



The Pointer

October 2000

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Willis Point Community Association
AGM & Elections
and Fire & Recreation Commission Elections
SUNDAY, October 22
at 4:00 p.m.
The format of this years AGM will once again be the
MEETING *at 4:00 followed by a BARBECUE. A great time*
to touch base with each other after the long summer.
See you there.

A message from the Nomination Committee of the Willis Point Community Association

The nomination committee is comprised of three of the out going members of the executive. Having spent more than four years in these positions, we can say that the jobs can be very interesting and very valuable to the community. The next few years will be very interesting from a political perspective and we will need people representing us who can be objective and who can listen to the various voices within the community.

**We are looking for four talented people to fill the following positions:
Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and Member at Large.**

At the time of this publication, two people have indicated an interest in available positions, one in the position of treasurer, and one in the position of Member at Large.

If you are interested running for (or have any questions about) any of the positions mentioned, please feel free to phone one of us.

WPCA Nomination Committee:	Ida von Schuckmann, Chair	652-0050
	Ken Ilott	652-6033
	Ursula Waite	544-1720





To The Point

What a wonderful summer here at Willis Point this year. It seemed slow to start but once it came it just didn't quit. This has been the first summer in years that I grew my tomatoes out in the open and they didn't catch that nasty blight that comes with too much moisture.

Well I noticed that some neighbours left this summer and new ones moved into the neighbourhood. Good Luck to those leaving and Welcome to our new neighbours!

As we all need reminding sometimes, please drive slowly through the community. Enjoy the colors of fall!

Donna Dow, *editor*

Dear Pointers,

It is time for us to say "GOOD BYE" to a wonderful bunch of people. You are all such a great bunch, THANK YOU all for making us feel so welcome, and we (actually I'm) sorry that I can't take the country life and need to be in the "buzz" of the city. Many of you went out of your way to try and make us feel at home and comfortable in such a beautiful place. It truly is a treasure at the end of the road. We hope that you will take the time to stop by and make the new owners just as welcome. They are Jack, Jacquie and daughter Tamara. Great people, they will really fit in well. Could you please invite us back for the Halloween party, the Xmas carol singing and the Up Chuck. We will come out for Sunday afternoon drives sometimes so we hope to see you all again on the road.

Bye for now

Jan and Kirk

The Willis Point Community Association, Executive

Director	Brian Hensen	642-1633
Chair	Ken Ilott	652-6033
Vice Chair	Michael Cridge	544-4048
Treasurer	Dave Carley	652-3207
Recording Secretary	Lois Lovo	652-9612
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila Carnegie	544-1792
Membership Secretary	Ursula Waite	522-1720
Member at Large	Ida vonSchuckmann	652-0050
Member at Large	Brian McCandless	652-3656

Please phone any of the above people to find out when the monthly meetings are held. Any member of the community is welcome.

Other Willis Point Contacts

Fire Chief	Bill Wright	652-3254
Fire And Recreation Committee (Chair)	Vern McConnell	652-2996
Environmental Committee (Chair)	Margaret Cornell	652-3366
Pointer Editor and Publisher	Donna Dow	652-3818
Hall Custodians	Laverne Sohochoff	652-5210
	Judy Kozler	652-1286
Official Community Planning Committee (Chair)	Larry Resnick	652-8278
Trails Assessment	Ida von Schuckmann	652-0050
Saanich Inlet Study	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Aerobics Instructor	Katie Cotter	652-2039

Willis Point Pointer Staff

* Volunteers *

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Donna Dow

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Ken Leighton

Matt Treagar

Pat Orr

Matt Pennell

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Bill Wright

Planning Committee

Larry Resnick

Fact or Fancy

Eryn Tombu

Letters To The Editor

Comments, letters, and articles should be

submitted to the editor at
6712 Mark Lane or

Fax 652-3818 or email
donnadow@islandnet.com
(Please respect deadline)

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NOTE: The "DEAR BLABBY" column is a regular feature of the Pointer. The writer, a professionally qualified know-it-all who chooses to remain anonymous, uses a tongue-in-cheek approach to problem-solving. Readers, therefore, should view advice with skepticism and must assume responsibility for all associated risks and outcomes. We hope, however, you will have a laugh or two along the way!!

If you have a problem that you would like Blabby to address, please forward it to the Pointer Editor. Blabby will select a letter or two for each issue. Submissions from readers of all ages are welcome.

Dear Blabby,

New neighbours moved in about a month ago, but I haven't yet met them. I hardly ever see them, and they keep their shades drawn all day. What do you suggest I do to meet them?

Signed, Friendly Neighbour

Dear Friendly Neighbour,

It's difficult to say for certain why their shades are drawn. However, since meeting them is important to you, you might try the following things:

1. Borrow or buy a set of drums and play them on your deck at various times of the day. You may find out what shifts, if any, they are working, and you may even get to meet them.
2. Leave a roll of undeveloped film on their doorstep with your name and address. If they have a photographic dark room, they will likely develop it and return it to you. If they mail it back, you could take the payment to them personally, or wait until they come and ask for it.
3. Send them an invitation to "pot luck". Ask them to bring brownies for dessert, and see what happens.
4. If you see three or four police cars drive up at one time, along with a hydro truck, it might be better to stay away. Or, if you still want to be a good neighbour, meet them with bail money in hand. But be sure to tell the police it is bail money.

Good luck, Blabby

Editor's Note:

Please read the following article that was supposed to appear in the last Pointer. Things got a little hectic as just before I was finished the layout of the Pointer, my computer crashed. I thought I had retrieved all the information in the layout but realized after I received a call from Brian, that a whole article had been missed. I apologize for any inconvenience and certainly wanted to make sure the volunteers who were responsible for the new community notice boards were thanked.

Willis Point Community Notice Boards

Two brand new community information boards are now in place, a great place to post information about upcoming events within the community, and other notices of community interest. Please limit your postings to one month, use staples or thumb-tacks only (no screws or nails) and please don't litter. If you are removing a posting, take the waste with you. Many thanks to David Lawrie for his time, effort, and outstanding workmanship designing and constructing both notice board assemblies, to Bob Wilson for his donation of the cedar shingles for the roofs, to Mark and Grant Twamley for their engineering skills in determining just how deep to go with their hole digger thingy, and to Bob West, Dave Conner, Chester Cotter, Brian McCandless, and the Willis Point Volunteer Fire Department, for their help in putting it all together.

Brian McCandless

Willis Point Business Directory

All Make Transmission

Neil Treagar 389-0624

Avalon Cottage Brew On Premise

Vern McConnell 386-4030
Email avalon@jdmicro.com

Basic Accounting and Bookkeeping

Monica Rowbottom 544-1822

Brand J Graphics

Jason Funnell 889-3779
Fax 388-5548
Email jfunnell-gmi@home.com

Brentwood Physiotherapy

Gillian Jackson 652-4489

Chandler Construction

Ken Illot 652-7747
Fax 652-4777

Cloverdale Paint Inc

Kirk Beggs 383-8000
Fax 383-8045

Happy Hikes

Jen Charles, Donna Dow 652-3818
Website www.happyhikes.com

Housework Maid Easy

Gerri Gorling 652-6149

Knotty Pine Property Maintenance

Darren Pine 544-0202

Leighton Photography

Ken Leighton, Rob Leighton 652-2686

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Jennifer Modigliani 652-1938
Fax 544-4989
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Jay Rangel 652-1938
Fax 544-4989

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Linda Parker 652-6436
Fax 652-5664

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\$12.50 half page; \$5 eighth of a page (business card)

Money is to be dropped off with ad.

Note: Final published

ad size may be approximate and is at the
publishers

discretion due to space and cost considerations.

Please bring your ad on disk if at all possible or you can
email the ad to

donnadow @islandnet.com

Thanks to all the Pointers
who generously
sponsored me in The Run
For The Cure of Breast
Cancer.

I raised over \$250 for the
cause.

Aaron Hawkes

Willis Point Residents, Did You Know?

You can rent the Willis Point Community Hall for as
little as \$72.00/day or \$7.50/hour? Outside renters
pay from \$150-\$175 per day, still a bargain!

Call Laverne 652-5210 or Judy 652-1286

Letters To The Editor

SLOW DOWN!!

I take road safety seriously, especially when it concerns my children and the children of all my Willis Point neighbours. I have always been concerned about the excessive speed that is used on Willis Point Road by many drivers and find it distressing that it is local drivers, more so than visitors to the area, flying up and down Willis Point Road. Our road is *not* the Pat Bay Highway, but some heavy-footed drivers are easily doing 80 km/hr. as they speed into and out of The Point.

Please keep these few things in mind:

1. Children live right along Willis Point Road, with their driveways and sidewalks leading right up to the busy road. They could emerge onto the road at any time.
2. Willis Point children have to walk and bike right beside the road – they don't have sidewalks, so they have to be very close to the traffic.
3. It is going to be 'the unexpected' - not normal circumstances - that will cause you to momentarily lose control and have an accident. Think about simple things that could make you swerve if they happen right in front of your car and if you are driving too fast: a car suddenly backing out of a driveway, a cyclist quickly rounding a corner, a dog running onto the street, a child falling off a bike, or a child chasing a ball onto the road.
4. In the morning, when many drivers are focused on getting to work, college or high school on time, our children are gathering at the two bus stops. *They need you to slow down!*
Please drive with caution and awareness along Willis Point Road, especially until you have passed the fire hall heading out.

And please use as much caution along Mark Lane, where the road is much narrower, and has more bends and curves that impede the driver's range of vision. Mark Lane is well-used by cyclists and walkers-children, teens, adults and elderly people – please slow down so they can all be safe.

Speed can injure and kill. It would be horrendous for everyone involved if a serious accident occurred.

Andrea Martin

To The Pointer:

- Draft 5 of the Community Plan encourages the development of 30 2-acre lots in an area of the Fama Lands above Mark Lane. The Plan specifies that a would-be developer must "prove the quantity (through pump and interference testing) and quality (through potability analysis) of the groundwater to adequately support the proposed use and existing uses in the vicinity". This provision for testing sounds a fine idea but, realistically, how much protection would it give us? Water surveys of this type are notoriously unreliable, particularly when commissioned to support a development proposal. How wide an area is "the vicinity"? Would it cover all the area supplied by the aquifer, or just the properties adjacent to the proposed new development?
- Clearly, the viability of our water is one of the most critical issues facing us. If we were to be forced by failure of our supply to bring in outside water, the cost to each household, using figures supplied by Fama, would be in the \$30,000 range. If our natural water supplies were compromised by a development and we did not bring in outside water, choosing instead to muddle through by careful conservation and voluntary restrictions, the value of our properties would drop drastically.
- Why are we putting ourselves in such a precarious position? I understand that almost all of Draft 5 was completed before the release of the water survey. But now we have seen the finding that Mark Lane residents use water at the rate of 138% of the supply. Isn't it prudent, indeed *necessary* for the good of the Community, to drop the idea of rezoning? If we stay with the present zoning there can be at most 12 single-family dwellings on the Fama Lands.
- I am unable to understand why we should prefer 30 houses just above our overused catchment area to 12 houses scattered over hundreds of acres.
- If, as I hope and expect, others in the Community have had these same thoughts, then we should join together to urge the Planning Committee to change the Plan accordingly.

Robin Malim

Fact or Fancy

If you go swimming in the ocean anywhere around Victoria you are open to dangers. Not just big waves and pollution; I'm talking about animals. The main ones we know of that are a threat around Victoria are three types of sharks, some dangerous fish and stinging jelly fish. On the land if you go for a walk it's mainly cougars and bears, but what about the creatures we aren't too sure about? The Sasquatch for instance. Thirty-seven recent sightings on the island, footprints, nests and pictures of them in petroglyphs made by the natives of BC. Are these just a coincidence? Or is there something out there, something hidden in the woods?

In the ocean there are also creatures somewhere on the small border-line between fact and fiction. The vast majority of the oceans on this planet have yet to be explored; could there be something lurking in the ocean which has not yet been captured and tamed? If you can remember, until October 1997 we believed that giant squids were a myth, and that people were just making up the sightings. Now we know that they are real. We've all heard of Ogoopogo in BC's Lake Okanagan, but there are others. Strange carcasses have been pulled aboard boats and have been found on beaches, some weighing up to two tons. Almost all of them have been thrown back into the ocean because of the smell or other reasons. There are amazing photographs of some of these creatures which professionals have tried to duplicate as a fake but have failed. The monsters of both Lake Utopia (Northern New Brunswick) and Lake Kodiak (Alaska) have both been known to break through the ice on the lakes and snap at people and animals, sometimes even attacking or killing them. Some other monsters like Chessie (of Chesapeake Bay) Tessie (of Lake Tahoe), and giant unnamed jelly fish have been known to kill cows, people and dogs. Our local monster Caddy (Cadborsaurus) is known as Nessie's and Ogoopogo's cousin. He has so far not injured anyone or their pets, but he has freaked some people out. Caddy has been spotted in nine different lakes around BC, by almost 300 people in the Victoria area and has his own sculpture in Gyro Park. He has also been seen in Washington, Oregon and as far south as California. In 1937 in a whale station on the Queen Charlotte Islands a small Caddy was found in the stomach of a whale. It kind of makes you wonder what's out there in the ocean. We have seen the pictures of these monsters. We have examined the carcasses. We have tried to prove it all to be a fake. But for some reason, we just can't believe.

Day by day, the present becomes the past and the past is brought forward. Who knows, maybe tomorrow those great creatures of the sea from a simple old Indian tale, will become real.

Eryn Tombu

Don's Inn!

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needed jobs before winter
sets in.

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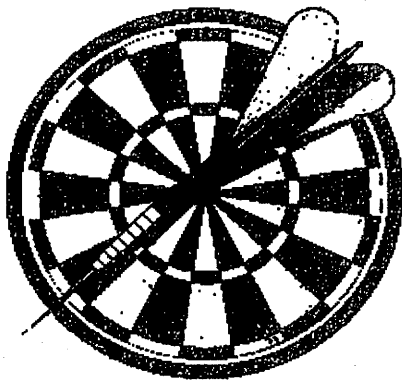
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Dart Nite

Sat. Oct. 21 st
Registration 6:30 pm
Willis Point Fire Hall

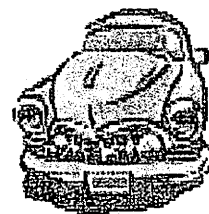
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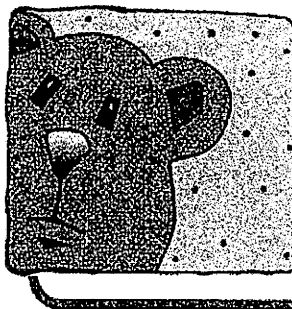
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XMAS PLAY

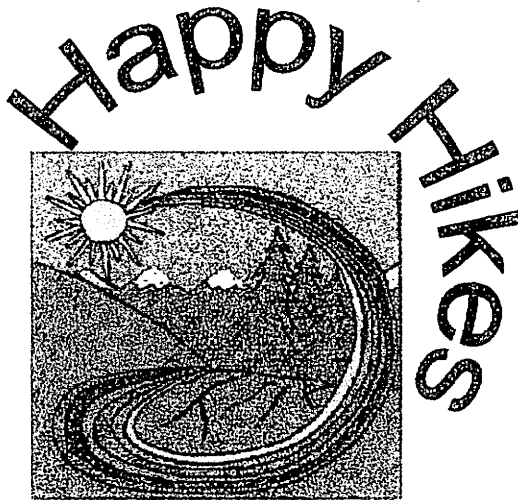


It's Christmas play time again. Yes, I know it's only fall but a play takes practice. The production is a little bigger than last year, so if we want to be ready by Dec. 17th we need to get to work! The first rehearsal will be on Sunday Oct. 22nd at 2:00 pm. The play is called Raindeer vs.



Reindeer, and I'm going to need about 20 kids. There are speaking and non-speaking parts, and remember I can adapt any role to fit age, gender, and ability. If you want more or less lines you've got it! As well, if it's behind the scenes you're interested in Karen can use the help. Skye already has her song picked out for the dance number and it's a groovy one! I hope to see everyone who was involved last year and I'm looking forward to working with those who weren't. So come on kids, make your parents, community, and selves proud and join the Willis Point Young Players!

Questions? Please call Vanessa Funnell @ 652-4195.



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In response to many comments at the Public Meeting in June and in the written responses which followed, the Community Plan Committee met on Sept. 18 to agree on a public process which would:

- give the Community better access to the ongoing work of the Committee
- give the Committee better feedback from the Community

With over 40 Community members in attendance, the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the following proposal for accountability to the Community.

“THE COMMITTEE AGREES TO:....”(see page 10)

We are pledged to give careful consideration to the many points raised from the Community. Our deliberations will be open to the Community. And in the end the Community will decide.

But there is a two-sided obligation here. The Community has to respond by playing a part – a very important part – in the Committee's efforts to produce the right plan for our Community. We want your feedback!

Larry Resnick,
 Chair of the Willis Point Planning Committee

**FALL MEETING SCHEDULE: ALL MEETINGS
 ARE AT THE HALL 7:30 P.M.**

September: Monday, 18th.

October: Monday 2nd and Monday 16th.

November: Monday, 6th and Monday, 20th.

December: Monday, 4th.

**AGENDA WILL BE POSTED ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF EACH MEETING.
 CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARDS.**

Why Compost?

Composting is an easy way to return organic material to the soil. It conditions soil and improves plant growth. Another reason for composting is to reduce the amount of organic material destined for landfill sites. Kitchen and yard wastes comprise approximately 33% of residential solid waste. If you compost kitchen and yard waste, in addition to recycling newspapers, bottles and cans, you can cut your waste almost in half! If all your neighbours do this too, it will dramatically reduce the amount of household garbage going into our rapidly-filling landfill site.

article taken from the CRD Here's The Dirt newsletter

OCP PLANNING COMMITTEE PROPOSAL FOR ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

THE COMMITTEE AGREES TO:

1. Publish all meeting dates well in advance.
2. Post notices, including main agenda items, for each meeting.
3. Draw up a list of the most critical issues which need to be addressed in the Plan.
4. Provide the Community, through The Pointer and/or the AGM, with the list of those issues, and, if possible, a projected schedule for their consideration.
5. Write a position paper for each issue, which will: a) clarify the issue; and b) give the reasons for and against each proposed resolution.
6. Make the position papers available to interested Community members and encourage feedback to the Committee.
7. Hold regular meetings on the first and third Mondays of October and November. On December 4th agree on an interim progress report for the Community, possibly for inclusion in The Pointer.
8. Resume regular meetings on January 8th, aiming at what we hope to be a final draft of the Plan (Draft 6) by the end of March.
9. Make Draft 6 available to each Willis Point household and, where feasible, to each absentee owner, at least 10 days prior to holding a public meeting to consider the Plan.
10. Reconvene after the public meeting to make any changes the Committee deems appropriate before submitting the Plan to a Community Referendum.
11. Arrange for a Community-run Referendum which allows every voting-age resident and/or landowner of Willis Point to cast a ballot for or against the Committee's final version of the Plan.
12. If and only if the Referendum results in the Community's approval of the Plan, the Committee will recommend to the CRD Board's Land Use Committee that the Plan, as presented in the Referendum, be adopted.

Submitted by Larry Resnick

Chair of the Willis Point Planning Committee

Studio Modigliani



An Exhibition of black and white and infrared images,
supporting the present environment at Willis Point.

Sunday Dec 3/00
3:00pm to 7:30pm
7053 Willis Point Road

Fire Fighter News

Since the last Pointer the Department has been busy with seven calls since June, Four of those in August. The calls break-down into,

1. Two- fire calls one to Willis Point Road, the other to Mark Lane
2. Five- first responder (first aid) calls two to the Durrance Lake area, three to Mark Lane.
3. One- motor vehicle accident on Mark Lane.

The First Responder calls ranged every where from bee stings, near drowning, chest pains, unconscious patient, to a challenge between a cyclist and a motor vehicle. The motor vehicle accident was a vehicle pulling too far off the road and rolling over nearly going down the cliff. Members of the department safely rescued them.

We have two new fire fighters starting their training this month. Welcome Jason Hillis and Aran Puritch. May your expectations be met and surpassed. It seems when we gain one member we have one member leave and this summer has been no exception with Ian Blaney Jr. succumbing to the bright lights. It's been our fortune to have such a capable member of the community on the department. Good luck in the city Ian.

Fall training is just starting so to all you new Pointers out there that would like to meet some very interesting people as well as learn some very interesting stuff you are always welcome at the Fire Hall Wednesday nights between 7 and 10. Come on down and try it out, we have a nice yellow suit in your size. Welcome back to all the Fire fighters that have been out in the wide world this past summer. The members have been as far east as PEI (That magical Harley scooter has kris-crossed parts of The United states and Canada.) Others have crossed the great ocean and travelled into the wilds of BC and Alberta. To all of you, we are waiting to hear your stories so remember we meet Wed. night at 7:45. See you then.

You may have noticed the trucks throughout the neighbourhood outside of practice nights; this was to check out the area for fire while the hazard was extreme. At this point in time the fire hazard for the Willis Point area is still **High**. So until the hazard index comes down there are still no fires allowed. We will be doing the annual bonfire for the community come the end of October if the index goes down. Watch the signboards for information.

As October is election month for the department when you read this there may be some changes to the makeup of the department and Fire fighters association. Stay tuned for the results.

A quick note as winter is fast approaching (hopefully not to fast) it is imperative that all vehicles that park on Mark Lane pull off as far as safely possible so the fire trucks can get by. This holds true for anyone having a party, please advise your guests to park safely so we can get by. If we are called to a problem, we will attend to check the area out and if it is dangerous for us to get by or impossible to do so we will advise the people in attendance to please move there vehicles. If they are not immediately moved we will contact the RCMP to have the vehicles towed. This is a safety matter that could affect the lives of our members as well as that of our Neighbours. The time lost moving vehicles could be tragic.

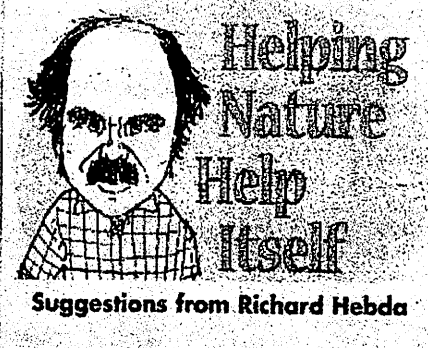
Bill Wright, *Fire Chief*

Biological diversity or "biodiversity" is an essential characteristic of ecosystems. Biodiversity has many dimensions, such as the number of species and the variety of habitats.

Three-dimensional structure- the form of the vegetation (woodland, meadow, forest, etc) - is an important aspect, too.

Unfortunately for biodiversity, we humans have a penchant for simplifying the landscape. We like straight roads with mowed shoulders and great expanses of lawn. A tangle of shrubbery under trees looks "messy," fallen logs untidy and dangerous. Yet such features contribute vital three-dimensional structure, habitat complexity and many opportunities for creatures to live.

The relationship between Stellar's Jays and Garry Oak regeneration provides a marvelous example of the ecological importance of structure. Biologist Marilyn Fuchs of Victoria observed in her research that these jays, which relish acorns, cache the tasty morsels in specific places, and these special spots are directly linked to the presence of shrubs growing under and next to trees. Typically, jays favour a soil surface covered in plant litter under, medium to tall shrubs, all beneath the tree canopy. The ground surface needs to be



relatively open and free of masses of stems to provide accessible cache sites. However, a canopy must provide shelter from rapacious and hungry predator eyes in the sky. Room to roam and rummage, but under cover. Thus, you may inexplicably find young oak seedlings under tall saplings just back from the edge of a thicket - the jay's legacy of forgotten acorns.

What can you do about structure? Think complexity! Instead of well manicured, great expanses of lawn, either in the open or under trees, save a place for thickets and saplings.

Let tall shrubs reach toward the canopy of trees to provide shelter and perches for various birds. Retain the logs that fall on the ground and let them rot in place, or bring some logs into your backyard to diversify the ground surface. They will provide surfaces for our delightful native mosses to take hold, become nurse logs for different and even delicious species such as red huckleberry and homes for newts, beetles, and more. If you have property with diversity, consider the ecological benefits before you simplify it by blasting rocks or filling in hollows. Avoid the habit of cleaning out the underbrush as if it is some evil creature just waiting to consume your home.

Finally, think green spaces and greenways. Help your municipality or regional district develop natural habitat corridors and islands within the community. Maintain and bring back ecological structure into the human landscape, and contribute to the vital ecological processes necessary to carry our natural legacy into the challenging era of climate change, just over the horizon.
article courtesy of The Friends of the Royal British Columbia Museum



Tips To Keep Your Computer Running Smoothly

We don't all want to be computer experts but we all do want our computers to work when we need them. Here are some simple but effective ways to keep things running smoothly.

When you happen to be vacuuming your office run your small brush over your monitor and the back of your computer where the fan vents are located. Make sure your computer and monitor are unplugged when cleaning. A lot of dust is sucked into the back of your computer because the fan draws in air in order to cool your processor. About once a week and more if you think of it, tip your keyboard upside down and tap it gently to remove any crumbs or hairs that happen to find their way in between the keys. Small debris can start to breakdown in your keyboard and soon you will find your keys start to stick. Everything can be left plugged in for this procedure.

"Happy Surfing" Donna Dow, A+ Certified Computer Technician

Hello

My name is Terra. I am seeking carpool opportunities to either Camosun campuses.

I will gladly share gas costs.

If you are interested please call:

Terra at 544-1869

Dry Seasoned Douglas Fir

Split and delivered to Willis Point

Call Phil at 383-4839