



DRS EARTHWISE

"Cultivating Sustainable Communities"

MEDIA RELEASE

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Growing Concern about Climate Change creates demand for Ecological Landcare Professionals

Delta BC – With the increasing concerns about Global Climate Change coupled with growing public awareness of the hazards associated with garden chemicals, a demand for Organic Landcare professionals is growing rapidly. In response, DRS Earthwise Society, Gaia College and the Society of Organic Landcare have joined forces to offer a one-week intensive certification program in organic landcare.

Traditional landscape practices put a heavy burden on the atmosphere, contributing significantly to global climate change. For example, operating a gas lawnmower for 1 hour produces the same amount of emissions as a car travelling 550 km. Landfilling lawn clippings and other organic wastes produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, with 21 times the impact of carbon dioxide.

Increasingly, people are taking a hard look at their impact on the environment. This trend doesn't only effect homeowners. More and more municipal parks and school ground personnel are seeking sustainable alternatives to traditional landscape practices. This growing movement is creating unprecedented demand for certified organic landscape professionals.

The Earthwise Society' Organic Landcare Series is designed to address this need by providing the educational background required for certification with S.O.U.L, the Society for Organic Urban Landcare. Aimed at landscape professionals, policy makers, educators and experienced gardeners, this one week intensive program teaches an holistic approach to gardening. Participants will learn to design and manage gardens by working with the natural landscape rather than attempting to control it. Natural processes are incorporated to create landscapes that are at once, beautiful and environmentally healthy.

The series runs February 27 to March 2 at the Richmond Ecology Centre at 11011 Shell Road. For more information about this unique series, please phone Earthwise Society at 604-946-9828.

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Thank you,
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