

# 2024 Spring Council of Governors Committee Report

## Multiple District 19 Environment Committee

### District Environment Chairs

**L-Pollyanna Lui** **I-Joe Nilles** **O-Jones Atterbury** **N-Barak Gale** **S-Judy Riggers**



**Lions International Website and Facebook provide ideas, images, resources for Lions around the world. When you post a Club Environmental Service project, use the hashtag #LionsGoGreen.**

**MD 19 Environment Team Lions Year 2023-2024.** Representing all 5 districts, District Environment Chairs & Zone Environment Chairs and Club Environment Chairs work closely with four Lions serving as MD 19 Environment Co-Chairs. We are an Environment Team that meets monthly on Zoom, hosted by Council Chair Steve Noble. **We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at noon and invite interested Lions to join us.** Write to [able@olypen.com](mailto:able@olypen.com). Our team increases in size and scope as we are joined by Lions from throughout our MD and from across the continent.

**Environment Team Facebook Page.** VDG Leslie Chasse, hosts a Facebook page to connect Lions as an active environment team. Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/Lions-MD19-Environmental-Committee-103269998770756>.

**Lions of MD 19. Watch “My Plastics Journey”** <https://youtu.be/69CWxZ6p9mY?si=qnhpyBu-4K50oQXZ>  
**What can Lions Do? Help pass strong Global Plastics Treaty.**

**As the Environment Chairs circulate through our districts, speaking to Lions, scanning MyLion, Facebook pages & websites, these are some of the projects we see.**



On Sunday April 21st, the Snohomish Lions Club partnered with Green Snohomish to clean up 3 miles of roadway and riversides in Snohomish (35 miles north of Seattle). Lions Doug Zwijnenburg, Wilma Bratner, Renee Craven Deierling, Carol Robinson. Following the clean up, we all met for lunch and well earned brews at a local Pub. Likely, this partnership will bring in 3 new members to our club! We help Green Snohomish with the cost of equipment, such as litter pickers and high visibility vests.



*Olympia Host Sensory Garden Cleanup*

Lion Kerrie Vockeroth found an idea. Build a Toy Library at our Ladysmith B.C. Lions Root St. Park and fill it with toys made from 100% recycled plastics. "At Green Toys, it's our mission to be the world's most trusted, transparent provider of environmentally and socially responsible toys and tableware for children. Sure, it's a mouthful. But it's who we are."

<https://www.greentoys.com/pages/our-story>

To date, the Ladysmith Lions Club located on Vancouver Island, B.C., has purchased 5 fun toys, a firetruck, school bus, recycling truck, dump truck and a loader for the kids to have some creative play. Not only are they durable but they are safe, Green Toys are made from recycled plastic milk containers, which are safe for children to play with. In addition, all Green Toys products exceed the US and international sanitary standards in the area of BPA and phthalates.



*Ladysmith Lions Toy Library*

**Press Coverage-Share Your Stories.** When you complete a Service Project, send the information and action photos to your local newspaper, your District and Zone and Club newsletters and post on social media. The Delview Leos got great coverage in the Peace Arch News with many photos and good reporting.



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## Young environmentalists clean up North Delta park for Earth Day

The friendly competition between teams of teens was organized by Delview Secondary's Leos Club



**James Smith**  
Apr 29, 2024 5:00 AM  
Updated Apr 29, 2024 5:01 AM



Delview Leos Club founding members Kookie Sethi, Gray Edgington and Joshua Thoreson get ready for the group's Earth Day cleanup of Delview Park on Monday, April 22, 2024. (Tanmay Ahluwalia photo/special to the North Delta Reporter)



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By Tanmay Ahluwalia, special to the **North Delta Reporter**

Young environmentalists from Delview Secondary scavenged trash at Delview Park the afternoon of Monday, April 22 as part of an Earth Day clean up organized by the school's Leos Club (youth branch of the International Association of Lions Clubs).

About 30 students – divided into teams of up to five – participated in the friendly cleanup competition. Participants were provided with gloves, bags and an area map to help them collect as many garbage items as possible.

Each item collected served as an entry for a prize draw, with the winner receiving a spring gift basket. Local adults, too, later joined the kids in their efforts.

Grade 10 student and club secretary Joshua Thoreson emphasized that the cleanup was not only beneficial for the environment but also an important step in making the park a "safer space" for the community.

"We also wanted to give people more chance to enjoy their city and their community," he added.



Grade 10 Delview Secondary student and Leo Club member Miffy Shan taking part in the group's Earth Day cleanup of Delview Park on Monday, April 22, 2024. (Tanmay Ahluwalia photo/special to the North Delta Reporter)

The now-annual Earth Day cleanup, which was launched last year, was a big success. The club was able to collect thousands of pieces of trash, filling about seven garbage bins.

Reflecting on the impact of last year's cleanup, Thoreson said, "we saw the difference [the cleanup initiative] made last year and we really wanted to do it again."

"We were able to clean so much," he added.

A passionate environmentalist, Thoreson stressed the significance of Earth Day, considering it "almost a movement for people who want to make the world a better place.

In his message to the public, he expressed gratitude to everyone who cares about the environment and supported the club's event.

Alongside Thoreson was Grade 9 student Kookie Sethi, club founder and past president. Sethi shared that her personal experiences at Delview Park motivated her for the cleanup.

"I used to come here at lunch and realized that there was a lot of trash on the ground. So then we came up with this idea," she explained.

Initially the club had only 10 members, and Sethi said she was excited to see the club expand in just one year. She also urged people not to ignore when they see trash on the ground.

"Just give back to the environment because it gives a lot to you."

The school's principal, Kevin Vasconcelos, also attended the event, and said he was proud of his students "for looking for opportunities to clean up this space for the entire community."

"It makes me proud. (...) I'm incredibly proud to see so many of our students signing up to be part of this really important initiative."



**MD 19 Environment Chairs**  
**Call or Email**  
**We can assist you with ideas & resources**

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