

January, 2023



Friends of Woodhaven

Nature Conservancy Society

NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year, friends! We are happy to report that 2022 was a busy and successful year for our little (and growing) organization.



2022 in Review

We started the year with our AGM in March. At that time, we welcomed two new board members: Kelly Kaloti and

Dr. Astrida Neimanis. Kelly is an educator and long-time resident in the Woodhaven area. Astrida is an associate professor at UBC Okanagan and the Canada Research Chair in Feminist Environmental Humanities. Their respective skills and perspectives enrich our activities, and we are fortunate to have them both on board.

Following the AGM we hosted a virtual Fire Smart webinar with City of Kelowna Urban Forester, Tara Bergeson. This informative event was attended by around 15 people.

Check us out on social media!



January, 2023



We carried on our tradition of offering Forest Yoga with a class in both summer and fall. We have been fortunate to receive financial support from the RDCO Partners in Parks grant program for these classes, which allows us to offer them at an accessible cost.

We hosted two educational events last year as well. In July we welcomed UBC MSc student Megan Buers, who volunteered her time to give a presentation to over 20 attendees about Western Screech Owls and her intriguing research on the species.



We also collaborated with the wonderful folks at the Peachland Bat Education Ecological Protection Society (BEEPS) to offer a kid-friendly bat event in August. This event was free to attend, again with thanks to the RDCO Partners in Parks grant funding.



January, 2023

In October, with the help of a small army of volunteers, we tackled the daunting task of removing excess forest fire fuel from the Western red cedar zone in the park. RDCO provided rakes, wheelbarrows, saws, gloves and tarps, and covered the cost of three waste bins.



We were beyond grateful for the participation of 90(!) students from Okanagan Mission Secondary School and Kelowna Secondary school, who helped during school hours. In thanks, we delivered donuts to each of the classes the following week.

On the weekend another 30 volunteers from the community showed up to help. Our collective efforts resulted in the removal of a whopping 3.5 tonnes of forest fire fuel from the area! Our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped; your hard work will help protect Woodhaven in the event of a forest fire.



Save the Date: Annual General Meeting

When: March 4, 2023
1:00pm

Where: UBC Eco-Cultural
Centre at
Woodhaven
969 Raymer Rd.

January, 2023

Plans for 2023

Our AGM will take place on March 4, 2023 at 1:00pm at the Eco-Cultural Centre in Woodhaven. Further details will follow soon by email.

We are still working on details for our 2023 activities. We hope to offer an educational event on coexisting safely with wildlife, as well as one on the topic of cougars. We also intend to offer a Halloween themed event. We plan to offer two of our popular Forest Yoga sessions again as well. We will likely tackle more forest fire fuel removal in the fall with the help of our Regional Parks friends.

We would love to hear from you!

If you have ideas for membership activities, please

share them with us. You can email us at: friendsofwoodhaven@gmail.com.

Please remember to renew your annual memberships, which can be done online here:

<https://www.friendsofwoodhaven.ca/get-involved> The cost for an individual is \$10, or a family membership is \$15.



With thanks,

Leah, Susan, Nancy, Kelly & Astrida (your Friends of Woodhaven Board of Directors)