



C.P. 291 - Sherbrooke (Québec) J1H 5J1

A Word from the President

Reading this text will spur you into wondering if history does not repeat itself. Indeed, every spring, we sound the call and announce the beginning of a new clean up season. The report on last years operations (see p. 2) will allow you to see that last season was as good as those preceding it. The experience we acquired during those years along with the specific sums of money allotted to us by Environment Canada have enabled us to improve our performance as well as to carry out more operations.

Charles Coulombe

In this respect for those years, ASF has been constantly consolidating its knowhow. Voluntary participation is the field that we most developed in the past two years. The most difficult task for the coordinator of operations is to make sure that there is every week, a large well trained team made up of regular participants. On that level we reached a record with over 130 people. What makes our organization so special is not so much the expertise that it acquired as its ca-

capacity to build up a reserve of popular action may it be from members, militants or volunteers. With the financial help of the Federal Government Robert Léo Gendron ran the operations through the Eco-Action 2000 program. I now ask you to make the coordinator's task easier by telling us of your wish to participate by calling: (418) 563-5362.

Moreover, the production of a memoir within the framework of a public consultation was what actually became the most important event of

the last two years. Luc Loignon and Pierre Dansereau, two of our members and militants, worked on the project. Let us recall that ASF had decided to go forward with a concept that favoured the voluntary participation of its members and the public at large. At the time, we created an internet site on which we introduced an electronic forum. A project for a memoir was proposed and submitted for discussion, and then presented to the BAPE commission last October. In his article, Pierre Dansereau introduced the two recommendations as formulated by ASF. We invite you to consult the memoir on our internet site or at the office.

Finally, let me invite you personally to take part in our annual general assembly (please see the notification to attend on this page). It should be considered as a privilege to attend since the moment will offer the best of opportunities for criticism of our actions and to talk about our future. Wouldn't that be a great place to be to meet our members?

See you soon!

Avis de convocation

En tant que membre d'Action Saint-François vous êtes invités à participer à la prochaine Assemblée générale annuelle de l'organisme. Celle-ci aura lieu :

Le mardi 25 avril 2000 à 19 h

À la Chaudronnée de l'Estrie

470, Bowen sud, Sherbrooke (accès par la rue School)

Lors de cette assemblée générale, les points suivants seront abordés : Les activités de l'organisme et l'état des finances; le code d'éthique d'ASF; le site Internet et mémoire sur la gestion de l'eau; les élections au conseil d'administration.

Nous espérons vous y rencontrer.

Les documents relatifs à l'assemblée générale seront disponibles au local d'Action Saint-François dès le 4 avril 2000.

Pour plus de renseignements n'hésitez pas à téléphoner au 563-5362.

Table of contents

Report on cleaning up operations p. 2

Code of Ethic p. 3

The secrets of an agricultural system which is in harmony with its environment p. 4

BAPE audience p. 7



1999 report on cleaning up operations

It is with great pleasure that we present the following report on our clean-up operations.

Robert Gendron
Coordinator for clean-up operations

We carried out 34 clean-up operations along nine streams in the St-François watershed from May 1st to November 26th, 1999. These waterways are mainly situated in the municipalities of Ascot, Hatley, Fleurimont, Lennoxville, Saint-Elie d'Orford, Stoke and Waterville. 77% of the material removed went for recycling, the 23% left went to the Sherbrooke dump (see the table at the end of this article). We are grateful to the City of Sherbrooke which collaborated with us by giving free access to the dump throughout the season.

The Dorman (Stoke) and Key Streams (Saint-Elie) required the most important efforts in cleaning up their banks. Both held a few



Photo : Action Saint-François

At Key brook July 17th 1999 : Chantal, Yannick, Janine, Lucie, Jean-Pierre, Paula, Louis, Jean-François.

surprises. The Dorman site contained twice as much trash as had been initially assessed. The true quantity of material found during our chores is sometimes amazing. The Key Stream actually made the headlines when 4000 used tires were discovered on site. Having found them forced us to meander through the arcane in-

tricacies of tire salvage in the province of Québec. We shall have another opportunity to talk about this not too clear nor very ecological situation.

I would now like to underline the fact that all the work involved in cleaning up these banks was made possible through the generous and voluntary participation of

Report on clean up operations								
From May 1 st to November 20 th 1999								
Waterway	Location	Metal (Kg)	Glass and plastic (Kg)	Tires (Kg)	Trash (Kg)	Total (Kg)	Operations (Number)	Volunteers (Number)
Blouin	Canton	0	0	0	618	618	1	6
Cambron	Fleurimont	509	0	0	64	573	1	8
Dorman	Fleurimont	3756	220	3032	1664	8672	7	75
Étang	Canton							
Jetté	Stoke	2282	0	609	0	2891	1	6
Key	Canton de	7772	0	13950	5729	27451	9	56
McDonald	Canton	409	0	0	0	409	2	
Mitchell	Huntingville	927	0	0	1653	2580	2	15
Ouellet	Fleurimont	700	0	280	38	1018	1	5
TOTAL		16354	220	17871	9766	44212	24	171

numerous people. I take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful people who took part in the 1999 clean up season. They were numerous since 133 volunteers came; some of them more than once, for a grand total of 234 participations throughout the entire season. Some loved it so much that they often came back for more.

Finally, I would like to thank Environment Canada for its financial support in 1999. The Eco 2000 Program allowed us to manage clean-up operations that lasted 27 weeks. We also have confirmation that this support will be renewed for the next season. ASF thus begins a new century with the knowledge that another busy year of activity lies ahead: may all volunteers of good will come forward!

Photo : Action Saint-François



At Key brook August 14th 1999 : Alain, Guy, Yannick, Jean, Steve, Stéphane, Paul, Robert Léo.

Moreover it is possible for you to come forward and sign up for volunteer work at our office, 18 Wellington North, in Sherbrooke or by calling us at 563-5362. Leave your name with our coordinator or leave a message with your name and telephone

number. We thank you in advance for your participation and remain open to all your suggestions and commentaries.

The new millenium will be ecological or it will not be.

A code of ethics to be submitted to the General Assembly

A code of ethics shall be introduced for adoption by the members of ASF during its annual general assembly. This code is the result of a long process carried on by an ad hoc committee formed by members of the association.

The elaboration of this document was devised to help achieve the following goals:

- The stirring up of interest in a collective reflexion to help members of the organization become more aware of the system of values that is the basic philosophy behind all of our actions.
- To allow our organization to assert itself, to share with others and to enhance its commitment to the environment.
- To allow the organization to promote the rights of its members and that of the community at large.
- To establish the main principles and a code of conduct that shall offer a fra-

mework and determine limitations in our interventions. This would allow our members to remain faithful to the values promoted by our organization and to remind the latter of its duty to remain true to its mission and objectives.

- To establish a code of conduct that would be the same for everyone and to improve on the cohesion between the people who work with the organization.
- The reasons mentionned above all aim at devising a code of ethics that will help to establish the credibility of ASF actions and help preserve its reputation of trustworthiness and its image within the community, and also for its collaborators.

In order to remain true to its aim, the committee has drawn up the following plan of action:

1. The consultation of all ASF documents, plus some brainstorming in order to establish the leading principles

and the values transmitted by the organization.

2. A consultation with past and present members of ASF.
3. The drawing up of a code of ethics.
4. The presentation of this last document to the board of directors.
5. The revision and correction of the document.

Once the document on a code of ethics will have been drawn up, the next step will be to introduce it to the general assembly for adoption. Without doubt, this last step will be the most important one to take and belongs to you, the members. Thus, you are all invited to take part in the next general assembly. This document is available at the ASF office, 18 Wellington North in Sherbrooke.

The secrets of an agricultural system which is in harmony with its environment

On 25 and 26 October, 1999 the Office for Public Audience on the Environment was in Sherbrooke to hear the regional memoirs that had been produced on the question of water management in the Province of Québec. At that time we had the opportunity to hear the testimony of a farmer from the Beauce who has a passion for his work and for the environment. Mr Champagne had been invited by "le Rappel" to talk about his experience. This he did with much coloured eloquence that convinced everybody how well founded were the agricultural methods he used in harmony with the natural environment.

Photo : Jean-Claude Thibault



Alain Champagne explaining the importance of preserving wetlands.

Nathalie Gobeil, RAPPEL and Pierre Dansereau

When he took back the family farm 12 years ago, Mr Champagne rapidly made the decision to put a stop to the catastrophic loss of soil caused each year by erosion. In fact at the time, the land he owned - mostly made up of loam on an incline of 6% - was losing 10 to 30 tons of fine sediments carried away annually by spring thaw and summer storms.

Through experimentation and the observation of the erosion process, the ecologist-farmer succeeded within ten years, in controlling completely his environmental impacts. The key factor behind this astonishing result was to work in concert with Mother Nature. Nowadays, the Champagne farm has become a model in the Beauce Region, all the more so since it covers a large span of agricultural activities: 50 to 60 head of cattle for slaughter, 94 000 chickens for frying, 2800 pigs, 100 acres of agricultural land, and 80 acres of trees (the farm is totally self-sufficient in straw, hay and manure).

Today, when most Québec farmers generate enormous quantities of sediments in streams, Mr Champagne is

proud to say that the desOrmes stream that crosses his land does not receive any fertilizer nor pesticide. Furthermore, being sensitive to the preservation of the flora and fauna in his environment Mr Champagne considers himself to be the main beneficiary of this environmental victory.

Numerous government experts now visit the Champagne farm. They come to learn how the principles that lie behind a durable agricultural practice can be applied with little or no financial means; all that is needed actually, is imagination and a good sense of observation. Ten years ago Mr Champagne was looked upon as some character who was wasting his time and energy; some of his neighbours would laugh at his habit of walking around his fields, getting drenched under the worst storms. It was the only way he had to observe the waterflow process taking place on his land, in order to find a method to put a stop to the erosion and loss of soil. By reason of the results obtained at economical and ecological levels, the solutions and measures Mr Champagne opted for deserve to be described.

Avoiding soil compaction

The preservation of the structure of a particular type of soil requires that no action be taken to compact it. On a farm, the frequent passage of heavy machinery is to be proscribed; that is why Mr Champagne allows for intervals of 15 to 18 months between ploughings. This method also prevents the erosion of uneven terrains. Experience shows that ploughing exclusively during springtime and at greater intervals is more profitable on a long term basis. Mr Champagne claims that soil structure is better preserved if no in depth tilling nor overmixing of arable soil with one which is mineralized are carried out (Horizon B and C). In fact, it is important to always conserve the humus rich organic matter and to always maintain its percentage relatively constant.

Old time harvesting systems allow the replacement of springtime ploughing in fields that are more susceptible to erosion. It's a matter of harvesting hay two weeks after what is now considered the best time by most farmers. The seeds are then ready to fall from the crop and be automatically sown again in the fields

for the following spring. Numerous farmers know of this practice, but few are willing to use it since they have been told that such hay contains less proteins. A believer in his own experience Mr Champagne noted that protein reduction was of 2 to 3%, and that it happened only during the first harvest. In fact, the application of old time harvesting techniques has made it possible for Mr Champagne to considerably increase his hay production and to sell the excess. The explanation for this success come from two main advantages as observed by Mr Champagne over the years:

- The global maintenance of the fertility of the soil by the decrease of soil compaction, the preservation of the structure of the soil and the elimination of loss through fine sedimentation and erosion.
- A faster germination of seeds already deposited in contrast to seeds bought and sowed after ploughings

Better controlled pastures

On the Champagne farm, pasture for cattle is smaller than that seen in the region on most other farms which breed cattle for slaughter. In fact, it is more advantageous to put a limitation on the size of pasture land and to establish a regular rotation. Cattle are thus prevented from grazing on the fringes of wooded areas where trampling destroys regeneration and breaks tree roots. Moreover, excrement left on soils where trees grow create ideal conditions for the development of tree diseases, thus lessening future exploitation. Finally, the planification of smaller pasture fields allows for a tighter control of access to streams and wood areas. The latter sites are better fenced and cattle must drink from installations which have been planned for by making use of excess water brought over by drainage ditches from adjacent damp areas.

Drainage water control

A system of drainage ditches carries water to catch basins dug in damp areas situated near the woods. This allows suspended particles to deposit and filters the water that then flows downwards the main waterway. Fine sediment that has been washed away can

then be brought back to the soil in order to maintain its fertility. The inner sides of the basins are entirely vegetative and the lentils that float on the surface help maintain water freshness. Ducks love to feed off this aquatic vegetation. In accordance with the rotation technique planned by Mr Champagne, each of the basins is drained every four years and the sediments spread in the fields during springtime on portions of the land already ploughed.

Some of the basins serve as reservoirs sceppling water to drinking troughs in the pastures. The basins are walled in cement and lined with impermeable clay to prevent rapid water loss. Surplus water is directed towards percolation zones or settling areas.

The protection of ditches and the desormes stream

Adequate small bridges or "calvettes" have been built where a road crosses a drainage ditch or small stream. Furthermore, installations have been planned to increase protection against heavy rains. For that purpose, small low cement walls to which have been added rocks and foliage prevent erosion caused by the whirlpool effect at the entrance and exit of the drainage ducts. The development of the vegetation amongst rocks is important not only because it helps to retain the soil but also to improve the natural refreshing of the water and the fish habitat.

On account of its width, crossing the DesOrmes stream would have necessitated the construction of an important and onerous structure. A ford has been created in order to allow the passage of heavy machinery. The incline of the banks have been reduced and small rocks have been strewn in order to stabilize the soil and prevent tractor wheels from sinking.

All the ditches and the streams which drain the fields on Mr Champagne's farm have been edged with a vege-



Photo : Jean-Claude Thibault

A good example of a completely replanted drainage ditch.

tation band that is at least two meters wide. However this protective zone is larger on each side of the DesOrmes stream because it receives water from other neighbouring lands. The total of all the measures applied by Mr Champagne on the water drainage system on his farm have finally paid off by giving life back to the stream which in the past had been so degraded by very serious erosion of its banks.

A few other tricks to keep in mind

Here are a few tricks for a well informed farmer.

- When doing major work, always save the top soil and put it back on top after finishing up.
- Lime may be spread on paths used by heavy machinery in order to facilitate the implantation of grass and reduce the amount of barren soil.
- No pesticides, nor herbicides or chemical fertilizers should be used (it's cheaper that way) thanks to the salvage of manure and the utilization of mechanical means to remove weeds.

Cont'd on page 6

The Magog river watershed

Two municipalities confirm their engagement

On 24th February, the beginning of a technical study was announced by the committee that oversees work being done on the watershed of the Magog River, between the Drummond and Rock Forest dams. The financial sponsorships of the municipalities of Canton d'Hatley and Rock Forest allow two well known researchers from the Université de Sherbrooke to lead this study (Yeah!). As far as the other two municipalities are concerned we are still awaiting confirmation of some financial support for the committee and the study.

Action Saint-François (ASF) attended the conference and reaffirmed its commitment to help in the of the project as well as to keep a close watch on the results. The expertise of Mr Jean-Marie Dubois and Mr Léo Provencher, the two geomorphologists involved in the study will surely help us out in defining what means are to be taken against the sedimentation phenomena of the Magog River. This should eventually help in organizing the chores done by our volunteers.

Let us recall that the formation of the Magog River watershed committee corresponds exactly with our own recommendation at the Bape public audience (please refer to the other article on the Bape audience) which pertained to the development of a sloping basin approach which would be overseen by small local committees. We have already been able to observe that work being accomplished by the latter committee is now bearing fruit; proof lies with the arrival of such involvement as that of the Université de Sherbrooke, the commitment of the municipalities and the MRC de Sherbrooke, the collaboration of organizations as CHARMES, RAPPEL, CREE, ARMRA, and the active support of the deputy for the county, Mr Robert Benoit.

P.D.

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Horizontalement

- Territoire englobant le réseau hydrographique d'un cours d'eau (deux mots).
- Ville du Nunavut- Eminence- lettre grecque.
- Fleuve de Russie- Fleuve d'Afrique.
- Oui- Annélide- Sous nos pieds- Krypton.
- Pronom neutre en anglais- Colère- Alliée.
- Aperçut- Plante à fleurs jaunes- État d'une personne qui a dû quitter sa patrie.
- La nature y tend- Pronom.
- Cours d'eau- Infinitif.
- Ils sont entraînés par tous les cours d'eau du globe jusque dans les océans- Rubidium- Son chant nous accompagne souvent, au printemps, lors des corvées de nettoyage d'Action Saint-François.
- Affluent de la Seine- Propositions mathématiques.
- Double règle- Habitat.
- Elle nous permet de mieux comprendre la nature- Ville et site du Mexique.
- Aurochs- On peut s'y enliser.

Verticalement

- On doit la préserver si on veut nous-mêmes survivre comme espèce.
- Vit dans l'eau- Ancienne monnaie.
- Poisson de la Méditerranée- Nous tombe dessus- Métal précieux.
- Russe- Né- Article.
- Mille-pattes- Eux- Lettre grecque.
- Nickel- Chaque région du Québec en possède habituellement une qui modèle le paysage- Jeu.
- Ils sont parfois très utiles lors des corvées de nettoyage d'Action Saint-François- Instrument de musique arabe- Commune russe.
- Selenium- Très petit cours d'eau- Attache.
- Ville du Nevada- Voyelles jumelles- Blocage.
- Genre important de nos plantes forestières- Il est retiré.
- Note de musique- Poète.
- Neptunium- Vêtement écossais- Ce que n'est pas un bénévole d'Action Saint-François.
- Coiffure papale- Périodes- Arsenic.

Cont'd from page 5

- Protect the biodiversity by:
 - conserving fruit bearing trees and the greatest variety of other small trees and plants in understory.
 - promoting humid environments which make great habitats for amphibians and insects.
 - planning and building water cascades so that fish may swim upstream in small streams or streams like the DesOrmes.

Elements of a philosophy for the world to follow

- Work with Nature, not against her.
- Work for the present but also for the future.
- Aim for a quality of life in a healthy environment.
- Work efficiently with no waste of time and energy.
- Be attentive to nature and experiment with it in order to help it maintain its balance.
- Make the farm work for you.

- Remain critical and make self-evaluations that challenge the way you do things.

Action Saint-François at the BAPE audience

Pierre Dansereau

The Eastern Townships participation in the public consultation on water management at the BAPE audience was impressive; on 26th October last a great number of our people were waiting their turn to introduce our recommendations and answer the questions raised by the three commissioners (M. André Beauchamp, president, Mrs Gisèle Gallichan and M. Camille Genest). Two representatives from Action Saint-François, Charles Coulombe and Pierre Dansereau, waited until 23:00 hrs in order to make their presentation. In spite of the late hour, we believe that we succeeded in stirring up the interest of the commission.

Our presentation was divided into two parts. M. Coulombes first took a few minutes to bring back to mind the mission of Action Saint-François; he also explained the method used in preparing this memoir. He made the demonstration of how important the concept of voluntary involvement was, and stressed the fact that our people had come forward because they wanted to. We reminded everyone that our clean@up operations were all done by volunteers. In fact, all of them participate without any expectation of monetary reward or personal gain as would for instance, a landowner who happens to own land through which a riverway flows. Furthermore, the creation of an electronic forum and the preparation of a document that citizens and sympathisers can consult are expressions of our will to bring the people to come forward and get things said.

In the second part of our presentation, I summarized the content of the recommendations that were introduced to the commissioners. Those of you who have followed

up on this environmental matter may have already looked us up on our Internet site (www.asf-estrie.org). All the same, let us recall the main lines of this summary:

A favoured approach to watershed management

What we propose is that the government give its support to citizen coalitions that aim for a better management of small territories through the creation of secondary watershed committees, and this without any further delay. We have already offered as an example the recent formation of the Magog River secondary watershed committee (see the article included in this newsletter). We put the emphasis on the importance of voluntary action and the necessity of supporting local citizen groups who want to act directly on site as ASF does.

The promotion of actions that would entice the agricultural world to become more aware of, and to be more responsible towards the environment

In order to face up to the problem of waterway erosion in rural areas, we propose that a credible environmental certification process be introduced for farmers. Citizen groups would be associated with this process in order to render it more transparent.

Finally, we ended the presentation by bringing forward the four main principles that will have to be followed in any future Québec water policies:

- Being a vital resource, water is public property and people

have the right to take part in the decision making process as concerns its management.

- The right of every citizen to potable water and to water to meet other essential needs.
- Water as a perennial resource.
- The natural equilibrium of the aquatic ecosystem.

The commissioners showed interest in our approach. M. Beauchamp did mention the fact that we had the originality of starting from basics: "Evidently, environmental certification as usually perceived is more apt to be a matter for specialists to control and put a label on... You, on the other hand, have a dynamic secondary watershed approach and as I was listening to you, I was wondering if we would encounter the same problem Québec is now facing up to in trying to regroup the municipalities" (extracts and translation of the transcription).

Pertaining to the first critical remark, Charles did in fact say that we were not experts but simple citizens whose main objective was to take a position in what is at stake. We stressed the fact that accessibility to water was an important aspect when it comes to considering it as a public resource. As to the second remark, we believe in spite of everything, that it is more important to start at the base along with responsible citizens who share a community feeling.

Persons interested may consult the integral transcript of our presentation by looking us up on our site (www.asf-estrie.org) or on that of the BAPE (www.bape.gouv.qc.ca/eau/). Our memoir on water management is also available on the Web as are all the communiqués on the consultation process as issued by Luc Loignon, the person responsible for our electronic forum).

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Informants wanted!

As far back as its beginnings, ASF has been actively searching for sites to be cleaned up along the waterways of the Saint-François watershed. We all know that there is no lack of old dumps,

and that we will all be hard at work for many years to come. However, the time it takes to locate such sites, assess the costs of cleaning them up, and then establish a contact with their owners is still consuming too much time. In the past such research had been made possible by volunteers and then students hired for the summer. Again this year, we are hoping to get some government aid to hire at least two students who would reconnoiter the terrain along the streams and who would draw up a detailed inventory of the sites to be cleaned up. Again, we are asking for your help in order to become more efficient. If you know something about a dump site which is located along a waterway, do not hesitate to call us. We could send our scouts and assess the site. Nothing would be asked from the owner or from anybody else. Call us at 563-5362.

Display your allegiance to Action St-François!

Do you want to help ASF but lack the time to take part in the work involved? You will be able to share the experience by buying one of our magnificent T shirts, now available at \$18.00 cdn, and make a strong statement for the environment. T shirts are for sale at the ASF office, 18 Wellington Street North, in Sherbrooke (sizes are Medium, Large and Extra Large)...or call us at 563-5362.

The new members of Action Saint-François from July the 1st, to December 30th, 1999

Magog

Arbour, Thierry
Arsenault, Léon
Aubé, Pierre
Caron, Serge
Courchesne, Etienne
Daigneault, George
Gadbois, René
Goulet, Solange
Labonté, Daniel
Langlois, Denis
Leroux, Edgar
Perron, Raymond
Poulin, Francine
Truax, Vincent
Villeneuve, Construction

Rock Forest

Ariano, Antonio
Aumont, Guy
Belisle, Louise
Binet, Marco
Blais, André
Bourdon, Sylvain
Charbonneau, Claude
Delli-Colli, Diane
Demers, Jacques
Desautels, Laure
Dolbec, Denise
Dumont, Guy
Erbetta, Jean-Louis
Illy, René
Lacharité, Jean
Laplante, Mario
Marceau, Steve
Paré, Suzie
Roy, Joane
St-Pierre, Sylvie
Villeneuve, Nicole

Sherbrooke

Cabana, Martin
Couture, André
Couture, Conrad
Duguay, Charles
Gervais, Jacques
Giguère, Marie-Manon
L'Espérance, Michel
Lachance, François
Lacroix, Noella
Lallier, Michel
Loignon, Luc
Lourette, François
Mercier, Patrick
Morin, Karine
Pérusse, Richard
Plante, François
Reid, André
Rich, Lise
Rousseau, Benoit
St-Laurent, Louisette

Mots croisés - Solution

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	B	A	S	S	I	N	V	E	R	S	A	N	T
2	I	Q	A	L	U	I	T		E	M		P	I
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4	D	A		V	E	R		S	O	L		K	R
5	I	T		E		I	R	E		A	M	I	E
6	V	I	T		I	V	E		E	X	I	L	
7	E	Q	U	I	L	I	B	R	E			T	E
8	R	U	I	S	S	E	A	U		E	R		R
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On January 1st we number 560 members in good standing.
57 people have join for the first time, Action Saint-François, since July 1st 1999.

Those members with electronic address can send it to ASF at
asf@asf-estrie.org

Consultez le site web d'Action Saint-François à l'adresse suivante :
<http://www.asf-estrie.org/asf/>



**ACTION
ST-FRANÇOIS**

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Nos archives :
<http://www.asf-estrie.org/asf/journaux.htm>

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Translations : Pierre Berger

Révision linguistique : Pierre Dansereau

Lay out : Luc Loignon.

ACTION SAINT-FRANÇOIS A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOUNDED IN AUGUST 1992 BRINGS TOGETHER CITIZENS CONVINCED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT. THE GROUP IS INTERESTED IN THE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF AQUATIC MILIEUS OF THE SAINT-FRANÇOIS RIVER WATERSHED. CLEAN UP, EROSION CONTROL AND REPLANTING PROJECTS ALONG WATERWAYS AND FLOOD PLAINS ARE ORGANIZED BY ACTION SAINT-FRANÇOIS. WE WANT TO HEIGHTEN AWARENESS OF THE POPULATION TO THE NECESSITY TO ACT IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE HYDROLOGICAL NETWORK OF OUR TERRITORY. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE 25\$. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL US AT (819) 563-5362.