



## UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE INVASIVE PLANT PROGRAM – 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2015

**NC Project:** investigation to improve the effectiveness of removing cotoneaster (an invasive shrub) from the Park. 100 samples plants were dug up 3 years ago and the place marked with a wooden stake – we will be returning to find these stakes and count how many seedlings and how many suckers from root fragments have grown since then. (Be prepared to hike through thick undergrowth!)

**Fescue monitoring:** last year we removed dead stems and leaves from around remnant fescue (a native grass). This dead leaf litter is thought to be smothering the grass and allowing non-native species to out-compete it. Three monitoring plots were set up to see if this treatment is having any effect. Volunteers will be collecting data on the size of the clumps of fescue and their health within these plots (site is about 10mins from the parking lot).

**Seedling monitoring:** every year we collect data on how well native vegetation is recovering after weeding. We will visit 6 different plots (2 controls where no weeding has taken place, and 4 where invasive plants have been removed) and count the number of different woody seedlings coming up using quadrats. No expertise in plant identification is required ☺ Training will be given on site...

**Thistle survey:** to establish the extent to which creeping (Canada) thistle has invaded the riparian forest in the Park we will be setting up fixed transects in the forest and counting the number of thistles (and other species) growing along these lines.

| JULY              |  |                                   |   |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| NC Project        |  | Sat 25 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | Check 7 samples (removed 30th July 2012)          |
| AUG               |  |                                   |   |
| NC Project        |  | Sat 1st<br>9.30 - 12              | Check 8 samples (removed 6th Aug 2012)            |
| NC Project        |  | Mon 17 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | Check 4 samples (removed 14th Aug 2012)           |
| Fescue monitoring |  | Thurs 20th<br>9.30 -12            | Measure size of fescue tussocks in Plot 1 and 2   |
| Fescue monitoring |  | Sun 23rd<br>9.30 -12              | - Measure size of fescue tussocks in Plot 2 and 3 |
| NC Project        |  | Sat 29 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | Check 7 samples (removed 21st Aug 2012)           |
| SEPT              |  |                                   |   |

|                     |  |                                   |   |   |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Thistle transects   |  | Thurs 3rd<br>5.30 – 7.30          |   | Collect info. on abundance of Creeping thistle in riparian forest                     |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Sat 5th<br>3.30 – 6.30            |   | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Sun 6th<br>9.30 - 12              |   | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Mon 7th<br>5.30 – 7.30            |   | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| Thistle transects   |  | Thurs 10th<br>5.30 – 7.30         | - | Collect info. on abundance of Creeping thistle in riparian forest                     |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Sat 12th<br>3.30 – 6.30           | - | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Sun 13th<br>9.30 - 12             |   | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| Seedling monitoring |  | Mon 14th<br>5.30 – 7.30           | - | Collect info. on abundance of woody seedlings in weeded areas using quadrats – site A |
| NC Project          |  | Sat 24 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 |   | Check 5 samples (removed 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2012)                                  |
| NC Project          |  | Sun 27 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | - | Check 7 samples (removed 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2012)                |
| <b>OCT</b>          |  |                                   |   |   |
| NC Project          |  | Sun 4 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12  |   | Check 7 samples (removed 8th Oct 2012)  |
| NC Project          |  | Sun 11 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | - | Check 5 samples (removed 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2012)                                   |
| NC Project          |  | Sun 18 <sup>th</sup><br>9.30 - 12 | - | Check 5 samples (removed 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2012)                                   |

All activities: meet at the north entrance to the Weaselhead by the grey shed in the parking lot on 37<sup>th</sup> St and 66<sup>th</sup> Ave SW (*the parking lot will be closed later in the year due to construction work – I will email an alternative meeting point when that happens*)

**Always wear long pants and bring a long-sleeved top, wear strong shoes or hiking boots.**

**LET ME KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND – in case of any last minute changes ☺**

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