

## Replacement of Bridge in Shelly Creek Park

A new pedestrian foot bridge will be installed in Shelly Creek Park South between August 24 and September 15, weather dependent. The fifty-foot bridge will allow for safe public access across Shelly Creek, a key natural asset of the park. While the work is underway, parts of the trail which access the creek will be closed to the public. The new bridge will provide improved access for the public as well as better protection of Shelly Creek and sensitive environment.

Preliminary work is underway with installation of the footings this week. Silt fences will protect the creek and there will be temporary closures of the parts of the trail that access the creek. During construction, signage will show temporary trail closures, noted in red on the map image.



A local company, Riptide Marine, will customize the aluminum bridge for the site. The Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) from Current Environmental is serving as the liaison with Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resource Options and Rural Development and we are working within the least-risk-to-fish window, following all applicable best practices for work in and around streams, including for harmful substances and spill management, the use of concrete materials, sediment and erosion control and site restoration. The QEP will be on site for all critical work around the creek.

Mid Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society are stewards of Shelly Creek, working to protect and repair the sensitive stream and riparian area. The creek is home to a small population of resident Coastal Cutthroat Trout and is the only fish bearing stream in the City. The City is fortunate to benefit from the work by Mid-Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society volunteers to restore habitat and to educate the public about creek protection. Once installed, the City will upgrade the trails accessing the creek and work with MVIHES on further habitat restoration. The cost of the bridge is anticipated to be \$15,000.

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### For more information:

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