

Community Eco Stewards Program

Thank you for your interest in the Stanley Park Eco-Stewards program. By participating in this program, you will learn firsthand about the threat invasive species pose to our native ecosystems, make an important contribution to habitat conservation and restoration in Stanley Park and work with a great group of people in a beautiful outdoor setting.

Invasive Species and Stanley Park

Invasive species are having a devastating impact on the native ecology of many areas and are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in our world today. When non-native, invasive species such as English ivy (*Hedera helix*), American bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*), and European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) become introduced to a new ecosystem, they can spread rapidly and out-compete native species. This results in reduced habitat diversity and compromises natural ecological processes. We estimate that up to 30% of the forested area in Stanley Park has been disturbed by invasive plant species. As a result, invasive plant species management has become a priority in Stanley Park to conserve the natural biodiversity and ensure native species survival in restoration areas.



SPES's **Stanley Park Eco-Stewards** program was started in 2004, previously named the Ivy Busters program in partnership with the Vancouver Park Board. Participants in this program join SPES staff and other community members in the careful removal of invasive plant species and other restoration activities. This program works to restore native habitat, wildlife values, and ecological processes in Stanley Park.

Upcoming Programs

Sunday January 24 th	10:00am - 12:30pm
Saturday February 13 th	10:00am - 12:30pm
Sunday February 28 th	10:00am – 12:30pm
Saturday March 12 th	10:00am – 12:30pm
Sunday March 20 th	10:00am – 12:30pm
Saturday April 9 th	10:00am – 12:30pm

Note: Upcoming dates will also be posted on our website calendar. Please Check online calendar for any changes to times and dates.

The Stanley Park Eco-Stewards program typically involves **at least 2 hours of active work outdoors**. Physical activities include walking to the site and bending and light lifting to remove invasive plant species by hand or with tools. This **program is suitable for people aged 14 and older**, younger participants must be given special permission and be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the duration of the program. If you are part of a **group of 10 or more** volunteers, please contact our Stewardship Coordinator for further information regarding our privately booked events. If you plan to attend an upcoming event, please **RSVP at least 3 days before the scheduled event** to the Stewardship Coordinator 604-718-6547 or stewardship@stanleyparkecolgy.ca to secure your spot in the program.

Events may be cancelled due to unsafe weather conditions (e.g., wind, snow, heavy rain) or other circumstances. If there is a high likelihood of cancellation, volunteers who have RSVP will be notified via email.



What to Wear and Bring

- Please **dress for the weather** (i.e., warm clothing and rain gear if it is cold and rainy, sunscreen and a hat if sunny) and wear solid footwear. Long sleeves are recommended, as some people's skin reacts to the sap of English ivy.
- Please **bring water and a light snack**, especially if you get hungry from doing physical work.

Note that all volunteers are **required to complete and sign a volunteer application and consent form** before they can participate. Volunteers **under the age of 18** must have their consent forms signed by a parent or guardian **before participating**.

All necessary safety equipment and tools including work gloves and safety vests will be provided.

Meeting Place

Volunteers should meet at the SPES office at least 10 minutes before the program time. The SPES office is located on the second floor of the Pavilion Building in Stanley Park (see directions following). The door to the office is on the northwest corner of the building. Please come in and upstairs when you arrive. Please be sure to ask the event leader prior to leaving the office if you would like to store personal belongings while volunteering.

Google map link to the Dining Pavilion: <http://goo.gl/maps/3QpF2>

By Foot or Car

Take the Stanley Park exit off Georgia Street and continue north until you come to a traffic circle/round about. At the traffic circle, continue straight on to Pipeline Road heading north. Take the first right off of Pipeline Road, which is marked "Malkin Bowl/Stanley Park Dining Pavilion". You will come to a bend in the road that heads north. After this bend, you'll see a beautiful wooden and stone character building, which is the Stanley Park Pavilion.

By Bus

Take the #19 Stanley Park bus to its terminus in the Park. The Stanley Park Pavilion is visible to the south of the bus loop, approximately 100 meters away. The entrance to the SPES office is on the northwest corner of the Pavilion. Please look for the sign above and on the entrance door.

Parking

Pay parking is in effect at all times in Stanley Park. We are able to offer a maximum of five free parking passes per program. Please request parking passes at the beginning of the program when you arrive.

All events are open to the public, but we do have a limit on attendance. Please let our Stewardship Coordinator know if you will be attending so we can plan ahead. If you have any further questions relating to the program, please contact SPES's Stewardship Coordinator at 604-718-6547 or stewardship@stanleyparkecology.ca

Further Information

For more information about the Eco Stewards volunteer program please contact:

Sam Cousins

Stewardship Programs Coordinator

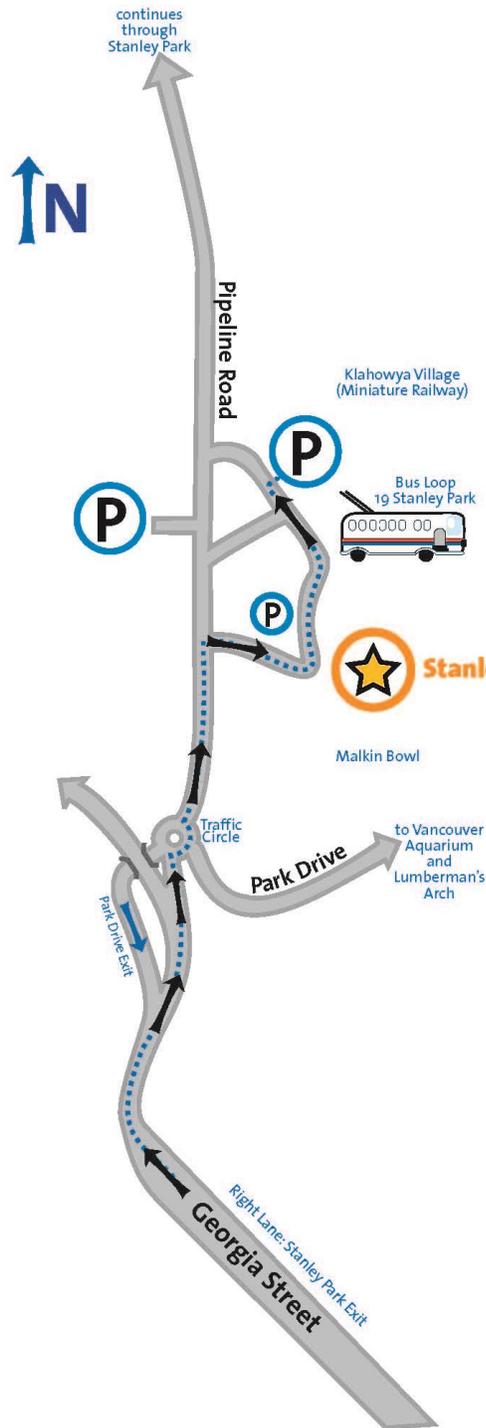
Email: stewardship@stanleyparkeecology.ca

Phone: 604-718-6547

www.stanleyparkeecology.ca

We look forward to having you join us as a steward of Stanley Park!





Bus Directions From Vancouver:

- Take the #19 Bus to the last Bus Stop (end of the line).
- From the bus stop you will see a big brown building to the southwest.
- This is the Stanley Park Dining Pavilion, the SPES office is on the second floor).
- Look for the Stanley Park Ecology Society sign on the building and the door leading up to the second floor.

- Stanley Park Ecology Society Office
- Participant Sign In & Out Location
- Parking Pass Pick Up

Driving Directions From Vancouver:

- Travel northeast on Georgia St. past Denman St.
- Take the right lane exit into Stanley Park.
- Travel straight through the traffic circle, up the hill.
- Take the first right-hand turn, following the signs for the Stanley Park Pavilion. This is where you will have to pick up your parking pass and sign into the BioBlitz.
- If the limited parking beside the Pavilion is full, continue following this road past the Pavilion and Bus Loop to the parking lot on your right.

Driving Directions From the North Shore:

- You will have to turn around after the Lions Gate Bridge to access the Stanley Park entrance from Georgia Street. To do this, follow Georgia Street past Denman Street, to Bidwell Street.
- Turn right on Bidwell Street, right again on Alberni Street, and a third right onto Denman Street.
- From Denman Street, turn left onto Georgia Street and get into the right-hand lane. Enter Stanley Park and continue following the directions from Vancouver above.