

# Connector

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of Alberta

[www.recycle.ab.ca](http://www.recycle.ab.ca)



Photo: [www.waterantarctica.com](http://www.waterantarctica.com)

Team Canada – ESAA members and their tour guides near Gerlache Strait

## Team Canada Antarctica 2011

Englishman Robert Swan was the first person in history to walk to both the North and South poles – unassisted. Since he accomplished this incredible feat in the mid-80s, he's been on a far tougher mission – saving Antarctica itself. In March 2011, a dedicated group of Canadian environmental professionals joined him in Antarctica to help.

Twice as large as Australia and holding 70% of the earth's fresh water, the Antarctic continent is cold, inhospitable and beautiful. Robert invited six members of the Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA) to join him on an international mission to complete environmental reporting on a decommissioned research station, participate in renewable energy technology demonstrations and share their unique experiences and knowledge of the fragile Antarctica environment with other Canadians. Swan says "I am excited to have the Canadian team of environmental experts join us on this mission – their experience with cold weather remediation, site closure and water issues will be of tremendous help in our efforts to protect Antarctica."

One of the Team Canada Antarctica 2011 members and leading the environmental reporting aspect was Tyler Barkhouse, Director Environmental & Geosciences, Focus Corporation. He says that "over time, Canadian arctic resources have been

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# Connector

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## Connector

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compromised. The resulting environmental clean-up efforts have required significant federal, territorial, and corporate funding. As a Canadian, an environmental engineer, and a father, I feel a responsibility to protect similar environments, like Antarctica.”

Team Canada expedition members were led by Robert Swan and his staff from 2041 – an organization founded to draw international attention to the year when the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty comes up for renewal. Canada is a non-consultative party to the Treaty. Canadians are represented at Treaty meetings, and are members of various Treaty system committees. Canada ratified the Madrid Protocol in December 2003, and developed the Antarctic Environmental Protection Act (AEPA) and its supporting regulation to implement the Protocol in Canada.

The international Antarctic expedition departed from Ushuaia, Argentina on March 3 – daily video, pictures and progress reports were streamed to schools and media as thousands of Canadians tracked the Team Canada members on their journey.

Team members Gavin Scott of Custom Environmental Services and Tyler Barkhouse of Focus Corporation will be sharing their Antarctica experiences with delegates as keynote presenters at the RCA's Waste Reduction Conference “Recycling Means Business” in October.

For more information about the Antarctica mission, contact Joe Barraclough, Environmental Artworks Foundation of Alberta, at 780.429.6363, ext. 224

*Source: ESAA Weekly News*



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# Editorial

## A Disconnect in the Big Easy

by Christina Seidel

I recently spent a few days in New Orleans attending a plastics recycling conference. This is a part of the world I have long been intrigued by, and I was quite excited to experience The Big Easy.

As luck would have it, the conference barely preceded Mardi Gras, so I got the opportunity to see Bourbon Street at its finest (or close to). A dirty, tawdry neighbourhood with questionable establishments was transformed after dark into one big street party. The atmosphere is electric to say the least. And it is hard not to get caught up in the excitement, with the street closed to all but pedestrian traffic and no evidence of liquor laws anywhere to be seen.

However, New Orleans poorly hides a dirty little secret. There was still plenty of evidence of the resentment remaining from the Gulf oil spill, and BP certainly is not on anyone's Christmas card list there. So, you would think an environmental disaster of monumental proportions that has resulted in near ecological and economic collapse would provide a wake-up call to residents of the region. Not so.

The people of New Orleans are quick to point the finger at BP, while they continue to promote and participate in a gluttonous tourist industry based on consumption and waste. Despite being at a recycling conference, outside the conference venue, I saw no evidence of efforts to reduce waste or even to recycle. On the contrary, litter abounds every morning while the city sleeps off its collective hangover, to the extent that cleanup crews simply hose down the streets, pushing all the garbage into piles for disposal. This wasteful approach extends to businesses, where the focus is clearly on sales rather than stewardship. This was demonstrated when our group ordered coffee to finish a restaurant meal, only to have the beverage served in a disposable cup!

It is time to close this disconnect, and make people aware that it is their continued consumption that drives companies like BP to access new resources to feed our demand for products like polystyrene coffee cups and cheap trinkets. The negative experience of the oil spill should drive the people of the Gulf Coast, including New Orleans, to become the world's leading environmental stewards by not only protecting their valuable coastline from industrial activity, but also building a flourishing tourist industry that promotes their rich cultural history within a context of aggressive zero waste measures. We would all be the richer for it.



## 2011 Rs of Excellence Awards Call for Nominations

The RCA is seeking nominations for its 2011 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/nominate](http://www.recycle.ab.ca/nominate) or fax your nomination to 403.843.4156.

Application deadline: August 11, 2011

Awards will be presented at the RCA's Waste Reduction Conference "Recycling Means Business", October 5-7, 2011, in Edmonton.



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# Think Green Success Story

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## Reducing Waste no Mickey Mouse Feat

Disneyland aims to be the happiest place on earth, but it also aspires to send no waste to the landfill.

In its 2010 Corporate Citizenship report, the Walt Disney Company revealed that last year, it diverted from the landfill 60%, or 181,838 tons, of the trash produced at its theme parks and resorts.

The company has a long-term goal of achieving zero waste to landfill at its parks and resorts. 2010 will be the second consecutive year that Disney exceeded its interim target of diverting its waste by 137,556 tons annually or 50% of the total waste its parks generated in 2006.

Disney was able to hit its waste reduction goals despite an overall increase in waste produced at its parks from 2006 to 2010 because of construction at California's Disneyland Resort. To keep on target, Disney collected construction waste for recycling, increased its existing recycling programs and created new recycling programs at every park.

In addition to collecting paper, cans and bottles from guests for recycling, Disney parks maintain recycling programs for materials used in park operations: paper and cardboard, electronics and even polystyrene foam. Unwanted linens are donated to the non-profit Harvest International for distribution to people in need. Disney World collects food scraps for composting, while Disneyland is exploring setting up a similar program.

Disney's US parks are also increasing the amount of recycled-content merchandise they offer. Plastic photo passes are now 95% recycled content, and all merchandise bags at the Disney World and Disneyland resorts are made from 100% recycled plastic.

While Disney set its zero-waste goal for its parks and

resorts, the company is working to recycle and reduce waste in its other ventures. Disney Studios is digitizing its film production and distribution to eventually achieve a

tapeless, filmless process. Disney's first "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie, released in 2003, required 400 million feet of film to create the release prints for movie theaters, whereas Disney's upcoming Muppets movie will be distributed entirely using a digital format.

Disney-owned television channel ABC operates a Set Reuse Program, encouraging art departments and set designers to choose from a comprehensive online gallery of used production sets. This program not only saves

sets and scenery from the landfill, but it also conserves resources by eliminating the need to construct a new set.

Source: Earth911.com  
and Disney's 2008 Corporate Responsibility Report (photos)



Recycling is everywhere at ESPN's X Games.



Solar panels at Walt Disney Studios in Burbank provide clean, renewable energy.

Do you have a Waste Reduction Success Story?

Submit details on your successful business or municipal program to [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca), fax 403.843.4156 or phone 403.843.6563 for further details.

# Garbage-Free February

Now in its fifth year, “Garbage-Free February” (GFF) has grown from a one-man personal challenge into inspiring the planning and creation of zero-waste communities! The goal of GFF is to make choices as a consumer (citizen) that will not produce any contributions to a landfill\*. For the entire month of February:

- purchase only recyclable and reusable goods
- learn about and use your local recycling program
- bring your own bag to the grocery store/market
- eat 100% organic food and buy in bulk
- compost any organic waste that you produce
- use [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) in your community
- come up with more ideas and share them with others

\* exceptions – like toilet paper – are allowed!

GFF was created by Central Albertan, Rene Michalak, an active members of the citizen action group ReThink Red Deer. After learning about his local blue box program he discovered that we’re only seeing the tip of the iceberg in trying to lighten our collective ecological footprint. Committed to conscious consuming, Rene has helped bring resilient community planning to the forefront of public dialogue in Central Alberta. He is a certified Transition Towns trainer and aspiring permaculture designer who is passionate about helping to create zero-waste communities.

Over the years, GFF has given community presentations fueled by films like *The Story of Stuff*, *Garbage: The Revolution Starts at Home*, *Gone Tomorrow: The Hidden Life of Garbage*, and to celebrate the launch of the fifth GFF Challenge, ReThink Red Deer screened the highly entertaining and endearing film *No Impact Man*.

What’s next for GFF? Rene wants to take the challenge provincial and encourages all Albertans to give it a try – if not for 28 days, then at least for 28 hours. “The key is to start small, make incremental changes, and become more aware of our habits and consumption patterns”, he says.

For more information on Garbage-Free February visit the ReThink Red Deer website at [www.rethinkredder.ca](http://www.rethinkredder.ca) or contact Rene at [info@rethinkredder.ca](mailto:info@rethinkredder.ca)

## Wondering Where to Recycle Your Stuff?

Visit Alberta’s Recycling Hotline  
at [www.recyclinghotline.ca](http://www.recyclinghotline.ca)  
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# 2011 Recycling Ambassador Project

It's that time of year again when the RCA's Recycling Ambassadors will be out and about delivering a wide range of programs throughout the province. Starting with an intense training period, these passionate and eager students will learn all about Alberta's stewardship programs. During your travels you may come across these enthusiastic

Ambassadors, however in the meantime, here's a chance to get to know them a little better.

My name is **Adam** and I'm double majoring in English and Comparative Literature at the University of Alberta. I have ambitions to continue my education and become a teacher. I like to read, write, watch movies, listen to music and go on occasional hikes in the woods. I'm very excited to be a Recycling Ambassador. I cannot wait to travel across Alberta and promote recycling to as many people as possible. This summer is going to be great!

I'm **Brittany** and I am currently undertaking a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, as well as having a Business Administration Diploma. I love spending my time outdoors hiking, biking, and camping, and I am an avid traveler, always up for new experiences. I am looking forward to building awareness in the community about recycling and I strive to make a positive difference in the consumption habits of Albertans.

Hi my name is **Dani**. Working on an undergraduate degree and a major in Human Dimensions of Environmental Management at the U of A, with a passion for public awareness, I am thoroughly excited to be a part of the RCA team. I can't wait to get out and teach people about environmentally friendly options they can make in their everyday lives. I love the outdoors and I am at my happiest when spending time in the wilderness so protecting nature and its wildlife is very important to me. I have a special interest for Species at Risk so doing



my part to spread the word of Mother Nature is my mission! All people have the capacity to do their part, it is just a matter of making them aware of what it is they can do to help. I am very much looking forward to a summer with the RCA and I am ready to get out there and get things rolling.

Having just completed my degree in Environmental Economics and Policy, I am very excited for this opportunity to be involved in one of the primary aspects of protecting our environment. My name is **Jennine** and I can't wait to travel around Alberta, educating and inspiring individuals to take an active role in recycling. I look forward to hitting the road, meeting many great individuals, and expanding my horizons.

My name is **Katie** and I am going into my fourth year of Environmental Economics and Policy studies at the University of Alberta. This will be my first summer with the RCA and I'm very excited to share my love of recycling with the rest of the province! I enjoy hula hooping, camping and staying active. I hope to one day find myself working on wetland and oil sands policy in Alberta.

Hi there! My name is **Maegen**. I am a fourth year business student at the University of Calgary, majoring in finance. I love meeting new people and trying new things. For fun, I love to be outdoors; I like to hike, swim and be with my friends. I am really looking forward to a unique summer experience as a Recycling Ambassador and meeting new people with similar interests to my own. By promoting environmental awareness I know this will be a job that I can feel proud of that I am making a difference.

This summer I am excited to have the opportunity to make a difference in the way people take care of our world. My name is **Shelby** and I just finished my third year of Ecology specialization. I love the outdoors, hiking, photography and art. Recycling is a huge aspect in preserving the beauty of the environment around us; no technology can ever simulate the wildness of the one world we are given so it is important we make an effort to preserve it.

Hello! My name is **Tristan**, and I am a returning Ambassador from summer 2010. Some things have changed: my French has improved; I can run farther; I am healthier. Some things remain the same: I study Environmental Science at the University of Alberta; I love to improve; I am excited to learn more about the waste industry. Cheers everyone!

If you have a small project that could benefit from the involvement of the RCA's Recycling Ambassadors, email [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca) or give us a call at 403.843.6563 to discuss your requirements and budget.

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## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Albertans have recycled:**

- **63 million tires since 1992**
- **3 million televisions and computers since 2004**
- **5.2 million litres of paint since 2008**

## **IN 2010 ALONE...**

### **THE TIRE RECYCLING PROGRAM**

- **36,000 tonnes of car & medium truck tires along with 3,600 of off-road tires were recycled.**
  - ✓ 50% of the tires were processed into tire-derived-aggregate and used by municipalities in their landfill systems
  - ✓ 40% was recycled into crumb; one of its main uses was for top dressing in sports fields
  - ✓ The remaining 20% was processed into crumb & used by manufacturers to make e.g. sidewalk blocks, roofing shingles and playground surfaces

### **ELECTRONICS RECYCLING PROGRAM**

- **Over 700,000 computers and televisions were collected; 65% was collected from 300 registered municipal collection sites situated throughout the province. The remaining 35% was picked up from businesses.**
  - ✓ The units were dismantled by six registered recyclers into commodities of metal, plastic and glass which were used in the manufacturing of new products.

### **PAINT RECYCLING PROGRAM**

- **2.1 million litres of paint and 360,000 aerosol containers were recycled**
  - ✓ 238 municipal collection sites are registered to accept paint.
  - ✓ In its third year of operation, the paint recycling program continues to exceed expectations.

## **PROGRAM UPDATES...**

- On April 1, 2011, new environmental fees were introduced on off- road, industrial and specialty **tires**.
- Watch for the new television commercials which will run until December/11 and promote the opportunity for businesses and the general public to recycle their **waste electronics**
- And don't forget, **the 2011 Municipal E-Waste Roundup Program** is currently underway for municipalities to schedule an event to collect computer equipment & televisions. Please visit [albertarecycling.ca](http://albertarecycling.ca) for more info.
- The program has shifted to a near zero-based level for the amount of **paint** being sent for thermal destruction; it is instead being sent for recycling or fuel blending.

Please visit [albertarecycling.ca](http://albertarecycling.ca) for more info on any of these programs or call us toll-free at 1-888-999-8762.

# Reducing Confusion: Standardized Labels

Have you ever stood at a recycling bin and wondered if you can throw in your bottle? If you have, there are millions of people who have shared that experience with you.... every day.

What many people don't realize is that what happens at the bin affects every stage of recycling, sustainable packaging and next-life manufacturing, as well as the overall economics of recycling. Yet somehow in the history of recycling, the simple yet critical element of having consistent and effective labels has been overlooked.

The millions of inconsistent and confusing labels on recycling bins throughout society have created public confusion, apathy and indifference which has led to: low capture rates, costly contamination entering the recycling stream, and an exponential growth in landfill use.

When people have to re-educate themselves to a different looking label or message at every bin, they end up treating each bin like a trash can. Haulers are then burdened with trying to remove dirty diapers, half-eaten hotdogs, syringe needles and other contaminants from

the recyclable materials; contaminants which are entering millions of recycling bins every day. Inevitably, converters and manufacturers that purchase the recyclable materials from the haulers find sometimes 9-12% of the materials they purchased are contaminants which cost tremendous amounts of money to remove and dispose of.

Unarguably, improving and simplifying the public experience at the recycling bin is a critical ingredient to help recycling and next-life manufacturing become more effective, economically feasible and prevalent. Therefore, in September 2010 the non-profit organization, Recycle

Across America, along with industry leaders launched standardized labels for recycling bins. Criteria for developing these labels included: simple language, the iconic chasing arrow, color coding and photos for every type of sorting requirement in North America.

In related studies, when various school districts implemented standardized labels in all of their buildings, they increased their capture rate 47%-80%, decreased the amount of costly contamination from entering the bins, and saved thousands of dollars in solid waste related expenses for the schools. Imagine the impact standardized labels can have if adopted throughout society. If recycling rates in the US reach 75%, that will be the environmental equivalent of removing 33 million cars from the roads each year.

The idea of standardized labels was proposed at a recycling and solid waste conference in 2009. As a result of the presentation, approximately 40 industry leaders united to help create a standardized label for each sorting need, and in the fall of 2010, Recycle Across America was launched to introduce the labels. Since the launch, the standardized labels are now being used by schools, corporations, government offices, faith-based organizations and households in Canada, in each state in the US and even by some organizations in Europe and Australia.

For more information about the standardized label initiative or to see the gallery of labels for all sorting needs, visit [www.recycleacrossamerica.org](http://www.recycleacrossamerica.org). To visually witness the confusion 'at the bin' and see the effects of the confusion 'after the bin', watch the video on the intro page of the Recycle Across America website.

Mitch Hedlund of Recycle Across America will be presenting their standardized label concept to delegates at the RCA conference "Recycling Means Business" in October in Edmonton.



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# New Member Profile

## Molok North America Ltd.

Molok offers an alternative to the traditional stand-alone dumpster or wooden enclosure. The “deep-collection” waste management system is a new garbage containment system.

The attractive and functional containers can be displayed in common areas and incorporated into site design. They can be used for virtually any type of development from commercial to industrial, from institutional to residential and from parks to public spaces.



The concept of the deep-collection system is simple. With two thirds of the 8-foot container installed below grade, garbage is kept cool in the summer, virtually eliminating odour, and the insulating effect of the ground prevents freezing in the winter months. The small surface area relative to the depth of the container and its cylindrical shape cause the garbage to naturally compact by gravity, increasing the capacity by 1.5 to 2.5 times its actual volume.

Placing a deep-collection unit on site is simple, as they can be located virtually anywhere, resulting in greater flexibility of site plan layout. The space savings from the deep-collection system versus traditional garbage enclosures can allow for more amenity space or landscaped areas on site. For smaller properties, they can make it much easier to meet regulatory requirements for setback and parking.

Traditional dumpsters are limited in their placement by the way they are emptied. Their design requires a straight on approach by a garbage truck, which typically results in additional paved surfaces to accommodate the required approach route. The deep-collection unit, on the other hand, uses a reusable lifting bag that is raised by a knuckle boom crane, which allows for the placement of these containers to be almost anywhere on a site. When emptying, the release mechanism on the bottom of the bag is opened, allowing the garbage to fall neatly into the truck

and the emptied bag is returned to the deep-collection unit.

The units are available in different sizes to serve all waste management needs, including mixed waste, recyclables, cardboard and even organics and cooking oil. They also have a variety of above-grade finishes available to suit any development.

As the units protrude only 3 feet (0.9 m) above grade, they are user-friendly and easily accessible

by persons with disabilities and children alike. Each unit is designed with an opening for the type of waste it is intended to collect.

Cardboard containers provide a slot ensuring boxes are broken down, while garbage units have an opening roughly the diameter of a standard household garbage bag. This design feature discourages dumping on site and eliminates the spillover that occurs with traditional open dumpsters.

For more information, visit [www.molokna.com](http://www.molokna.com)



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# Greener Business Stories

## Canadian Tire Green Initiatives to Save \$6M

Canadian Tire released its “green” balance sheet on March 15, 2011, saying it completed 389 projects last year aimed at improving the environmental impact of its businesses that will also trim some \$6 million off costs.

The company said the projects are forecast to save 610 tonnes of waste and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 7,800 tonnes, the equivalent to the energy use required to power 1,000 Canadian homes.

Canadian Tire, which has pledged to report results from its sustainable initiatives quarterly, said its focus in 2010 was in three key areas – products, product transport and buildings – and included reduced packaging, fuel efficiency enhancements to fleet vehicles, new energy efficient store lighting, heating and cooling systems and central energy management.

Canadian Tire said it also contributed \$17.9 million to government-mandated community blue box and industry product stewardship and recycling programs in 2010.

At the same time, Canadian Tire has emerged as one of the leaders of a sustainability challenge launched a year ago by retail rival Walmart Canada.

Canadian Tire reported on Walmart’s ShareGreen.ca website that packaging and handling changes for 128 retail products will help the company avoid almost 500 tonnes of product and packaging waste annually.

Other reporting companies include Bissell, which announced a 10% reduction in new product returns, Coca-Cola, which introduced plastic bottles incorporating up to 30% plant-based material, and H.J. Heinz, which reduced greenhouse gas emissions 16.2% in Canada compared to a global reduction of 14.1%.

Walmart Canada president and CEO David Cheesewright announced the ShareGreen challenge February 2010 at a green business summit in Vancouver that attracted more than 300 supply chain partners – and outright business rivals – in the consumer product sector.

Walmart Canada’s parent company launched the sustainability challenge in the United States in 2009, but Cheesewright added a Canadian wrinkle – calling on suppliers and rivals to share the knowledge they’re gleaned from green initiatives such as reduced packaging, and reduced energy and fuel consumption.

For its part, Walmart recently opened a distribution centre outside Calgary which is 60% more energy efficient than a conventional facility – and includes solar and wind power generation and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

It is Canada’s largest retail purchaser of renewable energy through Bullfrog Power, and recently opened two “zero waste” stores in Ontario and Nova Scotia at which

virtually all refuse materials are recycled rather than going into landfills.

Walmart Canada expects to save more than \$140 million over the next five years through waste and energy reduction.

*Source: money.canoe.ca and The Vancouver Sun*

## Walmart, Patagonia Strengthen Pact to Measure Apparel Impact

More than 30 companies and organizations – including the likes of Nike, Gap, Patagonia and Walmart – have joined forces to create the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, and the first item on their agenda is a tool to measure the environmental impacts of clothing.

Building on the Outdoor Industry Association’s (OIA) Eco Index and Nike’s environmental design tool, the coalition’s Sustainable Apparel Index is being crafted as an industry-wide tool for evaluating any kind of apparel.

The first version of the Sustainable Apparel Index will be tested in the coming months by a select group of companies, and then refined. Sometime this year the index will also be updated with criteria specific to footwear.

The first dozen members of the coalition began meeting informally in early 2010, and its numbers have grown to include 33 apparel companies, retailers, manufacturers, NGOs, academics and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

The coalition is planning for its index to be used only internally by companies for now, and has no set plans for making a related label for consumers to see how different items score on the index.

The coalition’s overall mission is to reduce the environmental and social impacts of clothing and footwear, and to that end it will also promote promising innovations and spotlight ways to improve practices at any point in supply chains.

*Source: Green Biz*

## Microsoft to Use 100% Post-Consumer Recycled Paper

As of Earth Day, Microsoft Corp. will now only use 100% post-consumer recycled printing paper at the company’s headquarters in Redmond, Washington, and all of its Puget Sound facilities. The company had previously been using printing stock containing 30% recycled fiber.

Microsoft will use paper made by Grays Harbor Paper of Hoquiam, WA, and expand the program to all of its US operations over the next few months.

*Source: Waste & Recycling News*

## Heinz and Coke Team up to Squeeze Ketchup into PlantBottles

The Coca-Cola Company announced a partnership that will license the beverage giant's plant-based packaging to Heinz for use in its ketchup packaging.

The bottle technology, which Coke launched in 2009, uses a plastic sourced from sugarcane waste to replace 30% of the plastic in beverage bottles. The company's goal is to eventually achieve 100% renewable sources for its packaging, and licensing the technology to Heinz will no doubt help fund the research process.

Heinz plans to introduce PlantBottled ketchup this summer across the United States, switching out about 120 million of its 20-ounce retail and foodservice bottles with the partly renewable packaging. The PlantBottles will have a special label and environmental messages to communicate the benefits of the plant-based packaging to shoppers.



Photo: Business Wire

Coke has already planned to invest more than \$150 million in the PlantBottle technology, with a goal of reaching 100% renewable and recyclable packaging as soon as the technology allows.

A study conducted recently at the Imperial College in London found Coke's use of PlantBottle technology can cut the company's carbon footprint by 12-19%. And as plastic recycling rates increase, the carbon impacts of the bottles continue to decline.

Although the PlantBottle technology currently costs slightly more to produce than traditional plastic, investing in renewably sourced and recyclable packaging provides both more future cost stability and helps achieve sustainability goals.

Source: Green Biz

## New EcoLogo Paper Standard



Cascades Fine Papers' Rolland Enviro100 is the first paper brand to be certified under the revised EcoLogo CRD-077 standard.

EcoLogo's Paper Products Standard was developed using a multi-parameter approach that identifies the most important environmental indicators from all stages of the product's life cycle.

The new standard merges the Printing and Writing Paper standard (CCD077) and the Uncoated Mechanical Printing Paper standard (CCD-078) into one standard, now simply called "EcoLogo Paper Standard." It uses a mix of mandatory and discretionary criteria to identify the top 20% environmental performers in the market. For more information, contact Kate Rusnak, EcoLogo, at 1.800.4780399 ext. 250 or [krusnak@terrachoice.com](mailto:krusnak@terrachoice.com).

Source: Recycling Canada

## Cascades and Random House Partner in Book Recycling

Cascades and Random House, Inc., the largest English-language-publisher of consumer books, have partnered to give a second life to the materials used for unsold hardcover and paperback books. Cascades Recovery collects Random House's returned books, while Cascades Fine Papers Group uses recovered fibers to manufacture Rolland Enviro100 Book, a recycled paper that is used for many of the publisher's new titles.



Closing this loop with Cascades enables Random House to divert 4,487 tons of recyclable materials per year that otherwise would have been sent to landfill. Environmental savings include: 17,500 cubic yards of landfill space are saved, 33 million kWh of energy, 131 million liters of water and 19,650 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e. Recycling those books saves an estimated 76,300 trees every year.

For more information, contact Julie Loyer at 514.232.4022 or [julie\\_loyer@cascades.com](mailto:julie_loyer@cascades.com).

## UK Supermarkets Told to Stop Encouraging Over-Buying

Supermarkets and other retailers are being urged to cut down on "buy one, get one free" special offers by the UK's Local Government Association (LGA) in order to help reduce the £13.7 billion cost of wasted food and drink every year.

The LGA has conducted research which estimates that, when the cost of sending thrown-away food to landfill is taken into account, households lost the equivalent of around £520 each through wasted food and drink over the past 12 months.

The organization puts part of the blame on the way that retailers promote the sale of perishable goods such as fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat.

An amazing 40% of groceries sold are currently on promotion or special offer – more than ever before.

Council leaders are therefore asking for a stop on multi-buy deals, which encourage consumers to take home more than they need, and replace them with discounts on individual products, which offer customers the same value without encouraging them to over-buy.

The LGA is calling on retailers to set more ambitious waste reduction goals to bring them into line with the big improvements in waste management being introduced by local authorities and households.

Source: [www.eaem.co.uk](http://www.eaem.co.uk)

# News

## CANADIAN NEWS

### Edmonton Looks to Reward Waste Reduction

The city of Edmonton may give a break to its more waste-conscious residents. The city's Utility Committee is reviewing a report that recommends a monthly utility rate reduction for low volume waste generators, coupled with an education program for high-volume generators.

Low-volume generators would register with the city and commit to setting out a maximum of three bylaw-compliant containers per collection cycle. In return, they would receive a discount (amount not yet specified) on their utility bills. Compliance would be managed by random audits.

One clear challenge for the program is that it will reduce revenue while not necessarily having a parallel impact on costs. In fact, because of the additional administrative burden, costs may increase.

*Source: Recycling Canada*

## Celebrate

Environment Week June 5-11, 2011  
and International Year of Forests



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Alberta

### Reports Recommend Organics, Apartment Pickup in Calgary by 2015

Calgary is not on target to achieve its long-range recycling targets without multi-family and organics programs, say two new city reports, recommending the startup of both.

A report to the city's utilities and environment committee recommends the city implement a multi-family collection program, with the private sector, as early as 2015. A program to collect organic waste should also begin at the same time, another report to the same committee recommends.

Together, the reports show that despite the introduction of the city's blue cart recycling program, the city is not on track to meet its goal of diverting 80% of waste away from landfills by 2020.

Much of what's going to landfills – an estimated 57% of what Calgarians are throwing away – are organics: 22% is yard waste and 35% is food scraps.

The report recommends two options for organics collection: one is to do a staged compost pickup that would run eight months of the year, with pick-up every two weeks, and utilizing Kraft bags. The second option is a separate food and yard waste program that runs all year and has carts and automated trucks. The city recommends an organics recycling pilot program in 2012 and develop a citywide strategy so that it can start between 2015 and 2017.

There are 158,000 dwellings in Calgary – people who live in apartments and townhouses – that aren't involved in the blue box program and, not surprisingly, aren't recycling as much as the 287,000 who live in houses and have curbside recycling pickup. The city is recommending that it develop a multi-family recycling strategy during 2012-14 and start as early as 2015.

*Source: The Calgary Herald*

### Saskatchewan Funds Ag Plastics Pilots

The federal and provincial governments have jointly launched a pilot program for grain bag recycling. The federal and provincial governments are committing \$160,000 to the initiative. The Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards (PCAB), a Saskatoon-based non-profit agriculture organization, is contributing \$50,000.

PCAB will administer the one-year initiative under which as many as six separate pilot projects will be mounted throughout the province. Each pilot project may include multiple collection sites. The program hopes to recycle as much as 2,000 tonnes of agricultural plastic. For more information, contact PCAB at 1.866.298.7222.

*Source: Recycling Canada*

## Kidseat Recyclers Keeps Car Seats out of the Trash

Last spring, eco-conscious mompreneurs Lavonne Ries and Melanie Risdon-Betcher partnered with a local recycling firm to start Kidseat Recyclers, Alberta's first recycling company that accepts kid's car seats, filling a gap that no one else currently handles.

To recycle as much as possible from the car seats, Risdon-Betcher and Ries first take the seats to the Calgary Dream Centre on Macleod Trail, where volunteers remove all fabric foam and webbing. Then they transport what's left to Friendly Earth Recycling. There, staff wash the pieces of raw plastic before sending them through machines to be shredded or ground into chips. The company then sells the chips to injection mould companies around the world to be turned into a variety of new products.

Kidseat Recyclers charges a recycling fee of about \$7 per car seat, which just covers the cost of transport, processing and packaging of the recycled plastics and metal.

The company has recycled about 500 car seats since last May, but there's potential for far more to be reclaimed from the landfill. According to the most recent local census records, 16,673 children were born in Calgary between 2008 and 2009.

Ries estimates that each of these children will go through one to three car seats between birth to about the age of 10.

Most recycling programs across North America do not accept car seats because the seats are composed of too many hard-to-dispose-of materials.

Ries is hopeful that Kidseat Recyclers will just be a short-term fix. "I'd like to see the car seat manufacturers eventually step up to the plate and do it themselves."

Kidseat Recyclers collects children's car seats from two permanent drop-off sites in Calgary: retail stores Star Bright For Kids (309, 500 Country Hills Blvd. NE, 403.226.4004) and Edamame Kids (1911-34th Ave. SW, 403.453.0454). They also set up a drop-off site at various locations in the city about once a month. For more details, visit [www.kidseatrecyclers.ca](http://www.kidseatrecyclers.ca).

*Source: The Calgary Herald*

## Mandatory Food Scrap Recycling Coming to Metro Vancouver

Coffee grounds, egg shells and orange peels going into Metro Vancouver garbage bins may start costing residents money. Metro Vancouver will begin imposing bans on trashing kitchen scraps next year.

By the end of 2012, kitchen waste from single-family homes in Metro will be banned, and by the end of 2015, will be banned from all residences and businesses, according to Metro's Zero Waste Challenge Strategy. Food materials account for about a third of all residential

garbage in the region.

So far, Port Coquitlam is leading the way in innovative methods of discouraging people from throwing away recyclables. While seven of Metro's municipalities have begun kitchen-scrap recycling programs, and the others are engaged in pilot projects, PoCo has moved to bi-weekly trash pickup with weekly scrap pickup, and a bin-pricing system that rewards recyclers while penalizing those who toss a lot of trash.

Residents in PoCo receive three 240-litre bins: a black one for trash, a blue one for recyclables and a green one for kitchen scraps and yard waste. If they want a 360-litre trash can, it costs an extra \$100 a year. They can save \$30 a year by replacing their 240-litre garbage bin with one half the size. For an extra \$10 a year, they can get a larger green or blue bin.

The change brought the city's percentage of material diverted from the waste stream to 63% from 50% in one year. Metro's Zero Waste Strategy aims to get 70% of all discarded materials diverted from the garbage stream by 2015.

It will be up to each municipality to decide how to ensure banned kitchen scraps aren't thrown in the trash.

*Source: The Province*

## Cascades Recovery Inc.

*We care so much about paper and packaging; when you're done with it, we want it back...*

Cascades Recovery Inc. manages the diversion of discarded materials.

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**our business is to divert material from landfill – working towards zero waste.**

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### Calgary

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E-Mail: [calgary@recoverycascades.com](mailto:calgary@recoverycascades.com)

### Edmonton

Tel: 780-464-4761

E-Mail: [edmonton@recoverycascades.com](mailto:edmonton@recoverycascades.com)



**Cascades**

## Saskatchewan Announces Bridge Financing for Recycling

The Saskatchewan government is working with the waste reduction industry and municipal and industry stakeholders on plans for a province-wide multi-materials recycling program for printed paper and packaging. The program was originally intended to be in place by the end of 2010, but has fallen behind schedule and is now scheduled for launch later this year. In the interim, however, the province has agreed to provide \$1.25 million in bridge funding to recycling program operators. Billed as the Municipal Recycling Bridge Funding Program, it will allocate funding as follows:

- \$655,000 to the Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres to support cardboard and paper recycling operations, including Cosmopolitan Industries;
- \$264,000 to the Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan for regional recycling operations; and
- \$331,000 to the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association to support municipal recycling operations not already receiving funds through the above two organizations.

*Source: Recycling Canada*

## BC School Diverts 85% of Waste

The Green Team at Maple Creek Middle School is successfully diverting 85% of the school's waste. The Green Team began its efforts last year with recycling towers set up in each class to sort beverage containers and paper.

Their efforts are making a tangible difference. In the past two years, Maple Creek has reduced its garbage pickups from two dumpsters twice per week to one dumpster every second week. They now produce one-sixth the amount of garbage they previously produced.

Besides the obvious environmental impacts, their zero-waste initiative also has financial benefits. The Green Team expects to earn between \$1,500 and \$2,000 in beverage container returns this year – about 400% more than in the past.

And for student Caitlin Liboiron, the project has fostered positive personal effects from the moment it began last year. "I've never been happier. After all of the years of teachers trying to teach us why we should be recycling, it was finally happening. I learned more things from that first year on Green Team than I had in all my years in school," Caitlin said.

Project organizer Dana Asher hopes the school district will incorporate zero-waste concepts and provide funds to support waste-diversion projects. "Maple Creek Middle School is currently recycling approximately 85% of the waste brought into our school," said the Grade 8 teacher. "We are working towards the very attainable goal of making that 100%."

*Source: Coquitlam NOW*

## Residential Recovery of Paper Packaging Estimated at 65%

The residential recovery of paper packaging for recycling has reached 65% for most Canadians, according to the industry's environmental council (PPEC).

The PPEC study estimated used paper packaging material actually sent for recycling by householders. Simply having access to a Blue Box-type system was not considered good enough since this doesn't mean a material actually gets sent for recycling, just that it could be sent for recycling. And the focus was specifically on residential recovery as opposed to industrial recycling.

"We chose to focus on the residential stream," says PPEC executive director, John Mullinder, "because of the lack of recent and credible data on industrial packaging recycling, but even then, getting credible residential data was not easy." Some provinces do not collect the applicable data so the council ended up basing its findings on four provinces representing 86% of Canada's population (Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta). The council also had to make certain assumptions on packaging generation and recovery, based on the best available information.

In summary, residential paper packaging recovery for recycling was estimated at 65% (2009 data). Ontario had the highest residential paper packaging recovery rate of the four provinces (at 77%). Corrugated had a higher overall recycling rate (of 75%) than old boxboard (52%). Full details of the study are available at [www.ppec-paper.com](http://www.ppec-paper.com).

For more information, contact John Mullinder at 905.458.0087 or [ppec@ppec-paper.com](mailto:ppec@ppec-paper.com)

## Saanich Waives Garbage Collection Fee for Waste-Free Household

Unlike every other Saanich resident, David Poje won't have to pay \$149.60 for garbage collection this year.

Saanich council agreed to waive the fee for the third year in a row because the Bracken Avenue resident doesn't have any garbage to collect.

Though his household is not the only one in Saanich with zero waste, Poje is the only resident who asked to have the collection fee waived.

*Source: Saanich News*

## Quebec Expands Waste Reduction Plan

Quebec is dedicating an additional \$61 million to its waste reduction plan. The plan was originally announced late in 2009, accompanied by a draft stewardship regulation, a commitment to move ahead with landfill bans and \$650 million of federal and provincial money to support the construction of a province-wide infrastructure to divert organics, generate compost and capture methane for electricity generation.

The Province announced on March 15 a list of specific programs meant to achieve the overarching objective of reducing per capita waste generation to 700 kg by 2015 against a 2008 baseline of 810 kg:

- An \$11 million program to support community-based waste reduction and reuse organizations.
  - \$10 million to support waste diversion programs in the IC&I sectors.
  - \$6 million to promote out-of-home recycling.
  - An additional \$9 million for the modernization of the province's MRFs. This funding supplements and extends a program introduced by the province during the height of the recession, when commodity prices collapsed.
  - \$5 million to study the recycling infrastructure province-wide and recommend efficiencies within the industry.
  - 20 million for the C&D sector.
- An advisory committee on residual materials management. This 11-member committee drawn from industry, municipal government and the recycling community will advise the Minister on waste management policy.
  - The Program for Processing Organic Matter by Biomethanization and Composting. This program is part of the province's climate change strategy. It offers a subsidy of up to 50% to municipalities, and up to 30% to the private sector, for eligible composting and biogas projects.
  - The Draft Regulation Respecting the Recovery and Reclamation of Products by Enterprises. This is Quebec's draft stewardship regulation. It's a generic regulation that will first target electronic products, batteries, mercury lamps, paints and paint containers, as well as used oils, coolants, antifreeze and their filters and containers. However, the regulation is structured to allow the easy addition of other products as needed. It was first released in November 2009 and is still in draft form.
  - The Regulation respecting the charges payable for the disposal of residual materials. This is a 2006 regulation that introduced a province-wide \$10 per tonne landfill surcharge. And additional surcharge of \$9.50 per tonne was added in 2010. That additional surcharge runs through 2015.

Source: Recycling Canada



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[www.bcmb.ab.ca](http://www.bcmb.ab.ca)

## Harper Government Projects Environmental Cuts

The Harper government is projecting some major cuts over the next year to several of its environmental initiatives, including climate change and clean air, according to federal estimates.

The numbers, released March 1, 2011 by the Treasury Board Secretariat, show a 59% cut in global warming and air pollution spending as part of more than \$1.6 billion in annual, government-wide reductions to environmental services across the different federal departments. The shift is the equivalent to a 14% reduction in spending that also includes a \$222 million or 20% reduction in spending at Environment Canada.

Natural Resources Canada is estimating a \$928 million (21%) decrease in its spending for the next year, including a \$390 million decrease in spending due to the end of a popular retrofit program that subsidized homeowners for renovations that reduce energy consumption and utility bills.

Environment Minister Peter Kent suggested that some funds could reappear following the federal budget.

The biggest changes appear to be the 59% reduction for annual climate change and clean air initiatives to \$99 million from \$240 million. According to the department, these measures “served to inform Canada’s domestic regulatory approach to greenhouse gas emissions, provide a platform to deepen engagement with the US on climate change issues and enhance Canada’s visibility as an international leader in clean energy technology.”

*Source: Postmedia News*

## New Partnership to Recycle Soaps Globally

Turtle Island Recycling, a Canadian-based recycling company, is partnering with the US-based charitable organization Clean the World to recycle soaps and bottled amenities globally.

Turtle Island will act as the central and eastern Canadian hub for the distribution of 5,000 pounds of hotel soaps per month within and around Canada, along with global circulation.

With over 60 hotels in Canada already joining in on the humanitarian project, Turtle Island foresees many hotels in its service area signing up for the recycling program.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## Ottawa City Workers Save Millions on Garbage Collection

Ottawa city workers collect garbage more cheaply than the private-sector alternatives – more cheaply, even, than they said they could when the city held a bidding process several years ago – according to a city announcement on February 7, 2011.

The “partnership” between the city and its workers in Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 503 has saved the city nearly \$5 million over five years, the announcement says. The city conducted a tender-like process that ended up choosing its own workers to do the collection work over private-sector competitors.

According to an audit report prepared by Ernst & Young, the city workers’ bid has been an average of about \$900,000 cheaper a year than the lowest private-sector bid, and an additional \$300,000 a year or so has been found in efficiencies due to “reduced fuel prices, efficient route optimization, managed labour costs, and the productivity of dedicated and experienced staff.”

*Source: The Ottawa Citizen*

## Shopping Bag Fee to Reduce NWT Waste

As part of its ongoing plan to reduce waste, the Northwest Territories (NWT) government has imposed a \$0.25 fee on all disposable shopping bags in all stores in the territory.

Effective February 1, 2011, all paper, plastic and biodegradable bags in all retail stores cost \$0.25.

Prior to this, the fee was only imposed on disposable bags in grocery stores.

The territory introduced the fee in January 2010 through the Single-use Retail Bag Regulations (N.W.T. Reg.-148-2009) under the *Waste Reduction and Recovery Act*.

The fee is part of the government’s Single-use Retail Bag Program and is intended to reduce litter in the territory.

“When we think about the three Rs – reduce, reuse, and recycle – it is the first R (reduce) that is the most important,” said NWT Environment and Natural Resources Minister J. Michael Miltenberger. “This program is a great example of a waste reduction program: the fewer bags that we use mean the fewer natural resources we consume and the less waste we produce.”

The fee doesn’t apply to bags used inside stores for unpackaged bulk items, such as produce, bakery items, candy, and small hardware items.

It also doesn’t apply to bags used for dry cleaning, prescriptions or primary packaging of prepared food.

Fees collected from the Single-use Retail Bag Program are used for the territory’s Environment Fund to help pay for future waste reduction and recycling programs.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## Pilot Public Spaces Recycling Program Results in High Diversion

Nestlé Waters Canada and Waterfront Development Corporation Limited (WDC) announced that the recent pilot public spaces recycling program on the Halifax waterfront resulted in a 95% diversion rate for beverage containers and a combined container, paper diversion rate of 83%.

Public spaces recycling captures the “last mile” of recyclables – items typically captured through Nova Scotia’s deposit-refund and curbside recycling programs that are abandoned by consumers in park spaces, recreational facilities like arenas, streetscapes, transit stops, bars and restaurants, elementary and secondary schools, convenience stores and gas stations.

The waterfront program targeted waste, recyclables, paper and organics.

Considered one of the greenest initiatives in Canada, it aligned with Halifax Regional Municipality’s bylaw requiring four-stream waste collection and reinforced Nova Scotia’s reputation as a recycling leader.

The highly successful program deployed 15 four-stream receptacles, manufactured by Big Belly Solar, along the Halifax Harbourwalk. The eco-friendly receptacles feature a solar-powered waste compactor that reduces collection frequency by up to 80% according to the manufacturer, saving time, money and reducing pick-up emissions. The 15 receptacles replaced 51 standard garbage bins on the Halifax waterfront.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### National C&D Recycling Rate Certification Being Developed

A national recycling rate certification program for the construction and demolition debris reuse and recycling industry in the US is being developed.

The voluntary program is being developed by the Construction Materials Recycling Association (CMRA) and representatives from environmental non-profits, architects, academia, government agencies and the recycling industry.

CORR aims to become a national certification program to verify building materials debris reuse and recycling rates at C&D reuse and recycling facilities.

The certification program seeks to “provide a procedure for accurately accounting for the materials inputs and outputs of a C&D reuse or recycling facility” and to “provide an objective and transparent process for eligible firms seeking to communicate their reuse and recycling of C&D materials,” CMRA said.

Guidelines are posted at [www.cdrecycling.org](http://www.cdrecycling.org), and comments can be submitted to [info@cdrecycling.org](mailto:info@cdrecycling.org).

*Source: Waste & Recycling News*



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UTILITIES

## San Francisco Compost Program Offsets Traffic Emissions

New data released in April 2011 shows that in addition to returning nutrients to local farms and vineyards, San Francisco's compost collection program offsets hundreds of thousands of tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, thereby helping lead efforts to reduce the Bay Area's carbon footprint.

San Francisco residents and businesses have placed more than 907,000 tons of food scraps and plants in green bins since the program started as a pilot in 1996. Recology, the garbage and recycling company based in San Francisco, collects those tons separately from other waste and composts the scraps and plants producing 95,000 cubic yards of finished compost a year.

San Francisco's compost program reduces landfill disposal and offsets greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the amount of methane produced in landfills and by sequestering carbon in topsoil. Since its inception, the program has created a total CO<sub>2</sub>e benefit of 354,600 metric tons. That is equal to offsetting emissions from all vehicles crossing the Bay Bridge for 777 days. The emissions offsets are based on a protocol set by the Climate Action Reserve.

*Source: San Francisco Sentinel*

## MIT Tracks Trash for Study

Out of sight, out of mind has long been the mindset of many when taking out the trash. But a new project from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology seeks to illuminate what happens with disposals after being disposed.

In 2009, researchers at MIT's SENSEable City Lab – a project that uses new technologies to examine urban issues – launched Trash Track. They recruited volunteers in Seattle who attached 3,000 electronic monitors to coffee cups, yogurt containers, computers, light bulbs and other disposables to determine their end destination. The recently released results provide a glimpse into where waste produced in the city wound up. Interestingly, more than 75% of waste tracked in the study found its way into a recycling facility.

Results of the study also showed how far some waste from Seattle travelled across the country. Electronic waste made its way to specialized facilities in other states, on average more than 932 miles. A printer cartridge made the longest journey at 3,823 miles.

*Source: Resource Recycling*

## Scotland adds Carbon Metric to Recycling Performance

Scotland will no longer be basing recycling policy on tonnage, but on carbon impact. Scotland is believed to be the first jurisdiction in the world to measure its waste diversion performance in part through the impact of diversion on greenhouse gas generation.

Scotland calls it "carbon metric," and its impact on waste management policy decision-making could be substantial. Scotland has set a diversion target of 70% of recyclables by 2025, taking into account the new carbon weighting system. Under the system, commodities are given a carbon metric weighting ranging from 0 to 100. Recycling performance is measured by applying the weighting to the tonnage of each of the commodities, adding them together, and then dividing them by total tonnage of waste and recyclables. The carbon metric is based on a modified lifecycle analysis of various commodities.

Based on raw tonnage, Scottish municipalities diverted 36% of municipal waste in 2009-2010. In part, this was achieved through successful programs for C&D waste (71% of available waste captured), organics (46%) and glass (44%). However, by applying the carbon metric calculation to the figures, the diversion rate falls to 27%.

By using the carbon metric, municipalities will be encouraged to focus future investment on under-performing sectors that have a high carbon impact, such as metals, textiles and plastics.

For more information about Scotland's carbon metric system, visit the relevant pages at the Zero Waste Scotland website at [www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/carbon\\_metric/carbon\\_metric.html](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/carbon_metric/carbon_metric.html).

*Source: Recycling Canada*

## US Paper Capacity Falling

The total paper and paperboard capacity in the US continues to decline, according to the results of a survey from the American Forest & Paper Association.

The association's 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Survey of Paper, Paperboard and Pulp Capacity reveals that the total paper and paperboard capacity in the US declined 3.1% in 2010, a continuation of 2009's decline of 2.5% and 0.8% in 2008.

Additionally, the survey found that a total of 22 machines and 12 mills were classified as permanently closed. Seven more machines and two more mills are scheduled to shut their doors in 2011.

The survey also reported that the total paper and paperboard capacity in the US is expected to further contract by 1.4% in 2011. However, it anticipates small increases of 0.1% and 0.2% in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

For more, visit [www.afandap.org](http://www.afandap.org).

*Source: Resource Recycling*



## Questions to ask any new potential eWaste Recycler

- ❖ *How many years experience do they have with municipal collection sites in Alberta?*
- ❖ *Do they have any references for current Municipal customers?*
- ❖ *What machinery is used to process and environmental impact of same?*
- ❖ *How much eWaste do they currently have that has not yet been processed?  
How long have they had this material?*
- ❖ *Method of packaging - cost of labor of this method.*
- ❖ *Schedule of pickup - how many days after the request is submitted will they pick up?*

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- ❖ ***has over 100 drop-off sites throughout Alberta.***
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- ❖ ***offers their customers 20-feet 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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# News

## Illinois Considers EPR Program for Plastic Shopping Bags

The Illinois legislature is considering a new bill to put an extended producer responsibility system in place for plastic shopping bags.

The law, the Plastic Bag and Film Recycling Act, would require manufacturers of plastic carry-out bags to register with the state Environmental Protection Agency. Manufacturers would have to develop and deploy a bag recycling plan to recycle plastic carry-out bags and plastic film product wrap, and have the plans approved by the state EPA.

Manufacturer-sponsored recycling plans must include public education components and also report recycling data back to the state. Also included in the plan is a provision requiring all bags used in the state be made from at least 30% recycled content.

*Source: Waste & Recycling News*

## Wondering Where to Recycle Your Stuff?

Visit **Alberta's Recycling Hotline**  
at [www.recyclinghotline.ca](http://www.recyclinghotline.ca)  
or phone 1.800.463.6326

Waste Reduction Week in Canada

**What are  
YOU  
doing for  
Waste Reduction  
Week?**

**October 17 – 23, 2011**

Check out  
**[www.recycle.ab.ca/wrw](http://www.recycle.ab.ca/wrw)**  
soon for campaign details.

[www.wrwcanada.com](http://www.wrwcanada.com)

## Need Help This Summer? Hire a Recycling Ambassador!

Do you need help with specific tasks or projects this summer? Look no further – RCA's Recycling Ambassadors can help.

The RCA hires a group of university/college students from May through August. The students travel throughout Alberta delivering projects, such as public information events, surveys, waste audits and other field research, while gaining valuable experience that assists them in their education and career pursuits.

Project duration can vary from one day to 4 months. Recycling Ambassadors bring an

environmental, marketing or technical background, combined with a keen interest in applying their educational experience, as well as the support of the RCA administration and Board.

If you have a project that may benefit from the involvement of the RCA's Recycling Ambassadors, email [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca) or give us a call at 403.843.6563 to discuss your requirements and budget.



**Recycling Council  
of Alberta**

# Coming Events

# Classifieds

**"Climate for Change"**, SWANA Northern Lights Chapter Conference, May 30 - June 1, 2011, Saskatoon, SK, contact: 780.496.5614, [www.swananorthernlights.org](http://www.swananorthernlights.org)

**Fostering Sustainable Behavior**, two-day community-based social marketing workshop with Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, June 2-3, 2011, Sherwood Park, AB, [www.recycle.ab.ca/workshops](http://www.recycle.ab.ca/workshops)

**Fostering Sustainable Behavior**, introductory community-based social marketing workshop with Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, June 6-7, 2011, Calgary, AB, [www.cbsm.com](http://www.cbsm.com)

**"The Green Economy: Ready, Set, Grow!"** 37<sup>th</sup> Annual RCBC Zero Waste Conference, June 8-10, 2011, Whistler, BC, [www.rcbc.bc.ca/events/annual-conference](http://www.rcbc.bc.ca/events/annual-conference)

**104<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Air & Waste Management Association**, June 21-24, 2011, Orlando, FL, [www.awma.org/ace2011](http://www.awma.org/ace2011)

**2011 Resource Recycling Conference**, August 17-18, 2011, Indianapolis, IN, contact: 503.233.1305, [www.rconference.com](http://www.rconference.com)

Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council's **Fall'11 Waste Minimization Forum**, September 15-16, 2011, Swift Current, SK, contact: 306.931.3242, [www.saskwastereduction.ca](http://www.saskwastereduction.ca)

**The Compost Council of Canada's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual National Compost Conference**, September 19-21, 2011, Charlottetown, PEI, contact: 416.535.0240, [info@compost.org](mailto:info@compost.org)

**Conference on Canadian Stewardship**, September 20-21, 2011, Halifax, NS, contact: 250.495.4592, [www.canadianstewardship.com](http://www.canadianstewardship.com)

**2011 E-Scrap Conference**, October 5-6, 2011, Orlando, FL, contact: 503.233.1305, [www.e-scrapconference.com](http://www.e-scrapconference.com)

**"Recycling Means Business" 2011 RCA Waste Reduction Conference**, October 5-7, 2011, Edmonton, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, [www.recycle.ab.ca/conference](http://www.recycle.ab.ca/conference)

**First Annual Edmonton Eco-Expo**, October 14-16, 2011, Edmonton, AB, contact: 780.700.4776, [www.edmontonecoexpo.com](http://www.edmontonecoexpo.com)

**Waste Reduction Week in Canada**, October 17-23, 2011, [www.wrwcanada.com](http://www.wrwcanada.com)

**"Plastics Recycling and Sustainability on my Mind."** GPEC 2011, hosted by the Environmental Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers, October 17-19, 2011, Atlanta, GA, contact: 1.800.798.1241, [www.4spe.org/conferences/gpec-2011](http://www.4spe.org/conferences/gpec-2011)

Visit [www.recycle.ab.ca](http://www.recycle.ab.ca) for more events listings.

## Jobs

- Aquatera Utilities in Grande Prairie is hiring a **Solid Waste Operator**. A detailed job posting is available at [www.aquatera.ca](http://www.aquatera.ca). Please submit your resume by May 16, 2011, quoting "2011-10-rca" to [mbraumberger@aquatera.ca](mailto:mbraumberger@aquatera.ca) or fax to 780.830.7060.
- WasteLess Environmental Services is looking for a **Field Representative**. For further information or to apply, please contact [dlyster@wasteless.com](mailto:dlyster@wasteless.com).
- The City of Lloydminster is looking to hire a **Municipal Waste Manager**. The full job posting is available at [www.lloydminster.ca](http://www.lloydminster.ca). For further details and to apply, please contact [hburzinski@lloydminster.ca](mailto:hburzinski@lloydminster.ca).

## Resources

- Alberta Manure and Compost Directory [www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app68/manure](http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app68/manure)
- BC Biomass Trader [www.biomasstrader.org/bc](http://www.biomasstrader.org/bc)

## Market Updates

	Per Tonne	Trend
Glass		
Coloured	0	↔
Plate	0	↔
Paper		
Cardboard (baled)	90-100	↓
Cardboard (loose)	70	↓
Office Pak (loose)	100	↓
Mixed (loose)	30-40	↑
Magazines (loose)	40-50	↓
News (loose)	50-75	↓
Plastic		
HDPE Natural (baled)	150-600	↑
HDPE Coloured (baled)	60-350	↑
Clear PE Film (baled)	200-350	↑
Coloured PE Film (baled)	0-50	↑
Metal		
Steel Food Cans (baled)	105	↑
White Goods	105	↑

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.



**Helping municipalities achieve  
their organic waste diversion goals.**



Small Kitchen bags  
for under the counter  
organics containers\*



Tall Kitchen bags  
for large Green Bins and  
tall kitchen containers

**Accepted for use in municipal jurisdictions across Canada including:**

Prince Edward Island, Montreal – Quebec, Durham Region, Halton Region, Peel Region, York Region, Simcoe County,  
Niagara Region, Hamilton – Ontario, Brandon – Manitoba, Strathcona, Spruce Grove, Cold Lake – Alberta,  
Regional District of Nanaimo, Cowichan Valley (ie Ladysmith) – BC

**Please contact Glad Canada for additional information (905) 595-8357**

\*Replacing Small Green "See through" 52ct Plastic Bags that have been discontinued.



Recycling Council  
of Alberta

# RECYCLING MEANS BUSINESS

**Conference & AGM Oct. 5-7, 2011**  
**The Westin Edmonton, Edmonton, Alberta**

## EVENTS

- Golf Tournament
- Tours
- Fundraising for Non-Profits Seminar
- Gala Banquet
- Rs of Excellence Awards
- Exhibits and Networking Opportunities

## SESSIONS

- Municipal Issues
- The Business of Recycling

- Construction and Demolition
- Marketing and Promotion
- Toxics
- Organics Diversion in the ICI Sector
- Maximizing Diversion
- Procurement

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Toby Heaps (Corporate Knights)
- Gavin Scott & Tyler Barkhouse (Team Canada Antarctica 2011 Expedition)

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