



Local Green Projects Turn Emerald

What do solar cars, invasive alien plants, and organic veggies have in common? All were featured at the recent Alberta Emerald Awards for Environmental Excellence, and all have connections to Brentwood! The University of Calgary Solar Car Team received the 2007 Emerald Award in the Youth category, and one of its members, Emily Marasco, lives right in Brentwood. And so does fellow U of C student, Rowan Cockett, also an Emerald Finalist in the Youth category for his local study on invasive species. Both Emily and Rowan are alumni of Brentwood's Dr. Coffin Elementary and Sir Winston Churchill High schools. For more info see: www.emeraldawards.com.

Another Emerald for another Brentwood-based organization went to Grassroots NW Environmental Awareness Society which hosts the Grassroots Northland Farmers' Market. For over fifteen years this small group of volunteers has been supporting local environmental education initiatives with proceeds from the Market. Do more with your own money through Fresh Market shopping:

- Grassroots Northland Farmers' Market is open every Tuesday from 3:30-7 p.m. on Northland Drive NW, on the east side of Northland Mall in Brentwood.

Neighbours as Stewards – Join Us this Summer!

You are heartily encouraged to join our fun and festive community gardening bees in Brentwood Heights. The Friends of Dr. E.W. Coffin Society will be hosting regular gardening bees throughout the growing season in Whispering Woods and the Centennial Natureground.

Whether toiling in your own garden, or when helping in the Natureground or Whispering Woods, there are several plant species that you are encouraged to pull out at will. Thistles, smooth brome, goat's beard, creeping bellflower,



Grassroots NW Board of Directors celebrate their Emerald Award in the Community Group category. From left to right: Polly Knowlton Cockett, Nancy Dalton, Jill Kirker, Pat Letizia, Jennifer Batycky, Nancy Hansen, missing: Lynn Keating.

Emeralds & Aliens

and dandelions are just a few. There is also troubling scentless chamomile, oxeye daisy, and toadflax to deal with, as well as a host of other pesky weeds like hound's tongue, stinkweed, and shepherd's purse. All are threats to the well-being of our native prairie's amazing biodiversity.

To be notified about the schedule, to learn more about native plants, weeds, and grassland conservation, and to keep up with impromptu gatherings, please sign up for our listserve. Contact Polly, as below.

Please join us, whether for a few minutes or a few hours, during any or all of the following events during **June, July, and August.**

When:

- Every Thursday: 6:30-8:30 p.m. June 28 – August 30. Refreshments provided.
- Saturday, July 21: 9-11 a.m. [Keeners at 8] Potluck Brunch at 11.
- Sunday, August 26: 9-11 a.m. [Keeners at 8] Potluck Brunch at 11.
- Youth Gardeners: by arrangement. Training, Honorariums, Refreshments

Where:

Meet at the Prairie Amphitheatre in Whispering Woods, just off Brenner Drive NW, or in the adjacent Centennial Natureground on the west side of Dr. Coffin School, at 5615 Barrett Drive NW. Dress for the weather, and for gardening! Although there will be some gloves and hand tools available to share, it would be helpful if you brought your own. We will be working in both Whispering Woods and the Centennial Natureground. Arrive and assist as you're willing and able, and please BYO H2O.

We welcome you to our growing circle of Neighbours as Stewards of our local spaces.

Environmentally yours, Polly Lee Knowlton Cockett, 282-2014 or environews@shaw.ca



Brentwood Youth, Rowan Cockett & Emily Marasco, celebrate at the Emerald Awards