



PHOTO: LOU SKINNER



Earth Day 2023 Tour de Terre

Visit 7 island Nature Stewards properties and learn more about land stewardship and gardening with nature and biodiversity in mind.

Free!

1 to 4 pm • Saturday, April 22

Rain or shine

Please carpool or bicycle if you can.



Happy Earth Day 2023!

The islanders on the tour have graciously opened their gates today to show and tell about caring for their properties as land stewards, and gardening with nature, top of mind.

In just over a year, over 75 landholders, and growing weekly, have joined this grassroots community program. Our goal: to voluntarily conserve at least 30% of the island in a natural/nature-friendly state.



PHOTO: EJ HURST



Join Us!

Does 30% or more of your property have natural habitat or wildlife-friendly features?

Join GaLTT's Nature Stewards program as part of this international effort and consider making a voluntary pledge to conserve and enhance as much natural habitat as possible on your private property.

Pick up a Nature Stewards brochure and other helpful info at any of the tour properties today or visit galtt.ca/naturestewards

GaLTT's Tour de Terre

Northwest

465 Bruce Lynn Drive

Hosts: Rob & Susan

Over three-quarters of this peaceful 5-acre property is 80- to 100-year-old maturing Douglas-fir/arbutus forest with an undisturbed, native understory. The owners have a trail licence agreement with GaLTT. After constructing their home and out-buildings over a decade ago, the owners chose to establish a native plant garden in a half-acre fenced area with over 50 species of plants.

246 Malaspina Drive

Hosts: Steve & Cathie

Most trees in this 0.4-acre lot are tall, mature Douglas-firs and multi-aged relatively healthy western redcedars. The owners continually manage invasive daphne and keep contained a small area of Himalayan blackberry, while also planting and nurturing more native plants.

231 Malaspina Drive

Hosts: Brian & Pam

This property is an excellent example of what can be achieved in conserving natural habitat on a small rural property. Instead of clearing off the lot pin-to-pin, the owners carefully planned siting and removal of trees for a driveway, small cabin, outbuilding and home.



57 Malaspina Drive

Hosts: Lou and Hugh

When this oceanfront 1/3-acre property was purchased in 2016, there were few ornamental or native plants, and the house was completely fronted by a gravel parking lot for a home-based business. See the transformation into a pollinator garden and rewilding driveway in just a few short years.

856 Canso Road

Host: Leah

The landholders love native plants and animals and have worked extremely hard to ensure as much native vegetation as possible remained undisturbed when their home was brought onto this 3/4 -acre property. They are also keeping up with removing invasive plants.

Southeast

2830 McDonald Road

Hosts: Mike & EJ

On this 5-acre property on McDonald Road lives a spectacular diversity of almost all the tree and shrub species native to Gabriola! Most of the property is unfenced and left in a natural state. It is a paradise!

2015 Blueback Circle

Host: Alex

This sloping property has been lovingly restored to a beautiful natural state of rocky outcrop, Coastal Douglas fir habitat and woodland thanks to the care and respect for this habitat by the owners. A huge overgrowth of Himalayan blackberry was removed allowing native plants and tree seedlings to take hold. In areas where the previous owners pressure washed all the moss off the sandstone, Alex carefully reseeded and restored the moss growth and is adding new plants including young Douglas fir and Garry oak.

