



Streams & Shorelines Peninsula



Hi firstname,

As we all step into September, we look back on busy summer months filled with community, restoration, and action.

In this email update, we'll highlight some of the projects and events that filled our August-- from rain gardens to beach cleans, in-stream restoration, and more. We'll also highlight some upcoming projects, events, and programs.

First, a reminder about the [Riffle Raffle](#), and [Welcome Home, Salmon: PSS Volunteer Appreciation Picnic!](#)



The **Riffle Raffle** raises critical funds for Peninsula Streams and Shorelines, and all of our environmental restoration, stewardship, and education programs. We hope that you will consider supporting our work through the raffle, or the 50/50 draw, knowing that every dollar is helping us build a legacy of healthy streams and shorelines. **Plus, check out some of the awesome prizes you could win!** (See the full list of prizes [here.](#))



**GRAND PRIZE:
SERIAL 1 MOSH CTY E-BIKE**

VALUED AT \$5,300

BARNES HARLEY-DAVIDSON

**ALTERNATE PRIZES:
3.5 HR PRIVATE WHALE WATCHING TOUR**

FOR UP TO 12 PEOPLE! **PRINCE of WHALES**
Whale Watching

VALUED AT \$1,500



Buy a Raffle Raffle Ticket! (Final Draw Sept. 28)

WELCOME HOME, SALMON!

PSS VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION PICNIC
SEPTEMBER 28 | 1-4PM
+ RIFFLE RAFFLE FINAL DRAW!
CLICK HERE TO RSVP



**RAIN
GARDENS**



Summer 2024 has been a vibrant season for our [Rain Gardens for Headwaters Program](#), with three new gardens established in the Cecelia and Bowker Creek Watersheds.

The Parkdale Rain Garden now features hundreds of newly planted native species that will thrive and mature over the coming months and years. Thank you to the Parkdale Community and the Pacific Salmon Foundation for their funding of this project.

At Oak Bay High School, two rain gardens are already working to filter runoff from the parking lot and turf field, with plans to plant them this fall alongside students and the Friends of Bowker Creek. A huge thank you to all our partners and volunteers who made these projects a reality.



Speaking of rain gardens! We want to thank Justin Budyk, Environmental Stewardship Coordinator, for his leadership of the Rain Gardens for Headwaters Program, and our Stewardship Programs. Justin begins a new adventure (becoming a teacher!), and we're so grateful for all of his contributions to our work. Read Justin's goodbye message [here!](#)



COLQUITZ UPDATE



The in-stream restoration work of the Gabo Creek restoration project is complete! This summer, we worked alongside Saanich Parks, and Saanich Public Works to restore more than 200 meters of habitat, for the Coho salmon and Cutthroat trout that live in this Colquitz tributary. Riparian restoration continues, with native plantings taking place this fall.



British Columbia
Salmon Restoration
and Innovation Fund
(BC - SRIF)

Another exciting development in the Colquitz: The installation of a PIT tag antenna array into the bed of the Colquitz River, which will detect PIT (Passive Integrated Transponder) tagged salmon as they swim overhead, recording their individual tag ID and the date and time. The data collected from this array will be crucial for furthering our understanding of the migration patterns, timings, and survivability of salmonids within the watershed. The installation is taking place this week! Thanks to our partners and funders:



British Columbia
Salmon Restoration
and Innovation Fund
(BC - SRIF)



MILLSTREAM CREEK



Our in-stream restoration work in Millstream Creek is complete! Volunteers gathered at Cedar Vale Park North to build a riffle and add spawning gravel to the creek. This hands-on effort involved lifting, shoveling, and rolling rock, all of which contributed significantly to the health of the creek. PSS staff also secured a large cedar stump in the creek which will provide important rearing habitat for the salmonids. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this project possible.



TETAYUT CREEK



Our in-stream restoration work at Tetayut Creek is complete! Volunteers worked diligently to enhance rearing habitat for salmonids via judicious habitat boulder placements. They were also hard at work continuing ongoing riparian restoration efforts to remove invasive English Ivy. The previously cleared spaces are already seeing a return of native species, including trailing blackberry, Maple, stinging nettle, and June plum. Thank you to our funders and partners! A special thank you to Tsawout Fisheries for their support with this work.



TSAWOUT FIRST NATION

Saanich Historical Artifacts Society





KENNES (HAGAN BIGHT) BEACH CLEAN



This August, we teamed up with Tsartlip First Nation and Pacifica Paddle for a beach clean at KENNES (Hagan Bight). Tackling the problem from land and sea allowed us to recover 770kg (1698 lbs) of debris that was polluting the near shore environment. Thank you to all the eager participants for your hard work, Tsartlip First Nation for having us, and Central Saanich for helping with disposal!



GREEN CRAB MONITORING



For the past 3 months, PSS staff and volunteers have been monitoring for the invasive European Green Crab (EGC) in Millstream Estuary and the Gorge Waterway.

In response to the detection of EGC by our friends at the Gorge Waterway Action Society earlier in August, we worked alongside Pacific Salmon Foundation, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Coastal Restoration Society for a 3-day response trapping event. Stay tuned for updates, as the Gorge Waterway undergoes aggressive trapping and removal procedures.



Fisheries and
Oceans Canada

Our last monitoring event will take place in Millstream Estuary on September 16th and 17th. **We are looking for more volunteers to help sample!**

[Sign up to volunteer](#)



PSS EDUCATION



We want to wish all teachers and students a great first week back at school. We can't wait to plan this year's education events with you and to share our love for environmental stewardship with your students.

From invasive plant removal to water quality monitoring, forage fish egg surveys, aquatic bug scavenger hunts, crab identification, beach cleans, and more—we have plenty of exciting opportunities to engage youth in environmental learning and action.

[Book Your Event](#)

[Volunteer](#)

Calls for Community Support:

We are in the process of restoring our watershed models, which are used every spring to teach hundreds of kids about watersheds, the water cycle, stormwater pollution, rain gardens, and more. We are looking for more volunteers to help us repair these models. If you are interested, sign up for this project [here](#).

We are also looking for a new place to store a 15-foot trailer, which contains all of our education materials, including the watershed models. For more information, please email Deb at deborah.deacon@peninsulastreams.ca.



UPCOMING EVENTS



September 3-4: Colquitz PIT tag antenna array installation

September 5: [Sidney Street Market!](#) Come swing by our booth and view the [Riffle Raffle grand prize](#) on display.

September 11-13: Volunteer Opportunity: KEL,SET (Reay) Creek In-Stream Restoration with Tsawout First Nation. Email austin.nolan@peninsulastreams.ca to volunteer.

September 13-15: Volunteer Opportunity: Bowker Creek Riffle Construction with Friends of Bowker Creek. Email peninsulastreams@gmail.com for more information.

September 16-17: Volunteer Opportunity: Monitoring for European Green Crab in Millstream Estuary - [sign up here](#).

September 22: [Bowker Creek Biodiversity Day](#) with Friends of Bowker Creek Society

September 28: [Welcome Home Salmon - PSS Volunteer Appreciation Picnic \(RSVP here\)](#) & Riffle Raffle Final Draw ([buy tickets here](#))

September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

For more pictures, updates, and volunteer opportunities, follow us on social media!



THE PENINSULA STREAMS AND SHORELINES FUND



[click here to learn more](#)



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