



Friends of Salt Springs Park

April 2017

www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org
m.saltspringspark.mobi

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Trail Day! Saturday, April 22, 9 am

What better way to spend **Earth Day 2017** than coming to Salt Springs Park and helping Mother Nature slough off her winter debris and don her spring finery? None!



The path was top dressed.

Last Saturday was Chainsaw Day, and we focused on the more arduous tasks on the

list. A large sycamore tree had come down by campsite 2 in late winter, and **Leon Swackhamer, Ken Thompson, and Scott Heckman** cut and prepped it for removal.



Working on a downed tree near campsite 2.

Marc Wadel brought his skidsteer and helped with a number of items. He leveled out the path from the parking lot to the road, which others filled with more gravel. He then took out some sod in front of the silo bases and hauled rock from the campground to create a base for two more parking spots.

One item on this Saturday's list is to rope off access to the boardwalk by climbing straight up the hill rather than using a trail. Those shortcuts



are harming the old-growth hemlocks. Other tasks include washing and painting signs, splitting and stacking firewood, and cleaning the buildings. Free lunch and T-shirt to all who come out and help.

More parking—always a plus!

Summer Exhibit

May 6 — September 24

The Teddy Bear made the list of top 10 toys in the decades 1900-1920. It was created in 1902 in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt, who went on a hunting trip and had an opportunity to kill a bear but didn't.

Come to this year's historical exhibit—*Toys & Games in the Early 1900s*—to see how many other top 10 toys we have (hint: one is pictured here).

The exhibit is in the Wheaton House, which is open to the public on weekends May through September, Saturdays, 9:30-4, and Sundays, 12:30 to 4, or weekdays by appointment.



Mark Your Calendar!

Trail Day. Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. On this second day of park cleaning in April, we tackle the buildings, trails, and campgrounds. **Free food, drinks, and T-shirt to all volunteers.**

Egg Hunt. Sunday, April 23, 1 p.m. We'll take a short hike to collect amphibian eggs and then set up a hatching system. **\$5/person; members, free.**

Go Wild for Wildflowers! Sunday, May 7, 1 p.m. Let's see how many wildflowers we can find during a Sunday afternoon walk in the park. **\$5/person; members, free.**

North American Migration Count. Saturday, May 13, 7 a.m. Birders are asked at this time of year to record and submit the number of species they identify by sight or sound during a hike. **Free.**

Plan and Plant Your Garden, Part I: Native and Pollinator-Friendly Plants. Saturday, May 27, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn some basics of earth-friendly landscaping; then get your hands dirty planting the park garden. Bring a lunch and tools, if you have them. **Free starter plant. \$5/person; members and kids, free.**

Star Party. Saturday, May 27, 8:30 p.m. **Mike and Mary Sinkovich** provide tips on using the telescope; then we view the heavens from an upper field. **\$5/person or \$15 for families; members, free. Rain date: Sunday, May 28, 8:30 p.m.**

Bike the Border. Sunday, May 28, 1:30 p.m. Ride the roads through Salt Springs Park. **Free-will donation.**

Plan and Plant Your Garden, Part II: Organic Vegetable Gardening. Sunday, June 4, 1 to 4 p.m. After a presentation on raised beds, soil testing, and composting, we'll plant in the garden. Bring a lunch and tools, if you have them. **Free starter plant. \$5/person; members and kids, free.**

Full Moon Hike. Friday, June 9, 8:30 p.m. We'll end the evening around a campfire sharing snacks and stories. **Free-will donation.**

Summer Solstice Celebration. Saturday, June 17, 1-4 p.m. We'll have on-going demos and activities. Bring a picnic and blanket to sit on. **Free-will donation.**

Summer Solstice Celebration. Saturday, June 17, 8 p.m. Join us for story-telling around a campfire. Bring snacks to share. **Free-will donation.**

Amphibian & Reptile Workshop and Survey Walk. Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m. Led by **Tim Matthews.** **\$5/person; members and kids, free.**