



KOOTENAY ECO FEST



MAY 25 & 26TH, 2024

BEAR SPRING ECO RETREAT | 5248 QUEEN VICTORIA RD, BEASLEY

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL:

A celebration of sustainable action with local waste reduction solutions, live demonstrations, inspiring learning opportunities, regional food tasting and live music. All happening at Bear Spring Eco Retreat in Beasley, BC.

A 100 mile fundraising dinner featuring local chefs and wild edibles will be held on Friday evening (maximum 60 tickets for a very informative and visually stunning dinner and ending with live music and a dance featuring The Latin Lovers. Refreshments available at the dance.

Hosted by KOELS.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY | DAY 1

- 10:00 am to noon
Sinixt History
- 1:00 pm to 3:00pm
Introduction to Herbal Medicine
- 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Bats Cave Tour
- Noon to 5:00pm
**E-Bike Demos and Bicycle Repairs
Repair Cafe**
- 3R Market (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)**
- 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
100 Mile Chef's Choice Potluck
- 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Evening Talks
- 9:00 pm to midnight
Live Music & Dance

SUNDAY | DAY 2

- 10:00 am to noon
Introduction to Wildcraft
- 1:00 pm to 3:00pm
Oyster Mushroom Log Inoculation
- 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Foraged Craft Workshop
- Noon to 5:00pm
**E-Bike Demos and Bicycle Repairs
Repair Cafe**
- 3R Market (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)**

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FESTIVAL TICKETS:

General Admission \$40 Saturday & Sunday
(Includes workshops, repair cafe, market)
100 tickets available

100 Mile Meal \$125
(Includes evening talks, music/dance)
60 tickets available

Evening Talks/Live Music/Dance \$25
40 extra tickets available at the door

Tickets:
<https://bearspringeco.ca/kootenay-ecofest>

TRANSPORTATION:

Car pooling or cycling is strongly encouraged as onsite parking is limited.

Bus Transportation \$10 per person.
Park and Ride from Playmore Junction or Granite Rd in Nelson. Schedule TBA

ACCOMODATION

Glamping Tent w/queen (sleeps 2) \$165
Glamping Tent w/2 twin (sleeps 2) \$125
Private bedroom w/queen (sleeps 2) \$100
(Phone 778-454-2411 to book)

A 'Made in the West Kootenays' celebration of sustainable action with local waste reduction solutions, live demonstrations, inspiring learning opportunities, regional food tasting and live music. Connect and help bring our community together, be entertained, get involved and discover how you can help inspire change for the better at the first annual Kootenay EcoFest.

ABOUT YOUR HOST:

The Kootenay Outdoor and Environmental Learning Society (KOELS) organizes events which supports its goal of providing environmental education to the general public.

KOELS MISSION:

A small group of residents of the Kootenay region of British Columbia whose mission is to provide for a more environmentally sustainable future for residents of Rossland and the surrounding area by influencing the habits, policies and actions of citizens, government and industry through education and action.

SPONSORS:



INCLUDED IN YOUR FESTIVAL TICKET (GENERAL ADMISSION \$40)

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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE SATURDAY ONLY

Sinixt History

10:00 am to noon

Meet Rick Desautal, a member of the Indigenous Nation of the Colville Confederated Tribes and a Sinixt Aboriginal Person of Canada. Rick is a respected ceremonial hunter. Learn about Sinixt history, culture and their fight to be recognized as Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

Introduction to Herbal Medicine

1:00 pm to 3:00pm

Join Herbalist Marie Zak in this workshop to learn the foundational principles of herbalism and meet a few local plants that you can incorporate into your medicine cabinet.

Bats Cave Tour

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Visit the Queen Victoria Mine Bat Cave with the Okanagan Nation Alliance member and a researcher from the Kootenay Community Bat Program. Learn about the bat roosts too.

SUNDAY ONLY

Introduction to Wildcraft

10:00 am to noon

Join Keith Davis on a walking tour of the local forest and learn how to identify plants and wildcraft correctly.

Oyster Mushroom Log Inoculation

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

By Rob Macae, a fungi expert. Learn how to grow your own Oyster Mushrooms. All tools and supplies provided.

Foraged Craft Workshop

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Join Solita, local artist and designer, on a foraging trip in the forest for pretty materials to make your very own spring wreath.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY noon to 5 pm

E-Bike Demos and Bicycle Repairs

Derek Baker of Ride All Day e-Bike Repairs onsite for e-bike demos and minor bicycle maintenance.

Repair Cafe

Bring small appliances, sports equipment or clothing for minor repairs.

3R Market (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)

Check out the market featuring used, repurposed and recycled products made by local makers. Market includes local wildcraft items.

A number of non-profit groups will be on hand to answer questions and offer advise on sustainable topics.

HELP REDUCE WASTE.

Bring your own water bottle, dishes & cutlery.

PARKING IS LIMITED.

Carpool or take the shuttle bus provided.

EXTRAS NOT INCLUDED

\$125 (60 tickets available)

100 Mile Chef's Choice Potluck
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Includes 1 free beverage.

Evening Talks, Live Music & Dance
7:30 pm to midnight

Evening Talks featuring Craig DeLong, Shannon Berch and Tyson Elhers.
Live Music and Dance with Latin Lovers

\$25 (40 extra tickets available at door)

Evening Talks, Live Music & Dance
7:30 pm to midnight

Evening Talks featuring Craig DeLong "Building Community Resilience", Shannon Berch "Marvelous Mycorrhiza and Their Role in a Changing World" and Tyson Elhers "Biodiversity of BC - A photographic Journey of the Wild, Wonderful, Rare, and Beautiful"
Live Music and Dance with Latin Lovers

\$10 to \$20 Shuttle bus service

Schedule and cost TBD

Accommodations (Book separately)

Phone Bear Spring Eco Retreat at
778-454-2411 or email info@bearspringeco.ca.



SPEAKERS:

Craig DeLong, an Ecologist at Ecora Resource Group Ltd., Lead at Rossland Refactory, and a Climate Hub co-founder, has 40 years of research experience in ecological land classification, vegetation competition, natural disturbance-based management, mixedwood ecology, deadwood dynamics, old growth assessment, and climate change related drought stress.

Tyson Ehlers is a professional biologist and forest ecologist who has a life-long fascination with the rare and understudied and a love for exploring the biodiversity of unique ecosystems throughout BC. He has built an extensive specimen collection and is also an avid photographer documenting BC landscapes and biodiversity through his lens.

Shannon Berch is an Emerita Research Scientist with the BC Ministry of Environment and an Associate member of the Faculty of Land and Food Systems and the Botany Department at UBC. She is a founding member of the South Vancouver Island Mycological Society and the Truffle Association of BC.