



Guided Beach Walks at White Rock Pier or Beecher Place at Crescent Beach

No fees or registration required. Walks can also be booked for private groups.



Illustration 1: Beach hero guides Carolyn Prentice and Parker Bromley exhibit a molted Dungeness crab shell.

Friends of Semiamhoo Bays Society co-hosted with the City of Surrey a successful World Oceans Day event at Blackie Spit, Crescent Beach, South Surrey, Sunday 06 June 2010. Hundreds of people showed despite the wet, cool weather possibly motivated by the thousands of barrels of toxic crude oil flowing daily into the Gulf of Mexico.

The event kicked off a summer of public scheduled walks running through June 7 to August 31 at Crescent Beach and White Rock Pier under the auspices of the Beach Hero program.

Walks for private groups can also be arranged. The schedules for June, July, and August can be found here: <http://www.birdsonthebay.ca/heroes.htm>. Dress for wind and wear water shoes or boots.

Crescent Beach is a shallow sand bar offering easy access to the eelgrass habitat just offshore. Eelgrass beds are critical spawning and nursery habitats for herring, lingcod, rockfish, salmon and home to Dungeness and Red Rock crabs. Boundary Bay supports over 333 species, some rare and endangered. The White Rock pier offers pilings covered with large barnacles, purple and orange sea stars and anemones.

The Beach Heroes interpreters will also be on land at the **White Rock Farmers Market** on selected dates. The booth offers activities for children of all ages from colouring activities to the microscope that reveals many tiny features of our beach neighbours. They also offer licensing information, species identification, and will have current Beach Hero walk dates.

When not leading tours, the Beach Heroes patrol Crescent and White Rock beaches to inform people about marine ecology and care. They report any illegal harvesting to Fisheries and Oceans Canada conservation officers as well as pass on information regarding general beach use.

Friends of Semiamhoo Bay Society is a volunteer-based, non-profit group that seeks to protect and restore the local marine and estuarine environments as well as reach out to the public to foster a better understanding of marine ecology.

The Beach Heroes program is sponsored by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Service Canada, City of Surrey, BC Nature, City of White Rock and the White Rock Museum.



Illustration 2: FSBS volunteer Hanchi Zhang (far right) helps with a microscopic look of sea anemone at the World Ocean Day event.

- 30 -

Contact for the Beach Heroes program and original photos: Ms. Carolyn Prentice
tel.: 604-536-3552, e-mail: beachhero.fosb@gmail.com.



www.birdsonthebay.ca

Friends of Semiahmoo Bay society

beachhero.fosb@gmail.com

604-536-3552



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