



Hotline 250-561-7327

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May 2010

COMING EVENTS

MAY

- 2 - 8 National Compost Week
- 29 REAPS Annual Plant Sale
- 31 - June 4 Bike to Work Week
- 31 - June 6 Environment Week

JUNE

- 4 Clean Air Day
- 5 World Environment Day

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Growing Downtown

The Mission Statement is:

To Address Food Security, Recycling, Vacant Land Use and Downtown Beautification collaboratively for the benefit of Residents, Businesses and visitors to Prince George.

2009 was OUR FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION at the 7th & Victoria Downtown Community Garden! We are looking forward to growing our Garden's success in 2010 as we address food security, recycling, vacant land use and downtown beautification in collaboration with several community partners. Last year, we fed dozens of low-income people with local organic produce and we are now seeing real momentum as

individuals, groups and businesses race to board the Change Train!!

If you would like a container or more to grow food for yourself or others please contact REAPS.



REAPS Staff are BUSY!

So much is happening and is a very exciting time as we lead up to summer. The Compost Demo Garden is starting to show life, lots of hotline inquiries and rainbarrels and composters are being sold. Staff have been



presenting an average of 30 school presentations and 12 community

outreach events a month. Do not forget all the networking and group projects with other like minded community groups! A BIG thank you to all your energy and passion.

REAPS ANNUAL PLANT SALE - Saturday, May 29, 2010

This spring when dividing your plants - donations to our fundraiser is appreciated. We will come help dig up and pick up your contributions.



REAPS NEWS

Web Pick of the Month

<http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca/>



Often mistaken for wildflowers, invasive plants are spreading through our natural ecosystems, urban landscapes, and agricultural lands at an alarming rate. Invasive plants are spread through several key pathways of invasion including increased international, national, and regional travel and trade.

Book of the Month



This book tells you everything you need to know about composting and household refuse, and most importantly, how to get **STARTED**, and will be enough to convince you to finally get organized and go for it.

ISBN-10: 0962976830

REAPS Welcomes 3rd Trimester of Katimavik

Katimavik offers Canadian youth the opportunity to contribute to the sustainable development of communities across Canada through challenging volunteer service programs. REAPS welcomes Amaelle (April to July) to our staff. Amaelle will be assisting with various projects, maintaining the compost demo garden and presenting to the public on backyard composting.

Katimavik



VOLUNTEER

OPPORTUNITIES

Contributions from volunteers are fundamental to every community. Exciting opportunities are available with REAPS; join others in promoting the 3Rs & providing Environmental Education in our community.

GARDENERS - The garden will need assistance in dividing plants and potting for the Annual Plant Sale. If you have some time free at the beginning of May we would be happy to see you.

CARPENTER - The garden has a few repairs needed on their shed door and composter.

WANTED...

Are you dividing, digging up existing flower beds, have plants to share?



Please consider donating to REAPS Annual Plant Sale (May 29th). We will be happy to come and pick up.

COMPOSTING 101

REAPS offers composting workshops everyday during National Compost Week (May 3-7) at the Compost Demo Garden at 2 p.m. and will also be offering the workshop every Wednesday and Saturday till August at 2 p.m. Workshops are FREE.



Fry Release

May 31 - June 4 will be our 3 year in releasing the juvenile Chinook Salmon into the Nechako River at the confluence of the where it meets the Fraser River. These fry are part of the "Salmonids in the Classroom" program supported Fisheries & Oceans Canada. Raising salmon in the classroom is an opportunity to teach students to understand, respect and protect freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems, and to recognize how all humans are linked to these complex environments.



THANK YOU

REAPS recognizes and thanks the following sponsors and funding agencies for their contributions to our programs.

Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

City of Prince George

Science World

BC Gaming Commission - Direct Access

Youth Eco Intern Program

Human Resources Canada

Fisheries & Ocean Canada

The Wolf 91.3 FM

WRITERS - If you think you have something to contribute to this newsletter, your words would be *greatly* appreciated.

OTHER - If there is anything else you would like to help out with, please give us a call to discuss your ideas.

Interested in one of the above? Contact Terri at 561-7327 or e-mail volunteer@reaps.org.

LOCAL NEWS

Local Plant Sales

From fragrant to brightly colour flowers, to tasty herbs and vegetables, locally grown plants are best suited to your gardens.

Come and visit the plant sales around town this spring and find that special plant that will provide you with years of enjoyment.

Sunday, May 16 10:00 to 1:00 @ UNBC Agora (David Douglas Botanical Garden Society)

Saturday, May 22 10:00 to 2:00 @ Milburn Community Gardens (Community Gardens Prince George Society)

Saturday, May 29, 10:00 to 2:00 @ REAPS Compost Demonstration Garden

AWAKENING THE SKEENA MOVIE

Monday, May 3, 2010, Canfor Theatre, UNBC, Prince George
Doors open 6:30 pm, movie starts at 7:00 pm.

Admission by Donation

Awakening the Skeena movie -- In the summer of 2009, Ali Howard became the first person to ever swim the 610km length of the Skeena river from its birthplace in the Sacred Headwaters to its mouth at the Pacific Ocean.

Ali Howard will be in attendance.

The movie is cohosted by Sea to Sands Conservation Alliance Coalition www.skeenawatershed.com.

A Fundraising Event for:
PRINCE GEORGE
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

Erica's Book Sale
Books,
Silent Auction,
Paper Shredding,*
Handmade Cards,
and MORE!!!

and
Cafe Mozart

A Concert* featuring: Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, Complimentary Fresh Coffee, Baked Goods and More! For details visit:

www.pgso.com

May 28, 6-9 pm
May 29, 9am-4pm
St Andrew's Church
5th Ave

Donations of:
Books, Plants, CD's, LP's,
Music can be dropped off
at the Symphony Office
2880, 15th Ave
9:30 am - 4:00 pm
250 562 0800
Prior to May 28

*by donation

Sponsored in part by:

Your Mind's Eye
Therapeutic Services

Bike to Work Week in PG

"May 31 – June 6 2010 is Bike to Work Week in PG and across the Province!

Organized by dedicated volunteers, Bike to Work Week is designed to show people just how easy and fun cycling can be. Bike to Work Week is 100% free for participants.

The event includes workshops and equipment swaps in the weeks prior to the main event, and during Bike

to Work Week, pit-stop stations are set up to provide demos, food, prizes, technical support and a

place to connect with other cyclists. Sign-up a team at your workplace and get rolling!

Visit <http://www.biketowork.ca/princegeorge> for more info or call Jillian at 250-561-0562."



Prince George Farmer's Market

Saturday, May 1st - Grand Opening of our Indoor / Outdoor Market

Choose from a wide variety of produce, bakings, meats, and crafts from your regular vendors all of it grown, made, and baked locally. Bring your family, friends, and visit us at our new **indoor** location 1111 - 3rd Avenue and our usual location in front of the courthouse for the first open air market of the 2010 season! The market is open from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. The outdoor market will run until Thanks Giving. The indoor market will continue to run year round once a week.



PG Railway & Forestry Museum

CHARITY YARD SALE AND FUN DAYS,

MAY 29 AND 30, 2010

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 850 River Road in Prince George. Donations can be dropped off at 850 River Road.



WEEDS and the WORKS SEMINAR FREE! FREE! FREE!:

Burns Lake May 4, Vanderhoof May 5 and Prince George May 6. We have a great line up of speakers that are traveling in for this workshop. All aspects of invasive plant management will be covered. Ever wonder what that weed was? How to get rid of it? What are your options? This is a workshop for you! For more information check out the web page www.nwipc.org.

AROUND BC

Vancouver Council Okays Curbside Organics Program

Source: Metro News

Vancouverites will soon be able to toss their potato peelings and apple cores in with their lawn clippings as the city recently gave a green thumbs-up to curbside composting.

Phase 1 of the program begins Earth Day, April 22, and aims to divert 6,100 tonnes of fruit and vegetable scraps annually from the Vancouver Landfill. It excludes apartments/condominiums and businesses with private garbage pickup. Single-family dwellings will be able to add raw fruit and vegetable scraps into their yard trimmings that is collected every two weeks.

NPA Councilor Suzanne Anton, who campaigned on composting

during her first term four years ago, said curbside composting is something that the city has wanted to do for a long time, but it lacked the composting facilities at a regional level.

That, however, changed last summer when Metro Vancouver signed a 10-year deal with a food-waste and yard-trimming facility in Richmond.

Council's decision also paves the way to vastly expand curbside composting. A report due before the end of July will detail plans to compost all single-family food waste, which would divert an additional 9,600 tonnes.

Phase 2, which begins early 2011, will see residential garbage picked up every two weeks, while

foodstuffs, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings will be picked up weekly.

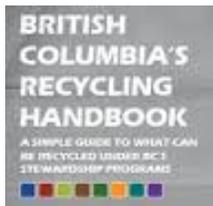
Read the full City of Vancouver report <http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20100304/documents/csbu2.pdf>



B.C. Stewards Launch Recycling Handbook

Source: Encorp Pacific

All eight of B.C.'s existing stewardship agencies have partnered to produce an informational handbook. British Columbia's Recycling Handbook provides valuable information about all products that fall under the Recycling Regulation. It identifies the stewards, the products, any fees that may apply, what products are recycled into, contact information, and most importantly where to take products to ensure they are recycled responsibly.



A flipbook web version or pdf file can be accessed [WWW.ENCORP.CA/IPS/](http://www.encorp.ca/ips/)

Ottawa and BC Sign Climate Change Agreement

Source: The Hook

The federal government and province of British Columbia have signed an agreement to tackle climate change. Federal Environmental Minister Jim Prentice says "the agreement is key step toward a national, coherent climate change approach".

Prentice says the agreement will avoid the duplication of regulatory measures and adds the federal government is working closely with other provinces and territories to harmonize strategies.

But Ian Bruce of the David Suzuki Foundation says while it's encouraging to see individual provinces spurring the federal government to act, still more needs to be done.

Bruce says Canada is falling far behind the rest of the world in its clean energy spending and he's calling for a much-talked about plan that includes a cap on industrial emissions to finally be put in place.

Although the Conservative government has abandoned the international Kyoto agreement on climate change, the government says it's committed to reducing the country's total greenhouse gas emissions by 17 percent from 2006 levels by 2020 and is investing billions of dollars to protect the environment through stimulus programs.

AROUND THE WORLD

Sunny Delight Beverages Co. Plants Achieve Zero Waste to Landfill

SOURCE Sunny Delight Beverages Co.

CINCINNATI, April 21 /PRNewswire/ -- The Sunny Delight Beverages Co. (SDBC) announced today that all six of its manufacturing sites have already reached their sustainability goal of sending zero waste to landfills by 2013.

This goal was achieved by the company's Anaheim, Calif.; Littleton, Mass.; and Mataro, Spain plants in 2009 -- four years ahead of schedule -- its South Brunswick, N.J. and Atlanta, Ga. plants earlier this year, and its Sherman, Texas site last week. This represents 1140 fewer tons of waste going to landfills in the communities where these plants operate.

The SDBC's zero waste to landfills goal is just one of the company's many sustainability goals. Using the triple bottom line approach to sustainability, the company realizes many benefits from its zero waste goal:

- Economically, identifying inefficiencies in processes and products drives cost savings.
- Environmentally, reducing wastes going to landfills simultaneously reduces demand for resources coming from nature.
- Socially, SDBC is enhancing well-being through efficiency improvements that allow more resources to be available for use by everyone.



"We define sustainability as ensuring a better life for the people our brands touch -- now and for generations to come," said Ellen Iobst, chief sustainability officer and senior vice president of manufacturing and technology.

"Our plants' ability to achieve their zero waste to landfill goal years ahead of schedule is a testament to the tenacity of our employees who have embraced sustainability with a passion and made it a way of life."

About the Sunny Delight Beverages Co.

The SDBC is a leading producer of juice-based drinks in North America and Western Europe. The company is dedicated to helping moms improve the vitality of their families by creating and marketing more wholesome beverages. Privately held, the company's brands include SunnyD citrus punch, FruitSimple fruit smoothies, Fruit2O vitamin fortified flavored waters, Veryfine 100% juices and juice drinks, Bossa Nova "superfruit" beverages, Crystal Light ready-to-drink bottled beverages and Elations dietary supplement for improving joint health.

Please visit www.sunnyd.com for more information about the company, its brands and its sustainability report.

Los Angeles Will Pay Residents to Recycle

Source: Good Blog

Los Angeles is about to start a new pilot program with the innovative company RecycleBank. About 15,000 homes will be eligible for the program. Their recycling bins will be tagged, and with every pickup the weight of the stuff they recycle will be recorded. Based on how much they recycle, each household will get RecycleBank "points" that they can redeem at businesses such as CBS, Bed Bath & Beyond, and EI Pollo Loco, among others. Apparently, the total tally could reach the equivalent of \$400 a year per household.

This system will be great for the city: One ton of recycling brings Los Angeles \$25 dollars. The alternative, disposing of one ton of trash in a landfill, cost the city \$30. The hope is that this program eventually pushes the city from its current rate of 65 percent recycling up to something north of 70 percent, and allows us to earn free toothpaste and tacos in the process.

BC introduces Clean Energy Act

A new Clean Energy Act the British Columbia government introduced today emphasizes increasing conservation within the province while producing more energy for export.

The goals in the 36-page act include "to be a net exporter of electricity from clean or renewable resources with the intention of benefiting all British Columbians and reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

It also pledges to keep rates in B.C. "among the most competitive" in North America and to reduce the expected new demand for electricity within the province by 66 percent.

The act combines B.C. Hydro and the B.C. Transmission Corp., reversing a decision made by the Liberal government in 2009.

And it makes projects that will create energy for export exempt from approval by the B.C. Utilities Commission. Nor will the BCUC review several major projects, including the Northwest Transmission Line, Site C, and recent BC Hydro calls for power.

Source: The Hook

AROUND THE CANADA

Toxic air from cruise ships needs more study: BC Environment Minister

source: The Hook

More air quality testing is needed near Victoria's cruise ship docks, British Columbia Environment Minister Barry Penner said today.

"If you don't measure, it's very hard to manage," said Penner, who along with environment ministry officials was demonstrating a mobile air-quality monitoring lab outside the Parliament buildings.

The unit has previously been used to study cruise ship emissions at Ogden Point. The Tye reported in March that a Capital Regional District report said levels of sulphur dioxide gas near the docks often exceeded World Health Organization and provincial guidelines and that the increases appeared to be related to cruise ship visits.

"I believe that data was shared with the CRD and that we're working with them

to further identify what the challenges are and what the potential solutions are," said Penner. "My understanding is that further testing has been deemed to be appropriate and there will be fur-



ther work done."

Last week in the legislature Penner introduced four visiting cruise ship industry representatives. They were NorthWest CruiseShip Association president John Hansen, Carnival Cor-

poration vice-president Tom Dow, Royal Caribbean Tours vice-president Andy Nelson and Princess Tours vice-president Bruce Bustamonte.

"They were here meeting with a number of people," said Penner in an interview. "The cruise ship season starts very soon, so they were making the rounds. I suspect they met with a number of people."

Penner said they met with him, but declined to say who else they met with or what they discussed. "From time to time people come to meet with me, but I'm not at liberty to disclose those conversations."

The names of none of the four industry representatives appear in the province's new lobbyists' registry.

Opposition parties push forward climate change bill

Source: The Hook

The Liberals, NDP and Bloc Québécois presented a united front in the House of Commons April 15th to push forward a bill that would force the federal government to adopt more stringent emissions targets.

The three opposition parties outvoted the Conservatives 155 to 137 to pass Bill C-311, the NDP's Climate Change Accountability Act. It would require the federal government to set greenhouse gas reduction targets of 25 per cent below 1990 levels by the year 2020 and 80 per cent below by 2050. Yesterday's vote means the bill will move to its third and final reading in the House of Commons, and if the support holds, to the Senate for consideration.

Mark Warawa, Langley MP and the parliamentary secretary to the

minister of the environment, said Canada should stick to the same greenhouse gas emissions targets at the U.S.: 17 per cent below 2005 levels by 2020. He [told](#) the House Canada the bill would "isolate Canada economically and throw us back into a deep recession."

"Mr. Speaker, if we are pursuing a continental approach under the Reform-Conservative government, why is the United States investing 18 times more per capita than we are in renewable power?" asked Liberal MP David McGuinty.

Other opposition MPs spoke about the need for real action on climate change that has been long overdue.

"It is based on science-based targets, not politically watered-down

ones," said Denise Savoie, NDP MP for Victoria.

Andrew Weaver, a University of Victoria climatologist, streamed the live debate yesterday.

"It was one of the most enjoyable experiences I've had watching that stuff in a long time," Weaver said. "It was really refreshing to see three separate parties. . . the NDP, the Liberals and the Bloc Québécois speak passionately and consistently about the need to deal with the problem."



Sony Targets Zero Environmental Footprint by 2050

Source: Reprinted with permission from GreenBiz.com: The Resource Center on Business, the Environment, and the Bottom Line (www.GreenBiz.com). © Green Business Network. All rights reserved.

Tokyo, Japan - Sony Corporation doesn't want to produce any carbon emissions, use any virgin materials or produce any waste by 2050. The rest of the goals are compared to figures from 2008.



other substances that pose high risks to the environment. In the long term, Sony wants to eliminate all use of finite virgin materials like oil and copper.

The company's new Road to Zero global environmental plan aims to eliminate all of its negative environmental impacts within the next 40 years. To get there, Sony is first setting a broad set of goals for 2015.

A number of the goals relate to different life cycle stage of products. Sony aims to reduce the annual energy consumption of products by 30 percent, reduce product mass by 10 percent, reduce packaging for incoming parts by 16 percent and use 5 percent fewer virgin oil-based plastics.

On the transportation side, Sony wants to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 14 percent.

The company wants to cut its waste generation in half, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from operations by 30 percent and reduce its water consumption by 30 percent. Those three goals are compared to its performance

Sony also aims to eliminate all PVC and brominated flame retardants from its goods, along with phasing out or replacing

Sony plans to bring the recycling rate at its sites up to 99 percent or higher. It will also start assessing the impact its resource procurement and facility construction has on biodiversity, while promoting biodiversity program.

Starbucks Tackles Green Goals Except One: Recycling

Source: Reprinted with permission from GreenBiz.com: The Resource Center on Business, the Environment, and the Bottom Line (www.GreenBiz.com). © Green Business Network. All rights reserved.

SEATTLE, WA — From buying green power to reducing the amount of water it uses, [Starbucks](#) is on track to meet the majority of its long-term environmental goals, the coffee giant said Monday.

Starbucks made gains in green building, water and energy use, ethical sourcing and helping farmers reduce deforestation, the company said in its [2009 Global Responsibility Report](#). It lagged, however, in one high-profile area: recycling.

The company rated its progress on three recycling goals as "Needs improvement." The goals involve developing a comprehensive recyclable cup by 2012, implementing front-of-store recycling in company-owned stores, and serving a quarter of beverage made in-store in reusable vessels, both by 2015.

"One of the significant challenges we're facing is a wide variance in municipal recycling capabilities," Starbucks said in the report. "This inconsistency

makes it difficult for a company like ours, with more than 16,000 retail locations around the globe, to efficiently and effectively implement a recycling strategy."



To date, the company has introduced front-of-store recycling to 399 of its 7,529 locations, and increased use of tumblers or serverware to 1.5 percent. It also [convened a summit](#) to identify the steps needed to make its cups recyclable in form and in practice, and launched a [pilot program in New York](#) to test different types of waste stream collection.

The packaged drinks Starbucks sells in retail establishments were the subject of a recent [shareholder vote](#). Activist shareholders filed a resolution aimed at getting Starbucks to set a recycling goal for its bottled beverages received an 11 percent vote, which its filers considered a victory.

RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION & PLANNING SOCIETY

Mailing address:
PO Box 444, Prince George, BC V2L 4S6

Compost Garden and Office Location:
1950 Gorse Street

Phone: 250-561-7327
Fax: 250-561-7324
E-mail: newsletter@reaps.org
Website: www.reaps.org

Dumpy's Tip of the Month

Composting is easy... it is a living, breathing system ... needs food, water and oxygen.

Do not add meats, oils or dairy products. No dog/cat waste. Turn twice a week. Ensure it is always moist like a wrung out sponge. Add a balance of Browns and Greens!



RECYCLE CRAFT CORNER

Wooden Pallet Composter

1. Nail, screw or wire four pallets together to make a four sided bin at least 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet. The bin is ready to use.
2. A fifth pallet can be used as a top to keep excess rain water out.



Recycling and Environmental Action Planning Society (AKA REAPS)

The REAPS Report is published six times a year, on the first of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Articles, originals or reprinted with permission, are submitted by members and represent the opinions of the authors only, not necessarily those of the Society, Board, or members as a whole.

Deadline for submission is two weeks prior to publication date. Articles, suggestions for articles, or comments in general are *much* appreciated, and can be submitted to the REAPS office via email at newsletter@reaps.org

RECYCLING and ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLANNING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Annual Membership Fee:

- Individual (\$8.00)
 Family (\$15.00)
 Business (\$25.00)
 Student (\$5.00)
 Senior (\$5.00)

I'm interested in volunteering: Yes No

Things that I would like to take part in are:

- School presentations
 Master Composter Program
 Spring Plant Sale
 General Garden Work
 Information Booths
 Fundraiser Events
 Public Workshops and Presentations
 Board of Directors

Date: _____

Cheque payable to:
R.E.A.P.S.

Box 444 Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S6