



City-School-Community Collaborations Continue!

Shared stewardship is alive and well in Brentwood Heights.

On June 21, Sonia Gonsalves and Sheila Brookes of City Parks led sessions in Whispering Woods (WW) for Grade 3, 4, and 5 students from Dr. Coffin School. Gathered at the Prairie Amphitheatre, Sheila taught the children many things about aspen trees, and was also impressed at how much the students already knew. Sonia then led them in biodiversity conservation activities in WW, including pulling goat's beard, shepherd's purse, and blue bur. In appreciation for all their hard work, the students were each presented with a pair of honeyberry bushes from the City to plant at home. With patience, the plants should produce tasty berries in a few years!



On June 28, we hosted the first of the season's Community Biodiversity Bees. Several Dr. Coffin families joined the fun, as did several community stalwarts. Our time was spent in both the Centennial Natureground and WW, not only pulling unwanted alien invasive plants, but enjoying the emerging native plants getting ready to burst forth in blossom. It was wonderful to hear the children and parents and neighbours all getting to know each other, consulting books on "good"



and "bad" plants, all the while speaking a variety of different languages.

The area was a hive of activity with many other neighbours and friends at the playground, riding bikes, and using the adjacent athletic fields. What a great way to kick off the first day of summer vacation. And, it was all followed by a potluck wine & cheese that included more neighbours.

Join in: it's FUN! Biodiversity Conservation is critical for local species to thrive. The healthier our environment, the healthier we are.

WHEN:

- 3 Thursday Evenings, 6:00-8:00 p.m. August 2, 16, & 30 = WINDUP POTLUCK at 8:00
- 2 Wednesday Mornings, 9:00-11:00 a.m. August 8, 22. Refreshments!
- 1 Saturday Morning, 9:00-11:00 a.m. August 11. POTLUCK BRUNCH at 11:00.

Stewardship first is encouraged, but don't let that stop you from coming to the Potlucks!

Check out www.natureground.org and the new Neighbourhood Natural Areas page on the Community Association website.

Environmentally yours, Polly Lee Knowlton Cockett, naturegroundnews@gmail.com.