

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2012 Nominee Profile

Michael Dunn, Mayne Island

- Category:** Individual
- Project:** Preservation of the natural environment of the southern Gulf Islands
- Nominator(s):** Marie Elliott, Louis Vallee, Ann Johnston
- Letters of Support:** N/A

Project Description:

As an avid naturalist and community educator for 35 years, Michael Dunn is a shining example of a tireless volunteer and good citizen. He is dedicated to helping everyone from children to seniors understand and appreciate the natural world, while protecting, monitoring and restoring ecologically important areas. Michael's efforts have enhanced Mayne Island's social life and benefitted the natural environment.

For many years, Michael has organized school programs and nature walks and led the Mayne Island Christmas Bird Count and other bird watching expeditions. He co-founded the very popular Young Naturalist Club at the Mayne Island school and is generally available year-round to anyone with questions about the natural environment.

As a co-founder of the Active Pass Important Bird Area project, he organized Active Pass property owners to participate in BC's first community-based monitoring program for an Important Bird Area. He also works with the Galiano Conservancy and Parks Canada on interpretive signage and is supervising and raising funds for the restoration of Henderson Hill Park. Michael has also organized many community meetings to help residents consider the ecological future of Mayne Island.

Michael was a valued member of the Islands Trust Fund Board from 2008-11 and is now president of the Mayne Island Conservancy Society. All of Michael's activities support the Islands Trust mandate, including his commitment to riding his bike whenever possible.