

NEWS RELEASE

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Community planting planned for Hawthorne Park

Summary

A community planting has been planned for Hawthorne Park in October. On Saturday, October 17, neighbours of the park will be helping to plant trees and other native plants.

Hawthorne Park and an adjacent vacant property suffered extensive damage from a brush fire on July 4. Planting will be focused on restoring the damaged area as well as planting shade trees near the new playground.

The City of Nanaimo was awarded a \$13,300 grant to plant trees in Hawthorne Park from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and Tree Canada as part of the TD Green Streets program. Nanaimo was chosen out of 125 applicants for the grant, along with 22 other communities across Canada.

Strategic Link: Environmental Responsibility; Community-building Partnerships

Key Points

- Over 50 trees of differing size and species will be planted in Hawthorne Park to provide more shade near the new playground and to restore areas of the park damaged from a wildfire in July.
- Interpretive signage about the unique park features and benefits of trees will also be installed.
- The City of Nanaimo was awarded a \$13,300 grant to plant trees in Hawthorne Park from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and Tree Canada as part of the TD Green Streets program. The City of Nanaimo and park neighbours applied for the grant to further the community's park improvements vision.

Quotes

"The participation of volunteers and park partners in this project has helped create community spirit and raise awareness about the importance of urban forests. Thanks to TD and Tree Canada, the playground will have more shade and the damage caused by a wildfire will be remedied."

Ian Thorpe
Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- Hawthorne Park is a 1.5 hectare (3.7 acre) neighbourhood green space near Wakesiah Road. The park features walking trails and a stormwater retention pond.
- The park was improved in 2014 under the City's Partners in Parks (PIP) Program. Residents and the City partnered to install a new playground and create a community gathering hub. Several community barbeques and events have since been held in this public area.

Continued... Community planting planned for Hawthorne Park

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