

## QBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER     July 29, 2026

As the summer continues, we are entering a time for some volunteer opportunities for QBS members – if you are interested and able to assist in any of these projects, or would like more information, drop an email to [info@qbstreamkeepers.ca](mailto:info@qbstreamkeepers.ca) .

- **Saturday, August 22: Family Day** at the Qualicum Beach Museum – a popular event for families and young children, QBS will be there once again with an aquarium tank display containing several invasive aquatic species which threaten our local streams and ponds, including goldfish and giant American bullfrog tadpoles. We used this display at the recent Beach Day event, with good interaction with visitors. We would love a few volunteers to each help out for an hour in the afternoon.
- **Monday, August 24 – Beach Creek pond:** Removal, identification, and counting of coho and cutthroat trout from the large pond on Beach Creek in the Memorial Golf Club in Qualicum Beach to assist in the removal of sediment from the pond. We have worked on several occasions with the Town and the Golf Club in past years and have found the project to be a great way to understand where our fish populations are living – the pond has turned out to be a safe haven for hundreds of coho smolt. The work involves a range of activities including helping with a seining nets and dip net, carrying buckets of fresh water, moving the fish to upstream safety, and measuring and counting the little guys.
- **Stream gauge monitoring:** stream flow level loggers are installed on both Grandon and Beach Creeks, providing measurements every hour on stream levels and providing essential data for understanding trends in stream flows. The loggers require regular confirmation of the flow accuracy by volunteers manually measuring water flow and linking those measurements to the electronic data to ensure accuracy. This requires instream work in chest waders, with measuring buckets several times each year at times established by the team.
- **September Fish Count** on Grandon and Beach Creeks: Every year at the low point of summer stream flows, we select two or three pools in each creek and carry out a sample count of fish. The project enables an accurate assessment over time of fish populations and is one of the best ways to understand long term population health. The exact days will depend on several factors, including availability of professional support and stream flows, but please let us know if you would like to participate and we will provide an update in a few weeks. The project may well be extended to other streams in the future.
- **Invasive plants pilot project** on Grandon Creek: for many years, QBS volunteers have carried out periodic work parties to control invasive plants in the riparian areas of lower Grandon Creek. As expected, this is an ongoing challenge, so we are planning to try managing a specific area of invasives by identifying a defined small area, removing all invasives and returning at regular intervals to assess its success. The pilot project will be close to the path in an accessible location, with signage to inform path users of the activity. The timing and project framework are under development, and further details will be available shortly.