

It starts in parks!

Want to have some fun and escape the city? Then come along and explore your Auckland regional parks as a friend or volunteer.



Across the regional park network we have a large range of projects for all ages, numbers and skills. If you have the drive and the enthusiasm, we will find a project for you! www.arc.govt.nz or 366 2000

Environment fund open for applications 1 July

The Auckland Regional Council's 2006 Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) will open for applications on 1 July. The fund totals \$500,000 and is open to local groups, iwi, schools and individuals undertaking not-for-profit practical projects that enhance, restore and protect Auckland's natural, cultural and physical environment.

What are the EIF funding priorities?

- **Cultural Heritage** Preservation and protection of the region's cultural and historic heritage resources.
- **Riparian Management** Stream bank protection and erosion control. Note: preference to natives.
- **Urban Stream Enhancement** Management and enhancement activities promoting healthy urban stream environments
- **Native Fisheries** Native species enhancement and protection
- **Pest Control** Reduction and control of pest plants and animals
- **Coastal Protection** and restoration of coastal environments
- **Pollution prevention and waste minimisation** Reduction of the harmful effects of pollutive discharges on the air quality of our region
- **Kaitiakitanga** Maori sustaining the mauri (essential life force) of natural and physical resources
- **Environmental Education** Encouraging sustainable communities by incorporating best practices in environmental education
- **Biodiversity Protection and Restoration** Creation of ecological linkages – e.g. planting, linking forest remnants, corridors and linking planted areas. Sustainable management of the region's soil resources.

Previously funded projects include riparian fencing and planting, pest and weed eradication and control, wetland restoration, native planting, and environmental education projects.

Applications for the 2006 funding round open on 1 July and close on Friday 4 August.

Since the first funding round in February 2000, nearly 500 applicants have been successful in receiving funding for their projects.

Phone the ARC on 09 366 2000 for an application pack or download the guidelines and application form from www.arc.govt.nz/arc/environment/funding

“Bringing life to parks” Pohutukawa Post

Autumn 2006

North-West Wildlink “Linking people to link nature”

An exciting new regional biodiversity initiative is hatching! The North-West Wildlink is a regional partnership between councils, organisations and the community which seeks to create a patchwork of natural stepping stones' connecting two of the region's biodiversity hotspots – the Hauraki Gulf Islands and the Waitakere Ranges.

The purpose of the North-West Wildlink is two-fold: firstly to provide healthy and safe habitats for native plants and animals from the Hauraki Gulf Islands and Whangaparaoa through to the Waitakere Ranges; and secondly, to link community, individual and agency effort along the Wildlink pathway.

The North-West Wildlink does not propose to create a continuous, vegetated corridor but rather focuses on existing natural areas and restoration projects that can contribute to a patchwork of habitats and refuges. Such existing areas include parks, esplanade reserves, streambanks, coastal fringes, open space and backyards.

Continued on Page 14

Inside this issue:

- Tree Planting Dates
- UNESCO World Heritage Day Events
- Botanic Gardens Adult Workshops