

FAQ - Chief Whitecap Park 2017 Planting

- **What work is being done?** The uplands of the park will be planted with numerous naturalized planting beds as outlined in the Chief Whitecap Park Master Plan. More planting will be done in subsequent years as resources become available.
- **How does this fit in with the master plan?** Grassland restoration and planting of naturalized bluffs of trees and shrubs was envisioned as part of the Master Plan. Tree and shrub planting beds are noted in the upland areas that have been previously disturbed with yearly forage crops.
- **What will this mean for park users?** There will be minimal impacts on current users as the planting beds planned for 2017 will be in areas that are minimally used. As these beds mature and more are installed there will be improved conditions for users on the uplands as the bluffs will provide increased shelter and protection from the elements.
- **What will this mean for the site?** There will be an overall increase in biodiversity on site as a variety of native species get introduced. There will not only be an increase in plant diversity, as animal species will directly benefit from improved habitats. There will also be a corresponding decrease in the presence of non-native plants including forage, invasive and nuisance plants on site.
- **What does the work involve?** Preliminary prep work has been initiated in August with planting planned for September and October. A breakdown of the work is as follows:
 - Spraying and/or mowing to manage existing vegetation,
 - Spreading of mulch on all beds,
 - Planting,
 - Ongoing watering and weeding for establishment (three or more years).
- **Who will be doing the work and how is it funded?** Meewasin staff will be undertaking the work, along with volunteers on the planting days. Meewasin has received grants to fund the planting project.
- **What are the future plans for the site?** Other aspects of the master plan will be implemented as funding allows, with the priority being the establishment of the defined off-leash area.