

# What's up at ARMS?



## Alouette River Management Society

24959 Alouette Road, Allco Park, Maple Ridge, BC

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Spring 2010

### Upcoming Events

June 7

**ARMS Annual General Meeting** at the Rivers Heritage Centre  
5 pm

July 19 to 23

**Wildlife Week**  
Children's Eco-camp  
Rivers Heritage Centre  
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

August 3 to 6

**Bugs and Slugs Camp**  
Rivers Heritage Centre  
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

TBD

**ARMS Summer Open Houses**

Watch out for dates and times of ARMS' Summer Family Days. ARMS staff are preparing three fun-filled afternoons and one evening of exploration in the dusk for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows families. Admission will be free but donations are always welcome.

September 26

**Ridge Meadows Rivers Day**  
Rivers Heritage Centre

## ARMS board and volunteers walk for salmon

On May 8<sup>th</sup> ARMS board members and concerned community members took a leisurely walk, and paddle, along the dykes in Pitt Meadows in support of the "Salmon are Sacred" Vancouver Island "migration" walk. The campaign was initiated by Alexandra Morton, a B.C. biologist and activist whose work linking sea lice in wild salmon to fish farming has drawn international attention and has challenged both the salmon farm industry and the government officials who regulate it. The main walk took place along the east coast of Vancouver Island and lasted 15 days, ending on May 8<sup>th</sup> on the front steps of

the Parliament Buildings.

Our local walk to the Alouette and Pitt River confluence culminated in a small talk given by ARMS staff, Jay Bailey the Katzie Chief, and Craig Spears, a Maple Ridge councilor. It was a beautiful day and the meeting place truly gave us an appreciation for the beauty that

surrounds us here in Ridge Meadows. There were over twenty participants and the local newspaper wrote a feature article that made the front page. Everyone involved appreciated the gentle exercise and the time to reflect on the importance of wild salmon and the impact both positive and negative people can have.



Group of concerned Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows citizens that participated on the 'salmon are sacred' walk on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## ARMS Annual General Meeting

The Alouette River Management Society will be hosting its Annual General Meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Rivers Heritage Centre.

The community is invited to attend the meeting and a summer barbeque at 5pm. To become a member of ARMS, please fill out the

form on the back of the newsletter.

Voting members must have dues paid prior to the meeting.

## Summer Camps for Kids

If your child likes adventure and is eager to explore the natural world, check out our programs!

### Cute but not so cuddly creatures

**Date:** July 19-23

**Cost:** \$185/week (M-F) or \$40/day

Each day campers will learn and explore the life of one of BC's wild animals. Our experienced and fun loving guides will teach all about wild wolves, brave bears, and the courageous cougars! Children will become junior wildlife

biologists and enjoy a wide variety of nature themes with different crafts, games, and activities

### Wild Things Camp

**Date** August 3-6

**Cost:** \$150/week (Tu-F) or \$40/day

During this week, our staff will trek campers through all things wild. Each day will have a special theme such as rootsn'shoots, aquatic and trails and tracks. There will be crafts, games and outdoor fun. Campers will become experienced BC naturalists and

learn the importance of our ecosystem.

### Info for both camps:

Lunch and snacks are provided.

### Location:

Rivers Heritage Centre  
Allco Park

**Ages:** 6-12 years old

**Time:** 9:30 – 3:30pm

### Registration:

MR/PM Parks & Leisure  
604-467-7322

604-465-2470

[www.recreg4u.ca](http://www.recreg4u.ca)

### More Information:

Alouette River  
Management Society  
604-467-6401  
armseducation@telus.net



Bugs and Slugs day camper harvest our red-wrigglers from our worm bin, 2009

## ARMS Eco-Camp Breaks Spring Fever

The week of March 8th was dreary and grey but the cold spring break did not dampen the spirits of the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows children that came to ARMS's Spring Break Eco-Camp. The group averaged 20 per day and we explored animal tracks, our freshwater fish friends, and the trees in ALLCO park.

The days flew by quickly because they were jam packed with fun and creative crafts, active outdoor games, and delicious and nutritious lunches.

On "Bark n' Beavers" day we constructed beautiful thank you cards that expressed what we were thankful for in nature. "Cool Conservation" day had campers creating avatars of themselves that were equipped with super energy-saving powers!

Despite the rain we managed to spend most of our day outside investigating the natural world! And On the last day we stomped through the flooded puddles! The campers became eco-conscience and

familiar with the local natural outdoors.

The camp would not have been possible without our volunteers from Westview, Maple Ridge and Garibaldi Secondary Schools. The camp was also assisted by the BC Corrections Fraser Regional Correction Centre; they supplied us with wood products and set up a camp fire for us on one of the colder days! Thank you again for all those who made ARMS Spring Break Eco-Camp a huge success!



Spring break camper participates in a game of Slahal, 2010

## Green Building and Rain Garden

Be sure to check out two new features at ARMS this summer and at Rivers Day, September 26, 2010. In 2008, ARMS began



**ARMS Rain Garden, June 2010**

constructing a rain garden to capture runoff from the Alouette Correction Centre for women and the Allco Hatchery. The garden is now looking full and lush. Funding from the Nature Trust of British Columbia will allow ARMS to create an educational sign and brochures explaining the purpose and importance of the garden. Through grants from

Home Depot and the Pacific Salmon Foundation, ARMS and BC Corrections Fraser Regional Correctional Centre have been busy the past year building a new green building in the Allco Hatchery. The new building will feature a living green roof, rainwater collection system and reclaimed native plant landscaping.



**Allco green building, June 2010**

## Fundraising Heroes

An enormous 'THANK YOU' needs to be extended to two of ARMS' volunteers this season. Liz Hancock, ARMS Board Director, and Sarah Popple, age 12, each decided to take it upon themselves to raise money for ARMS. Liz has been actively involved with ARMS for



**Liz Hancock, ARMS Board Director with her painting the 'Rodeo King'**

over a year and has recognized that impending funding cuts to not-for-profit societies and the 2010/2011 Community Gaming Grant policies restricting the application of environmental groups, means that other funding avenues need to be explored. Liz, a painter and Maple Ridge resident for 25 years put her artistic talents to work and created the piece entitled the 'Rodeo King'. The painting was on display and up for auction at West Coast Toyota and the winner was announced at this year's Spring Festival.

Sarah Popple, one of the youngest fundraisers in ARMS' history, went over and above for a class project. She single



**Sarah Popple, age 12, with her bottle drive collection**

handily organized a bottle drive in her neighbourhood, which raised \$120 for ARMS and raised awareness of the importance of recycling. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for your efforts!

### Monitoring the Alouette

Members of the Alouette Monitoring Committee are hard at work again completing studies agreed to under the BC Hydro Alouette Project Water Use Plan (WUP). The WUP ensures a constant supply of water from Alouette Lake into the South Alouette River. It also allows for a surface release of water over the dam spillway to allow sockeye (kokanee) out of the reservoir and out to the ocean. Two consulting firms have been monitoring the out-migration numbers of salmon, trout fry and smolts. LGL Ltd monitor the number of Sockeye smolts leaving Alouette Lake, while Westslope Fisheries monitors out-migrants from traps placed at 224<sup>th</sup> and 216<sup>th</sup>. At ARMS, the Allco Hatchery has the fish fence up and running and waiting for our first adult Sockeye from the 2010 run.

**2009-2010  
Board of Directors**

Geoff Clayton  
Co-Chair

Gerry Miller  
Co-Chair

Doug Stanger  
Treasurer

Mike Ilaender  
Director

Elizabeth Hancock  
Director

Zale Hammren  
Director

Ron MacLean  
Director

Keith Maguire  
Director

Cheryl Power  
Director

Bing Pare  
Director

**Staff**

Abby Cruickshank  
Acting Executive  
Director

Carleigh Smart  
Education Coordinator



***"Through partnerships and education,  
empower the community to take ownership and  
responsibility of the natural environment"***

Join the  
**Alouette River Management Society**

If you would like to become a member of ARMS, please complete the following registration and return it by mail or drop it off at 24595 Alouette Road, Allco Park, Maple Ridge.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Type:

Individual - \$10

Corporate - \$100

Yes, I would like a charitable receipt

Area of Interest:

Rivers Heritage Centre

Environmental Education

Watershed Projects

Native Plant Nursery

Stewardship Issues

Habitat Protection

Nature and Wildlife

Fish and Hatchery Projects

Urbanization Issues

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_