

Inspiring story



With just a laptop and a passion for the environment, Lyda Salatian started a volunteer group on social media and called it the Lower Mainland Green Team (LMGT).

Green Teams of Canada

The volunteers of the Lower Mainland Green Team inspired the start of Green Teams of Canada charity in 2013.



Mission

*To inspire stewardship of nature
by connecting diverse individuals
through hands-on environmental
activities*



Objectives

- Educate about local ecosystems
- Introduce people to parks and connect them to nature
- Conserve and restore ecosystems
- Develop leadership and team-building skills

Objectives

- Engage youth – inspiring them to give back to community
- Provide experience in the environmental sector
- Connect volunteers with existing stewardship groups
- Build community with individuals and
- Provide a resource to park staff

Awards and Recognition

2015 Recycling Council of BC award

2014 YWCA Environmental Sustainability Award

2013 Earth Day Canada – National Hometown Heroes Group Award

2013 Nature Vancouver – Frank Sanford Award

2012 - Jane Goodall Institute Certificate of Recognition



Greater Victoria Green Team

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FEATURED MEETUP

Scotch Broom removal on Christmas Hill in Saanich

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Thursday, February 12, 2015
9:45 AM to 1:00 PM

Christmas Hill
Christmas Hill, Victoria, BC (edit map)

Near entrance of Christmas Hill at 881 Nicholson Ave. There are places to park in this cul-de-sac.

We will be removing Scotch Broom and other invasive plants from Christmas Hill (which is part of Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary).

We will be working rain or shine!

Meeting Spot
We will meet at the top of Nicholson Ave at the entrance of Christmas Hill. Click on MAP to see the meeting location.

How to get to the site
Click HERE for map of area and refer to the Christmas Hill area (Saanich Road to Eagle Rock and left onto Nicholson Rd. seems to be a good way from McKenzie).

Transit/Cycling: To find out the best route from where you are, please go to BC Transit or use Google Maps.

Carpool: If you need a ride log into your Meet-up account, RSVP and leave a message at the bottom of this event page describing where you need a ride from.

Flow of McKenzie Activities

Are you going?

Yes No

Tools

5 going
15 spots available

Amanda Evans
PROGRAM MANAGER
EVENTS CO-ORGANIZER
EVENT HOST
Hi I look forward to participating in lots of interesting environmental volunteer... more

Chris M
Recycling, conserving energy and looking for ways to protect this beautiful place we live in... more

Joe Stirling

Myke
Hello my name is Mike and I am looking to log some volunteer hours! Out of all the nature Green... more

Deanna Beacock

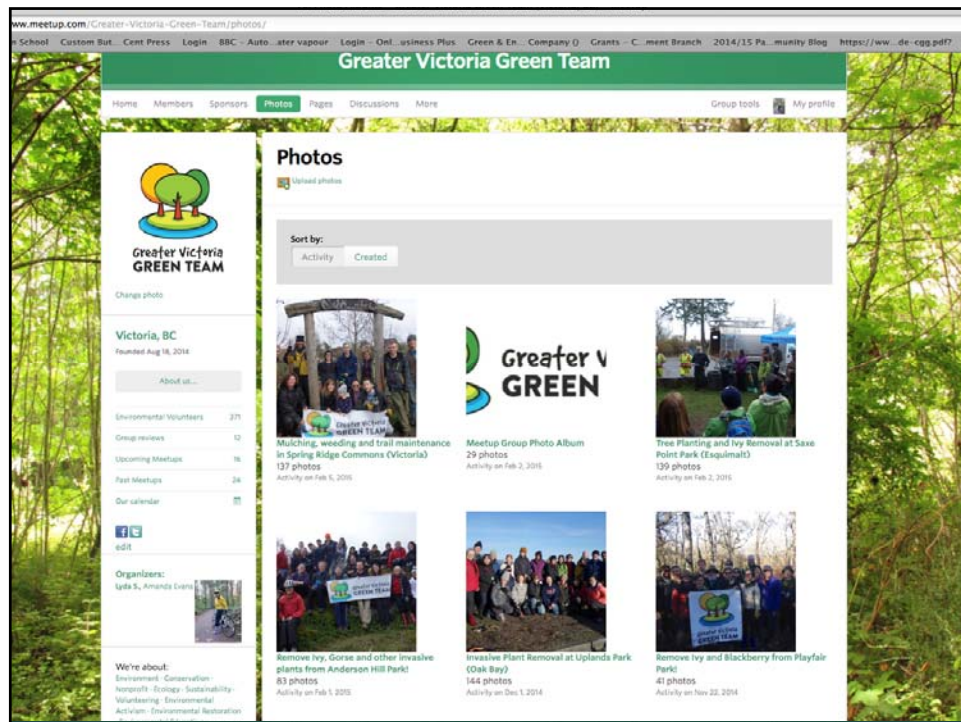
Greater Victoria GREEN TEAM
Founded Aug 18, 2014

About us...

Environmental volunteers 371
Group reviews 12
Upcoming Meetups 16
Past Meetups 24
Our calendar

Organizers:
Lyle S., Amanda Evans

We're about:
Environment · Conservation · Horticulture · Ecology · Sustainability · Volunteering · Environmental Activism · Environmental Restoration





GVGT accomplishments

- ✓ 91 volunteer work parties
- ✓ Restored 8543 square metres of habitat (just over two acres). Removed 680 cubic metres of invasives plants
- ✓ Planted 7000 trees, shrubs and flowers!
- ✓ Engaged 940 volunteers (549 youth)
- ✓ Collaborated with 44 groups (municipalities, NGO's)

GVGT accomplishments

- ✓ Worked with 14 schools including 3 located in Victoria (organized 16 youth-focused activities)



Opportunities



Planting native species



Shoreline cleanups



What makes us unique??

- Founded on a social media site called Meet-up.com
- Volunteer stewardship group without borders
- First CRD wide environmental volunteer group!
- Build on the work of existing groups
- Directed by parks staff
- Work in parks with no stewardship groups
- Before and after photos and write-ups

What makes us unique??

- Environmental rewards (Burt Bees chapstick, chocolate, soap, MEC products, etc).
- Photos of volunteers (some get into newspapers!)
- Volunteer letters
- Snacks and drinks
- No application process (very simple and quick to join!)



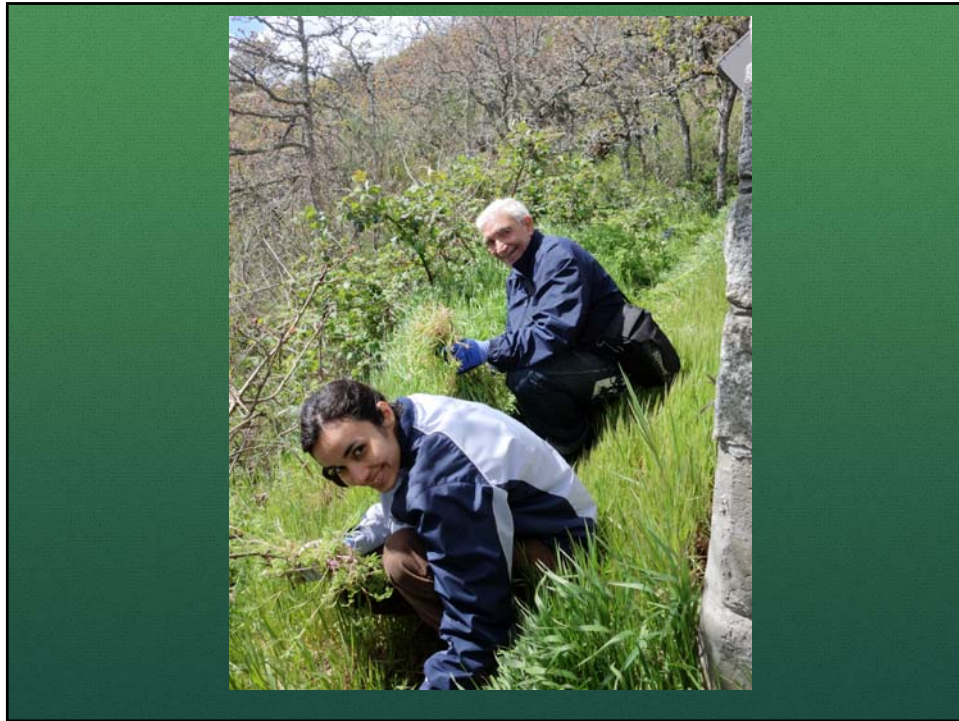
Our Demographic





Some of our
Volunteers







We're in the News!

GOLDSTREAM NEWS

GAZETTE

Black Press
Friday, October 31, 2014
www.goldstreamnews.com • 23

Belmont secondary Grade 12 students Emmah Langer, left and Brionne Schervert dig a hole to plant trees at Colewood Creek Park as part of the Trees for Tomorrow program funded by the province and the City of Colwood.

David Lutz/Press staff



Volunteers build fences for buttercups on Discovery

Green Team helps finish BC Parks project in a single day

Discovery can flourish

It was a hot and sunny day, but a handful of volunteers at Discovery Park were working hard to finish a project that had been in the works for months. The Green Team, a group of volunteers who meet regularly to work on projects around the park, had been assigned to build a fence around a meadow of buttercups. The meadow is a rare sight in the park, and the fence was needed to protect it from the park's many visitors.

The project was a big one, and the volunteers were working hard to finish it in a single day. The fence was made of wooden posts and wire, and it was built around a meadow of buttercups. The meadow is a rare sight in the park, and the fence was needed to protect it from the park's many visitors.

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Planting trees for tomorrow's generations

GOLDSTREAM NEWS

GAZETTE

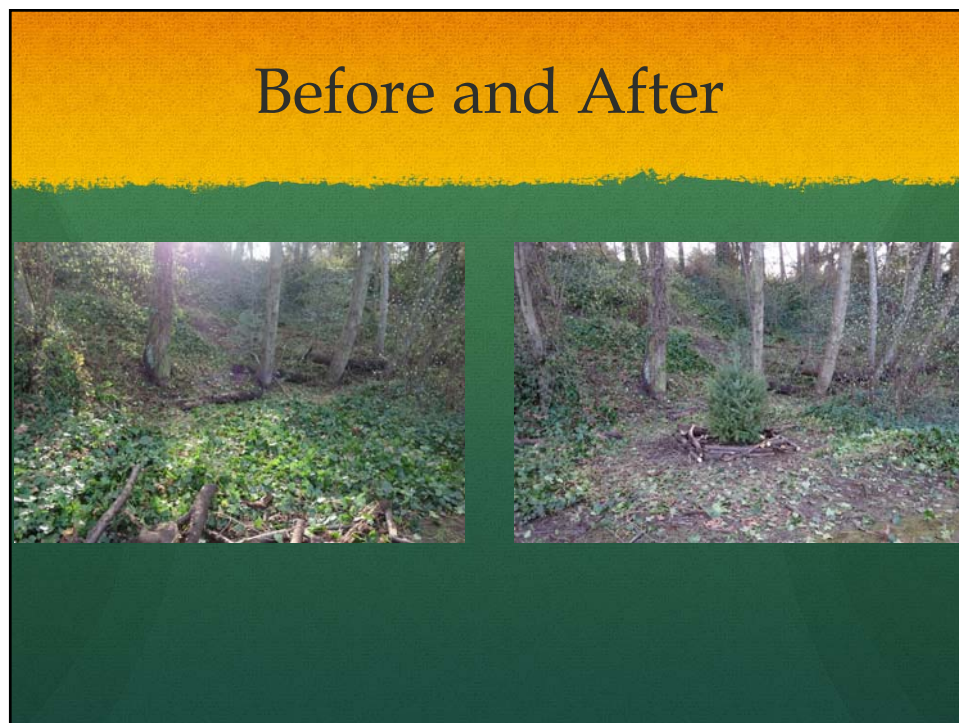
Black Press

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

www.goldstreamnews.com



Portage Park to receive more TLC



Before and After



Now its time for Victoria!

- Most of our volunteers live in Victoria (40%)
- Many of your schools that wish to participate in GVGT activities are located in Victoria
- There is a strong interest from stewardship groups in Victoria to collaborate with us
- Victoria is one of the only municipalities we haven't worked with yet!
- Victoria's parks and green spaces are impacted by invasive plants and need our help!
- Help to implement the Strategic Plan of CoV

Our Strategic Objectives

1. Innovate and Lead
2. Engage and Empower the Community
3. Strive for Excellence in Planning and Land Use
4. Build the Financial Capacity of the Organization
5. Create Prosperity Through Economic Development
6. Make Victoria More Affordable
7. Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness
8. Enhance and Steward Public Spaces, Green Spaces and Food Systems
9. Complete a Multi-Modal and Active Transportation Network
10. Nurture Our Arts, Culture and Learning Capital
11. Steward Water Systems and Waste Streams Responsibly
12. Plan for Emergencies Including Climate Change Short and Long-Term
13. Demonstrate Regional Leadership

Benefits to CoV

- More opportunities to engage City of Victoria citizens, especially youth
- Increased public education of the threat of invasive plants
- Increased opportunities for local parks to be visited
- Build community and help create vibrant city!
- A strong message to thousands of volunteers that CoV supports volunteerism
- Additional capacity of park staff to conduct conservation work
- Media exposure for CoV Parks

Questions?

www.meetup.com/Greater-Victoria-Green-Team/

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Greater Victoria
GREEN TEAM