

## **Environmental Stewardship Resources**

SSPORA has become aware of a number of resources and volunteer opportunities available through the RDN or volunteer organizations active in our area. Following are some materials which have been made available to us. If any of these strike your fancy – reach out and get involved!

### **A. From the RDN:**

**Subject:** Water Monitoring and Stewardship in Englishman River Watershed

These are some of the initiatives the RDN offers:

- [RDN Community Watershed Monitoring Network](#) – trains volunteer stewards to sample for water quality in region’s creeks and streams. Next training is upcoming in July and sampling takes place during the summer low flow (August-Sept) and fall flush (Oct-Nov) once a week for 5 weeks at a time. More info at link above.
- [Stewardship Seed Funding](#) – small grants available to community stewardship groups completing watercourse restoration or enhancement works.
- [Tool Lending Library](#) – a selection of tools available for loan for stream restoration projects led by community
- [Water to Earth Month](#) – a series of free community events, to provide educational opportunities on water stewardship during the time period between Water Day (March 22) and Earth Day (April 22). Events to be announced soon at link above, and usually include workshops, webinars, streamwalks, stream-clean ups etc.
- [Video Series](#) – a newly launched series of educational videos about Drinking Water and Watershed Protection, which are helpful viewing for those interested in the topic.
- [Rebate Programs](#) – provides incentives for homeowners looking to enhance their water stewardship at their properties, including for adding rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation or soil improvements.
- [Interactive Map](#) – this new tool offers a map-based interface for people to get familiar with their “water region” (in your case Water Region 4) and explore the aquifers, streams, land uses, water supply systems, First Nations traditional place names and community programs available in their area.

I encourage your Residents Association to connect with the Mid-Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society (MVIHES) a local community organization that leads a lot of work locally in the Englishman River Watershed. They are always looking for new members and volunteers and are involved in many of our initiatives including the Community Watershed Monitoring Network and Stewardship Seedfunding. You can check out their website here <https://www.mvihes.bc.ca/> or contact them directly to learn more about volunteer opportunities: [mvihes@mvihes.bc.ca](mailto:mvihes@mvihes.bc.ca)

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## **B. Streamkeepers**

Pacific Streamkeepers Federation: <http://pskf.org/>

Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers: <https://www.qbstreamkeepers.ca/>

Streamkeepers Certification Course (MVIHES): <https://www.mvihes.bc.ca/community-education/streamkeepers-certification-course>

## **C. The Guardians of Mid-Island Estuaries Society**

Among other activities, The Guardians of Mid-Island Estuaries Society continues to undertake annual projects to help manage local resident Canada geese populations in the mid Vancouver Island region, including the Englishman River Estuary.

<https://www.estuaryguardians.org/about-us>