



## Garden centre near Ottawa wins national award



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Rideau Woodland Ramble is set on seven acres near Merrickville with a large gazebo garden centre amidst lush perennials and walking trails.

Dave Dunn and Rob Caron have been on Cloud 9 since their business, Rideau Woodland Ramble near Merrickville, was named Destination Garden Centre of the Year.

“We’re still pretty over the moon,” says Dunn of the award from the Canadian Garden Council announced March 17 at the North American Garden Tourism Conference in Toronto. “We were blown away when we got the call and were told we won.”

Set on seven acres about 30 minutes south of Ottawa, Rideau Woodland Ramble opened in 2000 after Dunn and Caron had spent most of the previous year cleaning up the property, which had been heavily damaged by the 1998 ice storm.

“This was our own millennial project,” says Dunn of the lush display gardens brimming with rare hostas, hardy evergreens, grasses and perennial flowers. Interconnecting walkways and trails allow visitors to wander through six different garden settings, past a pond with a fountain to the large gazebo garden centre set in the middle.

Designed “to capture the imagination of gardeners and collectors” and to demonstrate what can grow in our climate, the Rideau Woodland Ramble has attracted visitors from around the world. With their recent national award, the owners are expecting an increase in traffic this summer.

“I’m hoping it will excite more people to come out and see the gardens,” says Dunn.



Rideau Woodland Ramble Display Gardens and Garden Centre wins national award.

### **If you go**

**Where:** Rideau Woodland Ramble Display Gardens and Garden Centre, 7210 Burritt’s Rapids Rd.

**Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from April to November

**Info:** 613-258-3797 or [rideauwoodlandramble.com](http://rideauwoodlandramble.com)