



Wednesday Sept. 30, 2015

Dear parents of EcoKeepers,

For the next 8 weeks your son or daughter will participate in the Brainstorm activity of **EcoKeepers**. We will be learning about biodiversity in local natural spaces in Oak Bay. We will identify *invasive species* of plants that endanger some of the delicate native species here. We will begin by working to weed invasive plants from **Anderson Hill Park** each **Thursday from 11:30 to lunchtime**. As a group we will walk there, do our ecological restoration work, eat lunch and come back to the school.

Students will need to dress for the hour outside, rain or shine, every Wednesday. Please bring the following:

- Raincoat / waterproof top - that can get dirty, that can withstand thorny underbrush
- Sturdy footwear
- Waterproof hat
- Drinking water in a sealable container (eg, Nalgene, steel bottle, etc.)
- Packable lunch (requires no heating, pack out all garbage)
- Work gloves

If it is particularly wet gumboots and rainpants will be required in addition to the above. Students without appropriate clothing will remain at school.

We will be working with various volunteers from our region, whom we thank in advance: GOERT (Gary Oak Environmental Restoration Team), Friends of Anderson Hill, Friends of Uplands Park. These organizations will be providing invaluable knowledge, leadership and some weeding equipment. A voluntary donation of \$8.00 for tool repair and upkeep (cheques may be made payable to Monterey Middle School) would be most appreciated. Please mark envelopes: "Ecokeepers, c/o Mr. Brown" and return to my school mailbox at the office or bring to our next class.

Thanks,

Mr. Mark Brown, [mabrown@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:mabrown@sd61.bc.ca) and Ms. Kathryn Cook [kacook@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:kacook@sd61.bc.ca)

## Ecokeepers Brainstorm 2015

I give permission for my son or daughter to participate in EcoKeepers trips to local natural spaces, such as (but not limited to) Anderson Hill, in the Oak Bay neighbourhood. I understand that my son or daughter will need to be properly prepared to participate.

\_\_\_\_, Yes, here is my (optional) donation of \$8.00 for Ecokeeper tools and equipment. (We thank you in advance!)  
[check ✓ here]

\_\_\_\_\_  
name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Division, Grade, advisory teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent name (PRINTED, PLEASE)