

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **A Celebration of the World's Waterways & Trees**

*September 24 is World Rivers Day in Nanaimo*

#### **Summary**

The last Sunday of September is Rivers Day, a day to celebrate the world's waterways and their importance to all life on earth. This year the City of Nanaimo, Nanaimo Area Land Trust (NALT) and Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable are pleased to host a number of tours and activities, both before and on Rivers Day, September 24.

Activities for Rivers Day include an interpretive side channel walk, live music by local bands, interactive booths and a salmon BBQ hosted by NALT. Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable will also host a number of watershed tours on Friday, September 22 and Sunday, September 24.

Also on September 24, the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation will host a tree planting ceremony at Merle Logan Field in honour of National Tree Day (September 27). At one of the Rivers Day booths, tree vouchers will be on sale for \$20 so you can plant one in celebration on your own property.

*Strategic Link:* Environmentally Responsible; Recreation, Culture, Sports and Tourism

#### **Key Points**

- World Rivers Day events will take place at the Bowen Park Lower Picnic Shelter on Sunday, September 24 from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm.
- Live Music by The Downward Dawgs, TerraZetto and Dave Hart.
- Space is limited so pre-registration is required for all Rivers Day tours. See page 73 of the Fall and Winter Activity Guide.
- Tree vouchers will be on sale for \$20 at Rivers Day. 500 trees are available for Nanaimo residents only and a limit of 2 per property is in place.

#### **Quotes**

"We are celebrating waterways and trees this fall and it all starts with Rivers Day activities. We encourage you to sign up for one of the watershed tours and learn more about Nanaimo's waterways. This year, you can also enter to win one of two large re-purposed rain barrel totes and purchase a tree voucher. We will also have additional information on a local food forest neighbourhood project we are planning. We look forward to seeing you at the many nature inspired celebrations and events happening throughout September and October."

Deborah Beck  
Recreation Coordinator  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- Rivers Day is celebrated on the last Sunday in September and was founded by world-renowned rivers advocate and British Columbian - Mark Angelo.
- The first event was held in 2005 and has continued to grow. This year several million people across more than 60 countries will celebrate World Rivers Day.
- National Tree Day is September 27 and has been celebrated for 25 years. This day provides an opportunity to do something positive for your local environment and reconnect with nature.

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