

## Volunteers Remove Lamium from Shelly Creek Park

Over four days in late June, the City teamed with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee and the Friends of Shelly Creek Park to successfully remove invasive plants from Shelly Creek, such as Lamium or Yellow Archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon*) and English ivy (*Hedera helix*). Local neighbourhood residents joined members of the Mid Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society and the Arrowsmith Naturalists to volunteer for the project.

An infestation of Lamium in sensitive Shelly Creek Park has been taking over a large section of ground in the park and swallowing up newly planted Douglas Fir and Large-leaf Maple seedlings. Lamium is an invasive species found in shaded to partially shaded habitat including wooded areas and can easily out compete natural ground covers. If it were to make it to where Shelly Creek flows through the park, it could out-compete the natural riparian vegetation needed for streambank stability and shade for the resident Cutthroat Trout.

The City was working with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee to remove the Lamium from Shelly Creek Park. Herbicides were not considered within the riparian area but were considered outside that boundary. With the tremendous volunteer support, the use of an herbicide was avoided everywhere in the park. About ninety bags of Lamium were removed from Shelly Creek Park and taken to the transfer station.

Work continues in the park to remove more of this invasive species. If you wish to help, email [friendsofshellycreekpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofshellycreekpark@gmail.com)



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### For more information:

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