

# THE WASTE LINE

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City of Nanaimo Garbage and Recycling Newsletter

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The City of Nanaimo

## REUSE RENDEZVOUS 2009

### AVAST THERE!

T'is that time o' year...Yer invited to partake in Nanaimo's annual weekend long curbside swap meet. Residents are encouraged to take this opportunity to get rid of unwanted items. Yer welcome to place unwanted goods out on the curbside in front of your home on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

From there, residents have the opportunity to travel round' the city and peruse each other's abandoned belongings, taking away for free whatever catches your eye. Hoho me hearties, there's treasure to be found! Remember one person's junk is another's treasure.

Items such as bikes, furniture, hardware, office furniture, tools, clothing, garden tools, kitchen accessories, sporting goods and toys will be among the treasures that could be found on Nanaimo boulevards that weekend.



### TREASURE HUNTERS:

Have fun.

Take only items that are useful to you.

Slow down. Remember to obey traffic signs, speed limits, and park carefully.

While keeping yer' eye on the treasure watch out for wee ones and respect public and private property.

### TREASURE GIVERS:

Mark your items with "FREE" tags. Make yer' own tags or pick them up at City Hall, Public Works, Beban and Bowen Park, the Aquatic Centre, and the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange.

Don't leave items that are not for the Reuse Rendezvous on your boulevard.

Any items not given a new home must be removed from their boulevards by evening April 5<sup>th</sup>, as they will not be collected as part of regular waste pick-up service.

You are responsible to dispose of items not collected by treasure hunters.

An online recycling directory is available at [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca)

### A FEW LOCATIONS INCLUDE:

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** accepts gently used clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, stuffed animals and many other soft items. Located at #3 - 2350 Labieux Rd. below the Coastal Community Credit Union office on the corner of Bowen Rd and Labieux Rd. Call 250-756-2447.

**Good Neighbours** accepts donations of household items, furniture and appliances in useable condition. They also offer a free pick-up service. Located at 540 Milton Rd. and open Monday - Friday 9:30 - 5, Saturday 10-5, closed Sunday. Call 250-755-1433.

**Nanaimo Recycling Exchange** at 2477 Kenworth Road accepts clothing, books, magazines, toys, small electronics, and household goods for their community market store. Some of the items are then given to community groups. For more information call 250-758-7777.

**Salvation Army** The Salvation Army accepts furniture, shoes, clothing (all ages), appliances, books, housewares, toys and sporting goods in working and reusable condition. No bed mattresses. For a free pick-up service or more info call 250-754-9342 or drop off at their Thrift Store locations - 867 Bruce Ave., 505 Eighth St., and 205A-6750 Island Hwy N. - between the hours of 9 and 4:30.

**Second Hand Sandy's**  
Second Hand Sandy's accepts donations of household items and furniture and appliances in usable condition. They also offer a free pick-up service. Call 250-753-7797.

**INSIDE:**  
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and more...

# ENVIRONMENTAL MIND GRIND

Hundreds of B.C. students will be celebrating Earth Day early on April 18<sup>th</sup> by putting their knowledge of environmental issues to the test for the Environmental Mind Grind Challenge.

"This is Nanaimo's first time participating in the Mind Grind, which is not only fun for the students but also teaches them about local environmental issues," says Celeste of the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange who is coordinating the inaugural event. The winning teams will then compete in the provincial playoffs in May.

The Mind Grind is a game show style trivia contest that brings students from elementary schools together and promotes responsible environmental stewardship. Teams of students from

Grades 4 to 7 have signed up and have been working with their teachers to learn specially prepared study packages covering topics like: waste reduction, energy conservation, air quality, transportation management, forestry health, species and spaces, water conservation and watershed health.

"On the day of the Mind Grind, there will be a non-stop schedule of competitions and activities, as well as interactive displays and exhibits. One question from seven different areas will be asked during each round, and the team to buzz in first has the opportunity to answer. The team with the most points at the end of seven questions advances to the next round," described Celeste.

## Test your Knowledge.

Sample questions given to elementary students

**What is one of the cleanest burning fossil fuels?**

**What is the definition of waste?**

**Of the three R's which one is the main goal for waste reduction?**

**Who are the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest water users in the world?**

The Nanaimo Recycling Exchange is already active in local classrooms, providing workshops and yard tours to schools from elementary to high school in different areas of environmental awareness through their "Down to Earth" program.

Local celebrities will emcee the event at Nanaimo North Town Centre and a panel of local experts will help judge the competition in their area of expertise, including zero waste, climate change, water quality, composting and clean energy.

Answers: natural gas, waste is defined as "eliminated or discarded as no longer useful or required", reduce, Canadians

The City of Nanaimo uses 40 to 80 million litres of water per day. This works out to approximately 500 litres per day per person in the winter months. The figure is approximately doubled in the summer months.



**For more information on recycling exchange workshops or Environmental Mind Grind, call Celeste or Kristin at 250-758-7777 or e-mail [education@recycling.bc.ca](mailto:education@recycling.bc.ca)**

## PROJECT RE-DIAL

More than two million Canadians have diabetes and this number is expected to increase dramatically as the population ages. Risk factors for type 2 diabetes include being age 40 and over, being related to a person with diabetes, being of Aboriginal, Hispanic, South Asian, Asian or African descent, and being overweight or obese. The Canadian Diabetes Association (<http://www.diabetes.ca>) works to prevent diabetes and improve the quality of life for those affected, through research, education, service and advocacy. With a presence in more than 150 communities, the Canadian Diabetes Association's strong network of assistance includes volunteers, employees, healthcare professionals and partners. The Canadian Diabetes Association in collaboration with PhoneBack, Canada has created Project Redial to promote the recovery, recycling and reuse of mobile, wireless and cell phone handsets.

Canadians can donate their used cell phones:

By simply dropping them off at any Canadian Diabetes Association office and at participating Value Village stores or through the Association's Clothesline program. For free pick-up call 1-800-505-5525.

Businesses can donate 'out-of-service' corporate cellular phones or can organize an employee cell phone collection at the office. Free return shipping labels (with a minimum of 50 cell phones) can be requested on the 'Contact' page at [www.CharitableRecycling.ca](http://www.CharitableRecycling.ca) (please request the label for "Project Redial") or by phone at 1-905-830-9607. All funds will be paid to the Canadian Diabetes Association on your behalf.

# Non-Profit Groups Set to Clean Up Nanaimo

Partners in a Cleaner Community returns after a successful campaign last year. In 2008, 13 community organizations were selected, allowing more than 500 volunteers to participate by collecting more than 500 bags of roadside garbage and debris from 100 kilometres of roadside parks, trails, and boulevards.

The 2009 program is available for a limited number of registered non-profit groups. Approved groups have the opportunity to pick up litter along community streets twice in 2009, once in late spring and once in early fall.

Safety vests, trash bags, gloves, road safety signs and collection and disposal of litter collected is provided by the City. The City will contribute \$50 per kilometre to the non-profit group upon completion of its assigned area.



THANK YOU TO THE COMMUNITY GROUPS WHO ARE ACTIVELY KEEPING NANAIMO A CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO LIVE. YOUR EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED.

**This year, participating groups include:**

Chase River Pathfinders  
Christ Community Church  
Church of the Nazarene  
Clay Tree Society  
Edgewood Foundation  
1<sup>st</sup> Neck Point Venturers

1<sup>st</sup> Wellington Brownies  
Island Crisis Care Society  
Morrell Sanctuary Society  
Nanaimo Area Land Trust and  
The Tuesday Hikers  
Nanaimo Association of Community Living

Nanaimo Lions Club  
Nanaimo South Pony Club  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nanaimo Pathfinders  
205 Collishaw Air Cadets  
Younglife

## Water Efficient Fixtures Keep Costs Down

### Toilet Replacement Rebate Program

Did you know that toilets are the biggest water wasters in your home?

13 L or greater flush volume toilets account for an average of 30% of your indoor water use.

The City of Nanaimo is now joining other cities in starting a Toilet Replacement Rebate Program for city property owners. A substantial number of dwellings are equipped with older toilets that require 20 liters of water per flush. New ultra low flow toilets require only 6.0 litres per flush. On a first come first serve basis you can get a cash rebate for up to two 13 litre (or more) toilets you replace with a low-flow toilet. Under the program, residents can claim a \$50 rebate on six-litre, low-flow toilets or \$75 on dual-flush (3litre or 6litre) toilets. This is an opportunity to significantly reduce both water consumption and the sewage stream by retrofitting older toilets with modern ultra low flow models.

"By using less water, residents will save on water and energy bills all year long," says Gary Franssen, Manager of Sanitation and Recycling.

By replacing your old toilet, you could use up to 1/3 less water. That could save more than 200 litres per day or 80,000 litres per year.

As part of the program, you drop off your old toilet at the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange or the Regional Solid Waste disposal site on Cedar Road at a nominal cost where the toilet will be recycled. To qualify, residents must present City Hall with a receipt for the new toilet along with a receipt from the recycling facility where they turned in their old toilet. A property owner can claim up to two toilets per household or business property.

The program is part of an effort to reduce water usage in the city. City council approved up to \$50,000 for the program this year, which should pay for about 900 toilets. For further information please contact the City's Building Division at 250-755-4429 or by email at [toiletrebate@nanaimo.ca](mailto:toiletrebate@nanaimo.ca). For more info visit the What's New area on the City of Nanaimo website at [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca).



# A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

## New Landfill Bans to Encourage Multi-family Dwelling Recycling

Recent growth in the multi-family housing sector has resulted in a plan to bring these complexes more in line with curbside recycling services provided to single-family household throughout the region.

Last November, the Regional Board supported adding household plastic containers as well as metal food and beverage containers to materials prohibited from disposal at RDN solid waste management facilities. It's anticipated that the ban will come into effect in 2010.

The ban's purpose is to increase recycling options for residents of apartments and condominiums and help achieve the region's waste diversion goal. RDN staff is now working with their municipal partners, private garbage and recycling service providers, and multi-family complex owners and residents to ensure a smooth transition and develop educational materials on what recyclables are accepted and how to prepare them.



It's estimated that while 75 per cent of the 12,000 multi-family units have some level of recycling collection service, it's mostly limited to cardboard and paper that is currently banned from landfill disposal. Up to 10,000 of these units are located in the City of Nanaimo, and with the growth forecasts for multi-family housing the current level of recycling service must be expanded and improved to meet the demand.



## Woodstove Change-out

It's money in the pocket, not up in smoke, for Nanaimo residents who are purchasing environmentally certified wood stoves.

The wood appliance rebate program is being administered by the City of Nanaimo. "We want to ensure Nanaimo residents have cleaner energy options to heat their homes," says Rob Lawrence, City Environmental Planner.

To qualify, your old stove must still be in use or recently removed from an existing installation. This rebate only applies to woodstoves created pre-1994. Most insurance companies require notification if you are installing a new appliance. It is recommended you have your chimney inspected by a WETT certified technician before you proceed.

Your old stove must be taken to the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange to be disposed of (whether by you or the installer). The rebate amount is \$250 per appliance. Once the tracking form has been completed, stating proof of purchase and proof of destruction, you will receive reimbursement from the City of Nanaimo. 75 rebates are available through the City of Nanaimo for a limited time.

**Contact any of these local retailers to participate in the 2009 Woodstove Exchange:**

**Blue Flame Sales Ltd.**

1806 Northfield Road 250-258-8770

**Flamewright Services Ltd.**

285 Carnduff Place 250-741-1442

**Goldline Quality Appliances**

6-2253 Wilgress Road 250-729-7988

**Pioneer Fireplace**

367 Selby Street 250-754-2227

or 419 Terminal Avenue 250-753-2353

**Sun-Ray Heating Products Ltd.**

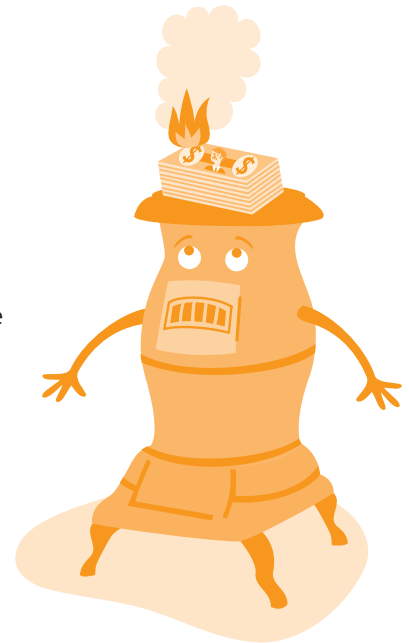
1716 Kidson Road 250-751-0537

**Target Plumbing & Heating Ltd.**

1622 Northfield Road 250-756-3200

\* Many retailers are offering incentives for up to an additional \$150 from March 1<sup>st</sup> until April 30<sup>th</sup>.

For questions, or more information, please e-mail [woodstovechangeout@nanaimo.ca](mailto:woodstovechangeout@nanaimo.ca)



### For more information:

**Nanaimo Recycling Exchange**  
250-758-7777

**BC Recycling Hotline**  
1-800-667-4321

**Curbside Recycling**  
250-758-5360

[www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)

**Regional Landfill, Cedar Rd.**  
250-722-2044

**Garbage Collection**  
250-758-5222

**The Wasteline**  
250-758-5222

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