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Learn about pruning for a healthy harvest

Want to rejuvenate an old tree, give a new one a fruitful start, or prevent pest problems?

Join North Island College's *Lettuce Grow* program on November 3 for a hands-on and informative workshop. Expert horticulturist and edible landscaper Helena Hartwood will outline reasons for pruning, types of pruning cuts, when to prune and what to use. The course will also cover pruning vines, shrubs and trees, both young and old – and teach about planting for long-term productivity and food generation.

"The proper care and pruning of trees is vital for a long and productive relationship. A heritage tree can grow to over a hundred years, yielding hundreds of pounds of fruit or nuts, enough to feed a neighbourhood," Hartwood explains. *"Nuts especially are such an excellent source of protein and oils, and so easy to grow and store. If you plant and prune properly now, they will generate for your grandchildren in the future."*

Pruning for a Healthy Harvest, the next workshop in the *Lettuce Grow* series, will take place on Sunday, November 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. The course will take place at 5800 Argonaut Road in Campbell River, where there's grapes, mature nut trees, raspberries, apples and cherries of various ages. Participants will be able to practice pruning using tools provided.

To top it off, this workshop includes an informative booklet on pruning written by Hartwood.

To register for this *Lettuce Grow* workshop, visit the campus in person or register online at http://www.nic.bc.ca/continuingeducation/ and search course code GENI 7942.

Like this article? What to hear more? Is there a workshop you would like us to organize? Write us your questions and requests to growlocal@campbellriver.ca

The *Lettuce Grow* courses and article series support the implementation of the City's *Agriculture Plan* and the community sustainability goal of local food self-sufficiency and resiliency.

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