

NEWS RELEASE

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Horticultural Staff Go Green with New Bicycle-Powered Program

Summary

The City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Environment Department has taken to the streets on two wheels to beautify Nanaimo. Launched July 8, the Pedal Powered Garden Patrol is a program where City horticultural staff will perform daily gardening, clean ups and site inspections on City parks and in the downtown core. But instead of taking a motorized vehicle to the site, they will ride bicycles with customized trailers attached. Staff will use this method of transportation two to three days per week. At the moment, there are two bicycles and trailers in the fleet and the hope is to add more as time goes on.

This program is expected to reduce fuel consumption and maintenance of the Parks, Recreation and Environment Department's motorized vehicle fleet. It will also reduce the City's green house gas emissions.

Strategic Link: The Pedal Powered Garden Patrol program supports the Environmental Pillar and the Transportation and Mobility priority in the 2012-2015 Corporate Strategic Plan by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and dependency on motorized vehicles.

Key Points

- The Pedal Powered Garden Patrol is a Parks, Recreation and Environment Department program launched July 8.
- Horticultural staff will ride bicycles with customized trailers attached to parks and other City sites across Nanaimo to perform gardening, clean ups and site inspections.
- The Pedal Powered Garden Patrol will reduce fuel consumption and maintenance of the City's motorized vehicle fleet and reduce the City's green house gas emissions.

Quotes

"I'm very excited to be part of the Pedal Powered Garden Patrol. Not only is it good for the environment, it saves the City money and it's a great way for me to keep healthy while at work."

Patrick McIntosh
Landscape Horticulturist
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