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Ravine Steward Intern

Learning and Training objectives

- Become a stewardship leader of the Renfrew Ravine
- Gain knowledge of the ravine ecosystems and share knowledge with the community
- Create Ravine Education Packages to pass on ravine awareness and knowledge to diverse groups

What you get out of it

- Learn from experts – Carmen Rosen, Evergreen staff (Andrew), Christine Macer, city staff, local birders, geologists....
- Knowledge of urban/nature ecosystems
- Leadership skills
- Organizational skills
- Develop networks for careers
- Recognition at Still Moon events and on website, volunteer recognition, letters of reference

Hands on work

Organize semi-annual clean-ups

- Set dates
- Link with City and community centre to arrange for garbage pickup after the clean-up, follow up calls if garbage isn't picked up
- Organize food and beverages and people to serve them
- Organize tools and tents and tables – before (make sure the wheelbarrows work, there are shovels, garbage pickers, garbage bags, gloves, 1st aid kit etc – arrange for tools and tents to get to site) After- clean tools and store after the event
- Publicize semi-annual clean-ups – announcements at schools, email lists, sign –up sheet at event, posters along the ravine in week leading up to clean-up, photos of event – short description for the website

Maintain ravine gardens, benches and mosaics

- Coordinate weeding parties for various gardens along the ravine (similar to clean-ups but fewer people - more intense localized work)
- Coordinate ivy pulls (keeps the ivy from strangling the trees)
- Coordinate blackberry battles
- Note areas that need replanting with native plants
- Coordinate planting parties - work with Carmen and Evergreen to get more native plants for Renfrew Ravine garden areas
- Note condition of south garden bench and North garden bench
- Arrange for twice annual sanding and refinishing of benches
- Note condition of mosaics and arrange for repair parties as necessary (South garden mosaic needs some repair)

Labyrinth stewardship

- Work with labyrinth committee to keep labyrinth weeded, watered, and mosaics and rock paths maintained
- Help find volunteers for big labyrinth jobs such as completion and installation of mosaic lunations

Ravine Education package

- Work with other intern to put together existing information about the ravine into a information package for ravine tour leaders, students, and teachers
- Test the package by leading ravine tours for different groups and see what sort of questions and interests people have
- Begin brainstorming about a long term plan for ravine stewardship – outreach, restoration, trails, programs, web presence

Suggest other areas of community work around the ravine

Mentor the next intern