

YES! I want to protect B.C.'s special places!

To help TLC monitor covenants across BC,

I'd like to make a donation of:

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$ _____

Payment Details:

Cheque (*made payable to The Land Conservancy*)

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

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Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

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Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____

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Please check here if you wish to be kept informed of TLC activities by email only.



Photo Amanda Evans

Please mail to: PO Box 50054 Fairfield Plaza,
Victoria, BC V8S 5L8
or submit online at conservancy.bc.ca

TLC respects your privacy. We never sell, trade or rent your name to another organization. Personal information collected is only used to deliver our services to you.

Charitable registration # 88902 8338 RR001

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Highlands Community Garden is open!

Did you know the Scotch broom pulled during previous broom bash parties was chipped and returned as compost for the Highlands Community Garden? If you haven't already, go to the Garden and see for yourself! The broom was chipped, mixed with manure and left to compost for a year. Composted broom is high in phosphorous, which is often a limiting nutrient in soils. The compost will be used in the Community Garden to help grow delicious vegetables and more.



Photo Erika Verlinden

About TLC

Known as TLC, The Land Conservancy is a non-profit, charitable Land Trust working throughout British Columbia. TLC protects important habitat for plants, animals and natural communities as well as properties with historical, cultural, scientific, scenic or compatible recreational value.

With an incredible team of donors, members, staff and volunteers, we have protected over 125,000 acres of important lands across the province involving more than 300 projects.

Become a TLC Member at
www.conservancy.bc.ca

Join the conservation
conversation @TLC4BC



 **TLC** The Land Conservancy

**LEARN ABOUT
YOUR
CONSERVATION
COVENANT**

Photo Karen Iwachow

1-877-485-2422
conservancy.bc.ca

What is a conservation covenant?

A covenant is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and an entity deemed able to hold the agreement, such as a conservation organization or municipal office. The agreement stipulates that you as the landowner promise to protect the land in specific ways and restricts certain activities.

The promises the landowner makes will be registered on the property title forever, regardless of who owns the land. In return, the conservation organization agrees to monitor the covenant and ensure the intentions and objectives of the agreement are being maintained.



Photo Marcie Ambault

What does this mean for you?

You live on a very special piece of land. The forest in your backyard is part of the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem which only exists near the coast from Victoria to Nanaimo and on the Gulf Islands. The Province has listed this forest system as rare and endangered because only 2% of its original extent is intact and of that only 0.5% old growth Coastal Douglas-fir forests exist today. This forest holds more endangered plant and animal species than any other ecosystem in this province! Industrial logging practices and urban development have been the culprit of the decline of these forests.

Become a steward of the land!

Wildlife corridors are a natural pathway connecting patches of habitat so that species can travel greater distances without having to cross dangerous roads or be negatively impacted by other human infrastructure. Corridors provide the opportunity for species to have sufficient habitat for shelter, breeding, food and water. The CRD and conservation organizations together commit to providing a green corridor throughout the Victoria area to help give species living in this sensitive ecosystem a chance to adapt to urban life. The conservation covenant placed on your land contributes to this green corridor.



Photo Karen Iwachow

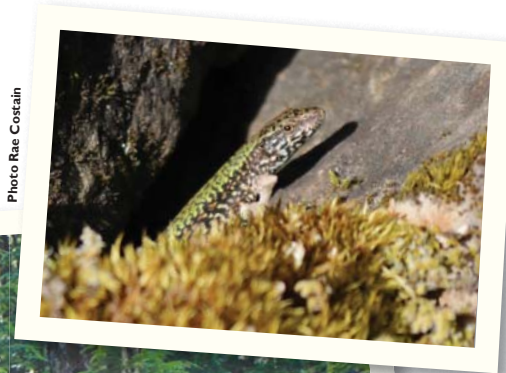


Photo Rae Costain

Have you seen this lizard?

This is the European wall lizard, which is native to Italy. This species appears to have escaped a reptile zoo in West Saanich in the 1980s and have since spread throughout the Victoria area. They pose a threat to the native species of lizard and snakes through competition and predation. But be careful! They look similar to the native Alligator Lizard (*Elgaria coerulea*). For more info <https://www.bcreeptiles.ca/lizards/eurowall.htm>

Dry weather & fire risk

As you may have noticed, Victoria has been experiencing longer, hotter and dryer summers which are predicted to be the new normal. Summer droughts have been a concern for many land owners with covenants on their lands. TLC recognizes this issue and is working with the appropriate departments to develop fuel load guidelines to keep you, your property and the forest safe from these new hazards.

Scotch broom

Scotch broom is a pervasive invasive species whose seed banks can stay viable in the soil for up to 80 years! TLC and your local Highlands District Community Association have held many broom bashing work parties to help combat this invasive. High density infestations can limit the movement of wildlife, outcompete native plant species, influence wildfire fuel loads, harbor ticks and increase seasonal allergies. TLC appreciates any efforts to eradicate this rambunctious plant!

Tips to remove Scotch broom:

1. "Pull broom in bloom". The best time of year to remove broom is in the spring when the plant has put its energy into blooming, making the roots weak and easier to pull. The soils are also wet which makes it easier to disturb less soil and remove all of the roots rather than breaking them off when you pull the plant.
2. To pull or to cut: the best practice is to pull the plant if the stem is thinner than your pinky finger, trying to disturb as little soil as possible. For thicker stems, cut the plant at the base or just below soil level.
3. Disposal: if seeds are present you must keep broom separate from other yard waste. Burn in a closed fire pit when permitted or bring labelled bags to the Hartland Landfill. If no seeds are present, you can safely compost the broom with other yard waste.