

For Immediate Release:

FAIRWINDS HOSTS LANDSCAPE & WATER CONSERVATION FAIR

Nanoose Bay, British Columbia
April 25, 2008

Fairwinds Community Centre was the scene of the second annual Landscape and Water Conservation Fair held Saturday, April 19th. Despite an early morning out-of-the-ordinary snowfall, the enthusiasm of attendees was not dampened when the doors opened at 10:00 a.m. Focusing on environmental protection, the event featured thirty-six exhibitors, six speakers and a collection of prize giveaways. Displays covered everything from information on how to compost and conserve water to the latest in landscaping ideas and green building products.

Participants included:

<i>Albertson's Ace Building Centre</i>	<i>Eljay Irrigation</i>	<i>Industrial Plastics & Paint</i>
<i>Always Green</i>	<i>Energy Wise Technologies</i>	<i>Iritex Pump and Irrigation</i>
<i>Andrew Sheret Ltd.</i>	<i>FCA Water Quality Committee</i>	<i>Island Garden Design</i>
<i>Art in Steel</i>	<i>Gaia College</i>	<i>Island Waterscape & Design</i>
<i>Backyard Wild Bird & Nature Store</i>	<i>Garden Design by Sue Baran</i>	<i>Lanarc Consultants</i>
<i>Big Rock Sculpting</i>	<i>Gardens on the Go</i>	<i>McNutt Enterprises</i>
<i>Cannor Nursery</i>	<i>Gardens West Magazine</i>	<i>Nanoose Naturalists</i>
<i>Carey's Garden Design</i>	<i>GardenWise Magazine</i>	<i>Regional District of Nanaimo</i>
<i>Cascadia Environmental Biology</i>	<i>Gus Lund Driftwood Furniture</i>	<i>Schone Living</i>
<i>Digiconcepts</i>	<i>Herbal Collective</i>	<i>Sea Soil</i>
<i>Dig This</i>	<i>Hidden Waters</i>	<i>V.I. Master Gardeners</i>
<i>Easy Living</i>	<i>Home Depot</i>	<i>Zero Waste</i>

A panel of speakers provided expert advice on a variety of topics:

<i>Jamie Wallace</i>	<i>Water Efficient Garden Design</i>
<i>David Collyer</i>	<i>FW Homeowner Irrigation Experience</i>
<i>Connie Kuramoto</i>	<i>Lawn Replacement Alternatives</i>
<i>Cara MacDonald</i>	<i>Strategies in Water Conservation</i>
<i>David Bossom</i>	<i>Ponds and Rainwater Harvesting</i>
<i>Kathryn Gemmell</i>	<i>Indoor Water Conservation Tips</i>

One of the fair's co-ordinators was Pam May-Straka, chairwoman of the Fairwinds Community Association Water Conservation Committee. Teaming up with the Nanaimo Regional District's Team Water Smart Program, the primary goal of this initiative is to reduce water waste and bring a general awareness of water conservation issues to homeowners within the Nanoose Peninsula water system.

These are issues also not taken lightly by the corporate ownership of Fairwinds. Marian Slayter, the resort's development sales & marketing manager, claims, "the landscape and water conservation fair is just one more example of our company's ongoing commitment and dedication to environmental stewardship. We urge our residents and builders to buy into the future."

"All our homeowners and future homeowners are encouraged to take the matter seriously, not only through building plans that incorporate natural site amenities and use of water efficient landscaping, but also in the design and construction of their homes," adds Slayter. "The reason for introducing the Green

Solutions Demonstration Home was to show what can be done by making more informed and conscious choices.”

The Fairwinds Green Solutions Demonstration home opened in April of 2007. By using nature as a guide, Fairwinds worked with contractors and designers to source out trends and products that both conserve energy and reduce exposure to unhealthy elements. To date, more than 7,000 visitors from all over the country have toured the innovative show home with its unique mix of green solutions, smart home, safer home standards and water conservation techniques.

The home is open daily (Thursday – Sunday) from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Fairwinds is situated on the Nanoose Peninsula, overlooking the Strait of Georgia, just minutes north of Nanaimo. With 1,350 acres, this master-planned oceanfront community has been designed in harmony with the beauty of the natural surroundings and is undertaking a trail plan that promotes a healthy active lifestyle. With mild winters and dry summers, the area supports coastal Douglas fir, arbutus and Garry oak trees. Fairwinds encourages natural landscaping amongst exceptional features and terrain to enhance this unique community. In accordance with this master plan, buyers and contractors, when selecting building sites, are encouraged to incorporate the rugged environment into their designs.

In addition to its residential community, Fairwinds is also home to the award-winning Les Furber designed 18-hole Fairwinds Golf Club, the Schooner Cove Marina, plus a stunning 20,000 square foot health centre and members facility.

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