



# Workshops an eye-opener to the wonders of nature

Avid gardener Bobbie Carroll knows what grows best alongside the stream bordering her Piha property.

She's among residents who have brushed up their gardening skills by attending the Nature In Your Neighbourhood programme.

The series of workshops are running again this year and applications close on May 12.

The fortnightly seminars

teach people about how to care for streams and wildlife around their properties.

Bobbie says the programme inspired her to get the whole of her community involved.

"I'd gone along because I have a stream running along two boundaries of my property," she says. "I had pulled out some of the weeds running alongside it but didn't know what to do next."

Henderson Valley resident

Ron Watson says the workshops opened his eyes to what's living at the back of his section.

"The sessions with native fish expert Paul Woodard and frog expert Matt Baber provided some unexpected insights," he says.

The programme, run by the Waitakere City Council and Rutherford College Community Education, runs from May 19 to July 5. Call 834-4099 to register.