo.ca](mailto:greendragonflyclub@yahoo.ca).

## Special Event: Nationwide University Roots & Shoots Summit



Recently our group, Mac Roots & Shoots based out of McMaster University, had the opportunity to attend the Nationwide University Roots & Shoots Summit in New York State. So far, we've never had the

opportunity to connect and share our ideas and projects with a group of fellow university Roots & Shoots students. What an experience this was!

The purpose of the summit was to develop a stronger, expansive university Roots & Shoots network by sharing our project successes and ideas. When Roots & Shoots members are given the opportunity to consult in such open dialogue members enhance their belief that we can do anything and change anything and this increases our passion for making the world a better place tenfold!

Much of the summit involved discussion and sharing of the activities each group had been conducting on their own campuses. We were in awe by the number of inspirational projects that our American neighbours had been involved in and left the summit brimming with passion and excitement for our upcoming projects.



We discussed one of the main issues facing university Roots & Shoots groups today; that many groups dissolve when student leaders graduate. The solution has been to involve professors and mentors to keep the program going and we received advice from professors on how to implement this in our own universities.

On the Sunday, Dr. Jane came to the summit. Having never met Dr. Jane, this was the highlight of the summit for our group. It was such an inspiration to be in her presence and to hear her share her thoughts on the university Roots & Shoots group's projects.



Overall the summit gave us a sense of belonging within the wider university Roots & Shoots network and we headed home feeling quite fulfilled and inspired. We would like to encourage other groups to attend the summit in the future, as it is an experience not to be missed!

For ideas on starting your own Roots & Shoots group at your university, don't hesitate to contact our group at [macrootsandshoots@hotmail.com](mailto:macrootsandshoots@hotmail.com).

See you next year!

Shannon Trebilcock  
Mac Roots & Shoots

## Special Event: Earth Day Celebration in Guelph, ON

On Saturday, April 22nd, the Roots & Shoots Regional Office in Guelph, Ontario, organised a fun-filled Earth Day event.

Jan Sherman kicked the day off with a native blessing, smudging/cleansing ritual, and led the group in 2 songs – everyone was given drums and shakers. At lunch, the Funky Mamas rocked the kids' worlds.



Despite the rainy weather, approximately 100 attended and planted 150 trees and pulled up many of the invasive Japanese knotweed along the Speed River.

For more information about this event, please contact Krista Long, Roots & Shoots Regional Coordinator in Guelph, at [krista@janegoodall.ca](mailto:krista@janegoodall.ca).



## NEW! Mentor Program

Coordinators' Corner

### Mentor Program

Groups supporting and empowering groups is the premise behind this program. Since the inception of Roots & Shoots staff have gone out to meet with new groups and groups thinking about joining the Roots & Shoots network. But there was one critical piece missing – stories about other groups, how they got started and what projects they are working on – connecting the network. This program has been designed to address the need for groups to link with groups within the network.

Need more project ideas?

Contact Valerie to receive your **Every Day Ideas** Roots & Shoots booklet.

Have more project ideas?

Send them to [valerie@janegoodall.ca](mailto:valerie@janegoodall.ca). Include as many details as possible, including the age range for which the project applies to, in order for other groups to easily reproduce the project.

#### How it works:

- New/interested groups contact the Jane Goodall Institute.
- The Institute sends the contact information of the new/interested group to the corresponding mentor group.
- Mentors deliver workshops.
- Potentially, groups may choose to work together on local projects, such as river clean-ups and tree planting events.

The first mentors will be ready to hit the streets in June 2006.

### We are seeking mentors. Interested?

Interested in becoming a Roots & Shoots mentor or having a mentor come to your school or community group? Know someone who would be interested in having a mentor visit them?

Contact Valerie at [valerie@janegoodall.ca](mailto:valerie@janegoodall.ca).



## Tell Us About It!

Thank you to those who have already taken the time to fill out the online 2006 Roots & Shoots Survey found at [www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=905772151913](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=905772151913).

Wow, thanks a lot! One Roots & Shoots group coordinator tells us:

*Roots & Shoots is just the most wonderful program, a program that people can live their lives by. It allows youth the freedom to decide what area of their community they would most like to put their efforts into and gives everyone involved a sense of pride and self confidence as they know they are making a difference. No important area is left out.*

For those who have not yet logged on, please do so before the deadline - **June 7th!** Your input is important to us.

We are looking forward to receiving more completed surveys.

### You asked us...

Looking through the survey responses received so far, the same question comes up:

#### Where can I find the list of Roots & Shoots groups with their contact information?

On the Roots & Shoots membership form, there is a question about whether or not you would like us to share your group's contact information with other Roots & Shoots group. If you have indicated "yes", then you will receive a list of the other groups who have also said "yes". This list is emailed twice a year. If your group is not on this list and would like to be, please contact Valerie at [valerie@janegoodall.ca](mailto:valerie@janegoodall.ca).

Remember, there are lots of ways to connect with other Roots & Shoots groups:

- through the Roots & Shoots Yahoo group
- at Roots & Shoots festivals and special events
- sending out e-alerts, announcements or challenges through Valerie
- submitting newsletter items

# What are Roots & Shoots groups doing?

Group	Area	Age	Project
West Island College	Montreal QC	High School	<b>PAINTING A BRIGHTER PICTURE</b> Group members painted pictures which they donated through local organisation Room For Change in order to decorate patient rooms, waiting rooms and corridors at the Montreal Children's Hospital.
Waterford Public School	Waterford ON	Elementary	<b>THE GIVING TREE PROJECT</b> When the group found out that a large number of books were being discarded from the school's library, they came up with an idea that would keep them out of landfills. Each book was wrapped and tagged with a note: "You are holding a little piece of W.F. Hewitt history. We would like to offer this book to you and give you the opportunity to replace it with a brand new book". For every gift that was brought in, a leaf was added to the Giving Tree in the front foyer. Over 200 brand new books replaced those that had been discarded!
MAC Roots & Shoots	Ancaster ON	University	<b>FUNDRAISERS FOR ROOTS &amp; SHOOTS PROJECTS</b> MAC Roots & Shoots have held 2 very successful fundraisers. First one was an Acoustic Night at a local teashop where over 150 people showed up! On Valentines Day, the group hosted a vendor table in their student centre in which they sold Valentines treats. The group has raised over \$500 from these two events. They will soon be hosting a Feast or Famine event as well as a second Acoustic Night since the first was so successful.
KidPower Roots & Shoots	Dartmouth NS	High School	<b>ETHICAL CONSUMPTION</b> November of 2005 was an opportunity for KidPower Roots & Shoots members to work with Oxfam during an 'Ethical Consumption' event. The evening featured an organic dinner and a fashion show of fairly traded/sweatshop free clothing. Roots & Shoots members modeled clothing from Ghana and learned a lot from the various speakers at the event. They are already planning to volunteer again in 2006.
Harrow Roots & Shoots	Bangkok Thailand	Elementary	<b>ENDANGERED SPECIES</b> Harrow Roots & Shoots researched endangered animal species within Thailand and constructed a board game for use by students in the primary school, through which they would learn about these species, the problems they face, and ways in which humans can help preserve them. Furthermore, Harrow Roots & Shoots members joined grades 12 and 13 science students on a visit to a local animal conservation centre, where they volunteered their time working for the resident animals – developing enrichment activities, cleaning out cages, preparing food, etc.
Green Dragonfly Roots & Shoots	Sault Sainte Marie ON	Elementary	<b>TOMATO SEEDLINGS</b> The group took part in the "Tomatosphere" Experiment ( <a href="http://www.tomatosphere.org">www.tomatosphere.org</a> ). Upon completion of this project, the group had about 60 tomato seedlings to find homes for! They heard that their community had a community garden that gives its harvest to a local soup kitchen. Some of the tomato seedlings made their way to friends but the rest were donated to the community garden.

[www.janegoodall.ca](http://www.janegoodall.ca)



L'Institut Jane Goodall Institute

## National Office

5165 Sherbrooke St. West, #301  
 Montreal, QC H4A 1T6  
 t (514) 369-3384  
 f (514) 489-8748  
 e [roots\\_shoots@janegoodall.ca](mailto:roots_shoots@janegoodall.ca)

## Regional Office, Southern Ontario

5420 Hwy 6 North, RR # 5  
 Guelph ON N1H 6J2  
 t (519) 767-9587  
 f (519) 767-0128  
 e [krista@janegoodall.ca](mailto:krista@janegoodall.ca)