

Connector

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Recycling Council
of Alberta

www.recycle.ab.ca



RCA 2012 Conference: Wide World of Waste

The RCA's 25th anniversary was celebrated with its largest-ever conference, with well over 300 delegates attending a packed program at the beautiful Jasper Park Lodge (JPL).

Events kicked off with a snow-delayed golf game, horseback riding, and tours of Jasper's waste management system and JPL's internal environmental programs. The day wrapped up with the ARMA



Collection Site Awards, followed by an opening reception featuring the RCA's version of the Highland Games that included a pool noodle caber toss and Clan Tug-of-War.

Speakers from as far as Australia and the United Kingdom covered a wide range of topics, from Baler Twine Recycling, to Zero Waste and EPR. From the opening plenary that informed attendees of the evolution of programs across Canada, to a riveting keynote presenter from Yellowstone National Park who reminded us of the importance of environmental protection, and the enthralling range of presenters



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c/o Recycling Council of Alberta
Box 23, Bluffton, AB T0C 0M0
Tel: 403.843.6563 Fax: 403.843.4156
info@recycle.ab.ca
www.recycle.ab.ca
facebook.com/RecyclingCouncilOfAlberta
twitter.com/3RsAB

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continued from title page

covering programs and topics from around the world, delegates truly left with both knowledge and inspiration.

The Thursday evening banquet featured the Rs of Excellence Awards, and great Celtic musical entertainment that carried on into the wee hours of the morning at a Kitchen Party that will be sure to maintain the RCA's reputation for fun to round out your conference experience.

A fitting closing day reminded us that programs are not all created equal, and that accurate measurement is our ultimate indicator of success as we strive towards our waste reduction goals. As closing keynote speaker Jerry Powell suggested, we need to broaden our perspective from recycling to sustainable materials management.



Editorial

The Boys of Spy Hill

What comes to mind when you think of landfill operators? Big, bad-ass guys in Carhartt coveralls who you may not want to encounter in a back alley?

Well, this story will hopefully dispel that perception, at least for the guys who work at Calgary's Spyhill landfill.

I had the pleasure of touring the Spyhill landfill with manager Jeff Smith one blustery day this past summer. It became obvious right away how much pride he took in his landfill, and the genuine interest he had in maintaining a safe and effective site.

However, the tough landfill persona was completely dispelled when we were returning to the administration area in the driving rain, and came upon a seagull blocking our truck's path in the middle of the road.

It was obvious this little guy was feeling under the weather, as he did not seem inclined to move for our truck.

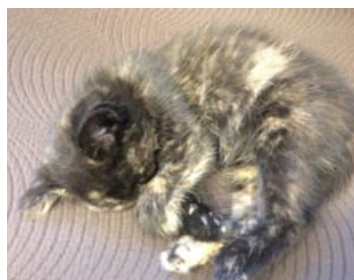
Now, I am pretty aware of general feelings of landfill staff towards seagulls, so I was completely unprepared for what happened next. Jeff stopped the truck and called some of his guys for help. Several landfill staff appeared with gloves and a cat cage, and the group proceeded to attempt to catch the seagull, who by this time had decided people were scarier than a pickup truck, and became rather elusive. Within a few minutes, the seagull was secured in the cage, and on its way to a wildlife rehabilitation centre to assess its health. Throughout this whole process, it was apparent that the bird's welfare was of primary concern, despite its reputation as an annoyance to landfill operations, at best. The memory of several guys attempting to capture an injured seagull, while ensuring it wasn't hurt further, will remain in my memory a long time,

and will serve to remind me that tough guys are often the most caring.

This impression was further confirmed when I learned that the Spyhill landfill guys had rescued a kitten from their drop-off area. Unlike the

cruel, cowardly individuals who chose to abandon the helpless kitten, landfill staff have adopted the cat, who is affectionately called Bin Two after the location where it was found. Bin Two was nursed back to health in the landfill administration building, where he now holds a place of honour and gets more than his share of attention from all the guys during lunch and coffee breaks.

So, next time you think of your tough landfill guys, remember the injured seagull and Bin Two. Compassion comes in many shapes, sizes and occupations. You never know where and when your faith in humanity will be restored. I know I would feel safe in a back alley any day with Jeff or any of his staff.



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Think Green Success Story

Feature sponsored by



14,000 Waste Free Lunches during Waste Reduction Week!

The students from kindergarten to grade six in the Elk Island Public School system made a big impact with their participation in National Waste Reduction Week which was held October 15-22 this year.

4600 students from 14 different schools in the area participated in a waste-free lunch contest organized by Strathcona County Utilities. Throughout Waste Reduction Week, students who brought a waste free lunch to school received a ticket to be used in a draw at the end of the week. The prizes up for grabs at each



school were: a \$50 Chapters gift card, a \$50 Education Station gift card, movie night out passes for 2 adults and 2 children, a waste-free

lunch kit (bag, bottle, 2 lunchskins, and a lunchbot metal container) and a 10 pass card for Millennium Place.

In addition to a chance to win these cool prizes, the top class from each school won a pizza lunch, and cash prizes were awarded to the top school to put towards environmental education. These funds could go towards the cost of a bus for a trip to the landfill, going to the Telus World of Science, purchasing recycle bins, or even purchasing recycled equipment for the school.

Over the course of the week, the results were displayed on the Strathcona County website which really got the competition going! People were talking about it all over social media and in the community. The students were very enthusiastic, and it really got parents thinking about waste reduction.

The contest was a huge success with outstanding results. The tally at the end of Waste Reduction Week was over 14,000 waste free lunches!

As a part of the challenge, each classroom also received a footprint that said "I pledge to make a small

change to make a big difference and reduce my carbon footprint".

Students put the 250+ footprints up at Millennium Place with help from the Mayor, Linda Osinchuk, the Superintendent, Bruce Beliveau, the Board Chair, Barb McNeill, and other members of the Elk Island Public School Board (Heather Massel, Darcie Bennett Foreman, Basil David, and Kay Schindeler, Principal, Mills Haven Elementary).

"We influenced at least 4,600 kids and their families. The school board, teachers and everyone at the County were VERY happy with how things went", said Erin Wildeboer, Strathcona County.

Congratulations to Elk Island Public Schools and Strathcona County Utilities for reducing lunch waste and having such a great impact!



*Submitted by Erin Wildeboer,
Waste Diversion Program Liaison, Strathcona County Utilities*



Do you have a Waste Reduction Success Story?

Submit details on your successful business or municipal program to info@recycle.ab.ca, fax 403.843.4156 or phone 403.843.6563 for further details.

Town of Cochrane Communications Team Recognized for *Roll With It* Campaign

Town of Cochrane communications work is usually aimed at Cochrane residents, so it's unusual to be recognized by a national organization. But on Tuesday October 9, the team, made up of Emily Cargan, Emily Allert-House and Laurie Drukier, was notified of just that: they won an International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Canada Silver Leaf Award for last year's Roll With It campaign.



Silver Leaf Awards are IABC Canada's tribute to the excellent work produced by Canadian communicators.

The Communications team won Awards of Merit in the Community Relations and Non-Profit categories. The IABC Silver Leaf program is based on a strategic approach to both communication strategy and creative execution.

The Roll With It campaign introduced the Town of Cochrane's residential automated waste and recycling pick-up program in 2011. It was designed to decrease the amount of waste sent to landfills and increase the recycling participation rate among residents.

Source: Town of Cochrane

Art For Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore (Edmonton) hosted the Art for Humanity upcycled silent art auction in celebration of Waste Reduction Week 2012. Local artists were given \$100 to spend in the ReStore and were challenged to create works of art from what they could find. A silent auction took place throughout the week, with winning bidders announced in a wrap-up celebration on Saturday. Through this event they were able to raise \$1,854!

The Habitat ReStore also announced that both of its Edmonton locations are accepting e-waste as of October 20, 2012 in partnership with GEEP Inc.

About the Habitat ReStore:

ReStore is a retail outlet that sells quality new and used building supplies and vintage items. Whether you're looking to fix-up your bathroom, build a shed, or completely renovate your basement – ReStore offers stunning deals on quality items!

ReStore accepts donations of new and used building materials, and then resells them to the general public. All of ReStore's proceeds help to cover Habitat for Humanity Edmonton's administration costs.

When you shop at ReStore, you're helping to ensure that every dollar donated to Habitat for Humanity Edmonton goes directly into home builds. Come take a peek at what's on their shelves – your purchases help them build hope for deserving families.



One of the art pieces that was auctioned off



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Recycling Council of Alberta Honours 2012 Waste Reduction Winners

The Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) unveiled the winners of their annual Rs of Excellence Awards at their annual conference held in Jasper. Deserving businesses, organizations and municipalities were honored for their outstanding contributions to waste reduction, recycling and resource conservation in Alberta. Awards were presented to the following recipients in their particular category.

Zero Waste Event Award: Alberta Student Leadership Conference



In May, M.E. LaZerte High School in Edmonton hosted the 2012 Alberta Student Leadership Conference as a zero waste event. The event included over 600 students and volunteers, and used biodegradable plates, cups and utensils that were collected for composting. Students were also asked to reuse their utensils throughout the conference, reused their water bottles for the duration, and were given a notebook made from reused one-sided paper. These efforts resulted in very

little additional waste from this large event.

Closing the Loop Award: Bridon Cordage



Bridon Cordage is one of the few companies that shows a commitment to closing the loop with its waste products. They make a unique product called Revolver that is manufactured primarily from post-consumer baler twine. To get supply for their product, they have established an extensive collection network across the US, and have recently been accepting loads of twine from Alberta, offering a market for a material that has historically

been very difficult to recycle.

Municipal Program Award: City of St. Albert



With the recent introduction of curbside recycling and organics, combined with its unique pay-as-you-throw subscription garbage collection system, the City of St. Albert has managed to surpass environmental goals originally set for the year

2020. The City now diverts over 65% of all waste material away from the landfill, and has lowered the residential landfill contribution to just 114 kg/person/year. These are both significant goals which place St. Albert as one of the leaders in the region and country for residential waste diversion.

Product Stewardship Award: First Alert

This is a first in the hardware industry to offer a take-back solution for smoke alarms, CO alarms and combination alarms. This is an Extended Producer Responsibility program that gives the manufacturer the responsibility to deal with the products at end of life. First Alert also does not impose an Eco-fee on the products, instead internalizing the costs, rather than passing them directly onto consumers. This helps to keep the costs for these required life-safety devices that are part of the National Building Code to a minimum.

Corporate Leadership Award: Sears National Logistics Centre, Calgary



Sears Calgary NLC currently recycles cardboard, paper, catalogues, used beverage containers, wood, metal, clear plastics, plastic clothes hangers, expanded polystyrene, batteries, electronics and organic waste. The facility's waste diversion rate currently sits at 80% – a remarkable improvement from 23% in 2010. In addition to all their recycling efforts, in the past year, they have started composting lawn clippings on site. The resulting compost will

be used in facility flower beds.

2nd Annual Small Business Eco Challenge Winners Announced

For the second year in a row, the City of Edmonton hosted their Small Business Eco Challenge. This challenge celebrates the environmental achievements of small, for-profit, businesses operating in Edmonton. Winners were recognized at an awards ceremony during Waste Reduction Week which also happens to be Small Business Week.

All entrants were judged based on the following categories: energy and climate change, food resiliency, solid waste reduction, land conservation and biodiversity, water quality protection and conservation, and air quality. These categories are taken from *The Way We Green*, the City's environmental strategic plan.



Arinna Grittani,
Earth Legacy Inc.

The first place winner for the 1-10 employee category was **Earth Legacy**, a sustainable landscape design company. With an ultimate focus on sustainability, Earth Legacy's landscape designs include trees for shade and to sequester carbon, edible landscapes which provide food for homeowners and are intended to be resilient to drought and pests. Also

important is what the designs do not include: lawns, which eliminates the need for mowers, and of course chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.

In second place in this category was **EccoAmmo**. This company provides sustainable building design and construction consulting for other business. In third place was **Howell Mayhew Engineering**. This company consults on and designs, develops, supplies, installs and commissions solar photovoltaic electricity generating systems.



Shafraaz Kaba,
Manasc Issac Architects

In the 11-50 employee category, **Manasc Isaac Architects** came in first. This group of architects, engineers and interior designers designed the province's first LEED® certified building as well as Edmonton's first LEED® Silver building, and installed solar panel sunshades on the south side of their own office building. Their office does not require

any air conditioning thanks to these shades and windows that allow air circulation throughout the building. They also have a rooftop garden that grows vegetables and herbs.

In second place in this category was **Oil Country Engineering**, a land-based drilling rig consulting firm with a focus on green office initiatives. Third place went to **Great Canadian Roofing**. This company sells energy-efficient renovation materials for homes and commercial properties.



Penny McEwan,
B & B Demolition

The one and only winner of the 51-100 employee category was **B&B Demolition**. This company specializes in interior demolition of commercial retail space as well as residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. B&B has achieved as high as 89% recycling rates, they have installed scrubbers in all machines which reduce the amount of particulates

that are released into the air in diesel fumes, they use battery-operated floor stripping machines, office staff receive a regular Organic Box delivery of organic fruits and vegetables, and later this year, B&B Demolition will become LEED certified.

New to the format this year was an interactive panel made up of the three first place winners. All participants were invited to ask questions and engage with the winners about their environmental initiatives. Each of the winners was presented their award by Edmonton City Councillor, Amarjeet Sohi, Ward 12. Congratulations to all of the winners!

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News

Calgarians Recycle More Than 200 Million Kilograms of Materials

Thanks to the efforts of the residents of Calgary, The City has achieved a record-breaking performance by recycling more than 200 million kilograms of materials over the past three years. Material from blue carts and community recycling depots has been turned into new products rather than being buried in the landfill forever.

The 200 million kilograms represents a 70% increase in recycling. The Blue Cart program has also been embraced by Calgarians and The City continues to see strong participation and strong satisfaction with the service. In the recent 2012 Citizen Satisfaction survey, 95% of Calgarians said Blue Cart was important and 90% said they were satisfied with the service.

Recycling by the numbers (July 2009 – July 2012):

- 178 million kg of paper and cardboard
- 14 million kg of glass jars
- 7 million kg of plastic containers
- 4 million kg of food cans and foil

For more information, contact The City of Calgary media line at 403.828.2954.

Calgary Finds Local Use for Glass

As municipalities across Alberta search for a market for their used glass, Calgary has found a local application that may provide a good outlet for this material. Two years' worth of crushed mixed glass, some 15,000 tonnes, will be mixed with aggregate and used as roadbed foundation. In today's depressed glass market, that's the best use to be made of it, according to Calgary officials.

The first batches will be used to upgrade the entrances to the city's landfills.

Source: Recycling Canada



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Edson Recycling Goes Solar

The Edson and District Recycling Society and Talisman Energy Inc. are extremely pleased and excited to announce the start of a sustainable solar project at the Edson and District Recycling Society's Community Recycling Depot.

Over the past 6 months, the Society has been developing a solar demonstration project in partnership with solar electric-power system specialist, Gordon Howell of Howell-Mayhew Engineering (www.hme.ca) in Edmonton. Gordon is widely regarded nationally as a leading expert in solar electricity. With funding support from Talisman Energy Inc., this solar project initiative can now become a reality.

The solar energy demonstration project involves the Depot's proposed new "Take It or Leave It" building and the existing main building. The solar photovoltaic (PV) system at the main building will connect to the building's existing internal wiring so when the solar (PV) system produces too much energy for the building, the energy will flow back into Fortis' grid. When the PV system doesn't produce enough energy (such as at night), the required energy will be drawn from the grid. No battery bank will be involved.

The solar PV system that will be set up at the new "Take It or Leave It" building will be completely off-grid, and so will include a battery bank. This system will meet all of the "Take It or Leave It" building's electricity needs.

Included in this project will be development of a special website for the Depot and a real-time display monitor for educational purposes (system energy performance, recycling depot messages, etc.).

This project will showcase the various practical ways all of us can lower our environmental footprint.

The Society, its partners, and the communities of Edson and Yellowhead County have been repeatedly recognized provincially and nationally for their leadership role in responsible waste management and environmental stewardship. We believe this project will continue to foster recognition of and support for our goals within and beyond our community.

For further information on this project, please call Anne Auriat (Manager, Edson & District Recycling Depot) at 780.723.1603, or Trina (Talisman Energy Edson) at 780.723.9800. For information on solar electricity or the technical part of the project, please contact Gordon Howell at 780.484.0476.

Source: Edson & District Recycling Society

Are You On Facebook?

So are we!

Drop by the RCA's Facebook page:
facebook.com/RecyclingCouncilOfAlberta

Alberta Farmers Given the Opportunity to Safely Dispose of Unwanted Pesticides

Alberta farmers were invited to participate in an obsolete agricultural pesticide disposal program, which gave them the chance to safely dispose of old or unwanted pesticides they may have been storing on their farm.

The program ran in southern Alberta this year and will return next year in the northern half of the province. Farmers were asked to drop off their unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides at participating ag retail sites during one-day round-up events on dates ranging from October 29 to November 2.

The collection program was operated by CleanFARMS, an industry-led national not-for-profit agricultural waste management organization.

This is not the first time Alberta farmers were invited to turn in their unwanted pesticides. Since 1998, farmers in the province have safely disposed of 203,889 kilograms of pesticides through the obsolete pesticide collection program. After collection, the pesticides are taken to a licensed waste management facility where they are disposed of through high-temperature incineration.

For more information, visit www.cleanfarms.ca.

Toronto Keeps Plastic Bag Ban

Toronto city council has voted not to reconsider its June decision to ban plastic bags as of January 1. Mayor Rob Ford had urged the public to lobby their councillors to keep the bags. But Councillor David Shiner, the architect of the ban, said he only received eight calls.

The council decision in June to ban the bags could only be re-opened if two thirds of council agreed. The vote was 27-18, short of the two-thirds threshold.

The move to reopen came in the wake of advice from the city solicitor that the ban was open to legal challenge because it was passed without first consulting the public and stakeholders. The Canadian Plastics Industry Association, which has been fighting the ban since June, said legal action was an option.

Shiner said he will push for public consultations at the public works committee on what type of ban should be imposed. He suggested that details such as the precise types of bags could be thrashed out in consultations; as well as whether retailers could use up existing stocks. He expected a bylaw implementing the ban could be prepared by staff for next month's council meeting. Technically, the bylaw would need to pass by a majority vote. If that didn't happen, then the ban wouldn't take effect.

Source: Toronto Star



WHY LANDFILL DRYWALL WHEN IT CAN BE RECYCLED BACK INTO NEW DRYWALL...

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News

Toronto Expands Blue Box

Toronto will introduce the collection of mixed rigid plastics this fall through the city's Blue Bin program. The new items include clamshell containers, clear fruit and vegetable containers, clear takeout containers and molded bakery-item trays.

The change follows a year-long pilot study by the city's Solid Waste Management Services that confirmed that the city's Dufferin MRF has the capability to sort the new plastics and meet the specifications to market the materials. In May 2013, when the city's new processing contractor, Canada Fibers Ltd., begins operating its new MRF, all of Toronto's recyclables will be processed in facilities that can sort and prepare these new, mixed rigid-plastic items for end-use markets.

Solid Waste Management Services estimates the cost to collect and recycle the new plastic materials will be approximately \$160,000 in 2013. The inclusion of mixed rigid plastics will result in the diversion of approximately 2,000 tonnes annually from landfill.

Source: Recycling Canada

Quebec Government Challenges Eco-Tax Label

The Quebec government wasted no time tossing a wet blanket over any references to an eco tax or a green tax following the introduction of stewardship fees to electronics. The program, managed by Québec Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA-Québec), covers computers and peripherals, conventional and cellular phones, video game consoles and peripherals, portable digital players and a range of related equipment. The program has added between 50 cents and 10 dollars to the cost of the products, and some media were quick to attempt to hang an eco-tax label on the program.

The government quickly fired back with its own release prior to the program's launch carefully laying out industry's role in program management, the number of additional depots that will be open as a consequence, and the fact that a similar program has been in operation for paint in the province since 2001, without complaint.

Source: Recycling Canada

Wondering Where to Recycle Your Stuff?

Visit **Alberta's Recycling Hotline**
at www.recyclinghotline.ca
or phone 1.800.463.6326

NL Launching Electronics EPR Regulation

The province of Newfoundland and Labrador is moving forward with an extended producer responsibility law for electronics. The system will be similar to EPR laws already in place in other provinces. Manufacturers have 120 days to submit a detailed stewardship plan outlining their proposal for a recycling program.

Officials said residents in the province generate 1,551 tons of e-waste annually, and commercial and industrial sector generates 1,055 tons annually.

The province has one other EPR program, a paint recycling program, which was launched in May.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

RONA Rolls Out its Recycling Station Program for Corporate Stores



RONA inc. the largest Canadian distributor and retailer of hardware, renovation and gardening products, announced on November 2 the deployment of its recycling station program for all its corporate stores across Canada. This program builds on a number of previous sustainable development initiatives undertaken by the company. It's also the result of partnerships between the company and local organizations that recycle items deposited at the stations.

A recycling station is a clearly marked and accessible structure found near the entrance of a RONA store, where the public may dispose of products that are not permitted in household recycling containers, rather than throwing them in the garbage at the end of their life cycle. With this simple gesture, the company is helping consumers reduce their environmental footprint.

Each station contains six compartments for recycling batteries, compact fluorescent bulbs, power tools accessories (e.g., blades), cardboard and paper, plastics, glass and metals, and mobile phones. Smaller stations, comprised of four compartments rather than six, will be installed at stores that have less available space.

Source: RONA



10 BILLION REASONS TO CARE

Contact your local Depot and find out how to make your recycling project the next **Alberta success story!** In the last 15 years Albertans have returned more than 10 billion beverage containers to depots throughout the province. Not only does this divert tons of valuable materials from our landfills, it also enables the energy efficient fabrication of dozens of everyday products.

Community groups, charities, municipalities, institutions and businesses are encouraged to contact their local Depot for more information about available grants for new beverage container recycling infrastructure. Innovative programs like the **Recycling Infrastructure Program (RIP)** enable Depot Operators to work within their communities to place new beverage container collection infrastructure in previously under-served locations. Over 63 communities in Alberta have already benefitted from new RIP infrastructure in the last year.

Find a Depot at: albertadepot.ca

BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING INDUSTRY OF ALBERTA



Plastic to Oil Plant Piloted in Whitehorse



Japanese inventor Kiyoshi Nakajima, creator of the Blest plastic-to-oil process, in Whitehorse to install one of his machines at P&M Recycling for a year-long test project.

A machine designed to turn plastics into oil has been installed at P&M Recycling in Whitehorse for a year-long pilot. The technology is suited to northern Canada, where most homes are heated with oil-burning furnaces. The machine is anticipated to process about 10 kilograms of plastic, producing about 10 litres of oil every hour.

The oil that comes out is a blend of gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and some heavy oils. It can be fed directly into an oil furnace, or could be processed further into something that could go straight into a diesel engine.

The only other byproducts include a small amount of carbon residue, carbon dioxide and water vapour.

The idea came to life thanks to funding from Cold Climate Innovation at the Yukon Research Centre and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, in partnership with P&M Recycling. They bought the machine for about \$200,000 and modified it to function in a cold climate. For example, cooling in the system is now done with antifreeze instead of water.

The goal of this pilot project was to give P&M Recycling the ability to process plastics on-site, rather than sorting it and trucking it south, while producing enough energy to heat the 55-square-metre recycling centre.

The year-long test project will help determine the exact cost of turning plastic into oil, and test its long-term viability.

Source: TheSpec.com and Yukon News

Green Bottle Design Wins Award



Design Workshop (DW) Product Development Inc. received the coveted Industrial Design Society of America's 2012 Gold International Design Excellence Award in August for its role in developing a groundbreaking new bottle that is far friendlier to the environment than existing containers.

The Ecologic bottle, which is owned and manufactured by California-based Ecologic Brands, comprises a paper exterior much like an egg carton and a thin plastic interior liner that is similar to the bags that hold milk in Ontario. The mostly biodegradable container is strong and stable, yet uses 75% less plastic material than the rigid plastic bottles traditionally used for detergents and similar products.

One of DW's lead industrial designers, Romeo Graham, was assigned to the project. He incorporated Corbett's desire to have a fully biodegradable exterior made from 100% post-consumer recycled paper and to use a milk bag-like liner that would sit inside. The top of the container would eventually be sealed with a plastic screw cap that consumers could repeatedly open and re-seal.

Both the paper exterior and the internal plastic liner can be recycled when the bottle is empty.

Since the Ecologic bottle's official launch in March 2011, almost 1.2 million have been sold. The company expects to sell between 20 million and 27 million by the end of 2013. Already, the bottles can be found in 7,000 stores across the US, Canada and the Caribbean.

Source: The Ottawa Citizen



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Proeco and Custom Amalgamate

Proeco Corporation and Custom Environmental Services Ltd. in Edmonton are amalgamating with parent company Aevitas Inc. and will be operating as Aevitas Inc. effective November 1, 2012.

Reclay Group and StewardEdge Join Forces

StewardEdge and its shareholders have signed a letter of intent, subject to final legal agreements, to sell a majority of shares in the company to the Reclay Group. The primary objective of the deal with the Reclay Group is to better position both companies for growth, offering an increased capacity to provide clients with a wider range of sustainability services across a broader range of geographic regions.

StewardEdge will continue to operate out of its Canadian and US offices and there are no anticipated changes for staff or operations. The integration of European, Canadian and US expertise will take place over the coming weeks and months.

Clean Harbors Buys Safety-Kleen

Environmental services company Clean Harbors Inc. is buying used oil recycler Safety-Kleen Systems Inc. in a \$1.25 billion deal.

Buying Richardson, Texas-based Safety-Kleen will allow Clean Harbors to penetrate what it calls the small quantity waste generator market, broaden its portfolio to include re-refining of waste oil and expand its solvent recycling capabilities.

Along with used oil services, Safety-Kleen provides parts cleaning and environmental services to approximately 200,000 customers in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

Safety-Kleen manages hazardous and nonhazardous waste volumes equivalent to approximately 680,000 55-gallon drums last year, the company said. Revenue was \$1.3 billion and adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization was \$161 million.

Clean Harbors intends to keep the Safety-Kleen brand and operate its locations as a subsidiary, the company said. The deal is expected to close by the end of the year.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

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Recycling Innovators Forum Seeks Recycling Ideas

Solid waste and recycling giant Waste Management, as well as global aluminum firm Alcoa, the American Chemistry Council, Coca-Cola Recycling, glass recycling firm eCullet, and Resource Recycling, Inc. have jointly announced a new competition aimed at incubating and rewarding innovative recycling ideas.

The Recycling Innovators Forum is open to anyone with an original, actionable and innovative idea for the future of recycling. RFPs in a dozen categories have been released along with the announcement, including topics such as improving data for collection programs, new ways to fund municipal recycling, business and market development, processing technologies for a range of material streams, and many more.

Those wishing to participate must submit abstracts before January 7. Once submitted, proposals will be evaluated on a variety of factors, including scalability, implementation time-frame (ideally between one-to-five years), affordability and other criteria.

Submitters of the top proposals will be invited to present their ideas to a panel of judges and the attendees of the Recycling Innovators Forum, August 26, 2013 in Louisville, Kentucky. The first place prize includes a \$20,000 honorarium, publication in Resource Recycling magazine, assistance with business plan development and the opportunity to pitch the idea to a panel of venture capitalists at the 2013 Resource Recycling Conference. Runner-up prizes for second and third place are also available, as well as networking opportunities with businesses and other potential backers.

More information, including proposal format guidelines, a full list of RFPs and key deadlines, can be found at www.recyclinginnovators.com.

Source: Resource Recycling

Product Stewardship Institute Receives EPA Grant

The US EPA has given the Product Stewardship Institute a \$164,000 grant aimed at reducing plastic and polystyrene waste at three California universities as a pilot program.

The non-profit said it would reduce packaging waste in student centers, cafeterias, dining halls and fast food restaurants at the Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara and San Diego campuses of the University of California.

The goal of the project is to reduce the use of disposable plastic bottles by 40% and reduce the use of polystyrene by 80%. The institute will analyze the data and publish results of the pilot program so other universities can adopt similar practices.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Study Says Sustainability in Health Care Saves Money

A study looking at sustainability in the health care industry concluded the entire sector could save \$5.4 billion over five years if hospital systems completely adopted green practices.

The study was sponsored by the Healthier Hospitals Initiative and looked at nine hospital systems that have adopted similar policies.

The study looked at the waste stream and increasing recycling efforts, reducing single-use medical devices in the operating room and various energy saving initiatives.

"This study turns on its head the belief that introducing environmental sustainability measures increases operating costs," said Blair Sadler, senior fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, one of the study authors and former CEO of Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego, CA. "In fact, it is just the opposite. With little or no capital investments, significant operating savings can be realized. It is good for patients and staff, and is a better strategy than having to lay off valuable personnel or closing effective programs that lose money."

Source: Waste & Recycling News



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Oregon Communities Deliver Waste Diversion Results

A new study by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality found Oregonians recovered more than half their municipal waste last year – 52.3% – the highest since the state started measuring in 1992. Lane County had the highest waste reduction rate, at 61.5%, among 35 areas measured, DEQ reported. Marion County was next best at 60.8%, followed by the Portland area at 59.3%.

Portlanders started recycling kitchen waste at the curbside last Halloween, and also doubled pickups of yard debris. Those changes, along with the shift to garbage pickup every other week, have had a notable impact on reducing waste inside city limits. But the changes began late last year, so it's likely Portland will show up with a higher waste reduction rate for 2012.

DEQ's study showed rural areas had the lowest recovery rates, in the range of 10% of 30%. But many of those areas showed an improvement in recycling and reuse in 2011 compared to the prior year.

Reduction of garbage reduced greenhouse gases the equivalent of 2.8 million metric tons of carbon dioxide. That's equal to the tailpipe emissions from 580,000 cars, or 4% of all statewide greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon last year.

Source: Portland Tribune

San Francisco Hits 80% Diversion

San Francisco has set a new national recycling and composting record by achieving an 80% landfill diversion rate – the highest rate of any city in North America.

The City by the Bay now only sends 20% of its refuse to landfill as the result of aggressive efforts by the city's leadership along with its partnership with waste management company Recology to increase reuse, recycling and composting, as well as source reduction of waste.

The milestone puts San Francisco closer to achieving its Zero Waste goal of sending nothing to landfills or incinerators by 2020.

Source: Resource Recycling

Disney Introduces Green Procurement for Paper

Mickey now prefers recycled paper. And Donald, too.

A new policy from The Walt Disney Co. is putting a new policy in place that aims to maximize use of paper and packaging that contains recycled content and fiber sourced from Forest Stewardship Council-certified forestry operations.

The new paper sourcing and use policy sets guidelines for paper used in daily business as well as consumer products and packaging, Disney said.

Other components of the policy include minimizing the consumption of paper and eliminating paper products containing irresponsibly harvested fiber.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

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GlaxoSmithKline Launches Inhaler Recycling Program

GlaxoSmithKline, a maker of respiratory inhalers, has announced a program to recycle the devices. The program is being launched in 31 markets through retail pharmacy locations, the company announced, and it is partnering with TerraCycle in the effort. The program allows consumers to drop off used inhalers to be sent to a recycler.

GSK piloted the program earlier in five markets and collected nearly 2,700 inhalers. By expanding to 31 US markets, they hope to recycle more than 100,000 empty GSK inhalers.

The company said once containers are full of inhalers destined to be recycled, they will be sent to a recycler to make new household products such as plastic hangers and plastic flower pots. The recovered aerosol canister will be sent to another company to capture the remaining gas and recycle the metal components.

A list of participating pharmacies can be viewed at www.GSKCompleteTheCycle.com.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

QR Codes Encourage More Recycling

A new promotion in New Zealand is taking a mobile-friendly approach to promoting the recycling by using QR Codes to give people the chance to win prizes when they recycle properly. The program is designed to draw attention to new permanent recycling bins.



The permanent recycling bins will be located on the city streets, and will feature QR Codes that can be scanned by smartphone-using recyclers, so that they can enter into draws that win points that will earn different types of prizes.

The local council has joined forces with the Love NZ campaign program called "It's a Karma thing", which allows QR Codes and GPS technology to be used for scanning bin codes in order to earn larger numbers of "Karma Kredits."

This means that people who have mobile devices and a free scanning app for QR Codes will be able to scan the barcodes located on the bins so that they can earn points. The points can then be used for making bids on auctions on the official campaign website. There will be a wide range of different products available at the auctions, including everything from shopping gift cards, televisions, and smartphones.

Source: QR Code Press

Coca-Cola Recycles 10.5 Million PET Bottles from Olympic Venues

Working together with the Olympic Organizing Committee (LOCOG) and the Waste and Resource Action Programme (WRAP), Coca-Cola recycled 10.5 million bottles collected from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The beverage giant said the opening of Continuum Recycling, its new £15 million joint venture recycling facility with ECO Plastics, allowed clear plastic bottles from London 2012 venues to be recycled within just six weeks of disposal, resulting in 42 million new bottles each containing 25% ePET and saving an estimated 310 tonnes of carbon.

During the Games, Coca-Cola sought to educate people about the speed with which a plastic bottle could now be turned into a brand new bottle in the UK.

Research conducted by Nielsen research and commissioned by Coca-Cola shows that 70% of visitors surveyed at the games said, on learning this, they would now be more likely to recycle at home.

Coca-Cola said that the Key sustainability achievements delivered as part of its sponsorship of London 2012 include:

- Coca-Cola worked with LOCOG and WRAP to design a waste system that looked at the shape, style and position of recycling bins at London 2012 venues, a model which will be passed to the organizers of future large events
- At all London 2012 venues, Coca-Cola products were served in 100% recyclable plastic bottles that contained up to 25% recycled content (rPET).
- Investment in Continuum Recycling, a state-of-the-art low carbon warehouse facility, and 14 new biogas trucks that will be incorporated into Coca-Cola's supply chain.
- Coca-Cola said that it is the first major corporation to be independently verified as applying the new ISO standard for sustainable event management.
- A pioneering carbon footprinting methodology enabled Coca-Cola to cut the carbon footprint of its distribution system at the Games by a third.

Source: Waste Management World

IKEA Ramps up Renewable Energy

Swedish-based home furnishings retailer IKEA said it will switch to renewable energy by 2020. The company will invest \$1.95 billion until 2015 in solar and wind power to produce at least 70% of the company's energy. By 2020, IKEA said it would produce as much renewable energy as it consumes.

Also by 2020, IKEA plans to grow at least as many trees as it uses to make products such as beds or cupboards.

Using renewable energy is not new to IKEA. The company owns wind farms in six European countries and has 342,000 solar panels on its stores, warehouses and factories that generate 27% of the company's electricity.

In October, IKEA made another energy announcement when it said that it will only sell LED lighting by 2016 in all of its North American stores – the first US home furnishing retailer to do so.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Coming Events

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo,

November 12-15, 2012, Toronto, ON, contact: 403.589.4832, www.cwre.ca

Household Hazardous Waste, 2 Day Course organized by Alberta CARE and EWMCE, November 22-23, 2012, Edmonton, AB, www.albertacare.org

Fostering Sustainable Behaviour, Community-Based Social Marketing Workshops (Introductions & Advanced) with Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, November 26-27, 2012 (Intro.) / November 28-29, 2012 (Advanced), Vancouver, BC, <https://register.cbsm.com/workshops/workshop-schedule>

The Magic of Compost, 21st Annual Conference of the US Composting Council, January 28-31, 2013, Orlando, FL, contact: 301.897.2715, www.compostingcouncil.org

8th Annual Plastics Recycling Conference, presented by Resource Recycling, March 19-20, 2013, New Orleans, LA, contact: 503.233.1305 x 117, www.plasticsrecycling.com

Residential Recycling Conference, March 19-21, 2013, Chicago, IL, www.wasterecyclingnews.com/rrc

GPEC 2013, Conference presented by the Society of Plastics Engineers Environmental Division, March 20-22, 2013, New Orleans, LA, contact: 1.800.959.9945, www.sperecycling.org

Alberta Council for Environmental Education Conference, April 25-27, 2013, Canmore, AB, www.abcee.org

4th Annual Resource Recycling Conference, August 27-28, 2013, Louisville, KY, contact: 503.233.1305 x 117, www.rrconference.com

Conference on Canadian Stewardship, September 16-19, 2013, Toronto, Ontario, www.canadianstewardship.com

2013 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference, October 2-4, 2013, Calgary, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, info@recycle.ab.ca

Waste Reduction Week in Canada, October 14-20, 2013, www.wrwcanada.com

Visit www.recycle.ab.ca/events for more events listings.

Market Updates

	Per Tonne	Trend
Glass		
Coloured	0	↔
Plate	0	↔
Paper		
Cardboard (baled)	80-105	↑
Cardboard (loose)	60	↑
Office Pak (loose)	100-130	↑
Mixed (loose)	-10-40	↑
Magazines (loose)	0-30	↑
News (loose)	60-65	↑
Plastic		
HDPE Natural (baled)	160-400	↓
HDPE Coloured (baled)	60-200	↓
Clear PE Film (baled)	200	↓
Coloured PE Film (baled)	0	↔
Metal		
Steel Food Cans (baled)	80	↓
White Goods	80	↓

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