

A Citizens Guide). Wetlands are rich in biodiversity and provide a home for local as well as other inhabitants of nearby ecosystems. The Mt. Matheson Conservation Society encourages you to get out during Earth Week and visit a wetland or contact your local government for a list of local sites and appreciate their invaluable importance to both humans and the extraordinary variety of creatures seeking a home.

First Annual Urban Agriculture Contest

Capital Regional District. Does your yard or balcony contain one of Victoria's best organic food gardens? Lifecycles wants to know! Beginning April 13th, this community group will be working to reveal the plethora of food producing activity-taking place within our city through its First Annual Urban Agriculture Contest. Production levels, crop diversity and the use of a composting system are among the judging criteria with fabulous prizes being awarded accordingly. Get involved! Get your garden going, and then submit your application in one of these categories: Best Food Garden, Best Mixed Food and Flower Garden, and Best Children's Garden. Lifecycles: Justine, 383-5800

Saturday, April 14

James Bay Recycling Day

Bring your recycling, including your hard and soft plastics to the James Bay Recycling Center on Market Site (opposite 487 Superior Road).

Birding Bald Mountain on Lake Cowichan

5:30 am Helmcken Park and Ride or 7:00 am Kaatza Forestry Station Museum parking lot (125 A South Shore Road Lake, Lake Cowichan). Join Alan MacLeod and Jan Brown for a birding hike to spectacular Bald Mountain on Lake Cowichan. Come equipped with good hiking boots, prepared for a climb. Bring lunch, sufficient water, and plan to be on a mountain for 6 hours or longer. Victoria Natural History Society: 382-3854.

Carmanah Society Big Tree Day-hike

6:30am. Call for meeting location. Tour to upper Walbran and Hadikin Lake. Cost is \$50. 381-1141.

Walbran Campout

Both weekend days. Call for meeting time and location. Western Canada Wilderness Committee: Heidi Sherwood, 388-9292.

Walk for Global Justice Fundraising Rummage Sale

9am-noon, Fernwood Square. Good shopping for a great cause! Come over to Fernwood Square for a fun morning of treasure seeking, clothes, books, household items and more for cheap, cheap, cheap! For pick-ups or info, contact Laurie, 592-8307.

“Gardening Organically” Workshop

10:30am-12noon, 395 Conway Rd. (off Interurban). Carolyn Herriot shares her gardening secrets. 881-1555.

Lone Tree Hill Wildflower Hike

1:00pm, meet at the parking lot off Millstream Rd. CRD Parks presents this hike to Lone Tree Hill, a delightful short climb anytime, but it's at it's best in the spring. Look for spring wildflowers, early birds, and other signs of spring. For more information, call 478-3344.

Sunday, April 15

Spring Wildflowers around Cowichan Lake

9:00 am Helmcken Rd. Park-and-Ride. Come along with Marilyn Lambert for a wildflower exploration of the Cowichan Lake area. Victoria Natural History Society: Marilyn, 477-5922.

Sutton Creek Flower Reserve Tour

Call for meeting time and location. Join a walk through the Flower Reserve in the Cowichan Valley, including clean up of the reserve as necessary. Sierra Club of BC, East Vancouver Islands Group: Diana Angus, 250-746-6659.

Mystery Creature

1:00pm, Horth Hill Regional Park (North Saanich). Meet at the map kiosk in the Horth Hill parking lot off Tatlow Road. “Riddle me, riddle me through the park. Find the answers before it gets dark.” Solve the riddles to find the clues along the trail. At the end, piece the puzzle together and discover who the mystery creature is! CRD Parks: For more information, call 478-3344

Monday, April 16

Petroglyphs Hike in East Sooke Park

1:00pm, Aylard's Farm parking lot, off Becher Rd. CRD Parks presents a tour of the East Sooke Park petroglyphs. Walk to the petroglyphs and discover the story in stone. Call for more information, 478-3344.

Tuesday, April 17

Alien Invaders!

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm, High Rock Park (Esquimalt). Pre-register your elementary (grades 3-5) school class for this opportunity to learn more about the endangered plants and Alien Invaders! that are taking over Victoria's Garry Oak meadows. Visit a local Garry Oak habitat and participate in fun, hands-on activities that will help your class discover the rare and lovely place where we live. Each time slot is reserved for 30 students, one class. Call to register. Program cost is by donation. Sierra Club of British Columbia: Jenn Hoffman, 386-5255 ext. 212.

Pesticide Action

7:00pm, Sierra Club of BC Board Room at 576 Johnson Street. Are you concerned about Pesticides? Come to a Meet and Greet at the Sierra Club's downtown office. Sponsored by the Sierra Club Victoria Chapter Info: 383-3336

Growing It In the City! An Evening on Urban Agriculture

7:00pm – 8:30pm, Fernwood Community Association, 1923 Fernwood Road. Did you know that over 12% of the world's population is fed by Urban Agriculture (over 700 million people)? Do you want to get on board? Come find out why Lifecycles thinks growing food in the city is important at this educational evening. Hear about local and international urban agriculture projects and find out what you can do to get involved! Lifecycles: Justine, 383-5800 for more information.

Wednesday, April 18

Alien Invaders!

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm, Christmas Hill (Saanich Area). Pre-register your elementary (grades 3-5) school class for this opportunity to learn more about the endangered plants and Alien Invaders! that are taking over Victoria's Garry Oak meadows. Visit a local Garry Oak habitat and participate in fun, hands-on activities that will help your class discover the rare and lovely place where we live. Each time slot is reserved for 30 students, one class. Call to register. Program cost is by donation. Sierra Club of British Columbia: Jenn Hoffman, 386-5255 ext. 212.

Climate Change: What's Happening, What We Can Do

7:30pm, Garry Oak Room (1335 Thurlow St.). Behind Sir James Douglas School-park in the schools parking lot. Screening of Dr. Richard Gammon's interesting and informative Climates of Change 2000, followed by a keynote lecture detailing the current state of science on greenhouse gases and climate change. The evening concludes with a panel discussion featuring Guy Dauncey, Tom Hackney and Stewart Hertzog on what we can do about climate change individually, socially and politically. There is hope! Sierra Club of BC: Tom Hackney, 381-4463.

Cyclists' Heaven!

7:00pm, 234 Menzies, James Bay. GVCC monthly meeting.

Re-Inventing the World: Cities

9:00pm, on Vision TV, Channel 52. A look at Curitiba, Brazil and sustainable cities.

LETS Infoession #1

12 noon – 1:00pm, CEDCO, #100-703 Broughton Street. Victoria's LETS (Local Exchange Trading System) is a local exchange and trading system that has created and uses our own currency – green dollars. Green dollars is a healthy, sustainable, fair and logical alternative to globalization. Put your money where your mouth is – come and get informed. Snacks provided. LETS: Keith Moen, 920-7992

LETS Infoession #2

7:00pm –8:00pm, Fernwood Community Association, 1923 Fernwood Road. Get all your questions answered about LETS – our local currency. If you hate world globalization, you'll love LETS! Snacks provided. LETS: Keith Moen, 920-7992

Birds Aren't the Only Ones!

10:00am, CRD Parks program. Did you ever wonder what insects, spiders, slugs, amphibians, reptiles and birds all have in common? To learn the answer, you'll have to bring your child. Use your senses, sing songs and discover the connections in nature. A pre-register program, with a fee. Call 478-3344 to register and find out more about the program.

Thursday, April 19

Alien Invaders!

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm, Beacon Hill (Victoria Downtown area). Pre-register your elementary (grades 3-5) school class for this opportunity to learn more about the endangered plants and Alien Invaders! that are taking over Victoria's Garry Oak meadows. Visit a local Garry Oak habitat and participate in fun, hands-on activities that will help your class discover the rare and lovely place where we live. Each time slot is reserved for 30 students, one class. Call to register. Program cost is by donation. Sierra Club of British Columbia: Jenn Hoffman, 386-5255 ext. 212.

South Island Organic Producers Association tour

6:00pm, 961 Matheson Lake Road. Tour of Uminami Farm. Call 361-1747 #2 for more information.

Leave Your Car at Home Challenge

Before, During and After School. Margaret Jenkins Elementary plans to celebrate Earth Week with a "Leave Your Car at Home" challenge on Thursday the 19th. Poster contests, skits and prizes will round off the school's car-free event which organizers hope will continue as "Fuel-less Fridays" throughout the Spring. Daphne Hitchcock, 598-5191.

Chameleon

10:00pm. Steamers Pub. Come jump, jive and wail to the groovy beats and funk-o-maticity of local benefit veterans Chameleon, who jam in celebration of EarthWeek 2001. Approximately \$4 at the door.

The Hive Urban Agriculture Tours

1:00pm, The Hive Demonstration Site (corner of Holland Road and Blue Ridge Road). Come out and see urban agriculture at work in Victoria. Examples of composting, mulching, raised bed planting and use of native pollinators. Get to the Hive by bus: #22 Burnside stops right at Holland and Blue Ridge! Sponsored by Lifecycles. For more information contact Kate Paul at 383-5800.

Friday, April 20

Alien Invaders!

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00-3:00pm, Mt. Tolmie (Saanich Area). Pre-register your elementary (grades 3-5) school class for this opportunity to learn more about the endangered plants and Alien Invaders! that are taking over Victoria's Garry Oak meadows. Visit a local Garry Oak habitat and participate in fun, hands-on activities that will help your class discover the rare and lovely place where we live. Each time slot is reserved for 30 students, one class. Call to register. Program cost is by donation. Sierra Club of British Columbia: Jenn Hoffman, 386-5255 ext. 212.

Flower Day

David Cameron School, 675 Meaford Ave. David Cameron Student Council is going to organize the planting of flowers and plants in a 'round about' area in our parking lot. Students are going to be asked to bring a flower to plant on Friday, April 20. Student Council will also be purchasing some wild flower seed to plant in other areas around the school.

Club Café Merengue - Live Latin Music and Salsa Class

8 pm to 9pm Salsa Class, 9 pm to 1 am Dancing; Ukrainian Centre (3277 Douglas). \$8.00 per person. Contact the Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre: Carlos A. Gaeto, 361-9433 ext. 215.

Monterey Elementary School

8:15am- 9:00am. From April 20 to 27th Monterey Elementary School in Oak Bay will be experiencing a different scene when arriving at school— a car-free scene! To celebrate Earth Week 2001 Monterey Elementary School will not only be blocking off streets adjacent to the school for the morning arrival, they've also challenged another Way To Go school to do the same! In addition, every Wednesday during the month parent volunteers will engrave identifications onto alternative transportation- scooters and bicycles, and grade 6 students will participate in a special mapping project. Way To Go Monterey School! For more information, call Hazell Penn at 595-5925.

Saturday, April 21

Leave Your Car at Home Challenge

Margaret Jenkins Elementary plans to celebrate Earth Week with a "Leave Your Car at Home Challenge". Poster contests, skits and prizes will round off the school's car-free event which organizers hope will continue as "Fuelless Fridays" throughout the Spring. For more information, Daphne Hitchcock, 598-5191.

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Make an Appointment with the Earth

7:00pm-9:30pm, Paule DaCosta Aveda Institute, 1402 Douglas Street. This is a fundraising event to support ForestEthics – a group dedicated to protecting the watersheds and ancient rainforest of BC. Join us for an evening of celebration featuring our current trend show, a silent auction and door prizes. Cost of admission is \$5.00. For more information contact Carolyn Power at 386-7993.

Earth Day Yoga Party.

From 6:30 - 10pm, at the Church of Truth, 111 Superior St., James Bay. Free yoga class starts right at 7 - connect to the earth with your body, grounding and releasing poses. Beginners welcome. Free. Refreshments and music from 8pm onwards.

Xena's Day Spa & Hair Gallery

The folks at Xena's Day Spa are really excited about Earth Week so much, they've extended their events to Earth Month this year! For the month of April, drop by Xena's Day Spa (1504 Fort Street) to purchase ForestEthics raffle tickets, leave your signature for the World Bank to let them know you think free-flowing water should be protected or check out the special service promotions, from which a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to local non-profit environmental groups advocating for clean, safe water. All clients will receive a Biodiversity Awareness Bracelet. For more information, call Aideen at 592-4275.

Astronomy Day

9:00am – 5:00pm, St. Ann's Academy, 835 Humboldt Street. Celebrate Astronomy Day, an annual event produced by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada that explores the cosmos with many related events, including lectures, displays, telescope observations and activities for children. For more information, call 391-0540.

Earth Day Rock Party

12 noon –3:00pm. Jack Davis Building, 1810 Blanshard Street lecture(Rock Part)
AND3:00pm –4:30pm Central board Room, Greater Victoria Public Library, 735 Broughton Street.(public lecture). A celebration of Earth Sciences! Scientists from the University of Victoria, the Pacific Geoscience Centre and the Provincial Geological Survey Branch will help you explore the Earth's crust. There will be a public release and unveiling of Geoscape Victoria – a poster illustrating local geological issues for residents

of southern Vancouver Island (earthquakes, coastal erosion, groundwater and mineral resources, etc.). At 3:00 pm travel over to the public library for a free lecture from the geologists and seismologists from the Geological Survey of Canada and the local geoscience community, highlighting the importance of 'geoliteracy' in land-use planning decision, the tectonic setting of southern Vancouver Island and how that produces earthquakes in our region. For more information, contact Mike Jackson at 385-5727.

Gardening for Wildlife – Native Plant Gardening Sale and Demonstration

10am-3 pm, Swan Lake Nature House (3873 Swan Lake Road). The 6th annual event features a selection of over 2,900 native plants, as well as seeds, books, bird feeders and nesting boxes. Workshops, presentations, garden tours, demonstrations and displays on gardening with native plants and developing wildlife habitat in urban settings are included in the admission price. \$3/day, \$5 weekend pass. Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary: Terry Morrison, 479-0211.

Grow Your Best Organic Tomatoes Ever

10:30am-12noon, 395 Conway Rd. Workshop with Carolyn Herriot. 881-1555.

1st Annual Cowichan Earth Day Festival

9 am-5 pm, Cowichan Exhibition Grounds. Earth celebration including a giant farmers market, educational booths and speakers, entertainment, children's activities and more. Free. Duncan-Cowichan Festival Society: Bill Jones or Mara Jernigan, 748-1231.

State of the Province Conference -BCEN

9:00am-5:30pm, Royal Roads University. The State of the Province Conference is a day long series on interactive panel discussions on the current state of the environment in BC. The four panel discussions will explore land, water, air and social issues. Open to general public. Cost: \$20.00 (no meals). Followed by a banquet and a dance. BC Environmental Network: Liza, (604) 879-2279.

Greater Victoria Compost Education Center Community Outreach Display

9:30 am-4:00pm. Mayfair Shopping Center. Come see the composting display and learn more about composting. Volunteers will be on hand to answer composting questions. Lynn Marie, 386-9676.

Connecting for Conservation in the Capitol Regional District

12:00-4:00pm, Crystal Garden, Victoria. Join the CRD's growing environmental community as they network in an effort to promote communication among the conservation groups. Information booths and roundtable discussions will take place, and the Habitat Acquisition Trust will unveil it's new "Conservation Connect" during a mid-day ceremony with local MLA Steve Orchard. Admission is free. Habitat Acquisition Trust: Tara, 995-2428.

Natural History Walk in Uplands Park

8:00am Cattlepoint. Join Joy and Cam Finlay for a guided walk in Uplands Park to see spring wildflowers, birds and butterflies. Victoria Natural History Society: Joy or Cam, 479-9833.

Walk for Global Justice: Celebrating Resistance

12 noon, Victoria City Hall (or 1:00pm at the Legislature) – 4:00pm. This year, the Walk is focused on demonstrating public concerns with, and opposition to, the FTAA (Free Trade Area of Americas). The Walk will be in solidarity with citizens who are protesting the FTAA the same day in Quebec City. Gather at Centennial Square at 12 noon for the Government St. Parade. Bring your good old walking shoes, or join in the Fossil Fuel Free Parade with your bicycle, scooter, or skates! Stay at the Legislature for an exciting afternoon of music, speakers, carnival entertainment and workshops. Admission is free. EarthWalk Committee: Laurie Boswall, 592-1870.

Face Painting for Kids

All day, Rainforest Store (651 Johnson St.). Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

Strawbale Building Workshop

Call for meeting time and location. Join Elke Cole on Denman Island for a two-day workshop on building bale walls including detailing and attaching doors/windows. First of 3 Natural Building workshops on this site (May 12/13: Earthen Plasters, June 2/3: Adobe Floors). Camp on site or book into a local B&B. \$75 costs includes lunch. Call for information on upcoming natural building workshops following Earthweek. Cobworks: Elke Cole, 338-4660.

Grocery Bag Decoration

All day. Students of Hans Helgesen will decorate paper grocery bags for distribution on Saturday, April 21st at the local Thrifty Foods Store in Colwood. They'll use environmentally friendly pictures and messages. Hans Helgesen Elementary: J. Wilmott, 478-3431.

Wildwood Benefit Concert

7:00 pm, University Center, UVIC. Ann Mortifee and Bob Bossen performing for the classy set. Admission \$15/\$10. Contact the Land Conservancy: Eileen Palmer, 479-8053.

Home for the Winter Bee Game

3:00 pm, at the Kids Tent on the Legislature Lawn, Walk for Global Justice. Kids...come out and play an awesome game of bee tag. Find out how native bees thrive and survive and pollinate the food that we eat. FREE! Lifecycles: for more info, contact Kate Paul at 383-5800

Signing Blitz for the United Nations Petition

1:30 pm, Parliament Buildings. Hosted by the International Year of the Tiger Foundation (IYTF). IYTF wants the International Decade of Endangered Species with the tiger as the symbol of the entire conservation effort to be announced in 2002 when Victoria will

host the UNEP International Children's Conference on the Environment. This is a big push for signatures in their campaign. Visit their website (www.interantainalyearofthetiger.org) for more info, or call Cecilie Davidson at (250) 384-9733.

Tie a Yellow Ribbon – CRD Parks 35th Anniversary Walk

1:00pm, Gonzales Hill Regional Park (Oak Bay). Meet in the parking lot at the end of Denison Road off Beach Drive. One of Victoria's natural wonders is our Garry oak meadows, and spring is definitely this ecosystem's showiest season. Celebrate Earth Day early and CRD Parks's 35th Anniversary by learning more about one of the most endangered ecosystems in all of Canada. CRD Parks.

Sunday, April 22

Wildflowers and Birds on Jocelyn Hill

Call for times and to register. Join Carrina Maslovat (botany) and Rick Schortinghuis (birds) for a memorable hike up Jocelyn Hill. At this time of year Jocelyn Hill can be a good location for Townsend's Solitaires. Pack a lunch and a drink, and be prepared for a strenuous hike. Registration: Carrina at 592-2733 or Rick at 642-3596.

Living Reef Fish Count

9:00am, Gowland Tod Provincial Park, Saanich Inlet. Call for meeting location. Recreational divers will participate in a marine biodiversity survey in the park. The survey will contribute data to the international REEF database. Living Reef Project: Doug Biffard, 387-4598.

Camas Day Walks – Beacon Hill Park

9:00am only, at the flagpole on top of Beacon Hill: Join Tom Gillespie on a Birding Walk.

11:00 am and 1:00pm, at the flagpole on top of Beacon Hill: Join Grant Keddie of the Royal BC Museum for an Archaeology Walk, Adolf Ceska and Chris Brayshaw for a Wildflower Walk, or attend the Legends of the Songhees Walk. Victoria Natural History Society: Tom Gillespie, 361-1694 or Friends of Beacon Hill Park: Helen Oldershaw, 592-6659.

Gowland Range Hike

Call for meeting time and location. Join Sierra Clubber Diana Angus for a moderate day-hiking trip. Register in advance for this trip. Sierra Club of BC, East Vancouver Islands Group: Diana Angus, 250-746-6659.

Meet the Nest Box Know-It-All

1:00 pm, Goldstream Visitor Centre. Learn about creating backyard habitats with the Bird Nerd, Kevin Storey. Wild things will need all the help they can get to adapt to climate change - meeting habitat needs is vital. Nest box kits available for \$12.50. Arenaria Research and Interpretation: Susanna, 250-478-9414.

Protest Esso and Imperial Oil!

1:00-3:00pm, Esso Gas Station 6211 No. 3 Road in Richmond (near Richmond Center Mall). Get your activist boots on and join the Raging Grannies and the Dinosaurs Against Fossil Fuels (DAFF) in a demonstration against Imperial Oil, parent company of Esso. Imperial refuses to admit that Global Warming is a fact and continues to lobby the federal government to not ratify the Kyoto Protocol. For more information contact Kevan Hudson, 274-1191.

All on an Earth Day

7:00pm, ArtSpring Theater, Ganges (Salt Spring Island). Join a fundraiser for the Waterbird Watch Collective of Salt Spring Island, in their efforts to protect an internationally recognized marine estuary site with nesting Great Blue Herons. Vancouver Island First Nation dancers plus Salt Spring Island talent. \$9/\$6 students&seniors. Valerie McDonald, 250-537-1639.

Wildwood Ecoforestry Tour

1:00 pm, 2929 Crane Rd. (just off Yellow Point Rd.), Cedar, 20 miles north of Ladysmith. Call for directions. Visit Merv Wilkinson's beautiful land, living proof of responsible, sustainable logging. Entry by donation. Wildwood Center: Jay, 245-5540.

The Hive Urban Agriculture Tours

1:00pm, The Hive Demonstration Site (corner of Holland Road and blue Ridge Road). Come out and see urban agriculture at work in Victoria. Examples of composting, mulching, raised bed planting and use of native pollinators. Get to the Hive by bus: #22 Burnside stops right at Holland and Blue Ridge! Sponsored by Lifecycles. For more information contact Kate Paul at 383-5800.

Tree Lore

1:00pm, Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich). Meet at the Nature House off Munn Road. Since time began people have always felt a sense of mystery and wonder about trees. This mystery can be found in stories, legends, myths and folklore. Join us in this exploration of these giants of the plant kingdom and learn some of the different stories and legends associated with them. CRD Parks. For more information call 478-3344.

1st Annual Cowichan Earth Day Festival

Continuing. See April 21.

Gardening for Wildlife – Native Plant Gardening Sale and Demonstration

Continuing. See April 21.

Greater Victoria Compost Education Center

Community Outreach Display

Continuing. See April 21.

On-Going

Stop Overhead Spraying Coalition

Stop Overhead Spraying Coalition is a coalition of groups and individuals concerned about aerial spraying of pesticides. This pesticide use is a risk to human health and to the environment. For more info 383-3336.

Plus many other Earth Week Initiatives on the Islands, In the Community, Home, School, Workplace and Wilderness

Thanks to All Participants

See you Next Year!

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