



City Celebrates 3rd Annual Tree Appreciation Day

Date: Thursday, October 30, 2008

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — The City of Victoria manages over 40,000 trees within its parks and boulevards. Many of these trees are fifty years or older and are reaching the end of their expected life cycle. This Sunday, residents will have the opportunity to come together to help renew our urban forest and celebrate Victoria's 3rd Annual Tree Appreciation Day.

Participants will learn how to properly plant a tree and shrub to ensure good health. Seedlings will be provided, but participants are asked to bring their own shovels and gloves as tool supplies will be limited. The event will occur rain or shine so participants should dress for the weather.

What: 3rd Annual City of Victoria Tree Appreciation Day
When: Sunday, November 2, 2008, 10 a.m. – noon
Where: Robert J. Porter Park (in Fairfield)

Participants are to meet at 10 a.m. at the portable classroom on the east side of Sir James Douglas Elementary School, 401 Moss Street, located next to the park. Parking will be available on Thurlow Street as the school's parking lot is reserved for another event.

Native tree seedlings such as Garry Oak and Arbutus, and native shrubs including Snowberry, Ocean Spray and Indian Plum, will be planted in the park.

Dr. Michelle Gorman, the City of Victoria's Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, will be available to look at problem leaf, twig or insect samples and offer advice on how to naturally prevent and/or treat tree and shrub diseases and problem pests. Pat Johnston, a local native plant consultant, will also be on hand to offer natural solutions to common gardening problems.

Tree Appreciation Day is funded by the City of Victoria. Partners include the Fairfield Community Association, Sir James Douglas Elementary School, the Garry Oak Ecosystem Recovery Team, Canadian Forest Service Pacific Forestry Centre and CUPE 50.

This is a free event. Registration is not required. Complimentary refreshments will be available and children will be given a tree seedling to take home. For more information, visit www.victoria.ca and click on *What's New?*

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For More Information:

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