

# REAPS



# REPORT

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January 2025

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We are happy to announce that REAPS received funding for our "Elevating Food Literacy for Sustainable Solutions" through the Rapid Stimulus Grant. A number of workshops we will be hosting via this grant and we encourage you to join us for free.

Register at Eventbrite.ca or on our events calendar on Facebook or www.reaps.org

Email laurel@reaps.org for more information.



The Rapid Stimulus Grant is provided by the Province of B.C. to help local food-access projects meet the increasing demand for fresh, nutritious food by working together.

# REAPS NEWS

## Web Pick of the Month

<https://earthwatch.org/>



Earthwatch connects people with scientists worldwide to conduct environmental research and empowers them with the knowledge they need to conserve the planet.

## Book of the Month

**This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate** by Naomi Klein

ISBN: 9780307402004

Description: In this new classic of environmental politics, bestselling and award-winning author Klein argues that our current growth-based economic model is waging war on the life support systems of our planet.

Using phenomenal research, she lays out why climate change is not an "issue"—it is a civilizational wake-up call, a powerful message delivered in the language of fires, floods, storms and droughts.



## Renew / Become A Member Today

REAPS has been an effective environmental organization in the Prince George and RDEFG area entering our 36th year. The few dollars that your membership costs can make a much bigger difference than you realize. REAPS, and the environmental sustainability of our community, will benefit from any contribution and level of involvement -- whether you become an active volunteer, attend our outreach events, or just read the newsletter. But above all, your membership is a genuine vote of confidence. *Complete the form on back page or pay membership online through PayPal at [www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org) or send e-transfer to [recycling@reaps.org](mailto:recycling@reaps.org)*

*We are a charitable organization that provides receipts for donations received \$20 or more. Take advantage for tax deductions while supporting our society.*

***Please show your support and renew your membership for 2025***

**[www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org)**



*Food for thought*

An exploration of why fresh, local food matters, and how our food habits impact the health of our bodies and environment.

**ZOOM Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025 6:30-7:30pm**

Register at: [eventbrite.ca](http://eventbrite.ca)

**REAPS**  
RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLANNING SOCIETY

**ORGANIC GARDENING 101**

Thinking of starting your first vegetable garden this year, or trying out some new gardening methods? Join us to learn more about the basics of organic gardening, and how it can help support healthy people and ecosystems.

**THURSDAY JAN. 23, 2025 ZOOM AT 6:30-7:30 P.M.**

Register at [eventbrite.ca](http://eventbrite.ca)

# LOCAL NEWS



**Future Fuels Forum** - Mon, Jan 13 2025, 11am - 5pm, Tue, Jan 14 2025, 9am - 3:30pm

House of Ancestors, 355 Vancouver St, Prince George  
Join us for two transformative days dedicated to the future of sustainable fuels. Industry leaders, innovators, experts, and policymakers will converge to discuss the latest advancements and opportunities in the clean fuel sector. Network with key players to forge valuable partnerships and exchange ideas that will help shape the future of energy partnerships in Northern BC



**Northworks Career Fair** - Mar 04, 2025 - 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at UNBC

This event is your gateway to connect with talented UNBC students and alumni, explore potential career opportunities, and network with top employers from a wide range of industries. Whether you're a student seeking a job or an internship or an employer looking to recruit, the Northworks Career Fair is the perfect venue to achieve your goals.

## Urban Farmscape - City's Decision

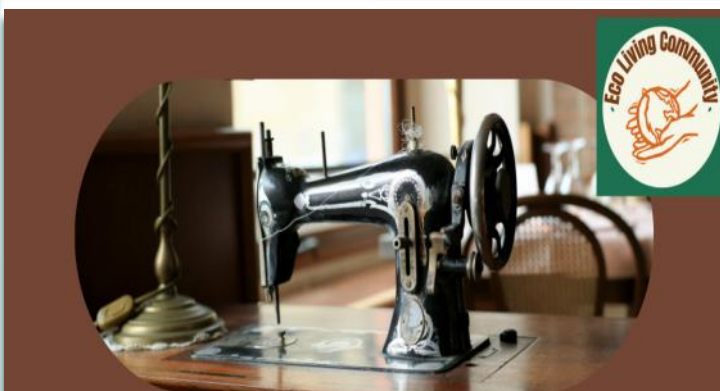
In a closed meeting on November 18th, 2024, Mayor & Council voted to not proceed with purchase of the Gilliards' land for use as a community farming space.

It is with sadness that I share this. It was always a possibility that this would be the case, but that doesn't change any frustration you (or I) may feel. As deliberation on the project was done in a closed meeting, no information on why the Mayor & Council chose to not proceed has been forwarded to us.

The next meeting was held on December 11, 2024 in the Prince George Aboriginal Business Development Centre. Discussion on what steps are next for the Urban Farmscape as a Society and as a

community farming project.  
For more information contact PG URBAN FARMSCAPE pgurbanfarmscape@gmail.com

[Urban Farmscape Society | Everyoneatthetablepg](#)



## Repair Cafes

Saturday March 15, 2025 at the Prince George Public Library - Downtown Branch AND...

for the first time, we'll be trying out a Repair Cafe on the PGPL - Hart Branch on Saturday April 26, 2025! Times to be determined.

Register in advance on our website [ecolivingcommunity.ca](http://ecolivingcommunity.ca)

## AROUND BC

[Lheidli T'enneh wind project approved](#) PG Citizen

[fleet](#) Castanet

[Vancouver high school students create intelligent garbage cans to help sort waste](#) CBC News

[Metro Vancouver wants feds to define that 'flushable' wipes aren't really flushable](#) Global News

[Lithium battery explodes in Vancouver Island fire chief's home](#) Vancouver Sun

[RCBC Response: "Recycling is failing as a way to reduce plastic. Here's why" | Recycling Council of British Columbia](#) RCBC

[Repair Cafe adds new life to Comox Valley](#) Comox Valley Record

[Duncan's Island Return It Centre launches fully automated beverage container recycling machine](#) Cowichan Valley Citizen

[Wind energy company seeks deal with Village of Valemount](#) PG Citizen

[Diesel made from old cooking oil to feed Metro Vancouver truck](#)

[Mount Polley facing new charges under the Fisheries Act](#) MY PG



## AROUND CANADA

[Aamjiwnaang First Nation leads new path forward at UN plastics treaty negotiations](#) Ecojustice

[Glass recycling co-op NewfoundSAND has smashing success in first public collection](#) CBC

[Clothing brands make and sell clothes. Should they pay to deal with the old ones?](#) CBC News

[Half of single-family homes use Yellowknife's compost program. Ecology North says it can do better](#) CBC News

[Disasters turn homes into trash. This insurance company aims to recycle it](#) CBC News

[New Report From Second Harvest Reveals Canada's \\$58 Billion Food Waste Problem](#) Civision

[Green machines: Winnipeggers embrace new compost program](#) The Free Press

[IKEA Canada commits \\$300,000 to Furniture Bank in efforts to combat furniture poverty and accelerate a circular economy across Canada](#) Cision



## AROUND THE WORLD

[How2Recycle Launches Scannable Recycling Label With Localized Instructions](#) Waste 360

['A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity': The world's fight to curb plastic waste](#) Washington Post

[Beer goes from sea to soil in Nagasaki island's circular economy](#) NHK World

[Dave Matthews Band Claim "First Zero-Waste Tour"](#) Exclaim

[Nine US States Require Food Waste to Be Composted - Only One Is Getting It Right](#) Technology Networks

[Creating new kicks from old soles: How a Dutch recycling company is tackling footwear waste](#) CNN Climate

[Plastics treaty talks fail to reach agreement](#) Canadian Plastics

[Coca-Cola accused of quietly dropping its 25% reusable packaging target](#) The Guardian

[72% of Americans Believe Sustainability Education Should Be Core Curriculum, Yet Only 28% Say It's Adequately Funded](#) Business Wire



## Green Tips for the New Year

With the New Years comes the resolutions to do something different this year. If your choosing to be more environmentally friendly, here are 52 ideas, one new tip a week, that can make a big difference.

### FOR YOUR HOME

- Participate in a community garden.
- Make a bee-friendly garden in you backyard or on your balcony.
- Try to repair more things, whether it is a lamp or a sew a zipper.
- Find sustainable alternatives for your favorite items and brands.
- Do repairs yourself in your home to avoid waste.
- Choice reusable batteries such as in your remotes or cameras.
- Cut the trash. Reduce your garbage as best as you can.
- Choose greener energy in your home.
- Collect rain water for watering your plants.

### FOR YOUR KITCHEN

- Cook more meals from scratch.
- Eat more organic food.
- Avoid meat and have fun finding alternatives for protein.
- Start a garden and grow your own food.
- Cut down on food waste and compost where you can.
- Find fair trade products for the exotic types of food, such as coffee and tea.
- Choose seasonal foods in your cooking.
- Buy from your local farmers where possible.

### FOR THE KIDS

- Cut phantom energy from your home. Ask the kids to help shut off lights and unplug electronics when not in use.
- Get your family outside to learn about their local backyard parks
- Create a backyard habitat for local animals, like a bird house.
- Make your own cloth bees wax paper wraps to use in lunches.
- Use old crayon's wax in crafts such as making candles.

### FOR THE WORKPLACE

- Switch to LED lights and cut the phantom energy.
- Go paperless.
- Purchase recycled paper or seed paper.

- Talk to your company about greener solutions around the office such as recycling or composting.

### FOR SHOPPING

- Bring your own shopping bags
- Avoid fast fashion. Check out thrift stores.
- Create a capsule wardrobe with only the classics out fits you will need.
- Donate old clothing or use old t-shirts for cloths for household cleaning.
- Host clothing swaps.
- Learn to sew.

### FOR YOUR CLEANING

- Hang laundry to dry.
- Switch your washer to cold and reduce time settings.
- Make your own home cleaners and / or use eco-friendly cleaners.
- Use reusable cloths instead of papertowels.
- Cut stray water usage.

### FOR YOUR TRAVELS

- Bring a reusable water bottle on trips.
- Walk, bike and take public transit where possible.
- Reduce gas use by driving electric or more fuel efficient car.
- Try your best to carpool where possible.
- Carry a reusable straw and cutlery for eating fast food out.

### OTHER GREEN TIPS

- Become more aware of changes in our environment and the importance of biodiversity through reading or watching a documentary.
- Reach out to your favorite brands to ask about how they can make their products more environmentally friendly.
- Volunteer for your local environmental charity.

**RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION & PLANNING SOCIETY**

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Website: [www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org)  
Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/REAPSPG>

**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](mailto:newsletter@reaps.org)

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletters via email please email [REAPS](mailto:REAPS) and state UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

**Dumpy's Tip of the Month**

**Clean with green.** Clean your home with non-toxic and natural cleaning products. Just about anything can be cleaned with white vinegar, baking soda and a few drops of lemon.



Whether you're sensitive to harsh commercial household cleaners, or you'd rather fill your home with more natural ingredients, there's no shortage of greener cleaner recipes. You probably already have the ingredients you need at home to make healthier house cleaners.

Many homemade recipes can be found online for laundry, drains, kitchen, furniture, floors and more.



Check out Homespun Refillery for green cleaning needs already made for you.

Make the change today.

**RECYCLE CRAFT CORNER**



**REAPS MEMBERSHIP**

The few dollars from your membership makes a much bigger difference than you may realize!

Students and Seniors: \$5.00  
Individual: \$8.00  
Family: \$15.00  
Business: \$25.00

**CHARITABLE DONATION:**

REAPS provides charitable tax receipts for any donation over \$20

Consider donating to our Growing Knowledge Community Compost Garden near UNBC

**To Donate:**

Mail to: PO Box 444 PG, BC V2L 4S6  
e-transfer to: [recycling@reaps.org](mailto:recycling@reaps.org)  
paypal on our website [www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org)

in "notes" state what payment is for ie/ membership; donation