



Free the Fern

Oct 2024 Newsletter

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## Healing Forest Planting



# Healing Forest PLANTING EVENT

OCT 19, 2024 | 10AM-12PM

Douglas Fir Teaching Garden (East of 3530 Swansacre), South Vancouver



### Community planting

In an effort to heal the forest, volunteers have been removing invasive species from the Red Alder Trail. Now, we will be gathering to plant hundreds of native plants. All ages welcome! Tools & gloves provided.



### Bannock & Jam

Enjoy delicious, fresh baked bannock and jam, prepared by our Elder in Residence, Marge Wylie, along with tea & juice. Free for all volunteers.



### Coastal Wolf Pack

Following the planting, we will celebrate with a drumming & dance performance by the Coastal Wolf Pack, a multigeneration Coast Salish performance group.



REGISTER NOW: @ [freethefern@gmail.com](mailto:freethefern@gmail.com) [www.freethefern.ca](http://www.freethefern.ca)

We are excited to announce our [Healing Forest Planting](#) event on **Saturday, Oct 19, 2024, 10am-12pm**. Over the past 11 months our volunteers have been working hard to remove invasive ivy and Himalayan blackberry from the eastern side of the Red Alder Trail. At our Healing Forest event, we are excited to be able to plant 648 native plants, including salmonberry, elderberry, woodland strawberry, sword fern, Oregon grape and more.

We need volunteer help with setting up the plants along the trail from 9am-10am. You can [sign up here to help](#).

We also need volunteers (of all ages) to come out and help us plant! [You can sign up here to help](#).

Gloves and shovels will be provided.

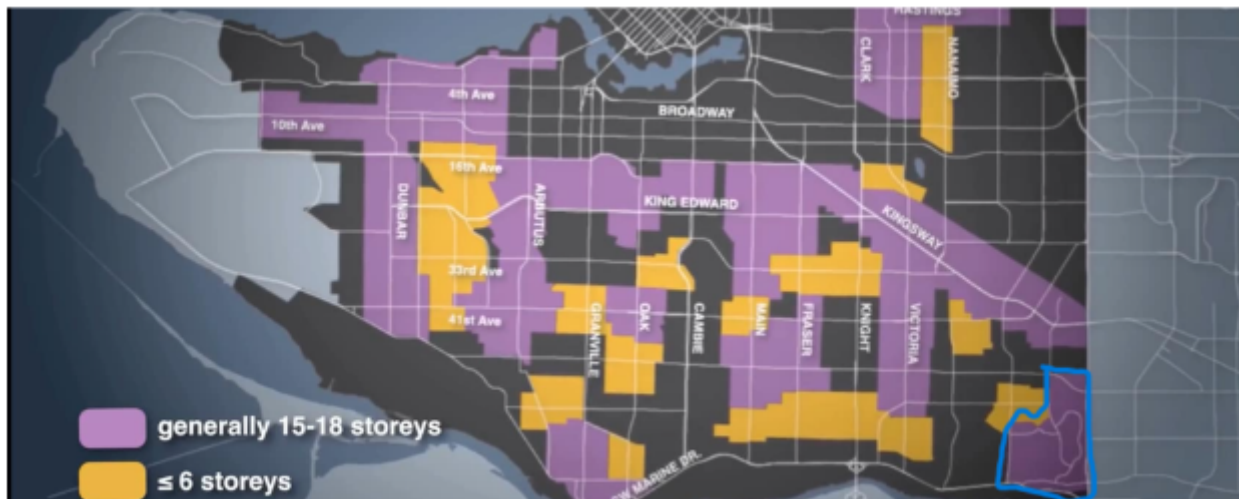
Following the planting we will share bannock & jam prepared by Elder, Marge Wylie. We will also have a return performance by the incredible [Tsatsu Stalqayu](#) (Coastal Wolf Pack).

We look forward to having many at our Healing Forest Planting event!

Funding for this event has been provided by the [Community Placemaking Program](#), [Green Streets](#), and [Park People](#).

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FREE THE FERN  
TOP STORIES



## Rezoning for Champlain Heights



The City of Vancouver is [proposing rezoning neighbourhoods across the city](#), along with our neighbourhood of Champlain Heights, to allow for non-market housing 15-18 storeys in height. Our neighbourhood contains some of the last remaining native forest in the city, including the Champlain Heights Trail that we steward. Community members are concerned about the environmental impact of building towers adjacent to a habitat for eagles, owls, bats, woodpeckers and more. You can [attend a public information](#) session this week to learn more about this rezoning proposal.



## **Invasive Pull - Sat, Oct 5, 10am-12pm**

Join us on [Sat, Oct 5, for an Invasive Pull](#). This is our last invasive pull before our Healing Forest Planting. We will be removing the last bit of invasive ivy & Himalayan blackberry from our planting area along the eastern edge of the Red Alder Trail. Come join us! Snacks & drinks included!



## **Truth & Reconciliation Planting**

On Monday, Sept 30, 12 volunteers gathered for an impromptu [Truth & Reconciliation Planting event](#). Together, we planted 90 native plants along the Red Alder Trail. We consider our stewardship effort to be an act of healing and reconciliation, as we seek to replace colonial invasive species with Indigenous plant species native to our area. We hope to make this planting an annual tradition to honour Truth & Reconciliation. Plants were donated to us from the [Green Streets Program](#) & purchased from the [Echo Ecological Plant Fundraiser](#).



## **Ivy Weaving Workshop - Sun, Nov 10, 10am-12pm**

Free the Fern is excited to be partnering with the [Everett Crowley Park Committee](#) to organize an [Ivy Weaving Workshop](#) on Sun, Nov 10, 10am-12pm. The workshop will be held at the Champlain Heights Community Centre and be taught by Free the Fern Executive Director, Grace Nombardo, and local weaver, Joe Boyd. Spaces are limited, so [sign up soon to participate](#). We hope this is the beginning of many more collaborations between our two stewardship groups!





## T-Shirt & Bag Fundraiser

We are excited to announce that we have raised \$1,659 so far, as part of our Fern T-shirt & Bag fundraiser in support of the [Urban Native Youth Association](#) (UNYA). The fern design was created by Coast Salish artist, [Andrea Fritz](#) and printed on sustainable cotton at local Burnaby printers, [Pressing Matters](#).

Have you got your Free the Fern T-shirt or bag yet? It's not too late! You are welcome to purchase bags (recommended donation of \$20) and shirts (recommended donation of \$30) via e-transfer or cash. Send us an email at [freethefern@gmail.com](mailto:freethefern@gmail.com) to learn more.

We will also have bags available for sale at our upcoming [Healing Forest](#) planting event!

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# Neighbouring Nature Events

There are many other amazing groups in Metro Vancouver organising events this month. Check out what is happening below.

**Saturday, Oct 5, 2-3:30pm - Meet the Urban Forest: Fall Foliage Walk** - Stanley Park, Vancouver

Stanley Park Ecology Society is organizing an [Meet the Urban Forest: Fall Foliage walk on Oct 5, 2-3:30pm](#). Come along and get acquainted with the trees of Stanley Park as the forest undergoes its colourful seasonal transition!

**Sunday, Oct 6, 10:00am-11:30pm- Salve Making & Tea Workshop**- Champlain Heights Community Centre

Join eco-artist Joshua Ralph from [Invasive Art Initiative](#) for a free salve making and tea workshop. This workshop has been organized by the Everett Crowley Park Committee,

**Saturday, Oct 12, 10am-1pm - Everett Crowley Park Fall Planting** - Everett Crowley Park, Vancouver

Join the Everett Crowley Park Committee for their fall planting event to plant native shrubs and learn more about the unique history and ecology of Everett Crowley Park.

**Wednesday, Oct 16, 4-6pm - Making Friends with Fungi Walk** - Everett Crowley Park, Vancouver

With the hands of an artist, eyes of an ecologist, and the heart of a deeply connected human, DIY Mushroom Cultivation author Willoughby Arévalo brings the practical and the joyful together through the science and wonder of mycology.

**Saturday, Oct 26, 10am-1pm - Glenbrook Ravine Native Planting** - Glenbrook Ravine, New Westminster

Volunteers have been busy removing Himalayan blackberries from the Glenbrook Ravine. Now they need help to replant a few hundred native trees and shrubs. Event organized by [ISCMV](#), the City of New Westminster, and the [New Westminster Environmental Partners](#).

**If you know of a local event happening next month, let us know!**

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