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## Free Workshops and Events Offered at the Compost Education Centre

The Comox Strathcona waste management (CSWM) service encourages residents to visit the compost education centre in Campbell River this summer for free backyard composting workshops and ladybug release events.

On Wednesday, July  $16^{th}$  and Thursday, August  $14^{th}$ , compost educator, Elaine Jansen, will be releasing hundreds of ladybugs to the organic gardens to get rid of common pests without the use of pesticides or other chemicals. This is a fun way for the children to explore the gardens and for the adults to learn more about pesticide-free alternatives. These events are free and will be held from 6-7 p.m. Remember to bring your camera.

In addition, the CSWM service will be offering two composting workshops this summer. These workshops are geared to those that want to learn how to correct any issue, such as fruit flies and odours, that they might be experiencing in their composter. The whole family can benefit from the helpful tips for successful backyard composting. These "composting 101" sessions will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> or Thursday, August 21.

The compost education centre in Campbell River is located at 228 South Dogwood Street (across the street from Strathcona Gardens recreation complex). For more information on workshops and events delivered through the compost education centre, visit <a href="www.cswm.ca/composting">www.cswm.ca/composting</a>.

The Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) service is a function of the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and is responsible for two regional waste management centres that serve the Comox Valley and Campbell River, as well as a range of transfer stations and smaller waste-handling and recycling facilities for the electoral areas of the CVRD and the Strathcona Regional District. The CSWM service manages over 100,000 tonnes of waste and recycled material and oversees a number of diversion and education programs.

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