

THE WASTE LINE

www.nanaimo.ca

City of Nanaimo Garbage and Recycling Newsletter

SPRING 2007

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REUSE RENDEZVOUS 2007

Nanaimo's annual weekend curbside swap meet

AVAST me hearties!

Yohoho! On April 14th and 15th sail the streets of Nanaimo in search of curbside treasures....Ye never know what loot you may find. Perhaps an old bike, toy, fridge or unwanted sofa. Remember one person's trash is another person's treasure.

P.S. - Don't forget ye spyglass!

TREASURE GIVERS:

- Put unwanted item(s) at the curb on April 14th and 15th.
- Mark your items with "FREE" tags. Make your own or free tags are available at City Hall, Public Works, Beban & Bowen Park, the Aquatic Centre, and the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange.
- Don't leave items that are not for the reuse event in your yard.
- Please remove unwanted items after April 15th.

TREASURE HUNTERS:

- Use caution when scouting and picking up your item.
- Take only what you can use.
- Remember to obey traffic regulations, speed limits, and to park carefully.
- Watch for children and respect public and private property.



LEFTOVER TREASURES

If you still have household goods following the Reuse Rendezvous event remember that many local services provide free or low cost ways to donate your unwanted items year round. An online recycling directory is available at www.rdn.bc.ca.

**INSIDE:
SPRING CLEANING
WATER LIMITATIONS
USER FEES EXPLAINED
NRE EXPANDS SERVICES
AND MORE...**

THE WASTE LINE

SPRING CLEANING?

Cleaning out your closet? Getting a new fridge? Still have stuff left over from Reuse Rendezvous? There are convenient organizations and resources that are here to help you.

WHERE TO TAKE REUSABLE ITEMS

Nanaimo Recycling Exchange - NEW Recycling Yard and Community Market located at 2477 Kenworth (beside Budget Car Sales). The Yard Waste and Recycables area is open from 7am - 7pm daily while the Community Market is open from 9am - 4:15pm. The Community Market accepts a large assortment of reusable items for reuse or recycling. Phone 758-7777 or visit online at www.recycling.bc.ca.

Canadian Diabetes Association - (255-2000 North Island Hwy.) Open Monday - Friday 7am - 2pm. Accept clothing, books, and household items in reusable condition. Phone 758-4223 to arrange for pick-up.

Good Neighbours - (540 Milton St.) Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm. Accept items in working and reusable condition. This includes small appliances, children's items, clothing, furniture, household items, and toys. They also accept mattresses. Phone 755-1433 for details.

Friends of Haven Thrift Shop - (451 Albert St.) Open Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm. Accept small furniture, housewares, and clothing. No mattresses or computer equipment please. Phone 754-3687 for more information. Drop off hours are between 9am and 3pm. No pick-up service available.

Salvation Army - Accept items in working and reusable condition including small appliances, furniture, clothing, household items, toys, sporting goods, and books. No mattresses please. Phone 754-9342 for location and more information. Drop off hours are between 9am and 4:30pm.

WHERE TO TAKE APPLIANCES, SCRAP METAL, OR YARD WASTE

The **NRE** (2477 Kenworth Rd.) accepts appliances in working & non-working condition. They also accept yard waste and scrap metal. Phone 758-7777 for details.

Regional District of Nanaimo Landfill (1105 Cedar Rd.) Dispose of yardwaste or appliances including fridges and freezers. Minimum charges apply. Phone 722-2044 for details.

Budget Steel (2079 Main Road) Open Monday - Saturday 8am - 4:30pm. Free drop-off for most metal including autobodies and appliances (fees may apply). Phone 716-0047 or check their website at www.budgetsteel.com

PARTNERS IN A CLEANER COMMUNITY

The Partners in a Cleaner Community Annual Program is about to start up again this month.

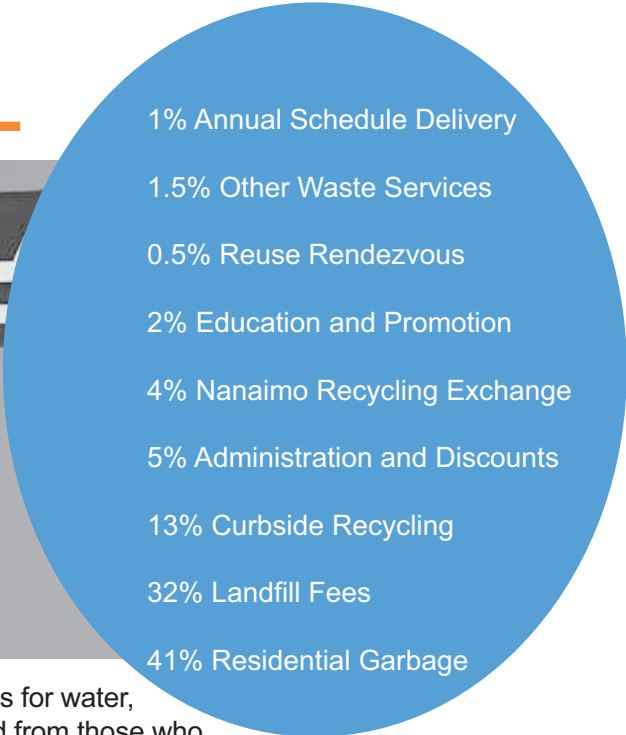
For the fourth year in a row, volunteers from non-profit groups in Nanaimo will be on the road, making our City a cleaner place to live while raising funds to support their organization's programs.

In the Spring and Fall volunteer groups will walk assigned areas to pick up litter. Each group receives \$50 per kilometre upon completion of their clean up task. In total, community groups raise about \$10,000 for their organizations each year.

BE WATERWISE IN 2007

As Summer approaches we would like to remind city residents that **WATER USE RESTRICTIONS** are in effect from **JUNE 1st** through **SEPTEMBER 30th**. These restrictions help reduce the rate of water consumption and help manage water supply and reservoir levels. Your garbage schedule highlights the months that water restrictions are in place. In the City of Nanaimo each person uses approximately 1000 litres per day. This per capita use includes water used at home, business and industry. In the summer months, this figure increases to a peak demand of 1500 litres per person per day. Try to use less. Conserve.

HOW YOUR GARBAGE & RECYCLING USER FEES ARE SPENT



Nanaimo's User Rate system charges people directly through utility bills for water, sewer, and garbage. The entire City's cost of each function is collected from those who use the service in the form of user fees. This approach and philosophy is a proven method to promote conservation and control costs. People who use more, pay more.

Despite an increase of 27% in Landfill Fees over the last seven years, Garbage and Recycling Fees have remained the same. RDN Landfill Fees will increase \$5.00 per tonne later this year. The current user fee for Garbage and Recycling services (\$100.25 per year) goes towards the list of items above.

The City of Nanaimo has partnered with EPOST, Canada Post's free online mail delivery service, to enable residents to receive and pay their User Rate bills online. EPOST is a free, secure service accessible from any computer with an internet connection. Your bills and documents will look just like they do in your mailbox, without the paper.



NANAIMO RECYCLING EXCHANGE GROWS

The NEW Nanaimo Recycling Exchange on Kenworth Rd. is NOW offering MORE services.

MILK JUGS -

All empty milk, cream, and milk substitute can be returned. Please bring them in if there is no deposit but you're helping the

(soy & rice) beverage containers (plastic, cartons, and jugs) back capless, clean, and crushed. There is no refund as there is no deposit but you're helping the environment.

PAPER SHREDDING -

For a fee of \$5.00 for a bankers box you can have your old personal

(11"x15"x12") or a \$8.00 for legal file box (11"x24"x12") information professionally shredded.

PAINT CANS - Return leftover paint, flammables, gasoline, and pesticides.

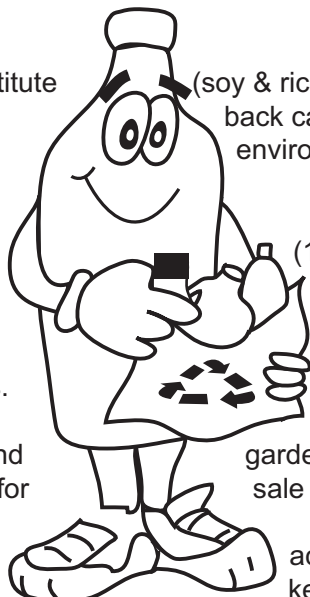
varnish, and stain cans. You can also dispose of There is no charge to drop off leftovers.

YARD WASTE - Bring in your yard and small trailer. Compost worms will be for

garden trimmings. \$4.00 per car load, \$6.00 per small truck or sale at the NRE this Spring.

E-WASTE - The NRE is now accepting towers/CPU's, printers, scanners,

accepting e-waste. This includes monitors, laptops, keyboard, and speakers. A small fee applies.





WHY YOU HAVE TO PAY AT THE DUMP

"I pay my taxes, why should I have to pay more to throw something away at the landfill?"
If you or anyone you know has ever asked this question, here's the answer.

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) operates the two solid waste disposal facilities in the district on a user pay basis. This means that the operation of the facilities must be paid for by the fees collected at the landfill and not from taxes. This is the fairest way to allocate solid waste management costs; the more garbage you produce, the more you pay, the less garbage you produce, the less you pay. Not only is the use pay program fair, it is strongly supported by residents. In a survey done in 2000, 79% of RDN residents agreed that those who produce more garbage should pay more for disposal. The City of Nanaimo pays the Regional District the same fee per tonne of garbage delivered from its curbside garbage service.

User fees pay for landfill operations, but they also pay for capital infrastructure and long term maintenance of the landfill. Modern landfills are highly engineered structures, built to exacting standards. There are many kilometres of underground piping designed to collect and treat water that runs through the landfill (leachate) and gases caused by the decomposition of waste. If they are not collected and treated, leachate and landfill gas are harmful to the environment. The bottom line is that environmentally responsible solid waste disposal costs money.

Another important point to consider is that long after the landfill is closed and fees are no longer collected it will still cost money to monitor and maintain. Some of the fees collected for garbage disposal today must be set aside for long-term environmental stewardship. Again, this is a fair system. Rather than burden future taxpayers with the costs of today's garbage, the future costs should be borne by whoever produces the garbage now.

As with all expenses, many things are beyond the control of the RDN such as fuel and construction costs, and over time, disposal fees must be adjusted to respond to increased costs.

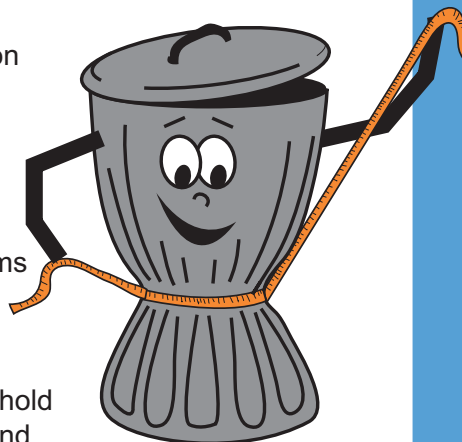
The ecology of Vancouver Island is precious and irreplaceable. The RDN operates a state-of-the-art solid waste disposal system and every time you pay a disposal fee, you do your part to ensure that your garbage does not harm the environment.

MEASURING OUR WASTELINE

Almost 23,500 households received City garbage collection service in 2006. That was an increase of nearly 600 households since 2005.

Each residence puts out a monthly average of 27 kilograms of garbage and 12 kilograms of recyclables.

Overall, 38.74% of your household waste went to City programs and related recycling facilities instead of landfills.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Nanaimo Recycling Exchange
758-7777

Regional Landfill, Cedar Rd.
722-2044

BC Recycling Hotline
1-800-667-4321

Garbage Collection
758-5222

Curbside Recycling
758-5360

The Wasteline
758-5222



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