

BC NEWS

Water conservation funding

by [Deborah Pfeiffer](#) | Story: 144714 - Jul 25, 2015 / 11:02 am



Photo: Contributed

Building on the success of their water conservation initiatives and Intergenerational Landed Learning pilot project, Friends of the Summerland Gardens are introducing a number of new conservation program activities.

The activities are designed to show local residential landscapers how changing their approach to water use can supply high quality landscaping while reducing demand for scarce freshwater.

The pilot project will expand their curriculum-based vegetable growing program that teams school children with elder mentors to grow, maintain and harvest their own food crops.

This year the project has received funding from the following agencies: EcoAction Community Fund (\$39,000), Okanagan Basin Water Board's Water Quality Improvement Grant (\$18,000), Telus (\$10,000), TD Friends of Environment Foundation (\$4,200), District of Summerland Climate Action Initiative (\$3,000) and FortisBC (\$1,000).

These project funds will be used to extend the xeriscape demonstration garden principals to new sections of the Gardens; measure and improve irrigation; restore natural areas; conduct public outreach and environmental education; and broaden the ILL programming.

It is hoped the outcome of the project will be improved public engagement and landscaping practices leading to increased water conservation, water awareness and water stewardship with enhanced habitat and biodiversity, along with a heightened appreciation for the natural world.

Volunteers are currently being sought to join water stewardship and pilot project teams.

For more information call, Eva Antonijevic, community programs director, at 250-486-2303