

## **Southeast Woods Ecological Recovery Project in Beacon Hill Park: SWERP**

### Volunteer opportunities:

Every Saturday morning from 9 till 11am (excluding long weekends) volunteers meet in Beacon Hill Park's woodlands to pull English ivy. We welcome volunteers to help remove this invasive plant and bring back the natural life of the woodlands. We are currently working within the orange fencing by the totem pole and we supply tools and gloves for volunteers.

On the last Saturday of each month, we meet at 11 am in the parks yard training room with other volunteer groups in the city. The entrance is 100 Cook Street.

We are entering our 6th year in the woods and the comparison is stunning. South of the chip trail has not been touched but the north side has had significant success. We will have to return to some areas as the ivy is a pervasive. In October 2006, we planted native flowers and shrubs with the support of the Evergreen Green Grant sponsored by Wal-Mart Canada. The \$4,000.00 grant was secured with the help of the Fairfield Community Association. The City of Victoria parks staffs work with volunteers restoring the woodlands in this part of Beacon Hill Park.

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volunteer coordinator: Cornelia Lange [kacy@islandnet.com](mailto:kacy@islandnet.com)

To see other areas in the city with volunteer groups working to remove invasive species please check out our website: [www.nevpan.org](http://www.nevpan.org) Native Ecosystems in Victoria Public Areas Network: NEVPAN

A big thank you to all the volunteers, including groups of the Kiwanis Club, the University of Victoria's Natural Systems and Environmental Studies Programs, The Friends of Beacon Hill Park, The Girl Guides, Dave Smith from Manitoulin, Ontario, The Fairfield & James Bay Community, the Cook Street Circle Neighbours and the City of Victoria Parks Division.