

Volunteers Needed to Help Remove Lamium from Shelly Creek Park

Once again, the City will join the Coastal Invasive Species Committee and Friends of Shelly Creek Park to continue the fight against invasive plants in Shelly Creek, such as Lamium or Yellow Archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon*) and English ivy (*Hedera helix*). We are looking for volunteers to drop in on **Tuesday, July 4** between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm to join members of the Friends of Shelly Creek Park, Mid Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society, and the Arrowsmith Naturalists.

An infestation of Lamium in sensitive Shelly Creek Park has been taking over a large section of ground in the park and swallowing up newly planted Douglas Fir and Large-leaf Maple seedlings. Great progress was made in 2022 to get the Lamium under control; however, more effort is needed. Lamium is an invasive species found in shaded to partially shaded habitat including wooded areas and can easily out compete natural ground covers. If it were to make it to where Shelly Creek flows through the park, it could out-compete the natural riparian vegetation needed for streambank stability and shade for the resident Cutthroat Trout.

In 2022, the City worked with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee to remove the Lamium from Shelly Creek Park. Although not considered within the riparian area, herbicides were considered outside the boundary. With the tremendous volunteer support, the use of an herbicide was avoided in the park and about ninety bags of Lamium were removed from Shelly Creek Park and taken to the transfer station.

Work continues July 4 to remove more of this invasive species in Shelly Creek Park. If you can help, email friendsofshellycreekpark@gmail.com

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For more information:

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*The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations,
home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.*