

HOW does it work?

Ongoing projects include restoring a wetland, creating a native meadow, restoring a riparian area, building and installing bird, bat and bee boxes, monitoring wildlife, mentoring students, and providing educational tours for the community.



WHO keeps it going?

Volunteers! A group of dedicated volunteers have been contributing thousands of hours since 2007, making this project possible.



Biologist Purnima Govindarajulu initiated this project and continues to lead and empower the volunteers as the UBER project comes to life!



WHY is this project happening?
Wild species are running out of space as green spaces become rare in urban landscapes. The UBER project enhances and restores degraded habitats which provide sanctuary for a variety of plants and animals. These living creatures and habitats in turn provide ecosystem services such as pollination and pest control essential for the success of organic farming. Organic farming reduces dependence on fossil fuels and mitigates climate change impacts.

How does it AFFECT the community?
As the human population becomes increasingly urbanized, we have become estranged from nature. The habitats restored by the UBER project and the biodiversity enhanced within them serve as natural oases in urban areas. Here, people can experience the enchantment of natural processes, which helps to fight "nature deficit disorder", inspires a love of nature and instills an environmental stewardship ethic. The project contributes to human health and well being and to long-term environmental sustainability.

What does the FUTURE hold?
Restoration actions will always be required to maintain biodiversity, combat persistent and new invasive species, and prevent degradation from human activities. While projects like UBER Hali may reach a state of maturity, there will always be more planting that could be done, more wildlife observations that could be made, new weeds that need to be dealt with, improved restoration techniques to test, and new habitat enhancements to be added.

The volunteers who steward this land today are links in a chain of people who will care for this site long into the future

More information or to VOLUNTEER:

This project is located on Haliburton Farm:
741 Haliburton Road, Saanich BC V8Y 1H7
Visit: facebook.com/haliburtonbiodiversity or haliburtonfarm.org for more information.
To volunteer or ask, a question email us at: halibiodiversity@gmail.com



WELCOME TO THE HALIBURTON UBER PROJECT



WHAT is the Haliburton UBER Project?

The Haliburton UBER Project is a volunteer-based initiative enhancing and restoring ecosystems including wetland, meadow, and forested habitats. These habitats provide sanctuary for wildlife, ecosystem services for organic farming, and opportunities for people to experience nature. Farms provide green space in urban environments where biodiversity can thrive. In turn, healthy ecosystems provide nutrients, pollination, and pest control services. They also retain soil, stabilize water flow, and provide many other ecosystem services essential for organic farming.



Habitats of the Haliburton Biodiversity Project



Discover the five different habitats that can be found in the project area (green border on map). Learn more from the interpretive signage located on the barn at the ★ below.

forest habitat

The forest is shady and moist with Douglas-fir, Grand fir and Western Redcedar trees. The understory includes Dull Oregon-grape and Sword Fern. The forest provides a home for amphibians and other animals that prefer to stay cool and covered.



Boards provide hiding places for salamanders making them easier to find during monitoring.

dry meadow habitat

This sunny meadow occurs on well-drained soil. Meadows like this one once covered vast areas of the Victoria region. They were tended by First Peoples for thousands of years and described as “prairies” or “plains” by the early Euro-Canadian settlers.



Great Camas, Shooting Star, and native grasses provide vibrant colour and texture to the meadow.

wetland habitat

The wetland is a temporary pond that fills up in the winter and dries in the summer. The annual drying cycle excludes invasive fish and American Bullfrog. The wetland provides important habitat for a variety of plants, birds, amphibians and insects.



The wetland is teeming with well-adapted plants and animals, including the Pacific Chorus Frog and Giant Water Bug aka Toebiter!



riparian mosaic habitat

The transition zone between the wetland and forest is made up of a series of shallow temporary pools surrounded by scattered trees and shrubs. The goal is to create a foraging area for the Red-legged Frog, a species of special concern in B.C.



Black Twinberry provides food for pollinators and skunk cabbage makes hiding places for Red-legged Frogs

wet meadow habitat

This meadow is flooded in winter and dry in summer and links the wetland to the dry meadow. Though they are now very rare, meadows like these once surrounded many of the wetlands in our area and occupied low spots in the open camas prairie.



Slender Meadow Katydid sits among the grasses and the endangered Fragrant Popcorn Flower