



City of  
**Bellingham**  
WASHINGTON

# HABITAT NEWS

## Celebrate Make a Difference Day & Arbor Day Saturday, Oct. 28 at Padden Creek in Fairhaven Park

### *Make a Difference Day*



Lend a hand at Make a Difference Day and Arbor Day, Saturday, Oct. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at Fairhaven Park with the City of Bellingham, Treekeepers, and the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association. We'll be removing invasive English ivy and holly; improving habitat in the Padden Creek watershed. Mayor Linville will read her Arbor Day proclamation to celebrate Bellingham's 21st year as a Tree City USA.

We'll end the day with pizza donated by Papa John's, tree information, Arbor Day activities for children, and tours of the Padden Creek daylighting project.

For more information check out the [event information](#) on the City of Bellingham website. If you have additional questions, contact Rae Edwards at (360)778.7105 or [redwards@cob.org](mailto:redwards@cob.org).

### *Salmon are Returning*

The rains are here and so are salmon! Fall is the time when adult salmon and trout return to our local streams to spawn. Did you know Whatcom, Squalicum, Padden, and Chuckanut Creeks are home to several salmon and trout species including Chinook, coho, chum, and steelhead? [Learn more](#) about when each species return.



Want to see salmon? Adult chum salmon are often visible in Chuckanut Creek at [Arroyo Park](#) between now and the end of November. Many species of salmon can be seen through the fall and winter at Whatcom Creek at [Maritime Heritage Park](#), with highest concentrations around Thanksgiving. When viewing, help take care of these amazing animals - please stay on trail and keep your dogs on leash.

### *Salmon Monitoring Results*

During the 2016-2017 salmon spawning season City staff surveyed portions of Squalicum,



Padden and Connelly Creeks. One highlight of the season was the first salmon nests observed in the newly [daylighted](#) reach of Padden Creek, where both chum and steelhead chose to dig their redds. Staff were also pleased to see salmon accessing all parts of Padden Creek, including the area above the Daylighting project, which was previously blocked to most fish by the tunnel. Staff

observed 39 fish below the Daylighting , 39 fish within the project, and 64 fish above it! Check out the [monitoring results](#).

This [movie clip](#) shows a Chinook salmon digging her redd on Whatcom Creek on October, 16 2017. If you head out to Whatcom creek in the next few days with your own polarized glasses, the redd should still be visible just downstream from the Racine Street footbridge.

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