

**TO:** CITY MANAGER 1999 SEPTEMBER 14  
**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING OUR FILE: 11.801  
**SUBJECT:** BC RIVERS DAY 1999  
**PURPOSE:** To provide the schedule of events for BC Rivers Day in Burnaby.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

BC Rivers Day is an annual event, sponsored by the Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C., which occurs on the last Sunday in September. BC Rivers Day celebrates the spectacular natural and cultural heritage of British Columbia's rivers. Throughout the province, citizens, local community and environmental groups, government agencies and educational institutions organize river-related events and invite members of the public to participate in appreciating, protecting and enhancing B.C. waterways.

At its regular meeting of 1999 August 23, Council approved, in principle, an Environment and Waste Management Committee report outlining a preliminary list of community events for Rivers Day sponsored by the City and its community partners, including BCIT - Burnaby Lake System Project, the Burnaby Streamkeepers and other community groups. This report provides the details of the final program of events.

**2.0 RIVERS DAY EVENT SCHEDULE**

**2.1 Saturday, September 25**

*Fraser River Celebration Featuring Three New Projects for the Fraser River and the Spirit of the Salmon Swim 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.*

The City of Burnaby will be unveiling the plans for three exciting projects for the Fraser River Foreshore. They are a pedestrian bridge across a wetland lagoon in the fish and habitat restoration area, an interpretive lookout structure at the outlet of Sussex Creek jointly funded by Canada Lands Corporation and a public pier at the

foot of Tillicum Street. In addition, the third annual Spirit of the Salmon Swim will make a stop in Burnaby, as Burnaby welcomes Fin Donnelly and a flotilla of voyageur canoes on their journey down the Fraser River. There will be displays by the Greater Vancouver Regional District, the Byrne Creek Streamkeepers and the Urban Salmon Habitat Program, Project WET (an interactive game for all ages), a storm drain marking of the area's storm sewers, a barbeque hosted by the K.R.I.B. (Kids Recreate in Burnaby) Youth Centre Teen Committee. The Royal Canadian Air Cadet marching band will also be present. The event will take place at the Fraser Foreshore Park at the foot of Byrne Road.

***The Great BC Beach Clean Up '99 Barnet Marine Park 10:00 - Noon***

The Girl Guides will be conducting a clean up of the western portion of Barnet Marine Park as part of the Great BC Beach Clean Up '99 event coordinated by the Vancouver Aquarium. This is a province-wide event designed to clean up beaches and waterways as well as inventory the collected garbage. This information is compiled on a city by city basis and is part of a global effort to inventory beach and waterway waste to develop initiatives and potential changes in legislation to address the pollution of water bodies.

**2.2 Sunday, September 26**

***BC Rivers Day Celebration at Beecher Park 9:00 a.m. - Noon***

The residential component of the Watershed Pledge Program will be featured at this event, with numerous displays about what households can do to reduce impacts on our waterways. Other activities and events include a free pancake breakfast hosted by the Lions, displays by Trans Mountain Pipe Line Co., the Brunette Basin Task Force, the City's Recycling Depot, the Burnaby Lake Park Association, the Burnaby Mental Wealth and NatureScape, the Song Bird singers, and song bird coffee by the Salt Spring Roasting Company. There will be lots of hands-on displays and activities for children, including bird feeder construction from a pine cone or 2 litre pop bottle. In addition, the Beecher Creek Streamkeepers will be conducting a planting event and will offer interpretive walks of the creek from the park. The event is located at Beecher Park on Springer Avenue south of Parker Street.

***Byrne Creek Clean up 10:00 a.m. - Noon***

The Byrne Creek Streamkeepers will be unveiling a new interpretive sign by Isabel McLaren for Byrne Creek. The Streamkeepers have invited the public to participate in a clean up of Byrne Creek from 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 19<sup>th</sup> St. Participants are asked to meet at the Edmonds SkyTrain Station.

***Eagle Creek Clean up 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.***

The Eagle Creek Streamkeepers are inviting participants to help clean up Eagle Creek from Squint Lake to the Greystone Shopping Centre. Participants are asked to meet at the Greystone Shopping Centre parking lot.

***Lubbock's Creek Clean up 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.***

The Lubbock's Stream Habitat Stewardship Committee is hosting a clean up of the stream and surrounding park. Hot dogs will be served at noon. Participants are asked to meet at the corner of Burris Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

***Brunette River Interpretive Walk 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.***


Local naturalist John Appler will be conducting his 1,500<sup>th</sup> walk of the Brunette River this BC Rivers Day. This event is co-sponsored by the Wild Bird Centre at Lougheed Mall. Participants are asked to meet at Hume Park.

***Stoney Creek Interpretive Walk & Riparian Planting 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.***

The Stoney Creek Environment Committee will be conducting interpretive walks of Stoney Creek, leaving the Burnaby Environmental Classroom at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and noon. At the conclusion of the walks, participants will have an opportunity to join in the planting of native vegetation. Participants are asked to meet at the Stoney Creek Community School north parking lot, 2740 Beaverbrook Crescent.

**3.0 CONCLUSION**

BC Rivers Day provides an opportunity for residents, businesses, local community and environmental groups, government agencies and educational institutions to increase awareness, appreciation and stewardship of our streams and waterways. With the support of Council, the Environment and Waste Management Committee and the City's community partners, a variety of events have been scheduled to meet this objective. This schedule of events is provided for the information of Council.

  
D.G. Stenson, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

  
KSF/tn

cc. Director Engineering  
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

