



LEPS

LANGLEY ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS SOCIETY

May 2016 Newsletter

Greetings!

May is upon us, and by now we have certainly enjoyed a teaser of summer weather to come, some good soaking rains, and many glorious days to shake away the last remnants of winter.

There is much on the go this month, including Science Odyssey, ten days of discovery and innovation from May 6-15, that promotes engaging and inspiring science experiences for Canadian youth and the public. Thanks to Science Odyssey, over 500 Langley students will participate in interactive science and nature workshops delivered by LEPS! Also see information below about another local Science Odyssey event happening at KPU!

As well, LEPS is gearing up for another busy summer with the WaterWise program. Drinking Water Week is May 1-7, and Stage 1 Water Restrictions go into effect May 15, two weeks sooner than last year. The Stage 1 Restrictions will stay in effect until October 15 and can increase to Stage 2 and 3 if drought conditions occur. For more information, visit tol.ca/waterrestrictions.

Celebrate Mother's Day at the Seedy Saturday Celebration and Plant Exchange on May 7, 1:30-4:30pm. This celebration of all things gardening marks the opening of the Langley Demonstration Garden for the 2016 season. Bring your extra seeds and veggie starts to swap and share. The event also includes pear trees and seeds for sale, a seed saving workshop, a mother's day container garden activity, kids crafts and lots of fun! Afternoon tea will be available for purchase.

- 1:45pm Tour of the Garden*
- 2:30pm Workshop: Introduction to seed saving*
- 3:00pm Workshop: Container gardening*
- 3:30pm Kids' garden craft*

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*There is still time to nominate an Environmental Hero!  
Do you know an amazing Environmental Hero? a passionate teacher, volunteer, educator, hatchery worker, anyone who is doing amazing things for the local environment... Nominate them today!*

*The Langley Environmental Hero Award began in 2006 as a way to acknowledge Langley's grass roots efforts, both big and small, to protect the environment. It is a program offered in partnership with MP for Langley-Aldergove Mark Warawa, MP for Cloverdale-Langley City John Aldag, the Langley Times, Langley Township, City of Langley, The Fort Langley National Historic Site, TD Bank and LEPS.*

*The winner of each category will be awarded a prize of \$500, to be donated to the local environmental organization of their choice. The winners will also be recognized in June 2016 at the Fort Langley National Historic Site with a plaque and a heritage apple tree planted in their honour.*

### The Faces of LEPS



LEPS relies on an army of dedicated volunteers to help us out in the field on our restoration projects, in our programs educating youth, and in our offices completing data entry.

This month we would like to say a big thank-you to Taylor for lending a hand on one our recent project of clearing blackberries at a location on the banks of the Fraser River.

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## Langley Demonstration Garden Events

The Demonstration Garden at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum is now open and there is lots to offer for both adults and children. Registration for [Eco Explorers Summer Camps](#) opens on June 1st.



**May 7th 1:30-4:30pm.**

### **Seedy Saturday Celebration**

Join us for fun afternoon which will include a seed swap, and a seedling swap (BYO seeds and seedlings), tips on gardening, children's crafts, container gardening workshop and much more! Afternoon tea will be available for purchase.

**May 25 6:30-7:30pm**

### **Backyard Composting**

Make black gold in your backyard! In a landfill, it can take up to 20 years for a banana peel to decompose. In a backyard composter, it can take as little as a few weeks.

In this workshop, learn what type of composting is a good fit for your needs, and how to quickly turn yard trimmings, fruit and vegetable scraps into rich organic fertilizer. This workshop is great for beginners as well as experienced compost users who want to troubleshoot their compost systems.

*Please RSVP by May 18.*

**June 2, Thursday, 6:30-8pm**

### **Training Fruit Trees to Produce More Fruit**

This workshop will cover Summer pruning of fruit trees to reduce suckers and encourage more fruit production in future years. Also learn about the use of mesh bags as non-chemical barriers to prevent Codling Moth and Apple Maggot infestations of the fruit.

*Please RSVP by May 26.*

**June 6, Monday, 6:30-8pm**

### **Intro to Hot Water Bath Canning**

Don't have time to attend a 3 hour workshop? Join us for this condensed session. Participants will learn how easy and inexpensive it can be to safely preserve fruit and vegetables at home.

*Please RSVP by May 30th.*

For registration information contact Meg, Garden Coordinator:  
garden@leps.bc.ca or 604.546.0344

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

**May Events- so much to see and do!**

There are many events in May, something for everyone:



### **Saturday, May 7th 11:00am to 4:00pm**

KPU is hosting its 4th Science Rendezvous at the Langley Campus. KPU Langley will be transformed into a spectacular science experience where the public will get a chance to participate in hands-on experiments, walk through interactive science labs, watch demonstrations of various KPU initiatives, and of course visit LEPS at our aquatic invertebrate station. [www.kpu.ca/sr](http://www.kpu.ca/sr)

### **Tuesday, May 10th 5:30pm to dusk**

Yorkson Watershed Enhancement Society is hosting a **Mini-Bioblitz**, come out to help document every living thing in a small forest at the corner of 98 Ave and 204 St. You don't need to know how to identify every bug, plant and lichen but come out, bring a camera, a friend and wear your boots to see how many species can be identified on this little piece of the Yorkson Creek Watershed. Contact Lisa, Stewardship Coordinator for info: [stewardship@leps.bc.ca](mailto:stewardship@leps.bc.ca) or 604.546.0336

### **Wednesday May 18th 12:00 to 4:30pm**

Join LEPS at the kick off to the Langley Community Farmers Market at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Besides the weekly fresh produce, local wines and delicious baked goods, find LEPS there every second week with educational materials on local food, invasive plants, reducing pesticide use, conserving water, and more! [www.vectorit.ca/lcfm/](http://www.vectorit.ca/lcfm/)

**Saturday, May 21st 10:00am to 12noon** Join LEPS, the Little Campbell Watershed Society and the Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club for **Minibeast Madness** at the hatchery and discover the diverse community that exists within the gravel and cobble of the Little Campbell River. 1284 184 St, Surrey.

**Monday, May 23rd 11:00am** Glen Valley Watershed Society will be participating in the annual **May Day Parade** in Bradner. Come out to this community event and see what's on display.

## Summer Farm Camp



LEPS has teamed up with Laurica Farm and Glorious Organics to host 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.

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

## LEPS AGM Update

Thanks to all who came out to the LEPS 23rd Annual General Meeting on April 18. After snacking on some delicious goodies catered by the [Water Shed Arts Caf  ](#), we heard about some of the great projects being carried out by LEPS staff, including stream habitat restoration projects, wetland education and enhancement, and lichen monitoring! Thanks to staff members Carly, Meg and Lisa for sharing these success stories.

We also elected our Board of Directors for 2016/2017!

Thank you to Tracy Stobbe, Dick Bunbury, Bob Puls, Jenn Calado, Darlene Sherwin, Louise Smith, Lionel Pandolfo, Leslie Kristoff and Carrie Milsop, for your time and effort in serving as directors.

*Sincerely,*

*Langley Environmental Partners Society*

