



DRS EARTHWISE

"Cultivating Sustainable Communities"

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Trash Equals Treasure at the Earthwise Garden Arts Festival

Delta, BC – On August 13th, DRS Earthwise will celebrate 'Art in the Garden' at its third annual Earthwise Garden Arts Festival from 10 am to 3 pm. This great community event stands apart from other art shows by featuring local artists who either incorporate an environmental theme into their artwork or have a creative knack for turning trash into treasure. While many of us simply throw our trash away, many artists see beauty and potential in the most tattered of materials and recreate them into something new.

Reusing old materials is not only a great way to make artwork unique, but it also keeps unnecessary waste out of the lower mainland's landfills. DRS Earthwise, whose mission is to promote sustainable living, hosts this event to support local artisans and inspire members of the community to think about ways they can creatively reuse things at home.

"It is truly amazing what these local artists have been able to create out of items that normally get thrown into the trash," says Jennifer Shragge, garden coordinator at DRS Earthwise. "These items are not only beautiful but extremely creative and that's what is so exciting and interesting about this event."

Everything from sculptures and paintings to garden ornaments and pottery will be on display and for sale during the Arts Festival. Set in the McKitrick Earthwise Garden, a sustainable landscape demonstration garden in the heart of North Delta, the day's event will also include music from local musicians, refreshments and children's activities. With the summer flowers in full bloom, this is the perfect setting to enjoy a day of arts, culture and community. For more information, please contact Jennifer Shragge at 604-946-9828.

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Artist Information

Colin Iverson

Colin Iverson hails from London, England and has lived in BC for over 30 years. He has been painting since the age of 10, but began to craft art from wood 10 years ago. Over the past two years, Colin has focused on making delicately crafted mug trees after he made one for his wife, and has recently started to create windchimes. Colin believes every effort to help the environment counts and uses recycled materials to reduce landfill waste. At this year's festival, Colin will have a variety of items for sale including mug trees, bird houses, and windchimes.

Ellen deBruyn

Ellen deBruyn, a Surrey teacher and arts and crafts enthusiast, has operated a craft club for children for many years at both her school and in her own home. She has spent years taking gently used children's denim clothing and adding unique embellishments such as paint, foil and lace to create one-of-a-kind garments. She also fashions great wallets, purses and bags from Kool-Aid containers. Both her clothing and accessories will be available for sale at the festival, and she will also be offering a 'make and take' recycling activity for children and adults to take home with them.

Donnie Henderson

Donnie Henderson developed an interest in making paper while living in Japan. A visit to a paper-making shop inspired her to cultivate her own skill at the craft. Using old greeting cards, recycled paper, flowers, grasses, and whatever bits and pieces she can find, Donnie creates unique cards and card gift sets. These cards will be available for sale at the Earthwise Garden Arts Festival.