

12. ARBOR DAY

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The purpose of this report is to outline this year's activities in the Burwood/Pegasus wards.

SCHOOLS

This year's programme will be based on an offer of plants to all schools for planting programmes within the school grounds as part of their Arbor Day or Conservation Week activities on the proviso that:

- They provide a planting plan.
- They place mulch over the planted area (schools will be advised of Envy's offer of mulch at a reduced price).
- They involve the children in the planting and maintenance of the plants provided.
- That messages learnt during the planting are followed up and reinforced within the classroom (activity sheets will be made available through EPPU and Parks Unit).

On site assistance will be available to all participating schools and will be the responsibility of the Park Ranger Service. Rangers will ensure that the correct ground preparation is carried out and that plants are appropriately planted. On request they will also provide an education component on the day - covering the importance of caring for our natural environment including local parks and green spaces.

Once again the Communications Team of the Community Relations Unit will be called upon to assist with media coverage. As with this year administration will be managed by the Parks Education Co-ordinator and the Environmental Promotion Officer. All participating schools will receive certificates for their contribution to Arbor Day. Community Board members will be advised of the schools planting programmes within their ward areas so that if they wish they can be involved in the presentation to schools.

The Board has allocated \$2,000 for this programme which will be divided by the number of primary and intermediate schools within each Ward boundary. Each school will then be notified of the amount available to them on application. Depending on the number of schools within the area the total available to schools can vary from \$100 to \$150.

Schools that participated last year were Queenspark, Windsor, Banks Avenue, Avondale, Chisnallwood, St James and South New Brighton. This year's participants, dates and times will be advised to Board members as the information becomes available, but most schools have indicated an initial preference for Arbor Week, 6 to 9 June. Some schools may choose Conservation Week later in the year, and again, Board members will be advised.

MAJOR PLANTINGS

Coast Care is arranging planting days at Travis Wetland (Mairehau Road and Clarevale Reserve area), Bexley Wetlands and South New Brighton. The details are as follows:

Mairehau Road - Travis Wetland Trust and Christchurch Polytechnic recreation students, date to be confirmed.

South New Brighton - South New Brighton School, date to be confirmed, dunes.

Clarevale Reserve - Travis Wetland Trust and public, 10 June, time to be confirmed, in conjunction with the opening of the viewing platform.

The Clarevale activity will be significant, as many organisations have so far been involved with the funding and actual works. Representatives from the Stout Foundation (platform), Pacific Conservation Development Trust (boardwalk), the Travis Wetland Trust, Coast Care, Te Roopu Te Tangata and the Council will be invited.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the information be received.