



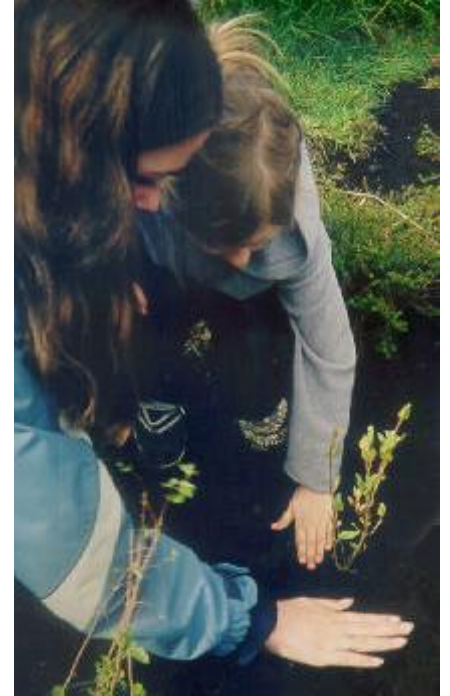
DELTA STUDENTS HELPING WILDLIFE

The Institute of Urban Ecology, in partnership with the Corporation of Delta and Lehigh Cement Ltd., is planting native plant gardens at six Tsawwassen elementary schools to coincide with the Mayor's Task Force on Tsawwassen. On April 14, we did the first planting at Cliff Drive Elementary. Six classes came out to help the IUE staff plant a variety of native plants including Indian plum, red-flowering currant, kinnikinnick, tall Oregon grape and soapberry (pictured at right). The students were very enthusiastic about their new garden—one student even brought her mother over to the site at lunch so she could show off “her” plant.

Plantings like this one are a great opportunity to educate children about the value of native plants. The Cliff Drive students learned that hummingbirds will be attracted to the bright pink flowers of the red-flowering currants they planted and that birds will use the waxy berries of the kinnikinnick as a good winter food source.

Throughout May and June, the IUE will be planting gardens at Pebble Hill, South Park, English Bluff, Boundary Beach, and Beach Grove elementary schools. By the end of the school year, Tsawwassen students and IUE staff will have planted over 600 plants! The gardens will act as both a lasting legacy of the Mayor's Task Force meetings and a learning space for the students who planted them.

-Holly Broadland, Eco Education Coordinator



Cliff Drive students giving a soapberry plant a new home

THE 7TH ANNUAL NATURE'S HAVENS CHALLENGE

(formerly the Backyard Habitat Enhancement Challenge)



Winning garden from 2002 Challenge

Spring is back and so is much of our wildlife! Here at the Institute of Urban Ecology, we are encouraging people to provide habitat for local wildlife with our 7th annual Nature's Havens Challenge. This is an opportunity for local residents to create a haven for nature in their backyards or balconies. By planting native plants in your yard, you can entice birds, butterflies, and bees to visit your garden!

Ready to take the Nature's Havens Challenge?

Contact us at 604-527-5522 or iue@douglas.bc.ca to get contest entry forms and a FREE booklet on creating backyard habitat including information on native plants, tips on supplying different types of habitat, and environmentally friendly gardening techniques. We are also taking registrations for the **FREE** Nature's Havens workshop that will be held at the Cloverdale Seniors' Centre (17671 - 56 Ave, Surrey) on May 29th at 6:30pm.

Registration for the Challenge ends **June 30th, 2003**. We'll be visiting participants' yards and gardens in July. All participants will receive a sign and a prize package in recognition of their efforts.

-Greg Norton, Green Links Contest Coordinator

THE GREEN LINK

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The Green Link is a quarterly publication of the Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology. The IUE is a non-profit organization working to increase biodiversity in the Lower Mainland. For more information about the Institute, to subscribe to The Green Link, or to comment on the newsletter, please contact us at:

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We are always trying to reduce our paper consumption--let us know if we can send you your copy of The Green Link by e-mail.

PLANTING IN THE PITS

On April 7th, the IUE took a trip to the CEWE gravel pit in Coquitlam to conduct a habitat restoration planting. Despite wet and windy conditions, we planted over 200 trees on one of the closed slopes in the pit. These trees, which included species such as Yellow Cedar and Big-leaf Maple, will provide habitat for animals in the area in years to come.

The College and Pit Operators Partnership (CPOP) is a cooperative agreement between the IUE and the gravel pits in Coquitlam. Over the past five years, CPOP has been a great opportunity for both parties to get involved in restoring habitat at the gravel pits and conducting research on habitat restoration techniques for steep and rocky terrain. A big thanks to Kevin Bell from the Wild Bird Trust who donated and helped to plant the trees, and Brian Elder from CEWE who helped organize the planting. *-Travis Deeter, Green Links Planting Coordinator*



THINKING GLOBALLY

Over the past year, the IUE has been working on an initiative to form relationships with other urban ecology groups around the world. We made contact with over 30 organizations in 9 different countries. Our goal was to open lines of communication and facilitate the sharing of expertise on environmental issues, and to explore the possibility of future joint projects. By sharing information, we can apply ideas and projects that have been successful in other parts of the world to chal-

lenges here in the Lower Mainland, while our projects and ideas can help other groups with their own challenges. By working together on a global scale, we can accomplish much more than we would otherwise, saving time because we don't have to constantly "reinvent the wheel." We have put together a compendium on the organizations we found, which is available in pdf format on our [website](#).

Here are a few of the great organizations we found:

Centre for Urban Ecology

Adelaide, Australia www.urbanecology.org.au

Urban Ecology

Oakland, California www.urbanecology.org

Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad Santo Domingo, Costa Rica

www.inbio.ac.cr/en

Centre for Urban and Regional Ecology

Manchester, England www.art.man.ac.uk/PLANNING/cure/

-Travis Deeter, International Initiatives Researcher

GIVE A TREE A HOME: POTTING DAY AT SAPPERTON LANDING PARK!

Come out to the Coal House at Sapperton Landing Park on June 7th to pot a conifer seedling and take it home! IUE staff will be on hand to fill you in on our current projects and answer questions.

What: Potting tree seedlings

Where: Coal House at Sapperton Landing Park,

When: 11:00am - 3:00pm, Saturday, June 7th

New Westminster (just off Columbia St)

Cost: Suggested donation \$2/seedling

More Info: Contact Holly at 604-527-5522

TRACKING TREES IN COQUITLAM

How often do you notice the trees on your street? Maybe you've enjoyed the appearance of new leaves and blossoms in the spring or revelled in the shade they create during the summer. Yet even if you've never taken a second look at trees in your neighbourhood, you still enjoy their benefits every time you take a breath. Street trees make our cities better places to live—they clean the air and water, regulate the temperature, provide habitat for wildlife, and add to the beauty of our neighbourhoods. Like any other valuable resource, street trees must be managed so that they can continue to provide us with these services.

Staff and volunteers at the Institute of Urban Ecology are working with the City of Coquitlam to determine exactly how many street trees there are in Coquitlam. We are using aerial photos to identify areas with similar street tree densities and then doing field surveys to determine tree species and age. We're in the midst of the fieldwork right now so watch for us on the streets around Coquitlam. The final project results won't be available until late summer, but so far we've found a variety of different tree species on the streets, from native species such as western red cedars to exotic species such as Japanese black pines.

This street tree inventory project is part of the larger Changing Places: Development and Implementation of Green Space Management Plans project, which also includes a biophysical inventory project in Surrey and the Changing Places green space management conference. The Changing Places Project is sponsored by the BC Real Estate Foundation, the City of Surrey, and the City of Coquitlam.

-Nadine Pinnell, Changing Places Project Coordinator



2002 contest winner
(Kimberly Wong)

What is the face of your favourite green space?

A Green Links Art Contest

What animals or plants come to mind when you think of local green spaces? Birds? Butterflies? Coyotes? Have fun creating a portrait of urban wildlife!

colouring contest ages 4-9

poster contest ages 10-18

photography contest all ages

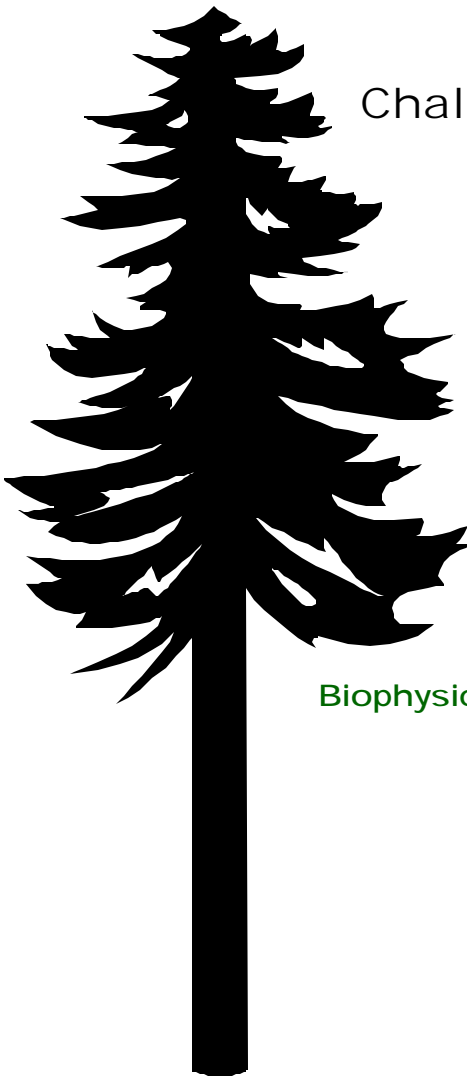
Deadline for entries is July 31st, 2003

Contact us at 604-527-5522 or iue@douglas.bc.ca for more information.

GREEN SPACES WRITING CONTEST A SUCCESS

This year's Green Links creative writing contest was a great success! More than 80 middle and high school students wrote poems or essays telling us about what green space means to them. Check out the list of winners in the What's New section of our website and watch for excerpts from winning entries in the next issue of *The Green Link*. This year's contest was sponsored by PNE & Playland, Tim Horton's, McDonalds, and, of course, the Institute of Urban Ecology.

-Greg Norton, Green Links Contest Coordinator



The Institute of Urban Ecology presents
Changing Places:
Challenges in Green Space Management

A conference on challenges in urban green space management and tools for overcoming these challenges

June 2, 2003

9 AM to 4:30 PM

at

Douglas College

700 Royal Avenue

New Westminster

(at New Westminster Skytrain Station)

Topics include

Legal tools for green space management
Implementing green space management plans
Community involvement in green space creation
Biophysical information needs for green space management

For more information visit

www.douglas.bc.ca/iue/whatsnew/whatsnew.htm

Registration \$20

Students and Non-profit \$10

(includes Lunch and Conference proceedings)

To register, contact Nadine Pinnell at
604-527-5522 or iue@douglas.bc.ca

Sponsored by the Real Estate Foundation of BC

GREEN SPACES KEEP OUR CITIES LIVABLE, BUT
THEY CAN'T MANAGE THEMSELVES!

Thanks to our sponsors and partners:

- Habitat Restoration Program, Douglas College
- Habitat Conservation Trust Fund
- Human Resources Development Canada Job Creation Partnership Program
- Greater Vancouver Regional District
- EJLB Foundation
- Environment Canada– EcoAction 2000
- Home Depot
- Public Conservation Assistance Fund
- The Real Estate Foundation of BC
- Vancouver Foundation
- Trans Mountain Pipeline
- Corporation of Delta
- City of New Westminster
- Colony Farms Park Association
- Tree Canada Foundation
- Art Knapp Plantland
- BC Gas
- BC Hydro
- Toronto Dominion Friends of the Environment Fund Burnaby, Surrey, Vancouver, and Coquitlam
- City of Burnaby
- City of Coquitlam
- City of Surrey
- Fisheries Renewal BC
- Shell Environmental Fund
- T. Buck Suzuki Foundation
- Lehigh Cement Ltd.

Special thanks to all those who have given us their generous support and donations!