

THE VALUE OF URBAN CREEKS & GREENSPACES

Our creeks and the ecosystems that they are a part of hold an intrinsic value that can be felt as you meander through your local trail network – hearing the splash of a Coho as it swims upstream; catching the scent of a fragrant Nootka rose bush in the heat of summer; looking up to discover a bald eagle's nest in a tall tree; or stopping to snack on the bounty of streamside salmonberries.

With a growing population, Campbell River's urban creeks and greenspaces are experiencing increased impacts, which affects everyone in the neighbourhood, humans, fish, and wildlife alike.

We are a part of these ecosystems, and have an opportunity to care and steward them as good creek neighbours. Please read on to find out how you can help!



BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

If you're interested in becoming a Streamkeeper on your local creek, or would like to help clean up the trails and greenspaces you frequent, volunteer with Greenways Land Trust!

Email: volunteer@greenwaystrust.ca
Call: 250-287-3785

RESOURCES

If you witness illegal dumping outside of Campbell River city limits, report the violation to Comox Strathcona Waste Management:
Call: **250-334-6000**

To report a human-wildlife conflict; or a known or suspected violation of fisheries, wildlife, or environmental protection laws, contact RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters):
Call: **1-877-952-7277**

City of Campbell River's Yard waste pick up program:
<https://www.campbellriver.ca/city-services/garbage-recycling-yard-waste/yard-waste>

Invasive Species Council of BC's 'Grow Me Instead Guide':
<https://bcinvasives.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ISCBC-GMI-Brochure-180425-WEB-1.pdf>

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THE 'GOOD CREEK NEIGHBOUR' GUIDE

Best practices & resources
to help conserve the creeks
and natural areas in
your backyard



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ENCROACHMENT

Dumping yard waste and garbage, removing native vegetation, storing personal equipment, and building structures on public lands are all examples of encroachment. They have deleterious consequences for our natural environment.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- Release of pollutants into waterways
- Attracts bears and rodents
- Creates fire hazards in dry conditions
- Reduces or degrades habitat available for wildlife



How You Can Help!

- Respect property boundaries
- Contact the City of Campbell River Bylaw Enforcement if you witness dumping or encroachment:

Call: 250-286-5776

Email: bylaw@campbellriver.ca

YARD WASTE & INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive species are aggressive, non-native plants. They often spread to wild spaces via yard waste dumping or by seeds from an upstream source.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- Out-compete native plants
- Loss of species diversity and resilience to pests and natural hazards
- Reduction in habitat and food for wildlife and pollinators
- Potential spread of plant diseases



How You Can Help!

- Compost or use the City's free yard waste pickup service
- Grow native plants! Check out ISCBC's 'Grow Me Instead Guide'
- Contain creeping plants in your garden and do not allow invasive plants to go to seed

INVASIVES IN CAMPBELL RIVER

White morning glory
 Common periwinkle
 Policeman's helmet
 Yellow archangel
 Scotch broom
 Japanese knotweed

Yellow flag iris
 Purple loosestrife
 Daphne (spurge laurel)
 English holly
 English ivy
 Himalayan blackberry

UNAUTHORIZED & CLOSED TRAILS

Unauthorized trail building and travel on closed trails can be destructive to sensitive wildlife habitat and hazardous to the trail user. Please do your part and keep off these trails and don't build new ones!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- Trampling of native vegetation and soil compaction
- Bank erosion and stream sedimentation
- Suffocation of salmon eggs and fry and harm to spawning areas
- Canopy reduction and tree fall hazards
- Degradation and fragmentation of wildlife habitat



How You Can Help!

- Stay on designated trails and be considerate of restoration work
- Keep dogs under control and out of the creek at all times
- Volunteer with an Adopt-a-Trail or Streamkeeper program