

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed April 19, 2017

The City of Nanaimo wants to help you purchase and plant a tree

Save the World! Plant a Tree!

Summary

The City of Nanaimo wants your help in increasing our forest canopy. The City has partnered with Green Thumb Garden Centre to provide residents with affordable trees to be planted on private property. Nanaimo residents will be given the opportunity to purchase a \$10 voucher to be redeemed at Green Thumb Garden Centre for a two year old fruit or coniferous tree sapling worth up to \$75 in value. Vouchers will be sold during the Earth, Water and Wild Foods Day Festival on Sunday, April 23rd at Bowen Park. Vouchers will be available to Nanaimo residents only with a limit of three per person, cash only. The event will take place from 11am to 3pm. Funds to support the program are provided from fees paid through tree removal permits and fines from illegal tree removal.

Strategic Link: Environmental Responsibility: protecting and enhancing Nanaimo's natural environment by looking after the community's biological diversity in the course of land use and development.

Key Points

- Tree Vouchers will be sold for \$10 and available to Nanaimo Residents only. Proof of residency or photo ID may be required.
- Vouchers will be available during the Earth, Water and Wild Foods Festival at Bowen Park from 11am to 3pm.
- Vouchers will expire on October 23rd, 2017.

Quotes

"A healthy urban forest is essential to our quality of life. By selling discounted tree vouchers the City is hoping to encourage residents to increase our urban forest canopy by taking action and planting a tree on there own property."

Dave Stewart
Environmental Planner
City of Nanaimo

"Trees in a city provide many social, economic and environmental benefits for its citizens. A healthy urban forest canopy provides critical habitat for wildlife, reduces the impacts of global warming, provides storm water abatement, increases property values and help define the character of the city. One mature tree can sequester over 50lbs of carbon in a year and produce enough oxygen for two adults, protecting our existing trees and planting new ones is one of the best things we can do for future generations"

Patrick McIntosh
Urban Forestry Coordinator
City of Nanaimo

Continued... The City of Nanaimo wants to help you purchase and plant a tree

Quick Facts

- The City's "Management and Protection of Trees Bylaw 2013 No. 7126" allows for the payment of cash-in-lieu if a trees are removed and cannot be replaced on the property. Cash-in-lieu funds are used to support tree planting throughout the City.

-30-

Contact:

Dave Stewart
Environmental Planner
City of Nanaimo
david.stewart@nanaimo.ca
250-755-7582

Patrick McIntosh
Urban Forestry Coordinator
City of Nanaimo
patrick.mcintosh@nanaimo.ca
250-755-4460 Ext 4357



View the online edition for more information -
<http://cnan.ca/2oP3GXl>