



Newsletter

Summer 2019

Volume 2, Issue 2

We're Wild About our Community!

It's obvious the BLPA is wild about our home, Burnaby Lake, but we're also wild about our community! We love collaborating with our stewardship partners and meeting people at events throughout Burnaby. Thanks to everyone who came to our AGM to hear Myles Lamont present about Sandhill Cranes—we were thrilled at how many people came and connected. Keep in touch with us so we can let you when our next event is. We also love sharing our passion for Burnaby Lake, connecting people to nature and what we do to take care of our home; I hope you can join us. Have a great summer— See you at the Lake! - Irene Lau, Chair - BLPA Board of Directors



Get to Know the BLPA

Meet **Joe Sadowski**. In fact, if you have joined in one our events, or have visited Piper Spit over the past 40+ years, you may have met him already! Joe is one of **The Group of Ten**, the founding members of the BLPA's predecessors, the Burnaby Outdoor Education Association.



Joe is especially passionate about birds. He began the Nest Box program in 1976 with a few boxes. Over the years, through steady work and adaptation to the previous year's nesting results, the BLPA now monitors about 170 boxes a year. Burnaby Lake is now known for having the largest resident (year round) population of Wood Ducks! He has designed what is known as "the Cadillac of nest boxes" and continues to work with other birders to design different types. You can find some of his plans on our website under the [Resources](#) tab.

He is also known in the community as the *Mason Bee Whisperer*. Joe has been raising Blue Orchard Bees for more than 25 years and has given presentations to various groups over the years about this important pollinator and how to raise them successfully.

There is a saying: "once a teacher, always a teacher". While he may have retired from SD41 many years ago, he continues to put those skills to use to this day by connecting kids **and** adults to Nature, and being a mentor to many.

- **THANK YOU, JOE!**



2019 Stewardship Progress

Mother Nature has smiled upon us with good weather to start our 2019

Weedbusters Season! On April 27, we met at the Glencarin trail entrance before splitting into two groups and removing invasive Scotch Broom, English Ivy, English Holly and Himalayan Blackberry. The first group went down

the South Shore Trail. The second group made the trek to Deer Lake Brook to a restoration site that we had cleared and planted in 2015. May 26 found our hard working volunteers in the area around the Avalon Parking Lot and set their targets on English Ivy, English Holly, Himalayan Blackberry and Himalayan Balsam aka Purple Policemen's Helmet.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS - GREAT JOB!

		 STEWARDSHIP PROGRESS 2019 			
WORK PARTY DATE	WORK LOCATION	# OF VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEER HOURS	INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVED (KG)	
1 April 27	Glencarin, South Shore Trail, Deer Lake Brook	21	63	*425	
2 May 26	Avalon	26	80	305	
		47	143	730	

* Estimated Weight



Weedbusters 2019

**Sundays 1:00 - 4:00 pm /
Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm**



For those of you who like to plan ahead, here are the Spring/Summer Weedbuster dates so you can mark your calendars. Find detailed information, directions and meeting locations on our website at [Events](#) tab. If you need more information or would like to bring your community group, [contact](#)

[Ann](#) by email at info@burnabylakepark.ca.

- **S June 9 - *10 am-2 pm***, Avalon
- **T June 11** - Avalon
- **S June 23** - Glencarin Work Site
- **S July 7** - Glencarin Trail
- **T July 9** - Avalon
- **S July 14** - Glencarin Trail
- **T July 16** - Avalon
- **S July 28** - Avalon

Always check our website to closer to the date to see if there are any changes.



2019 is the International Year of the Salmon

Salmon are an iconic species around the world, and especially here in BC. Human impacts combined with environmental change across the Northern Hemisphere are placing salmon at risk. The [International Year of the Salmon](#) aims to bring people together to share and develop knowledge more effectively, raise awareness and take action.



yearofthesalmon.org

We are fortunate that Burnaby has over 140km of open streams and associated wetlands, two lakes, and a river. Since the 1970s the City has had an open watercourse policy that has preserved a network of 90+ streams contained within three major watersheds. The return of “Salmon in the City” after many years of polluted waterways is partly due to the efforts of dedicated volunteer Streamkeeper groups. They cleanup, monitor, enhance and advocate for their waterway as well as educate others in the community about how to be better stewards of our water resources. Several release salmon back into their creeks in the Spring. Find out more about them on our website at [Park Community & Links](#) and contact them to learn how you can do your part in protecting salmon.



To see the map, check the [Park Community & Links](#) page on our website or click the image if you are reading online



Cariboo Dam controls the water flow from Burnaby Lake into the Brunette River. Salmon return to spawn here every Fall.

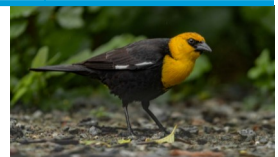


Fun Fact: Did you know that Burnaby Lake is represented on Burnaby's flag by one of the discs on the eagle's wing? (The other is Deer Lake.)

The blue on top and below represents Burrard Inlet to the north and the Fraser River to the south. In case you missed it, CBC BC's Municipal Reporter, Justin McElroy, ranked the flag of Burnaby as the top municipal flag in the province!

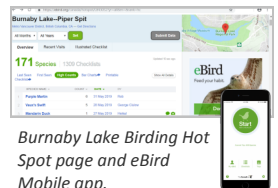
Have you seen this bird?

It's a Yellow-headed Blackbird and was recently sighted at Burnaby Lake. According to [eBird](#), this is the fourth year in a row observations have been recorded here, although it is often sighted at Iona Regional Park and in the Interior.



Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) Photo: Atish Banerjee

What is [eBird](#)? It's a tool you can use to track birds you have seen or want to look for. Your information links to a global data base that creates birding checklists, and can be used for scientific research, education, and conservation. Check it out at [eBird.ca](#) and let us know how your tracking goes!



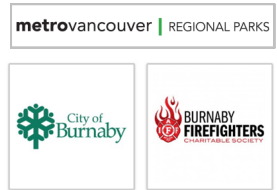
Burnaby Lake Birding Hot Spot page and eBird Mobile app.

Thank you!

We would like to extend our thanks to all who came to **WILD ABOUT BURNABY LAKE** and hope you enjoyed making connections to nature, right in the middle of the city! Our gratitude goes to our stewardship and community partners for their wonderful displays and sharing their knowledge in a fun and friendly atmosphere.



A special thanks to our co-hosts, **Metro Vancouver Regional Parks** and the Central Area staff and the **City of Burnaby Planning Department**. It is great to work with you and have your support. Shout out to the **Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society** for manning the BBQ for us and providing lunch to our guests!



Mark Your Calendars!



JUNE

- 9: 10-2 pm, [Wild About Burnaby Lake](#), [Weedbusters](#), APL
- 11: 6:30-8:30 pm, [Weedbusters](#), APL
- 19: 7-9 pm, [BLPA Board Meeting](#), CAO
- 23: 1-4 pm, [Weedbusters](#), GWS

JULY

- 7: 1-4 pm, [Weedbusters](#), GTE
- 9: 6:30-8:30 pm, [Weedbusters](#), APL
- 14: 1-4 pm, [Weedbusters](#), GTE
- 16: 6:30-8:30 pm, [Weedbusters](#), APL
- 17: 7-9 pm, [BLPA Board Meeting](#), CAO
- 28: 1-4 pm, [Weedbusters](#), APL

CAO = Central Area Office GTE = Glencarin Trail Entrance APL = Avalon Parking Lot GWS = Glencarin Work Site

Full event details, directions as well as other outreach and event listings with our community partners can be found at: burnabylakepark.ca/events. The BLPA traditionally takes **August off**, but watch our social media for any notices where we might pop up this summer and when we start our Autumn stewardship work.



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