




the Heron



A newsletter from the Islands Trust Conservancy, protecting islands in the Salish Sea | islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy

FALL 2024

Take me home! 
This newsletter is provided FREE by ITC

William's Story Islands Trust Conservancy's Youngest Donor

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WATERFALL ON SALT SPRING ISLAND. PHOTO: KRISTINE MAYES



For links and additional media, visit the Heron Newsletter online.

www.islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/heron-newsletter/



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FALL FOLIAGE. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK

BEACH WOOD. PHOTO: LISA WILCOX

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Stewardship Tips for Fall

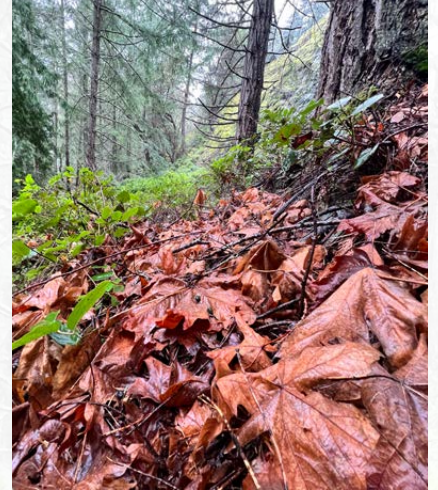
Join us in protecting and preserving the unique and special nature of the islands in the Salish Sea as the seasons change. We want to make it easy for you to participate in land and species stewardship on your property and in your community, so in this issue, we're sharing some helpful stewardship tips for fall.

Leave the Leaves

Leaving fallen leaves and plant stems is one of the most valuable things you can do to protect pollinators and other invertebrates. Leaves provide habitat essential to the survival of everything from moths and butterflies, to snails and spiders.

For example, some butterflies lay their eggs on fallen leaves, so that the leaves can be eaten by the caterpillars as soon as they emerge. For other species, cocoons and chrysalises are actually made of leaves, or camouflaged to look like leaves.

Bumblebees and other butterfly caterpillars rely on leaf litter for shelter from winter weather and predators. Similarly, hollow plant stems provide an excellent place for native bees to hibernate.



LEAVES AT MOSS MOUNTAIN NAPTEP COVENANT. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK



OCEANSPRAY. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK

Plant and Sow Native Plants

Fall is the best time to enhance your garden with native species because we can mimic natural cycles. Many native wildflowers naturally drop their seed at the end of summer and some require exposure to cold, moist conditions for a period of time in order to germinate (this is called cold-stratification).

Fall is also a good time for planting because it allows roots to establish before the winter freeze, so they are strong and ready to support above-ground growth as soon as spring arrives.

Consider plants that birds can forage on through the fall and winter in years to come. Satinflower Nurseries suggests hardhack/spirea, coastal mugwort, Canada goldenrod, California aster, oceanspray, and snowberry as good sources of nourishing seeds and berries.

Protect Migrating Birds

It's always a good time of year to mark up reflective windows with bird-safe tape, Acopian bird savers, soap, or decals to prevent collisions as birds migrate through our region to their wintering grounds.



RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD. PHOTO: TODD CARNAHAN



PHOTO: LISA WILCOX

Islands Trust and Islands Trust Conservancy respectfully acknowledge that the lands and waters that encompass the Islands Trust Area have been home to Indigenous peoples since time immemorial and that their deep connection to the islands continues to this day. We are committed to reconciliation, to upholding the rights of Indigenous peoples, and to working together to preserve and protect this ecologically, culturally, and spiritually significant region in the Salish Sea. The Islands Trust Area is located in the treaty and territorial lands and waters of the BOKEĆEN, Cowichan Tribes, K'ómoks, Lyackson, MÁLEXEL, Qualicum, scəwáθən, səlilw'ətəl, SEMYOME, shishálh, Skwxwú7mesh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Songhees, Spune'luxutth', STÁUTW, Stz'uminus, la?əmen, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kum, We Wai Kai, W JOLELP, WSIKEM, Xeláltxw, Xwémalkwu, Xwsepsum, and xʷməθkʷəy.

William's Story: ITC's Youngest Donor

In 2011, William Holzapfel, six years old at the time, donated to Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) with a portion of his allowance, becoming the youngest person to donate to the organization. Now a 19 year old student at Vancouver Island University, William shares that he wanted to make a contribution to the Conservancy at age six to protect the island he grew up on for generations to come. "I spent the first 10 years of my life on Salt Spring Island, going to school and enjoying hikes on land that the Conservancy protects. After learning more about ITC through my mom, I knew I wanted to make a contribution to the organization to ensure the land and beauty of the nature around me was protected forever."

William's donation was placed in the Opportunity Fund which since 2005, has supported countless conservation projects across the islands in protecting land and preserving species and ecosystems. Today, William highly encourages others to donate to the Conservancy.

"One small donation can make a huge impact."


Join William in giving back to the islands you love. Learn more about donating to ITC at islandstrust.bc.ca/donate-to-conservancy-2/.



WILLIAM AT AGE SIX ON
SALT SPRING ISLAND

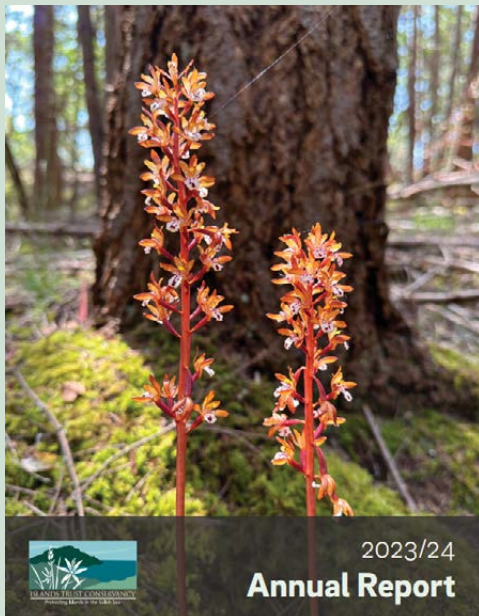
If you've named ITC in your Will, we'd love to hear from you!

Knowing ahead of time helps us plan future conservation efforts. Connect with our Strategic Fund Development Specialist, Mike Richards:

 250-405-5186

 itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca

First Nations Engagement at ITC



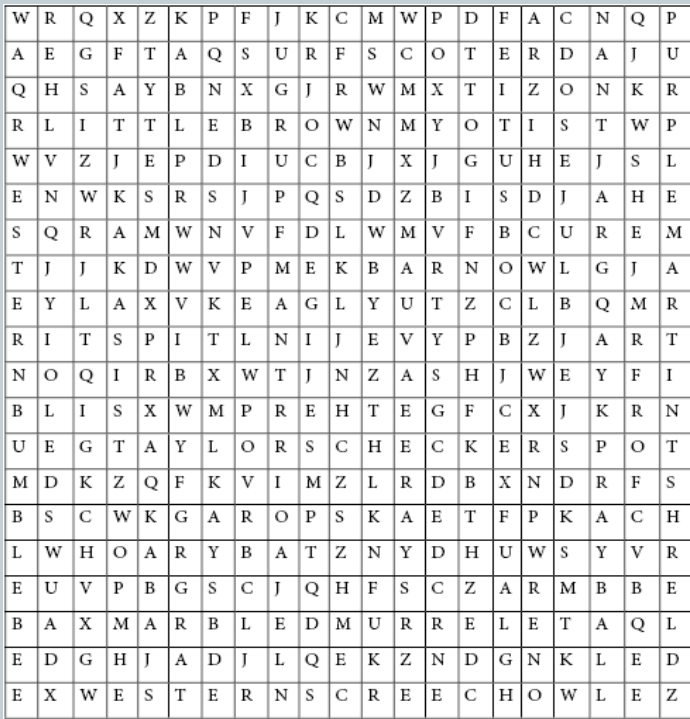
COVER OF 2023/24 ITC ANNUAL REPORT.

Under the Islands Trust Act, Islands Trust Conservancy is required to prepare a Plan at least every five years to guide its work. The Plan sets out five year goals and policies for approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

In January 2024, the Minister asked the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to engage First Nations to further inform the ITC Board of First Nations' interests as they relate to the Conservancy's work and to the 2026-2030 Five Year Plan that will be developed in 2025. The ITC Board has made First Nations engagement a priority for 2024/2025.

ITC is looking forward to growing relationships with First Nations around land stewardship in the coming year and into the future.

Read more in our 2023/2024 Annual Report at islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/our-impact/.



Species at Risk Word Search

1. Marbled Murrelet
2. Western Painted Turtle
3. Taylor's Checkerspot
4. Little Brown Myotis
5. Surf Scoter
6. Purple Martin
7. Western Screech-Owl
8. Western Bumble Bee
9. Hoary Bat
10. Barn Owl

Learn more about the work we do to protect Species at Risk through our Species at Risk Program!

islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/species-at-risk/

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youtube.com/IsTrustConservancy

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YES! I want to preserve and protect the islands!

100% of your donation goes directly to protecting the islands you love.

Your donations of \$20 or more will receive an official donation receipt for income tax purposes.*

Questions? Contact us!

☎ 250-405-5186 ✉ itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca

Or mail to: 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

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Share your vision with future generations — please consider remembering Islands Trust Conservancy in your Will.

🖱 To donate online visit:

islandstrust.bc.ca/donate-to-conservancy



SCAN ME

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My donation amount: \$50 \$100 \$200 \$_____

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Card Number	
Expiry Date mm/yy	Security Code (back of card)
Signature	

*Islands Trust Conservancy is a qualified donee as a Crown agent under B.C.'s *Islands Trust Act*. Islands Trust business # 122013576 RT0001