

**Fall 2017**

Join us for a celebration of  
**World Rivers Day** with events that honour our city's  
rich heritage of waterways.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017**  
**11 AM - 2:30 PM**

**BOWEN PARK LOWER PICNIC SHELTER**  
**SALMON BBQ HOSTED BY NALT**  
BBQ wild BC salmon filet on a bun with all the fixings  
\$10 • Service starts at 12 noon

**GUIDED STREAM WALK**  
11 am with Julie Pisani, RDN Team Water Smart

**LIVE MUSIC BY LOCAL BANDS**  
11 am • The Downward Dawgs  
12:15 pm • TerraZetto  
1:30 pm • Dave Hart



**TREE VOUCHERS ON SALE FOR \$20**  
(500 trees available for Nanaimo residents only;  
limit 2 per property; for trees up to \$75 in value)

**Also ENTER TO WIN!**

One of two large re-purposed rain barrel totes.



What has Kirsty MacDonald  
been up to this past year?  
Surprise!!  
Welcome little Fiona and  
Welcome back Kirsty.  
I know it will be a challenge  
to say good bye to that  
smile every morning.

Ever wonder where your drinking water comes from?  
Join us on **Friday, Sept 22 at 9:00 am** and follow the  
journey of our water from Jump Lake to our  
Water Treatment Plant

**Nanaimo River Watershed Bus Tour** • (barcode  
#158788) Meet at Bowen Park, Wall Street Parking lot

## **RIVERS DAY TOURS HOSTED BY NANAIMO RIVER WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE**

(Pre-registration is mandatory. Some fees  
apply.)

See the Fall 2017 Activity Guide for details.

Tours starting from Bowen Park  
Wall Street Parking Lot:

- Morden Colliery Historical Park Bus Tours •  
9 am on SUN, SEP 24 (#158784)
- Nanaimo River & Wild Play Adv. Centre Bus  
Tour •  
9 am on SUN, SEP 24 (#158789)
- Nanaimo River Regional Park Bus Tour &  
Eco-Walk •  
9 am on SUN, SEP 24 (#158790)

Tours starting at other locations:

- ~Nanaimo River Estuary Walk • 9:30 am on  
SUN, SEP 24 (#158785)  
*Meet at end of Raines Road in Cedar*
- ~Vancouver Island's Largest Estuary by Raft •  
9:30 am (#158756) • 1 pm (#158786) on  
SUN, SEP 24  
*Meet at Living Forest Parking Lot*

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**Permaculture** is a system of agricultural and social design principles centered around simulating or directly utilizing the patterns and features observed in natural ecosystems. The Ideal Permaculture 'Farm' brings production of food closer to consumers and is intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient.

The **Beaufort Park neighbourhood** is looking at doing just this, with the development of a **Food Forest**. A work party and student art project is planned for Friday, Oct 6 from 10-2:00 and an open house is planned on Saturday Oct 7 from 10-noon at Beaufort Park. Information will also be available at our Rivers Day event on Sunday Sept 24 at Bowen Park. Please drop by to learn more and provide input or questions.

## Volunteers Hard At Work

To date the TD Auto Finance group has held 3 clean up work parties in Bowen Park as new Ambassadors of this location (part of our Adopt-A-Park Program).

This group started on the Wall Street side of the Rhododendron Gardens and has been working their way toward the Bowen Complex side, clearing out several truckloads of Ivy, Laurel and Holly.

They will also be working on a Tree Plant project at Merle Logan Park on Sunday Sept 24<sup>th</sup> as part of the TD Tree Days and contributing to the health of our urban tree canopies.

*"Our volunteers really appreciate the time we have spent in the park & take pride in seeing the work we have put in & the improvements we've made to the park since April."* Cleamon Jones





## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARKS?

### LINLEY VALLEY PARK BIO-BLITZ A GREAT SUCCESS!

Working with a number of local naturalists, including faculty from VIU, City Parks staff helped host a Bio-Blitz event in Linley Valley Park on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The intent of this event was to help raise awareness of the key ecological features of the park and to help promote a sense of stewardship among the high school students attending. Up to 44 students, along with their instructors attended from 4 school eco-clubs.



The students were divided into groups that worked with a team leader on:

- Terrestrial Wildlife Inventory Techniques
- Plant Identification
- Wetland Inventory Techniques
- Bird Identification

At the end of the day, the data collected was posted along with other information about the Park for the public to view, providing an opportunity to collect the public's thoughts and observations on possible improvements for this park.





## WESTERN PAINTED TURTLE RESTORATION IN BUTTTUBS MARSH THIS SPRING

This spring, Parks staff were busy working with the Nature Trust of British Columbia (NTBC) and our volunteers to help improve the habitat for the endangered Western Painted Turtle in Buttertubs Marsh by place a number of basking logs around the marsh shoreline. These logs are important habitat features for these turtles. Later, in May, Parks Trails crew realigned an existing section of trail in order to create a turtle nest beach, a south facing sites to lay their eggs.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Painted Turtle is the only native pond turtle left in B.C. It can be confused with the introduced Red-Eared Slider. To tell the two species apart, look for the telltale red “ear” mark on the Slider. Painted turtles do not have any red markings on the neck or head.



### BAT HOUSE AT DIVERS LAKE ...

Thank you to the Bowen Senior's Carpenters, the Nanaimo Nature Kids, parks staff and Trudy Chatwin for helping install a Rocket-Box Bat House at Divers Lake Park as a roosting site for local bats and in educating our kids more about why we Bats are important. Go check it out and for more info visit [www.bcbats.ca](http://www.bcbats.ca)