



## LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY

July 2016 Newsletter

### Happy Canada Day

At last schools out, the rains have eased and we begin to enjoy the summer season of the Lower Mainland. There is much on offer during July around Langley, be it in your very own backyard tending to your summer harvest, or at one of the many events happening this month.

If you are still searching for ways to occupy the children, both Ready. Set. Grow Summer Farm Camp and our Eco Explorers camp have availability. If you are looking for a full day option, Farm Camp will be action packed with animal feeding, fort building, a visit from a bee keeper, a visit from some birds of prey, a creek peek, bird house building and farm adventures. Eco Explorers has half day options available and topics range from Pollinators, to Frogs, to Bats.

The Demonstration Garden is hosting two fantastic workshops this month, including a session on gardening with children and another for adults who are interested in attracting pollinators to their gardens.

Water Wise is hosting a Septic Sense Seminar as well as offering residents of Langley Township the chance to win a rain barrel.

We also have a food canning workshop later in the month, and ivy pull, and tips for eating locally too! Check out the details below.

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### Summer Farm Camp



LEPS has teamed up with Laurica Farm and Glorious Organics to host the Ready. Set. Grow! Summer Farm Camp 2016.

Enroll the kids in a week of wholesome, Wi-Fi-free outdoor fun! Children will participate in a variety of hands-on eco-activities, including animal husbandry, beekeeping, weeding and planting their very own farm patch, shelter building, arts and crafts, and much more.

### The Faces of LEPS



#### Lauren Hines and Isabel Sheier

Lauren and Isabel are working to develop a youth-based watershed stewardship group here in Langley.

They hosted the inaugural meeting and a community action event in Walnut Grove this June, and will continue developing this project through the summer months and into the next school year, to engage local youth aged 12-18 in actions to steward our local salmon habitats.

Check them out and get involved at <http://langleyyouthws.weebly.com/>

### Quick Links

[LEPS Contacts](#)

[Related Topics](#)

[More On Us](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

2 camps offered, Suitable for ages 6-12 yrs, 9am-3pm daily

### **Farm Fields- July 11-15**

Green abounds in farm fields. Explore the farms and see what's growing. Dig in the soil with David and Cathy and learn how plants grow. Harvest from the farm for a healthy lunchtime treat. Discover how organic farms create a healthy ecosystem. Build tree forts, create forest art, and find your way on a scavenger hunt.

### **Farm Friends- July 18-22**

Chickens, lambs, pigs and bees... What creatures call farms home? Worms, salmon, birds, and frogs are all friends of the farm. See how they work together in the farm community to help build, grow and protect the foods you eat. We'll investigate the smaller worlds through explorations- both on land and in water!

#### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

5 day camp \$190 per child

Eventbrite registration: <http://ow.ly/4n5Q8c>

Drop off and pickup at Laurica Farm: 25775 12 Ave, Aldergrove

Questions? 604.546.0339

## July in the Langley Demonstration Garden

July will be another busy month in the Demonstration Garden at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum.



Registration for [Eco Explorers Summer Camps](#) is currently open, with many camps filling up.

### **July 16, Saturday, 10-Noon Container Gardening for Kids**

Do you have trouble getting your kids to eat their vegetables? Once they grow their own, they will be happy to eat them! This hands on workshop is for children aged 4-7 years and requires caregiver participation.

### **July 18, Monday, 5-7pm Picnic in the Park**

Bring along a picnic and join us for two garden outings, including garden tours and fun activities for the whole family. Some BBQ and snacks will be available by donation.

### **July 20, Wednesday, 6:30-8pm Creating a Pollinators' Paradise**

Learn all about local pollinators and discuss the role of pollinators in the local environment. Participants will learn about the principles and benefits of planting a pollinator garden.

To register or for more information contact Meg, Garden Coordinator: [garden@leps.bc.ca](mailto:garden@leps.bc.ca) or 604.546.0344

*Thank-you to our program partner- The Township of Langley!*

## July Events

### **July 9, Saturday 10am- noon Ivy Pull**

Help release trees from their ivy shackles in Bradner. The Glen Valley Watersheds Society is hosting an ivy pull at Bradner Park, please meet at the parking lot on Haverman Rd. just west of Bradner Rd. in Abbotsford. Tools and gloves will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Celebratory pizza and refreshments at the end.



Contact Lisa, Stewardship Coordinator for info: [stewardship@leps.bc.ca](mailto:stewardship@leps.bc.ca) or 604.546.0336

*This project received financial assistance from Vancouver Foundation, Abbotsford Community Foundation and the City of Abbotsford through the Neighbourhood Spirit Small Grants Fund (NSSGF), a project that encourages neighbourhoods to create positive social activity in public spaces*

**July 9, Saturday 1:00 - 2:30pm**

**All Season Vegetable Gardening**

On the coast you can be harvesting fresh vegetables from your garden 365 days per year! Learn the tricks of planning a winter vegetable garden, which vegetables are most successful, and receive some mouth watering recipes.

**Register:** 604-533-6086 or at [www.receexpress.ca](http://www.receexpress.ca)

**Workshop Barcode:** 489721

**Grow Healthy Grow Smart**

Grow Healthy Grow Smart is a joint initiative between the Township of Langley and LEPS to educate residents about the benefits of reducing cosmetic pesticide use. The Growth Healthy Grow Smart display and resources will be set up at Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Centre from July 4<sup>th</sup> to July 14<sup>th</sup>, and at Walnut Grove Community Centre July 14<sup>th</sup> to July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**July 11, Monday 6:30-9:00pm**

**Septic Sense Seminar**

Protect your investment! This seminar will provide you with basic information on the proper care for your private septic system, presented by guest Dean Scovill.

Topics will include:

- \* Septic system layout
- \* Locating your septic system
- \* Common septic system failures
- \* General septic system maintenance

For more information or to register for the workshop, contact Erin, Water Wise Coordinator at 604.546.0340 or [water@leps.bc.ca](mailto:water@leps.bc.ca)

**July 24, Sunday 10am - 2pm**

**Instream Cleanup**

The Langley Youth Watershed Stewardship project is teaming up with the LEPS Summer EcoCrew to host an in-stream clean up of the Nicomekl River in Langley City. This by-youth, for-youth event is inviting all residents of Langley, especially those aged 12-18, to hop into hip waders, walk in the water and stroll the stream-banks to remove shopping carts and accumulated trash from the Nicomekl River in Portage Park. Limited numbers of hip waders and rubber boots are available to those who RSVP. Clean up supplies will be provided! Meet at Portage Park. To register contact Izzy at [langleyyouthws@gmail.com](mailto:langleyyouthws@gmail.com)

**July 27, Thursday 6:00-8:00pm**

**Hot Water Bath Canning**

Have you always wanted to learn how to use a hot water bath canner but been reluctant to try? Now is your chance, join Sarah in this 2 hour workshop to discover how easy canning actually is. Participants will learn basic home canning techniques for creating delicious home preserves, salsas, and fruits. Ideal for vegetable gardeners, food lovers, novices and intermediate canners. Each participant will go home with a tasty treat and tips and know how for their own canning adventures.

To register contact Sarah, Education Program Coordinator at 604.546.0339 or [education@leps.bc.ca](mailto:education@leps.bc.ca)

**Save the Date: August 10th, Langley Eats Local Festival**

If you've enjoyed this event for the past seven years, you're probably a good candidate for this year's new Eat Local Challenge! For the week leading up to the August 10th event, participants vow to source as much of their food locally as possible - with foodie prizes to be won! Mark the dates on your calendar and watch our social media for more details.

To register for the Eat Local Challenge contact Agriculture Coordinator, Ava Shannon at 604.546.0337 or [agriculture@leps.bc.ca](mailto:agriculture@leps.bc.ca)

### Got Fruit?

Let the Langley Community Harvest Program pick your backyard fruit tree! LEPS organizes volunteers to harvest local fruits, berries and more. In 2015 we harvested over **2,000 lbs**, donated to community resource centres such as food banks, shelters, and the senior resource centre.



To get help harvesting, keep a share for yourself, and to send the rest of your fruit to a good cause, contact our Agriculture Programs Coordinator Ava on 640.546.0337 or [agriculture@leps.bc.ca](mailto:agriculture@leps.bc.ca)

## Water Wise



Water Wise summer outreach is officially underway! LEPS welcomed Sumara and Hillary in May to kick off our door to door education outreach.

Throughout the summer, our Water Wise Crew will be visiting Brookwood, Murrayville, Walnut Grove and Willoughby to promote water conservation to local

residents, as well as education about the Stage 1 water restrictions that came into effect two weeks early this year.

This summer, Take the **Water Wise Challenge: Go Golden** - and Win!

Go Golden and let your lawn go brown during the summer months and limit lawn sprinkling, a healthy lawn only need 1.5 inch of water, or 1 hour per week. Or better yet, stop watering your lawn during the summer months, your lawn will go dormant and turn green again when fall rains return.

Display a Water Wise lawn sign in your yard to show your community that you are conserving water this summer, and you could\* win a RAIN BARREL! Water Wise lawn sign

How to Win:

- Contact the Water Wise Crew to request your lawn sign at [lepswaterwise@gmail.com](mailto:lepswaterwise@gmail.com)
- Proudly display your yard sign all summer
- Continue to show your community that you follow the message on your sign
- You will then be entered in a draw for a chance to win a Rain Barrel to support further water conservation efforts in your yard and garden!
- For an extra chance to win, take a picture of yourself with your golden lawn, and upload it on Facebook or Twitter with #GoGoldenTOL and #WaterWise

*\*To remain eligible, your sign must be on display all summer, and you must continue to show that you are living up to the Water Wise message on your sign.*

For more information about Water Wise contact Erin, Water Wise Coordinator at 604.546.0340 or [water@leps.bc.ca](mailto:water@leps.bc.ca)

*Thanks to our program partner, the Township of Langley!*

## Bringing the outside...inside!



What an amazing school year the education team here at LEPS has had. We worked with a record breaking number of students in Langley schools... **12,081** to be exact! This more than doubles our previous years.

This was the first school year with a team of 2 educators, Sarah and Heather delivering our education program- *Bringing the outside... Inside*. 451 unique classroom visits took place, with 80% of these workshops being offered for FREE to Langley Schools due to generous funding!



Our education program seeks to bring nature based learning to students from pre-k to university, and allows students the opportunity to become engaged with nature and become aware of the diversity of the natural world right here in Langley.

LEPS' Agriculture Programs Coordinator Ava, and Amanda from Maples supplemented this with Nature's Classroom, during the spring months delivering 12 food growing workshops to 150 students from 5 different Langley schools.

Our Demo Garden Coordinator Meg worked with 340 pre-k students in the Langley Demonstration Garden, bringing the wonder of worms and bugs to 3-5 yr olds.

The Water Wise team assisted with the delivery of our water conservation programs to grade 2 and grade 5-7 classes as well.

If you are looking to participate in one of our many hands-on and engaging environmental education workshops check them out here <http://ow.ly/4ReZ301lfSr> and remember to book early (registration opens in September) in order to avoid disappointment, as we typically are booked out by the end of December for the remaining school year.

Contact Sarah, Education Program Coordinator by email [education@leps.bc.ca](mailto:education@leps.bc.ca) or 604.546.0339

*We would like to thank our funders and partners, the Township of Langley, Metro Vancouver Ag Awareness Foundation, Envision Financial, Vancity Credit Union, the Province of BC, NSERC, Environment Canada, United Way Food For All, GM Canada, GREEN, EarthForce and Maples Discovery Garden Co-op!*

## City of Langley Eco Crew

The Eco Crew is excited to welcome three high school students joining us this month. The new members will learn about native and invasive plant identification as well as invasive plant removal techniques.



The Eco Crew will continue to remove blackberry and invasive plants from public areas throughout the City of Langley, and will also have booths at Langley Event Centre on Canada day as well as at Kwantlen Polytechnic University for the Farmers Market on July 27.

*Thanks to our project partner the City of Langley!*

***Sincerely,***

***Langley Environmental Partners Society***