



### **City to Host Salute to the Salmon Event**

*November 15, 2010-* The City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Department is hosting a 'Salute to the Coho' event this Saturday (November 20<sup>th</sup>) at Bowen Park from 10am to 1pm. This is a celebration not only of the returning stock but also of successful community partnerships. Various groups have worked collaboratively over the past few years to return the Millstone River to a state which can sustain a spawning run.

The ceremonies will begin at 10am at the Bowen Park Amphitheatre (near the duck pond) with a prayer and drumming lead by members of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. Officials from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will acknowledge local groups who made the Millstone fish ladder possible and recognize their continued and dedicated efforts.

Charles Thirkill from Friends of Millstone River will lead a virtual tour of the river with information and rhyme. Nanaimo Recycling Exchange will be on site with their healthy watersheds interactive display. Folks from the Nanaimo Fish Hatchery will also be on site with their booth outlining the life cycle of a salmon. Take part in a guided interpretive walk along the Millstone Chanel and watch demonstrations of Coho counting and tagging techniques offered by VIU's Resource Management Officer Training students.

If you missed out on Rivers Day in September this event is a must. Bring your children and take this opportunity to talk with them about the importance of protecting our rivers and the amazing salmon species. For more information about this event or other park programs please contact Eileen Bossons, Recreation Coordinator at 250 756 5200 or visit [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca) .

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