

Rural Burritt's Rapids Joins Jane's Walk Ottawa

Why should urbanites have all the fun?

APRIL 14, 2015 - BURRITT'S RAPIDS, ON - Wherever we live we're surrounded by people with special interests and hidden skills. But because they may not be obvious - and we forget to ask questions - our neighbours and their talents remain a mystery. Jane Jacobs, the legendary urbanist, urged people to connect by walking their neighbourhoods and talking to one another.

So we walked and talked our way around our village and this is what we found: A polo field. A pyrotechnics expert. Masons (the secret handshake kind). A renowned painter. A classic car collector. Hidden artifacts. A trapper. A hunter. A luthier. Fishermen. Sugarbushes. Beekeepers. Storied houses. Award-winning gardeners. Voyageur canoe guides. A gaggle of historians. And passion. Plenty of passion for people and place.

We're calling our event "**Jane's Walk, Run, Yoga, Hike, Paddle, Ramble, Lecture, Listen, Learn, Potluck, Play & People Watch.**" Catchy variation, no? (And if you bring a unicycle, horse or Segway we'll gladly expand the title.)

2015 marks the launch of Jane's Walk in Burritt's Rapids. We're offering up a tabula rasa – a clean slate – with no preconceived notions about how things "should" be done. Come participate in organized walks and talks, free, self-guided activities and some "Meet the Locals" events. We think Jane would approve.

- When: Saturday May 2nd & Sunday May 3rd, 10:00am to 4:30pm, rain or shine
- Where: Burritt's Rapids, (Ottawa) Ontario
- What: Organized walks, talks, a yoga class, a community run, Living Library story swap, self-guided tours, art exhibitions, voyageur canoe tours, "Open Doors", Sunday potluck, local hiking, biking, Geocaching, and birding
- Bring: Depending on what you want to do: yoga mat, running shoes, weather-appropriate, comfortable clothes, walking shoes, sandals/water shoes, camera, binoculars, water, snacks/packed lunch, a picnic blanket, your curiosity
- Website: www.habicurious.com/jane - schedule of walks & associated activities; local & site-specific information
www.janeswalkottawa.ca - master schedule of walks in greater Ottawa
- FB: www.facebook.com/JanesWalkBurrittsRapids
- Twitter: #JanesWalkOttawa #BurrittsRapids

What is Jane's Walk?

Jane's Walk is a global movement of free, citizen-led walking tours inspired by legendary urbanist Jane Jacobs. The annual festival takes place on the first weekend in

May, on six continents and in more than a hundred cities around the world.
www.janeswalk.org

Who is Jane?

Jane Jacobs (1916-2006) was an American/Canadian journalist, author and activist who championed new, community-based approaches to planning for over 40 years. Her 1961 treatise, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, became perhaps the most influential [North] American text about the inner workings and failings of cities, inspiring generations of urban planners and activists. She lived in Greenwich Village, New York City and then in the Annex district, Toronto.

About Burritt's Rapids

Located about 40 minutes from the Parliament Buildings, Burritt's Rapids is officially part of the City of Ottawa. Living in Burritt's offers a life with one foot in the city and one in the country. Living beside the Rideau River and Rideau Canal, surrounded by forests and fields, it's like year-round cottage living. The village was founded in 1793 by United Empire Loyalists and is one of 26 villages in the rural city, brought into the fold during amalgamation in 2001. Historically, Burritt's has always been split between two townships – north of the river lies Ottawa, south of the river is North Grenville. This unusual dual-government arrangement creates a few, shall we say, anomalies, which we all master sooner or later. For residents, it's a single community with quirks.

Please note: There is a restaurant, Lock17, on the outskirts of the village but no bank machine, gas station or other services.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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Members of the media are welcome to walk, talk, and discover and to just generally
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