

2025 Fall Council of Governors Committee Report

Multiple District 19 Environment Committee

District Environment Chairs

L-Kitty Chiu I-Bernie Jensen O-Mike Contreras N-Fred Ferreira S- _____

MD 19 Environment Team Lions Year 2024-2025

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 Brooks. **We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 12p.m. and invite interested Lions to join us.** For invitation, write to 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.

Service areas

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/environment>

Get your club involved in one of these environment service areas and see how your service will help achieve the **U.N. Sustainable Development Goals**.

TREE PLANTING AND TREE CARE

Improve your community through the planting of locally appropriate tree seedlings or saplings, contributing to cleaner air and a healthier environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP AND RESTORATION

Protect nature and habitats by cleaning debris and shielding pollutants from harming ecosystems, marine life and the community.

RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Conserve resources and reduce waste to minimize adverse impacts on sustainability.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Raise awareness of the importance of protecting the environment, educate your community members and create positive change.

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure safe water and adequate sanitation for all, promoting better health outcomes around the world.

LCIF grants

GRANT RESOURCES

LCIF offers a wide variety of grant programs to empower Lions projects. We encourage you to explore the different grant types and resources within our online grants toolkit to find out if there's a grant program that's right for your club, district or multiple district now, or in the future.

Lions International Website and Facebook, along with Lions Virtual.org provide ideas, images, and resources for Lions around the world. Spend time learning from these videos and more. When you post a Club Environment Service project, use the hashtag #LionsGoGreen.

As Lion Environment Chairs circulate through our districts, speaking to Lions, scanning Facebook pages, websites, and service reports, these are some of the Lions Environmental Service projects we see. We want to learn from each other and share the stories of our service. We post them here to inspire ourselves and YOU to tell our stories widely and well.



Peachland Lions Club serving food to the Peachland Watershed Protection Alliance annual forest clean up event. The event literally removes tons of garbage from wilderness areas surrounding Peachland. District I.

Kitty Chiu, District L Environment Chair is creating bi-monthly newsletters. Enjoy this first edition.

DISTRICT 19L ENVIRONMENT

For environmental awareness this term (2025-26), I plan to put together a one-pager bi-monthly (every 2 months) "environmental tips and tricks" to share with all the Lions Clubs and its members in 19L in Western BC and Northwest Washington. *Regards, Kitty Chiu*

Environmental tips and tricks are a great way to bring environmental awareness to our community for a few key reasons:

1. They're Practical and Actionable

Tips and tricks break down big environmental issues into small, manageable actions. When people see something simple they can do—like reducing water use during dry summer months or composting food scraps—they're more likely to get involved.

2. They Make Sustainability Feel Accessible

Not everyone knows where to start with environmental action. Seasonal, local tips show that being eco-friendly doesn't require a complete lifestyle overhaul—it can begin with small steps that fit into everyday life.

3. They're Relevant to the Community

By tailoring tips to the seasons and the specific conditions in Western BC and Northwest Washington, the advice feels personal and useful. People are more likely to act on information that relates directly to their home, weather, and way of life.

4. They Spark Ongoing Awareness

Sharing tips regularly keeps environmental issues on people's minds year-round. Over time, this consistent messaging can lead to stronger habits and a deeper understanding of how individual choices impact the environment.

5. They Build a Sense of Shared Responsibility

When community members see others making eco-conscious choices, it encourages a sense of collective effort. Tips can create conversations and inspire neighbors to support each other in caring for the environment.

19-L ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS & TRICKS



July & August 2025

Sustainable Summer Living For Western BC & NW Washington

1. Wildfire Prevention in Coastal Forests

- Comply with campfire bans and fire restrictions (check with BC Wildfire Service and WA DNR).
- Use camp stoves instead of open fires for cooking while camping.
- Clear dry brush near properties to reduce fire hazards.
- Report smoke or illegal burns immediately to local authorities.

2. Conserve Water During Drought

- Metro Vancouver and WA counties often issue Stage 1–3 water restrictions in July/August.
- Water gardens with greywater or rainwater collected in barrels.
- Install low-flow showerheads and faucets at home and in vacation rentals.
- Use native and drought-tolerant plants like salal, sword fern, and Oregon grape.

3. Reduce Plastic at Beaches and Parks

- Bring reusable water bottles, utensils, and containers on outings.
 - Avoid single-use packaging for beach snacks and picnic foods.
 - Participate in or organize a beach cleanup (especially after long weekends).
 - Dispose of fishing line and marine debris in proper receptacles.
-  *Hotspot areas: Kitsilano Beach, Juan de Fuca Trail, Whidbey Island, Lake Crescent.*

4. Eat Local & Seasonal

- Shop at local farmers markets: Victoria, Nanaimo, Bellingham, Port Angeles.
- Support small farms growing berries, greens, and tree fruit.
- Avoid food waste by freezing or preserving extra produce.
- Skip imported or out-of-season goods with high carbon footprints.

5. Garden for Pollinators

- Plant bee-friendly flowers: lavender, echinacea, yarrow, and lupine.
- Avoid chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Leave some bare patches for ground-nesting bees.
- Add a shallow water source with pebbles for bees and butterflies to drink safely.

6. Protect Marine Life

- Avoid using chemical sunscreens—choose reef-safe, mineral-based alternatives.
- Keep boats slow near orcas and marine mammals (stay at least 400 meters away).
- Report injured wildlife or pollution sightings to local marine authorities.
- Never flush chemicals or meds—these harm local waters like the Salish Sea.

7. Travel Light, Travel Local

- Use ferries, trains, or bus networks to explore (e.g., BC Ferries, Amtrak Cascades).
- Choose eco-lodges, campgrounds, or off-grid rentals with sustainability practices.
- Try cycling routes (e.g., Galloping Goose Trail, Lopez Island loop).
- Offset your travel emissions with local conservation projects.

8. Community Stewardship

- Join a local trail crew, park volunteer day, or beach cleanup.
- Donate gear or garden produce to community fridges or shelters.
- Share your sustainability efforts at farmers markets or on social media.
- Support Indigenous-led conservation initiatives across BC and Washington.



Lions Clubs and Kiwanis came together at the 78th St. Heritage Farm for Celebrate Community Week—harvesting fresh cucumbers, peppers and zucchini for the Clark County Food Bank. District N. (Camas Lions Reel)



Selah Valley Lions Harvest Community Garden. District S.



Lion Leslie Hall reports on a partnership with the Chemainus Food First Initiative, involving a Community Herb Garden, collaboration with Secondary School students with seed saving, sustainable agriculture and food resilience. They organize Seedy Saturday (seed exchange and education), Fruit Gleaning (collecting excess produce for redistribution), and Mason Bee Awareness. District L.

Report from District I Environment Chair Bernie Jensen to District I Lions

I am still working on the idea of a family fishing pond within Kamloops City limits. BC Ministry of Environment and Parks are testing the water for the proposed pond that may be used. There are already goldfish living in it, but they will live pretty much anywhere.

I contacted Brock Secondary School in Kamloops at the end of the school year regarding The Farm to School project idea. They were quite interested but there were things they needed to work out at that time. The Vice-Principal said to call him back in the fall to follow up.

Kamloops Brock Central Lions Club had their annual Pancake Breakfast as part of the Kamloops Canada Day celebration, and we are pleased to report that garbage was down by 75% and recycle and compost was up of course. We served 600 people from 7 am to 11 am. In the photo you will see that there is a gray bin for garbage, a green bin for compost, and a blue bin for recycle. Our Concession Coordinator Extraordinaire is Gary Crook who made the changes to how we served food to the people in the park. Beside him is Hayden, a City staff person who is part of the Eco-Smart Team.



Please contact me if you have any questions, ideas, concerns that you would like me to address. My contact information is: Bernard.jensen2@gmail.com or phone/text 778-257-2033.

Come to the 2025 Potato Dig/Seed Swap
Sunday, September 28. 2-4 pm

Cowan Heritage Garden
Hoko-Ozette Road
Friends of Hoko River State Park
Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions
For Info-call 360.963.2442

***Dig Potatoes**
***Bring seeds for Seed Swap**
***Work on Orchard Fencing with Olympic Orchard Society**
***Expect More Fun Activities**

40th Anniversary International Coastal Cleanup

Clallam Bay-Sekiu & Western Strait
ANNUAL COMMUNITY BEACH CLEANUP
Saturday, September 20, 2025

Please join us in removing marine debris from our local beaches- Pillar Point to Shipwreck Point

Volunteer Welcome, Registration, Instructions, Supplies
9 am-12 pm Clallam Bay Visitor Center

Bring your "Most Unusual Finds" for the annual contest by 2 pm. Display and prizes

For more information:
Call Clallam Bay Visitor Center 963-2339

www.lionsclubs.org
International Coastal Cleanup
Max Power/Member/Member

Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club

Washington Clean Coast Alliance



Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions host Harvest Event in Late September, after completing beach cleanups as part of the 40th Anniversary of the International Coastal Cleanup, in collaborative partnerships with the Washington Clean Coast Alliance (www.CoastSavers.org), Visitor Center and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

Lions International

Home Us The Impact Our Network Member Resource Center US

We are serving a world in need.
One act of kindness at a time.

Welcome to Lions International
Learn more about the exciting world of Lions International.



MD 19 Lions were a powerful presence at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

Lions gathered to learn in an action-packed atmosphere, with 100 seminars to choose from, interactive and immersive learning experiences, emphasis on service and fun!! There were two workshops that drew folks interested in impacting our environment. Seminars on **Urban Farming** and **Gleaning** are subjects of interest to folks around the world as we seek to protect the workings of our planet, including clean water and nutritious food and limited waste in a world where we build cooperation and peaceful communities. Themes throughout the three-day event were growing our service by growing our Clubs, and telling our stories in powerful ways.



The Seattle Sensory Garden is a Seattle area Lions Club project with the Parks Department. Seattle Lions worked with the Seattle Rose Society to build a rose garden in the 1930's. Lions stepped up to help restore the garden in the 2000's. The first idea was to put a bust of Helen Keller in the Garden but we all thought she would want something that all people could enjoy. The Sensory Garden was developed with those with visual and hearing differences, mobility challenges, and autism. We built a demonstration garden in 2009 and were awarded a \$700,000 grant from the city to build the garden. Lions and other volunteers have helped plant, weed, and maintain both demonstration and fully developed garden since 2009. All plants have signs that tell the plant names, what sense to use, and how to experience it. (Lion Barbara Bicknell-Porter of Renton Lions. District O)

MD 19 Environment Chairs. Call or Email. We can assist you with ideas and resources.

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