

## 18. ARBOR DAY

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The purpose of this report is to outline this years activities in the Board's area.

### SCHOOLS

This year's programme will be based upon offering all schools the opportunity of plants for school planting programmes within the school grounds as a part of their Arbor Day or Conservation Week (6-9 June 2000) 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
- and that messages learnt during the planting are followed up and reinforced within the classroom (activity sheets will be made available through EPP and Parks)

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 and 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 \$2000 for this programme which will be divided by the number of primary and intermediate schools within the Board's 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. Board members will be aware that the allocation from their fund was made on the understanding that as they had no discretionary funding available in 1999/2000, the programme could proceed in June this year, with payment made after July 1st and that appropriate arrangements for this would be made with the suppliers.

A report on the activities with schools will be presented to the Board after Arbor Day and it is hoped that the Board will support this programme again in June 2001.

## **MAJOR PLANTINGS**

In June, the Taylors Mistake Costcare Group will undertake the planting of trees and shrubs in the recently constructed carpark. This follows on from the work undertaken there last year.

The dates and times for all these programmes will be advised closer to the time.

### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.