



Free the Fern November Newsletter

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GROW WILD! WEEKEND



Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to our Grow Wild! events, October 22-23. Together, you helped make the weekend so successful!

The weekend began on Saturday, Oct 22, with our community planting event. Together, 40 volunteers helped to plant 500 native plants at three stewardship sites along the Red Alder Trail. [Read more here.](#)

Then, on Sunday, Oct 23, Free the Fern ran three eco-art workshops at the Kinross Creek Co-op common room.



The first workshop, Weaving with Ivy, was led by Free the Fern President, Grace Nombardo, & Treasurer, Joe Boyd. Together, 9 participants learned how to weave a basket out of invasive English ivy. [Read more here.](#)

Next, eco-artist, [Joshua Ralph](#), helped lead two Paper Making workshops. This was a popular workshop with local youth. Together, participants learned how to make paper out of invasive plants and weeds (English ivy, vetch, tansy, and buttercup). [Read more here.](#)

Grow Wild! was been made possible thanks to a [TD Park People Grant](#), [Neighbourhood Small Grant](#), and donations from Independent Grocer & Starbucks.

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Invasive Pull! - November 5, 2022

On **Saturday, November 5, 2022, 10am-12pm**, Free the Fern director, Catherine Munn, will be hosting an [Invasive Pull!](#) on the Red Alder Trail, adjacent to Matheson Heights Co-op. Volunteers will be focusing on removing invasive English ivy and Himalayan blackberry. Gloves, tools, juice, and snacks will be provided. Sign up to volunteer [here](#).



Artist Call Out

We are looking for local artists who would like to support us in creating some large, nature-themed lanterns for our **Light up the Night in Champlain Heights Event, Dec 18, 2022**. These lanterns will be displayed on the Red Alder Trail during a public lantern procession. We can provide support with: skill sharing and, possibly, supplies for building

(pending Neighbourhood Small Grant approval). Note: we will also be running some more basic lantern building workshops for the general public in December, so stay tuned! Interested artists can reach out to us at freethefern@gmail.com



Everett Crowley Park Committee

If you are eager to volunteer at other invasive pulls, outside of Free the Fern, our neighbouring [Everett Crowley Park Committee](#), organizes monthly invasive pull events. Their next next scheduled pull is: **Sunday, Nov 13, 10am-1pm** Contact ecpcstewards@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to sign up.



By the Numbers

YEAR	2021	2022 (Jan 1-Oct 31)
Number of Volunteers	52	81
Volunteer Hours	583	694
Invasive plants removed (L)	66, 420	55, 140
Native plants planted	551	746
Events	11	17

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