

Connector

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*Recycling Council
of Alberta*

www.recycle.ab.ca



Signatories to the MoU: (left to right)
Allan Langdon (CCGD), Peter Pilarski (RCC), Minister Rob Renner (AENV),
Gary Sands (CFIG), Parliamentary Assistant Cal Dallas (AENV)

Province and Retailers Agree to Reduce Plastic Bag Use

On June 2, the Government of Alberta and four of Canada's major retail associations signed an agreement that will see industry take action to reduce plastic bag use across the province.

"Many Albertans are concerned with the number of plastic bags littering streets and entering landfills," said Rob Renner, Minister of Environment. "This agreement with retailers is an important step in reducing plastic bag waste in every community."

The retail industry will voluntarily implement a strategy to – by 2013 – reduce by half the approximately 900 million plastic bags used in 2008. The strategy will be implemented at industry's own cost and includes education initiatives to promote the use of reusable shopping bags.

The four organizations represented in the voluntary agreement with the province are the Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors (CCGD), Retail Council of Canada (RCC), Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG), and the Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores. Together, these retail associations represent more than 90% of all retail sales in Alberta.

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Connector

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“Waste minimization is a shared responsibility between industry, government and consumers,” said Peter Pilarski, Director (Alberta), Retail Council of Canada. “Retailers are committed to significantly reducing the number of plastic bags distributed in Alberta. Educating consumers and providing alternatives to plastic bags are key to meeting the aggressive targets we have set as an industry.”

Many retailers have already begun to implement a variety of initiatives to reduce the distribution of plastic bags. Using 2008 as a baseline for the strategy recognizes those efforts and benefits Albertans because bag reduction targets must be met sooner.

2010 Rs of Excellence Awards – Call for Nominations

The RCA is seeking nominations for its 2010 Rs of Excellence Awards.

If you know a person, program or organization that has made an outstanding contribution towards waste reduction, please let us know.

Application is simple:

Submit a brief description of the nominee's achievements and why you think they deserve an award. Considered criteria include:

- Environmental impacts (i.e., quantified reductions in waste)
- Innovation and progressiveness
- Leadership
- History and track record
- Overall environmental commitment

Please include contact information for the nominee as well as yourself. Please include two letters of support with your nomination.

You can use the electronic submission form at www.recycle.ab.ca or fax your nomination to 403.843.4156.

Application deadline: August 13, 2010.

Awards will be presented at the RCA's Waste Reduction Conference “Building Tomorrow”, October 13-15, 2010.



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New Member Profile

Urban Impact Expands Into Calgary

On the heels of winning the Private Sector award for Environmental Leadership from the Recycling Council of British Columbia in May, Urban Impact is pleased to announce more exciting news: the company has expanded across the Rockies and will now be servicing 750 new clients with four new collection vehicles in Calgary.

The expansion coincides with Urban Impact's 20th anniversary in business. Accordingly, Founder and President Nicole Stefenelli is humbled and excited with this move ahead, while at the same time looking back over the past two decades.

"We're celebrating our 20th by giving back to the communities we live and work in every month this year, in themes of 20s," says Nicole. Some of the initiatives including paying the registration fees for 20 kids for Kid Sport BC this month, sending 20 kids to YMCA summer camp in July, sponsoring 20 acres of Rainforest in Costa Rica in August, registering 20 kids to play in Coastal Squash League in September, and planting 20 large trees in Delta in October... and so on!

Urban Impact has also been walking its talk en route to Calgary, by sponsoring the first leg of the Clean Bin Project's film tour from Vancouver to Calgary beginning in early June and taking place all this month. The Clean Bin Movie (www.cleanbinmovie.com) screens June 24, 7 pm, at The Globe cinema. A representative from Urban Impact will introduce the film that evening.

"We want to thank the communities we've worked and lived in for the past 20 years and look forward to now being able to assist Calgary businesses with their recycling, shredding and zero waste programs as well," adds Stefenelli. "We look forward to getting more involved with the communities in Calgary as well."

Urban Impact provides all its clients with Certificates of Diversion which explain how much waste each client has diverted from landfill by using the company's services. Urban Impact Calgary will be providing Certificates of Diversion to all its clients as well.

About Urban Impact

Urban Impact is a family-owned and operated business committed to environmental conservation and global responsibility. Last year the Richmond, BC-based company collected and diverted

95,000 metric tonnes of recyclable material from local landfills. The company has also been named one of the best employers in the province by BC Business Magazine.

Urban Impact was devised in 1989 as a university project of founder Nicole Stefenelli who sought to prove that it was viable for commercial businesses to reduce their waste disposal costs and green their businesses by recycling. Launched in 1990 as the first multi-material recycling company in the Lower Mainland, Urban Impact now services 4500 locations from Whistler to Chilliwack. Recognizing that all businesses generate paper that is sensitive and confidential, Urban Shredding was established in 2004 to offer clients secure document destruction services. Sharing Urban Impact's zero waste philosophy, most shredded materials are recycled.

Today, a combined staff of over 90 and 30 collection vehicles provide clients with complete recycling, shredding and green business consulting services from Urban Impact's two facilities in North Richmond and New Westminster.

Urban Impact is also operator of the first commercial recycling Hybrid vehicle in Canada. The company hosts and sponsors the recycling education tours for elementary school students and to date has taken more than 1500 Lower Mainland students through the program.

Founder and President Nicole Stefenelli is a passionate businesswoman committed to "doing good while doing well." A dedicated environmentalist, she lives by a "zero waste" philosophy that inspires businesses and individuals to make a difference by reducing the waste we send to local landfills. Nicole currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs, Science World, the National Association of Information Destruction (NAID), and the Waste Management Division of the BC Trucking Association.

She previously served on the Board of the Recycling Council of BC. Nicole is regularly sought on radio talk programs for recycling expert commentary. She also regularly presents workshops and seminars to associations, organizations, universities and colleges across the Lower Mainland.

For more information, visit www.urbanimpact.com or contact 403.214.7600.



Think Green Success Story

Feature sponsored by



www.wm.com/thinkgreen

Yellow Pages Group Reduces Directory Delivery

Residential phone directories, or White Pages, are now available only upon request in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, the Ottawa-Gatineau area and Quebec City. Yellow Pages Group (YPG), Canada's largest print, online and mobile directory provider, launched this initiative in accordance with changing user habits around the way people look for residential numbers.

"An increasing number of Canadians, particularly in urban areas, use our online and mobile resources YellowPages.caTM and Canada411.caTM to find residential phone numbers," said Marc P. Tellier, President and CEO of Yellow Pages Group. "Our priority with the residential directory is to make listings available to all users in the format of their choice. All who wish to receive a printed directory can request one while those who prefer to use our online or mobile resources will be equally supported."

In 2005, YPG implemented a 24-month distribution cycle of the residential directory in select Canadian cities, with residents having to request a directory during non-distribution years. The resulting demand for the residential directory averaged below 1% while searches for personal phone numbers on YPG online properties have almost doubled since the program's inception. "The results of our 24-month initiative clearly indicate that large urban centres are ready for a residential directory by request only program," continued Tellier.

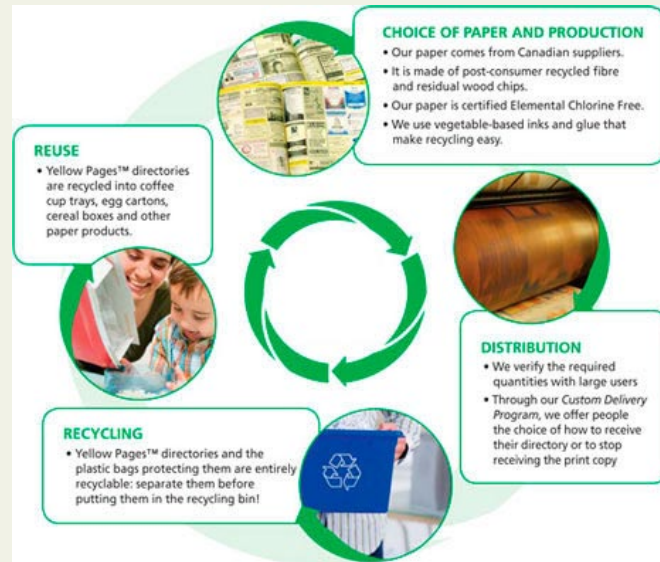
The distribution by request of the residential directory will result in a reduction of paper consumption, decreasing residential directory distribution by over 5 million copies per year across Canada.

In the seven markets no longer automatically receiving their residential directory, distribution of the Yellow Pages directory will continue on an annual basis. The Yellow Pages directory is used to find a business by category or by name and features local environmental information and government resources. It remains used by about half of Canadians each month. In most other markets, the residential listings are contained as

a section within the Yellow Pages directory and will continue to be included.

It is not surprising that Yellow Pages would continue publication of their business directory, since it is a primary source of advertising revenue. However, they have at least taken the first step in reducing these directories, by offering a Custom Delivery Program, allowing users to opt-out of their delivery.

Residents in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, the Ottawa-Gatineau area and Quebec City can obtain a copy of the residential directory or opt-out of receiving their Yellow Pages business directory by calling YPG Distribution Services at 1-800-268-5637 or visiting <http://ypg.com/delivery>.



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.

Sitting on Broken Glass

Calgary region cooperates with industry to find a home for recycled glass.

What many people do not know about recycling is that it is by and large a market-driven process. Many of the products and materials that we use in our daily lives can be recycled with the proper equipment, but there must be a company willing to purchase and process the material, which means the endeavour needs to be profitable. This is why you will often find differences from town to town in terms of what materials are accepted – it is not a matter of whether or not a product can be recycled, but whether a local processor sees market value in the reused material, taking the costs of processing into account.

Since recycling is market-driven, it is vulnerable to economic ups and downs, and the recent economic downturn of the past couple of years has caused some downturns in recycling as well. In particular, the demand for recycled glass has decreased, since some common outputs for recycled glass are insulation and construction materials.

Thus, a slowdown in housing construction means less demand for recycled glass. But as waste glass processors will tell you, the market is not the ultimate issue with municipal glass recycling.

Unfortunately, household recycled glass tends to be highly contaminated (either by food products that came in the glass containers or from non-glass materials mixed in with the glass), making it particularly expensive for companies to process. With the already high costs of processing and transportation, glass processors in the Calgary region simply cannot absorb the added expense of cleaning, sorting, and transporting the material. These high costs, combined with tight economic times and the fact that municipal glass volumes are relatively low compared to other waste streams, means that local municipalities are unable to sell the material to the recycling market. Instead, they are forced to stockpile their glass until they can find an equitable alternative.

In late 2009, a group of municipalities in the Calgary area met to discuss a solution to the ever-growing piles of glass. The meeting included representatives from the City of Calgary, Rocky View County, the Town of Okotoks, and the City of Airdrie, and also included representatives from Alberta Environment and Thurber Engineering. The municipalities estimated that combined they collected about 4200 metric tonnes of recycled glass in 2009, with the large majority coming from the City of Calgary.

Considering Calgary's growing recycling recovery rate, this amount could easily triple in the next few years.

This group held a second meeting in early 2010 to meet with two local aggregate handling companies, Copperstone Crushing and Lafarge Canada. These companies suggested that the glass be used in construction material, known as "glassphalt", which replaces 5% to 40% of the rock and/or sand aggregate in asphalt with crushed glass. Discussions are still underway, but they have jointly submitted a proposal to the City of Calgary to start testing the crushing, cleaning, and glassphalt blending process.

The group is also collaborating with Vitreous Glass Inc. in Airdrie, a company that manufactures high-quality recycled glass material from Alberta bottle depots. This process, despite high efficiency, generates some waste glass residue that is of lower quality and has no place to go but the landfill. Therefore, they will welcome the opportunity to contribute their waste glass

to the glassphalt initiative, as well as consider providing assistance in research and development for this program.

Regional cooperation is essential in solving these types of challenges. On their own, smaller municipalities would have a harder time finding processors to take their waste glass due to small volumes compared to the City of Calgary. With a regional glass strategy, however, municipalities can ensure that the value of their recycled glass is returned to the community through road construction materials, rather than paying to leave the glass in a landfill, where it would sit unused for thousands of years.

Clearly, cooperation between government and industry is also essential in solving municipal recycling challenges. The desire to reuse materials rather than extract raw materials is widespread, but this requires constant cooperation and communication between municipal waste collectors, processors, and manufacturers to be successful. Faced with such a challenge, the Calgary region has embraced innovation and collaboration in working towards a regional glass strategy.

Submitted by M. Dietrich, Rocky View County, with special thanks to the Lafarge Canada Inc., Copperstone Crushing Ltd., Vitreous Glass Inc., Thurber Environmental Ltd., The City of Airdrie, The City of Calgary, The Town of Okotoks and Mr. Dave Whitfield - Alberta Environment



Meet the RCA's Summer Ambassadors

Once again the RCA's Summer Ambassadors will be out and about across the province, delivering a range of environmental projects. After learning about tire, paint, electronic, used oil (and associated products), and beverage container recycling programs in Alberta, these Recycling Ambassadors hit the ground running in early May. Watch for this great group of students in your travels this summer, however in the meantime, here's a chance for you to get to know them a little better.

Amanda is in her fourth year at the University of Victoria, studying Human Geography and Environmental Studies. Originally from Vancouver, BC, she moved to Victoria to attend school. As a West-coaster, she loves hiking, camping, cycling, surfing, soccer and running – basically anything outside.

She moved to Calgary to become part of the RCA Ambassador Team as she is extremely passionate about recycling initiatives, waste reduction and altogether human behaviour that has the potential to create positive changes on local and global scales. She also wanted to explore Alberta and why not explore a new place while talking with people about something she loves. She is working this position as part of the Geography Co-op program at UVic. She recently completed a work term with the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve of Canada. As she is looking into graduate school options, she feels this position will be key in her understanding of the recycling industry. She is very excited and honoured to be part of the Recycling Ambassador 2010 Team.

Chris comes from a farming background where his family lives near Innisfail. He is working on a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science program, transferring to the University of Alberta in the fall. He is very passionate about recycling and the environment, which lead to his applying for this position. Coming from a farm, conserving resources and recycling are second nature to him. When moving to the City of Red Deer a few years ago, he realized that not everyone lives by that same philosophy. The past few years he has worked toward promoting recycling at Red Deer College and saw the Ambassador position as a great opportunity to continue

this goal across all of Alberta.

Emma is a fourth year Environmental Conservation Sciences student, majoring in Human Dimensions of Environmental Management at the University of Alberta. She finds herself fascinated with the human relationship with the environment, and the environmental impacts of everyday things (especially the efficient production of local, healthy food). She believes industry and government have the responsibility and power to make environmentally sound decisions on behalf of the province and individuals have the responsibility to act consciously on behalf of our environment and demand that industry and government do as well. As a Recycling Ambassador, she feels so excited and privileged to find herself in the

middle of this spectrum with the opportunity to learn from both sides and promote the important message of recycling.

Kaitlyn is very excited to have the opportunity to work as a Recycling Ambassador this summer. She grew up in the small village of Boyle, where she enjoyed camping and boating with her family. After graduating from high school, she moved to Edmonton to attend the University of Alberta. She is completing a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Biology with a minor in Economics. Her science courses

focus on Ecology and her minor courses focus on Cost Benefit Analysis. With this degree, Kaitlyn hopes to pursue a future career in sustainable development.

Sarah is a third year student at the University of Victoria, working toward a major in Geography and a minor in Environmental Studies. She was born and raised in Calgary, but spent most of her summers in southern Alberta, where her family has a cabin. It was there that her passion for the environment really set sail, as she was always playing in nature, building forts, exploring, collecting bugs and constantly learning about different aspects of the environment. She is very excited to be working with the RCA this summer, as she not only gets to be part of educating and raising awareness about recycling in Alberta, but also gets to further explore this



Back row left to right:
Shelby, Kaitlyn, Chris, Emma, Amanda, Scott.
Front row: Sarah, Tristan

beautiful province. From being exposed to nature and conservation as a child, to spreading the word and further learning about protecting our environment through recycling by working with the RCA, Alberta has been a wonderful canvas for her environmental education. Sarah will be continuing her studies abroad next year in Brussels, Belgium, where she hopes to gain a broader perspective on recycling and conservation solutions.

Shelby was born and raised in Strathmore, Alberta, in a home with an ever-present focus on the importance of recycling. Her mother used to tell her that littering was as bad as stealing, so it's not surprising that she grew up leaning toward an environmentally-focused career path. She is currently finishing her undergraduate studies at the University of Alberta Augustana Campus in Camrose, Alberta. Her major is Environmental Science and her minor is English. Shelby's eventual goal is to work in environmental consulting and impact assessment, however at present she just wants to gain experience in as many different areas of environmental studies as possible. She was not completely familiar with the various recycling programs in Alberta before working with the RCA, but now that she has been able to learn so much about waste reduction and management, she is grateful for the opportunity to be a Recycling Ambassador and is looking forward to the rest of the summer.

Scott is returning for his second year as a Recycling Ambassador for the Recycling Council of Alberta. He spent last year as the Office Ambassador at Alberta Recycling and completed several projects including a paint program survey, electronics program audits and tire program research. Scott recently graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Conservation Sciences, majoring in Environmental Economics and Policy. His plan is to return to school in the fall in pursuit of a Masters degree in Natural Resource Economics. Scott is an avid outdoorsman, who loves camping and hiking.

Tristan is a born and raised Edmontonian. One could describe his broad interests as a desire to be a responsible global citizen. Particularly he is interested in people and their relationship with our physical world – which lead him to become a Recycling Ambassador. Tristan is studying Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta and enjoys learning, particularly languages (although he claims he's not multilingual... yet). He looks forward to working with everyone this summer.

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Waste Reduction Week 2010

Waste Reduction Week, October 18 – 24, is an opportunity for Albertans to showcase their waste reduction initiatives.

From waste audits and litterless lunches to recycling presentations and waste challenges and contests, Albertans are doing their part to share to their waste reduction strategies. The RCA will be partnering with the Business Link again this year to spread the Green Business message to small businesses through a lunch and learn presentation. Habitat for Humanity and the RCA will be doing a Customer Appreciation/Waste Reduction Week radio remote at the new southside ReStore location. Municipalities will be challenged to proclaim Waste Reduction Week and Grade 4 classes all across Alberta will be invited to participate in the successful Triple StaRs Waste Reduction Challenge to win some great prizes. There will be media events, cool presentations and awareness campaigns.

All over Alberta, the Waste Reduction Week excitement is building. If you or your organization is planning an exciting event that you'd like us to attend or promote, let us know as soon as possible. Our schedules fill quickly, so don't be disappointed. If you are looking for help with an event, need some promotional posters

or want to get involved but don't know how, contact wrw@recycle.ab.ca and the RCA will be happy to help you out!

Thank you to our provincial sponsors, without whom Waste Reduction Week 2010 in Alberta would not be possible. Check them out at www.recycle.ab.ca/wrw.

Show your Waste Reduction Week spirit. Get Involved. Alberta is *Too Good To Waste!*



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The Masdar Initiative – Re-Energizing the World

Mr. Frank Wouters, Chief Executive of Masdar Power, presented at GLOBE 2010 in Vancouver, recounting how a start up venture in oil-rich Abu Dhabi plans to become a world player in renewable energy. In the four years since it was founded, The Masdar Initiative has become one of the world's highest profile projects in renewable energy and has super-charged the search for solutions to some of mankind's most pressing issues: energy security, climate change and the development of human expertise in sustainability.

The company developed a 10-year investment strategy in renewable energy, with a particular focus on wind and solar.

The Masdar Initiative driven by the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar), is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Mubadala Development Company (Mubadala), a global cooperative platform to enable Abu Dhabi to lever its substantial resources and experience in global energy markets into the technologies of the future.



Masdar Headquarters – Already one of the biggest new investors in late-stage clean-energy companies, Masdar estimates it will grow two or threefold.

One key objective of Masdar is to position Abu Dhabi as a world-class research and development hub for new energy technologies, effectively balancing its strong position in an evolving world energy market. Masdar plans to conclude a number of venture capital deals this year and will expand its solar power and wind energy business over the next decade.

RCA conference attendees will have the first-hand opportunity to learn more about Masdar City from one of our keynote presenters, Jennifer Koole, who has spent the last 2 years working on the project in Abu Dhabi.

Source: Globe-Net



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ALBERTA NEWS

Edmonton Recycling Bins Sing The Blues

People who live in Edmonton apartments or condos may hear the blues the next time they take out their recycling. The “singing” blue bin is part of a recycling campaign launched by the city.

Anytime someone opens the lid of one of the 400 specially fit large blue bins installed with a motion sensor, the bin will “sing” a 30-second blues song about the importance of recycling.

Connie Boyce, director of community relations for Edmonton’s waste management division, told CBC News the project is a way to encourage people to recycle the right materials.

Source: CBC

Calgary Planning Organics Collection and Bag Limits

The city plans to move ahead with garbage bag limits and the ability to recycle vegetables and grass clippings in two years, once implementation of automated waste collection is completed, according to a recent staff report.

The report says once automated garbage pickup is in place, using a black cart the same size as the recycling one, it will be easy to determine who has excess waste. Tags will have to be bought for anything outside the bin.

A pilot program of the automated garbage pickup has been underway in five communities – Deer Run, Mount Pleasant, Dover, Citadel and Huntington Hills – for the past 18 months.

With 78% finding the carts big enough for their weekly garbage, the city will begin rolling out the service across the city later this year and into 2011. It’s been estimated that the average home would produce more garbage than the cart holds in the amount of four bags a year, with most being leaf and yard waste.

The city implemented a curbside recycling program last year. It’s estimated 81,000 tonnes will be collected this year, both curbside and from depots, compared with the 41,000 tonnes annually when only depots were an option.

Source: Calgary Herald

Nothing is in the Bag in Fort McMurray

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, including the city of Fort McMurray, has introduced a bylaw banning single-use shopping bags. Retail outlets within the municipality may neither supply nor sell single-use bags to customers. The ban applies to plastic and paper bags. Retailers are also prohibited from refusing service to customers who provide their own bags. The first offence carries a \$250 fine, the second offence a \$500 fine,

and third and subsequent offences \$1,000 fines apiece.

Restaurants, drive-through foodservice establishments and liquor stores are exempted. Pharmacists are also permitted to bag individual prescriptions.

The bylaw takes effect September 1.

Source: Recycling Canada

eco-flex® Lands a Podium Victory in Vancouver

Never has Alberta-made eco-flex received so much acclaim as from the many who had the privilege of experiencing the energy, ambience and activity present at the LiveCity Vancouver celebration site during the recent 2010 Winter Olympics. The surface that eco-flex provided to the site was manufactured from recycled passenger car tires and provided a non-slip, decorative surface for the many spectators and participants.

The comfort of the product was duly noted not only by spectators, but also by the large numbers of volunteers and security who spent the countless hours walking on the LiveCity site throughout the Olympic celebrations. Once the Olympic Games were over, a crew of 15 over a 5-day period quickly removed the 100,000 sq. ft. of eco-flex recycled rubber tiles to be used in other commercial applications throughout the City of Vancouver itself and other locations.

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- ❖ ***offers their customers 20-foot closed topped sea cans, eliminating extra labor costs and ensuring security of the Electronics collected.***
- ❖ ***typically pick up within a couple of days of request of service (depending on your area).***

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CANADIAN NEWS

Olympic Ads to be Recycled into Flooring

Large advertising graphics used at the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver will receive a new life as commercial flooring. About 200,000 square feet of the graphic wraps, made by 3M Canada Co., were displayed at Olympic venues during the games, wrapped on vehicles and other displays.

Now that the Games are over, Mannington Commercial is taking all of the material and plans to recycle it into commercial flooring for its Premium Tile line, which also uses scrap drywall and VCT removed from renovation sites.

The Premium Tile line is popular for educational, health care and retail uses, Mannington officials said.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Vancouver Adds Food Waste to Composting Program

Starting on Earth Day, people that live in single-family residences started including fruit and vegetable waste in their yard waste bins.

Composting fruits and vegetables is just Phase 1 of the plan. Phase 2, in 2011, will allow residents to put all their waste in with yard trimmings – including meat, dairy, cereal products and food-soiled paper like pizza boxes.

The first phase of the project carries a \$230,000 cost for communication and promotion. Another \$75,000 is allocated for Phase 2 communication and \$240,000 is being set aside to fund additional local-scale or backyard composting this year.

Metro Vancouver is currently running test projects for composting of the full range of kitchen waste in neighbourhoods in Coquitlam, Delta, the Township of Langley and West Vancouver.

Source: The Province

100% Recycled PET Bottles for NAYA Water

Quebec-based NAYA natural spring water is claiming to be the first bottled spring water company in the world to use 100% recycled plastic in its bottles.

Over the past year, NAYA has been steadily increasing the recycled PET content of its bottles. The just released 100% recycled PET bottles meet the same safety standards as virgin PET bottles.

Source: Recycling Canada

New Waste Plan for Quebec

New draft regulations in Quebec will introduce a new stewardship program for electronics, batteries, fluorescent lamps and mercury lamps. They will also nearly double the provincial surcharge on waste sent to landfill, increasing it from the current \$10.67 per tonne by an additional \$9.50 per tonne. The government returns the surcharge to municipalities based in part on their success at diverting waste.

The draft electronics stewardship regulation is a generic stewardship regulation, allowing the government to add on new products, which they plan to do at an average of one per year. The province also intends to ban the disposal of wastes for which there exist strong alternatives, with paper and cardboard likely first candidates. The government is also earmarking \$650 million to support the construction of a province-wide infrastructure that will divert organics, generate compost, and capture methane for electricity generation. Once a sound processing infrastructure is in place, organics will be banned from landfill.

Manufacturers and brandowners of packaging and printed materials will be required to cover 100% of net municipal recycling costs for their products, up from the 50% currently required. And as to the fate of Quebec's deposit-return system for beverage containers, the province has issued a challenge to bottlers: if you can demonstrate that curbside recovery can achieve the same diversion success as the deposit-return system at a lower cost, the mandatory deposits will be eliminated (on all beverage containers with the exception of beer).

The province will also prohibit visible fees at the retail level, requiring instead that costs be internalized.

The government is also proposing to institutionalize the 3Rs beneficial use hierarchy by adding it to the *Environment Quality Act*. In Quebec, that hierarchy is expressed "3R-V," which represents reduce, reuse, recycle, and adds "valorisation" as the lowest form of beneficial use. Valorisation is extracting the lowest form of value from waste, and covers such processes as energy recovery.

All of the above plans are available for review online at www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/matieres/pgmr/index.htm.

Source: Recycling Canada

Ottawa Green Bins Divert Waste

In the two months since the City of Ottawa unrolled its green bin program, it has diverted 2,000 tonnes of organic material from area landfills. Last month, city diversion rates were up 20% from the year before – the biggest increase in residential diversion in years.

The green bin program does not accept plastics of any kind, including biodegradable or compostable plastics. The city has also revised its green guidelines and is no longer accepting dog feces.

Source: Metro Ottawa

SunChips in Compostable Packaging

SunChips is now packaging its multigrain chips in compostable bags. The new bags are made from plant-based polylactic acid. The bags will fully compost in approximately 14 weeks when placed in a hot, active compost bin. The new compostable bags are one of the latest sustainability initiatives from PepsiCo's Frito-Lay division.

To promote the new bags, the SunChips brand launched a national composting education initiative, using alliances with the US Composting Council and Earth 911. The company also sponsored a video contest with Current TV, challenging consumers to create videos that encourage positive change in the world and feature the SunChips compostable bag.

The packaging was developed with independent laboratory Wood's End and certified as compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Compostable Chip Bags Not Wanted

Durham Region officials are asking residents to stop putting new compostable potato chip bags in their green bins. The bags aren't acceptable for use in the system because they take too long to break down.

Compostable chip bags may be 100% compostable, but they can take up to 13 weeks to break down. The chip bags have three layers of polylactic acid, while bags that are acceptable only have one layer of PLA and break down in one to three weeks.

Source: DurhamRegion.com

Call2Recycle® Chosen to Run BC Battery Program

Call2Recycle® has been approved as the first government-mandated consumer battery collection and recycling program in North America, selected for implementation throughout the province by the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment. Call2Recycle's existing infrastructure – collection sites, service chain providers and relationships in the marketplace – will be leveraged to swiftly and efficiently collect all household batteries, including alkaline and rechargeable batteries. Call2Recycle is mobilizing program participants to start accepting household batteries by July 1.

Call2Recycle has collected more than 100,000 kg of rechargeable batteries in British Columbia since the program's inception in 1997. About 1,200 retailers, municipalities, businesses and public agencies already serve as Call2Recycle collection sites across the province.

Call2Recycle is also seeking to be the battery collection and recycling program in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, which will all have mandated programs within the next 15 months.

For more information, visit www.call2recycle.org.

Federal Stewardship Plan for Refrigerants Proposed

The federal government is proposing a national Extended Producer Responsibility program to manage end-of-life ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) and their halocarbon alternatives, namely hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorocarbons (PFCs). These substances are controlled at the front-end of their life-cycle and the proposed regulations will close the loop to provide controls on the end-of-life of these substances.

The requirements would apply to importers, manufacturers, distributors and reclaimers of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and their halocarbon alternatives for use in the cooling sector.

There is now in place a variety of voluntary initiatives and provincial regulatory requirements that together are meant to ensure that these substances; used primarily as refrigerants, are either destroyed or recycled and not released into the environment at end-of-life. CFCs and HCFCs are regulated and are being phased out under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*. But there are no federal regulations governing the replacement products, which are also damaging to the ozone layer.

Source: Recycling Canada



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GEEP Authorized To Refurbish PCs

Microsoft Canada has chosen Global Electric Electronic Processing Inc. (GEEP) as its Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher (MAR) in Canada.

Under the new MAR program, GEEP will be able to access Microsoft proprietary tools in order to install a genuine Microsoft Windows XP operating system on refurbished computers. The PCs can then be re-sold into Canadian markets. The program will take place at GEEP's Canadian plants in Montreal, Mississauga, Barrie, Edmonton and Vancouver.

GEEP already processes 200 million pounds of electronic products each year, with 600,000 electronic products remarketed for reuse.

Source: Solid Waste & Recycling

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Recycled PET Packaging Offers Environmental Benefits

A new study commissioned by plastic container trade groups reports including recycled PET resin in packaging reduces the environmental footprint of packaging, in terms of required production energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

Using life cycle inventory methodology, the study, conducted by Franklin Associates Ltd., quantifies the energy requirements, solid wastes, and atmospheric and waterborne emissions during the collection of post-consumer PET and HDPE packaging through reprocessing it into clean recycled resin.

The study, "Final Report – Life Cycle Inventory of 100% Postconsumer HDPE and PET Recycled Resin from Postconsumer Containers and Packaging," is available at www.napcor.com/PET/sustainability.html.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Bend It Recycled

National soccer teams, including those from the United States, Brazil, Portugal and the Netherlands, will begin wearing jerseys made from recycled plastic bottles. Nike unveiled the new jerseys in London made from up to eight recycled bottles each.

Suppliers to Nike used discarded plastic bottles from Japanese and Taiwanese landfill sites that were melted to produce new yarn that was then converted into fabric for the jerseys.

Other national teams using the new jerseys include South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Serbia and Slovenia.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Hotel Exercise Bikes Generate Power

The Crowne Plaza Copenhagen Towers is claiming a 'world first' through a guest-powered electricity initiative. Guests at the 366-room hotel will be able to get free meals by producing 10 Watt hours of electricity or more.

Electric bikes will run for a year initially and be rolled out across the UK if successful. People using the new equipment will be able to monitor how much electricity they are producing via iPhones mounted on the handle bars. Guests can also race against the hotel's solar panel system in a bid to produce the most electricity.

The hotel is already a model of sustainability boasting the first groundwater-based cooling and heating system in Denmark, low-energy lighting and hand dryers and the largest solar panel park in Northern Europe.

Source: Edie

Pepsi Working to Reduce Environmental Impact

Pepsi recently demonstrated its commitment to reducing its environmental impacts up and down the value chain.

On the downstream side, Pepsi looked for ways to raise the recycling rate of beverage containers from 34% to 50% or higher. Working with GreenOps, a division of Waste Management, Pepsi launched a new program called "Dream Machine." These reverse vending machines, now being placed in high-traffic areas such as gas stations and stadiums, take back empty bottles and give users points toward rewards from sponsors or local merchants.

The program will also help fund Pepsi's donation to a group called Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV), which trains vets at business schools around the country.

Pepsi has also embarked on a supply chain effort to reduce the carbon emissions associated with its Tropicana orange juice. After conducting a full life-cycle analysis of the product line, the company found that the biggest portion of the carbon footprint was found not in manufacturing, or distribution, but back in the agriculture stage – primarily the result of the heavily natural-gas dependent process of making fertilizer.

The company started working with suppliers and farmers to find new ways to make and apply fertilizer. For example, instead of using natural gas from remote regions, Pepsi is using biomass from closer to home. Wood waste and agricultural by-products are two sources, but execs are hopeful they can also use the large number of their own orange rinds left over in manufacturing, which would fully close the loop. The potential impact is significant, as Pepsi buys approximately one-third of the Florida orange harvest.

Source: Ethiopian Review



Walmart Selling Upcycled Products

The market for products made from waste packaging got a big boost as Walmart now stocks items made by TerraCycle at all of its stores.

Walmart offered 60 products made by TerraCycle, which collects packaging and discarded products to turn into usable goods, throughout April as part of its Earth Month campaign.

The TerraCycle items were sold next to the original products they are made from, so customers might see purses and bags made from Mars wrappers next to candy bars, or backpacks made from Capri Sun packaging next to juice-filled pouches that could one day be a TerraCycle creation.

TerraCycle gets its waste from collection brigades that send in energy bar and candy wrappers, drink pouches, chip and cookie bags, pens and Sharpies, empty glue tubes and tape dispensers, butter tubs, and more.

The company brings in about 2 million pieces of packaging a week from 60,000 schools and community groups, donating 2 cents per piece to non-profits chosen by each collection group. TerraCycle expects to donate close to \$2 million this year.

Source: GreenBiz

Research May Improve Recyclability of Plastic

Researchers at IBM and Stanford University have discovered a new way to make plastics that can be continuously recycled. The innovation involves substituting organic catalysts for the metal oxide or metal hydroxide catalysts most often used to make the polymers that form plastics. The presence of metal catalysts in plastics means that they often can only be recycled once, as the metal in the polymer continues to degrade the polymer so it gets increasingly less strong.

Organic catalysts could also be used to create a new class of biodegradable plastics that could potentially be used by the pharmaceutical industry as drug delivery devices to treat diseases such as cancer.

A bonus is that the organic catalysts are inexpensive to make. IBM is in discussions with pharmaceutical companies and other potential partners about developing a pilot project that could be producing plastics within two years.

Source: New York Times

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Cigarette Butt Recycling Program for New York?

New Yorkers may have to start paying an extra penny for every cigarette they purchase. Michael DenDekker, New York City assemblyman, has proposed a bill to establish a cigarette butt recycling program in the Empire State, funded by a deposit program similar to bottle bills already prevalent around the country.

The fee would add 20 cents to each pack of cigarettes, but may save the state more cash in the end. According to Keep America Beautiful (KAB), littering costs the US \$11.5 billion every year. Not included in this estimate are the indirect costs of littering, including decreases in property values, commerce and tourism, as well as adverse health effects.

KAB also found that cigarette butts comprise 38% of all items littered on highways, streets, parks and playgrounds.

Source: Earth911.com

Disney World Cleaning the World

Walt Disney World Resort is joining a program to recycle hotel soap and shampoo for use by people in need around the world. The Orlando-based company, with nearly 28,000 Florida rooms, is joining Clean the World, which sanitizes the material that would otherwise be discarded.

In 2009, Clean the World says it distributed more than 230 tons of products to countries including Haiti, Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Uganda, Mali, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Mongolia and Romania.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Airlines Reported to Have Poor Recycling Rates

About 75% of airlines' in-flight waste can be recycled, but only about 20% actually is, according to a new report from ResponsibleShopper.org, which calls itself a consumer watchdog Web site.

The Web site, operated by Green America, has released "What Goes Up Must Go Down: The Sorry State of Recycling in the Airline Industry."

Green America ranked airlines from best to worst for recycling: Delta Airlines, Virgin America, Virgin Atlantic, Southwest Airlines, Continental Airlines, Jet Blue, American Airlines, British Airways, Air Tran, United Airlines, and US Airways.

The report is at <http://www.greenamericatoday.org/go/AirlineRecyclingReport>.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Starbucks Needs to Work on Recycling Goals

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.

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 recycling.

Recycling 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.

"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."

Source: GreenBiz

USPS Expands Recycling Program

The US Postal Service is expanding its Post Office Box Lobby Recycling Program to almost 2,500 additional sites, boosting the total to more than 8,000 locations. That's a 150% increase from the number of locations taking part in the program from when it first started in 2005, the postal service said.

"Lobby recycling helps divert paper waste from landfills, eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste disposal," said Deborah Giannoni-Jackson, vice president of employee resource management at the Postal Service.

The Postal Service recycled more than 200,000 tons of recyclables, including paper and plastics, in 2009. *Ed: Hopefully Canada Post will consider getting on board by supporting recycling in its outlets, rather than hiding behind its purported need to protect its direct mail advertisers.*

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Sony Corp. Aims for Zero (Footprint, that is)

Electronics giant Sony Corp. has announced a new environmental plan that sets a goal of achieving a zero environmental footprint by 2050.

The company has set specific targets for its global companies to meet by March 2016. As part of its "Road to Zero" plan, Sony is looking at not only waste reduction and neutralization of carbon emissions but also the use of finite materials such as oil-derived virgin plastics, the company said.

Targets are based in four areas – climate change, resource conservation, control of chemical substances and biodiversity – across all product lifecycle stages, from research and development to recycling.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

PET Bottles Come out on Top

PET plastic bottles have less impact on the environment over their lifecycle than aluminum cans or glass bottles, according to a study commissioned by the PET Resin Association. The study, conducted by Franklin Associates, compared total energy, solid waste and greenhouse gas emissions per 100,000 ounces of soft drinks packaged in typical 20-ounce PET bottles, 8-ounce glass bottles or 12-ounce aluminum cans. The PET bottles showed lower emissions, waste creation and emissions during the process, PETRA said.

The report is available at www.petresin.org/news.asp.

Ed: it would have been interesting to compare containers of the same volume, as the larger PET container gives it an inherent advantage when assessed on a per-volume basis.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Whole Foods Launches Cork Recycling Program

Natural and organic grocer Whole Foods has announced a new wine cork recycling program at all 292 of its retail stores in the US, UK and Canada.

Whole Foods Market is partnering with Cork ReHarvest to help collect and recycle some of the 13 billion natural corks that are produced each year.

The cork program will piggyback on the company's existing recycling infrastructure. In the western US, corks will be sent to Western Pulp, where the material will be recycled into wine shippers containing 10% cork. In the Midwest, corks will be used by Yemm & Hart in the production of floor tiles. Eastern and UK markets will send used cork to Jelinek Cork Group for recycling.

For more information, visit corkreharvest.org.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Earth Footwear Shoes Have (Biodegradable) Sole

The Earth Footwear company now will make all of its shoes with biodegradable soles. The biodegradable soles join footbed liners made from recycled bottles and boots with footboards made from milk cartons.

"Our new biodegradable sole is one of just many steps toward greater sustainability within our franchise," said Dave Aznavorian, vice president of marketing of Earth Footwear. "It's exciting to introduce this into our line, and we're proud to apply this type of thinking and technology to our footwear."

The new soles are made from a combination of plastic and starch. For more information, visit earthfootwear.com.
Ed: Just where these soles will be able to biodegrade is not clear. Are people supposed to take their shoes apart to compost the soles? And are they really compostable anyway?

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Green Jobs Online

A new service at www.greenjobspider.com will allow people to search more than 50 green job boards currently on the Internet through one interface. The site also will help job seekers learn about different types of green jobs and their locations through a blog and podcast.

Founder Chris Russell is a 10-year veteran of the online job search space. His company, AllCountyJobs.com LLC, is a well-established player in the niche job board business.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Report on Shopping Bags

A California government coalition has issued a new environmental assessment on single-use and reusable bags. Green Cities California, a coalition of 10 California cities collaborating to help other local governments work toward sustainability initiatives, released the Master Environmental Assessment.

The report summarizes existing studies on the environmental impacts of single-use plastic, paper, compostable and reusable bags, as well as the impacts of policy options such as fees and bans on bags.

Some of the report's findings include:

- single-use plastic bags had the greatest impact on litter
- single-use paper bags have larger environmental impacts than plastic bags.
- single-use biodegradable bags have greater environmental impacts at manufacture than conventional plastic bags and may degrade only under composting conditions
- assuming they are reused at least a few times, reusable bags have significantly lower environmental impacts than single-use bags
- in other regions of the world, fees and bans on bags have resulted in dramatic drops in consumption

The full report, an executive summary and background information is available at www.greencitiescalifornia.org/mea.

Source: Waste & Recycling News, CCME

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Best Buy Embraces Product Stewardship

Electronics retailer Best Buy is looking to significantly increase the amount of electronics and appliances it collects for recycling in its retail stores. The company is asking customers to help it meet its goal of recycling 1 billion pounds of electronics and appliances. In 2009, the company collected 120 million pounds of these products.

The recycling campaign will include social media, store-based trade in and recycling programs, and appliance and television haul away programs.

For more information on the programs, visit www.bestbuy.com/recycling, www.bestbuytradein.com and www.bby.com/sustainability.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

NYC Expanding Recycling

New legislation has been introduced to New York City Council that will mark the first significant expansion to recycling in the city since the program was introduced in 1989.

Under the proposals, the city will open a new recycling facility in Brooklyn capable of accepting all rigid plastics, not just the numbers 1 and 2 containers currently accepted under municipal programs. Access to recycling bins in public spaces will double in the next three years, and city-wide textile recycling and household hazardous waste collection programs will be offered.

The legislation package, Local Law 19, includes provisions for waste characterization studies and composting feasibility studies.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Companies Join Forces to Recycle Carpet

Flooring manufacturer Mohawk Industries and recycled materials manufacturer Polar Materials have created a new partnership to increase recycled content in carpeting. The first product brought to market by Mohawk, using technology developed by Polar Materials, will be carpet backing filler created from recycled carpet waste.

Polar Materials developed a process to remove residual fiber from reclaimed carpet waste sand – calcium carbonate plus latex – and then blends the sand with limestone, which can be used as filler for new latex carpet backings.

Mohawk is based in Marietta, GA.

Source: Waste & Recycling News

Dumpster Diving at Burt's Bees

In 2008, employees from Burt's Bees took part in Dumpster Day, an event held to educate employees about waste reduction. Waste was collected for two weeks and divided into three categories – items that should have been recycled but were not, things that should be recycled, and garbage. With about five tons of stockpiled trash dumped onto the parking lot, employees donned Hazmat suits and dove in to find out what they could dig up.

It was apparent the company was not taking full advantage of various recycling opportunities. Dumpster Day saved approximately 2.8 tons of trash from landfills. And the lessons learned from the dumpster diving experiment resulted in a 50% reduction in waste, saving the company around \$25,000 annually.

Until 2007, the company only recycled glass, aluminum, mixed plastics and white paper. Today, wood, corrugated cardboard, shrink wrap chipboard and fiberboard are part of Burt's Bees recycling effort. Shrink wrap has been discontinued on the company's best-selling lip balm and lip shimmer products, eliminating 1,800 miles of plastic shrink wrap from landfills. Burt's Bees soaps are now wrapped in TerraSkin, a treeless substance made from minerals that are completely recyclable. Composting bins are available in the break rooms and compostable utensils made out of potatoes are also available.

Sustainability goals for the company include operating on 100% renewable energy and eliminating all waste sent to landfills by 2020. Other goals include all facilities be LEED-certified and 100% employee engagement in sustainability. And by 2020, all product formulas will be 100% natural. Currently, half of the Burt's Bees products are 100% natural.

Founded in a one-room schoolhouse in 1989 by bearded beekeeper Burt Shavitz and single mom and struggling artist Roxanne Quimby, the company was acquired by Clorox for more than \$900 million in 2007.

Source: triplepundit.com

Now That's Downcycling!

The "Celebrity Apprentice" star and "America's Got Talent" judge confirmed that she is planning to turn her breast implants into paperweights for husband Ozzy Osbourne. Sharon, who currently sports a 34DD chest, will reportedly have a breast reduction in July. She plans to drop down two cup sizes.

"They're better on his desk than on my chest," the 57-year-old said. "They're awful!"

Source: RRF Email News Service

Wondering Where to Recycle YOUR "Stuff"?

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

Recycling Hierarchy Validated Again

Recycling is still the greenest option according to a review of the environmental impacts of different forms of waste management.

The Waste and Resources Action Programme, the government's waste and packaging agency, makes the conclusion in an update published this month to its 2006 report, Environmental Benefits of Recycling.

It says: "This report reinforces the key conclusion of the first report that recycling of paper/cardboard, plastics and biopolymers for most indicators assessed gives more environmental benefits than other waste management options.

The latest study published earlier this year reviewed some 200 reports on the environmental impact of different forms of waste management of materials, including recycling, landfilling and incineration. It echoed the conclusion of the 2006 report that most studies show recycling offers more environmental positives than negatives as against other means of disposal.

As the UK moves to a low carbon energy economy, recycling will become "increasingly favoured", the report says.

For the full report, Environmental Benefits of Recycling – 2010 Update, visit www.wrap.org.uk/wrap_corporate/publications/benefitsrecycling.html

Source: *edie.net*

California Beverage Container Recycling Faces Challenges

Recycling centers across California continue to close shop because of funding challenges, stemming from over \$400 million being taken from the Golden State's recycling fund, which is financed by the state's beverage container redemption program.

The unredeemed deposits funded the state's approximately 2,100 recycling centers, which process around one-third of the beverage containers recovered in California. An estimated 160 recycling centers have closed since July 2009, with more likely to follow.

Two of the state's largest recycling operators, Tomra Pacific and NexCycle, have already closed around 90 return centers. As a result, Tomra has joined with several other firms to file a lawsuit against the state, seeking the return of \$451 million borrowed from the fund over the last decade, with \$99 million taken in this year alone.

Meanwhile, supermarkets could be forced to redeem containers due to return centers shutting down. And, according to state law, supermarkets redeeming containers, because of the lack of an on-site return center, are supposed to pay the state \$100 per day for each day they redeem containers.

Source: *Resource Recycling*



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False Economies in Single-Stream Collection

Though single-stream recycling collection may appear to be more efficient at the outset, a full cost accounting suggests otherwise. A report by Canadian Clarissa Morawski for the US-based Container Recycling Institute argues that a two-stream system is a far more effective means of ensuring the highest social return on recycling investment.

The report compares single-stream with two-stream (fibre and containers) collection. At first blush, single-stream collection can appear compelling to a municipality. It can deliver higher participation, higher collection rates, and (seemingly) lower cost. But, says the report, the benefits are illusory. Incremental costs include new collection bins for residents, new or re-engineered collection vehicles, and more public education. Downstream sorting costs are higher and, inevitably, revenue from the resale of sorted commodities will be lower.

The addition of carbon cost into the equation can further tip the scales in favour of two-stream, according to the report. The carbon cost of goods manufactured from virgin feedstock is invariably much higher than recycled feedstock, but commodities recovered from single-stream collection are far less likely to find their way to such high-value end-uses. And recyclers are unanimous: single-stream collection generates inferior quality feedstock.

A full copy of the report is available for download at the Container Recycling Institute's Web site at www.container-recycling.org.

Source: Recycling Canada

First US Framework Producer Responsibility Law Signed

The first extended producer responsibility "framework" legislation was signed into law in Maine. Business, environmental groups and legislators came together to make this happen.

The Product Policy Institute (PPI) developed the model framework producer responsibility legislation that was the starting point for Maine and several other states.

The law (LD 1631, An Act to Provide Leadership Regarding the Responsible Recycling of Consumer Products) establishes a process for creating producer responsibility programs for hard-to-recycle products and packaging, moving the physical and financial responsibility for managing old products from the general taxpayer to producers, consumers, and others who benefit from products sold and used.

Source: Product Policy Institute

Residential Organics Diversion Report

A new report, *Beyond Recycling: Composting Food Scraps and Soiled Paper*, examines data from 121 residential organics programs in the US and Canada. Beyond Recycling focuses on the economics of various options for organics collection and processing, the connections among the various program components, operational implications of the volume of material and categories of organics that are collected, and changes needed to increase composting capacity in communities across North America.

Survey findings show the total cost of trash, recyclables and organics programs ranges from \$11 to \$33/household (HH)/month, with an average of \$22/HH/month. A key finding of the study is that if, in addition to recycling, all organics are collected, the residual waste collection can be reduced to once every two weeks or even once a month. The costs saved from less frequent rubbish collection could offset the additional costs of processing the extra categories of organics.

Beyond Recycling can be downloaded at www.beyondrecycling.org.

Source: BioCycle

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*** Breaking News ***

Merlin Accepting Agricultural Plastics

Merlin Plastics is now accepting presorted, clean agricultural plastics from a number of Alberta jurisdictions at its plant near Bassano, Alberta. Clean film and twine products are acceptable, including:

- Silage film (bale wrap & cover)
- Grain bag film
- Greenhouse film
- Geo-membrane liner
- PP twine

Designated agricultural plastics collection sites are recommended to operate a supervised site in a secure area to minimize contamination.

Film needs to be densified into round or square bales, while twine should be packaged in 1 cubic meter PE bags or woven PP tote bags. All materials require inspection by Merlin prior to shipping. Collectors are

responsible for shipping, but Merlin will assist with transportation coordination.

For further information and to arrange inspection and shipping, organizations operating supervised agricultural plastics collection and processing sites should contact:

Kevin Kernaghan
Merlin Plastics
Office: 403-259-6637 ext. 101
Cell: 403-617-8171
Email: kkernaghan@merlinplastics.com



Recycling Council of Alberta Conference & AGM

Building Tomorrow

October 13 – 15, 2010
The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise,
Lake Louise, AB

Events

- Chateau Eco Tour
- Nature Walk
- Gala Banquet
- Rs of Excellence Awards
- Exhibits & Networking Opportunities

Sessions

- Building Awareness
- Communities of Tomorrow
- Corporations of Tomorrow
- Building Municipal Systems
- Issues of the Future
- Biodegradable Plastics

Keynote Speakers

- Jennifer Koole (Masdar City)
- Jerry Powell (A Vision of Tomorrow)

 **Recycling Council of Alberta**

Registration, exhibit or sponsorship info:
403.843.6563 ▪ info@recycle.ab.ca ▪ www.recycle.ab.ca

Coming Events

Air & Waste Management Association's 103rd Annual Conference and Exhibition, June 22-25, 2010, Calgary, AB, contact: 412.232.3444, www.awma.org

Product Stewardship Institute's 6th Annual Forum, July 20-21, 2010, Boston, MA, contact: 617.236.4866, lisa@productstewardship.us

2010 Alberta CARE Recycling Conference, September 8-10, 2010, Grande Prairie, AB, contact: 1.866.818.2273, www.albertacare.org

Canadian Environmental Network's 2010 Conference
"Conserving Biodiversity Pays: The Values of Ecosystem Services", September 17-19, 2010, Montreal, QC, www.rce-cen.org

20th Annual National Compost Conference, presented by the Compost Council of Canada, September 22-24, 2010, Ottawa, ON, www.compost.org

Rubber Recycling 2010 **"The Evolution of Tire Recycling"**, hosted by the Rubber Association of Canada, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2010, Toronto, ON, contact: 1.888.627.7175, www.rubberrecycling.ca

2010 C&D Recycling Forum, hosted by Construction & Demolition Recycling Magazine, October 3-5, 2010, Baltimore, MD, contact: 330.523.5400, www.CDRecycler.com/forum

"Building Tomorrow", 2010 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference, October 13-15, 2010, Lake Louise, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, info@recycle.ab.ca

Waste Reduction Week in Canada, October 18-24, 2010, www.wrwcanda.com

2010 Remediation Technologies Symposium (RemTech), presented by the Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA), October 20-22, 2010, Banff, AB, contact: 1.800.661.9278, info@esaa.org

Coast Waste Management Association 2010 Conference, October 20-22, 2010, Parksville, BC, contact: 250.733.2213, www.cwma.bc.ca

Resource Recycling Conference, October 26-27, 2010, San Antonio, TX, contact: 503.233.1305 x 111, www.rrconference.com

2010 Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo, November 3-4, 2010, Toronto, ON, contact: 1.877.534.7285, www.cwre.ca

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

Market Updates

	Per Tonne	Trend
Glass		
Coloured	0	↔
Plate	0	↔
Paper		
Cardboard (baled)	65-70	↓
Cardboard (loose)	35-50	↑
Office Pak (loose)	50-140	↓
Mixed (loose)	10	↓
Magazines (loose)	10-50	↑
News (loose)	35-50	↑
Plastic (HDPE)		
HDPE Natural (baled)	150	↓
HDPE Coloured (baled)	60	↓
Clear PE Film	130	↑
Coloured PE Film	10	↑
Metal		
Steel Food Cans	not available	
White Goods	90	↑

Prices reflect surveyed averages (F.O.B. buyer) at the time of publishing and are subject to market fluctuations. Individual prices may vary according to material quality, volumes and contractual arrangements. Please contact your buyer to update prices at time of shipping.



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