

July Highlights



Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) empowers youth with practical career experience in environmental education and conservation.

Teams help to restore and enhance natural areas, care for shade trees, and educate the community about the urban forest. Together in partnership with Green Timbers Heritage Society, Sunnyside Acres Heritage Society, White Rock and Surrey Naturalists Society and the City of Surrey, SNAP improves our parks and communities.



The SNAP and SHaRP teams at Hyland Creek Park

This month, SNAP and [Salmon Habitat Restoration Program \(SHaRP\)](#) worked on two joint restoration projects. The environmental youth teams collaborated with Ducks Unlimited to map an invasive species called *Spartina* at Mud Bay Park, and removed a variety of invasive plants and enhanced the wetland habitats at Hyland Creek Park. These joint projects strengthen the legacy and history of collaboration between the two programs.

SNAP Teams and their July Work Achievements

The **Urban Forest Outreach Team** raises awareness within the community of the benefits of urban forests, promotes the adoption of stewardship behaviour in relation to urban forests, and fosters a sense of community connection with Surrey parks.

The **Field Team** restores, maintains and enhances Surrey's natural areas and parks. They remove invasive plants, maintain previous years' restoration planting sites, clean up garbage and enhance tree wells of City-owned trees. Their hard work contributes to the longevity and vitality of our city's thriving urban forest.



Tina, Field Team Member (left), and Jared, Field Team Leader (middle), learning about wetland ecosystems from local biologist, Laura

In July, both teams participated in a training session with several local professional biologists about how to identify and document plants and wildlife at Newton Pond Park. This provided an invaluable mentorship opportunity for the youth to meet, network with, and learn from professionals in the environmental field. Watch the [video](#) recapping their experiences.

The field team will continue monitoring the plants and wildlife on a weekly basis, and the outreach team will share their knowledge and teach high-school volunteers how to use iNaturalist.



The Green Timbers
Heritage Society

