

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society

Recycling Report

Earth Day Edition!! APRIL, 2015



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Join us **at Memorial Peace Park and the Greg Moore Youth Centre** for the first Farmer's Market of the Year, a Musical Parade, the Family Freecycle, Water Works (interactive art, music, & waterplay) on the Bandstand, the inaugural **Food Truck Festival**, and more!

Earth Day 2015 Schedule of Events - Saturday, April 18, 2015

Time	Event	Location
10:00am	Event begins Family Freecycle opens Food Truck Festival Waterworks activities begin	Entire event site Greg Moore Youth Centre In front of Maple Ridge ACT Bandstand
10:30am	"Spirit of the River" parade	Throughout festival site
11:00am	Welcoming Ceremonies Katie performers, VIPs, Poetry & Photo Contest Winners, & Waterbody performance	Bandstand
11:30am	Cycle Recycle Bike Draw #1	Concrete steps between ACT & Bandstand
12noon	Queen Elsa Storytime	Bandstand
1:00pm	MR Library Storytime	Bandstand
1:30pm	Cycle Recycle Bike Draw #2	Concrete steps between ACT & Bandstand
2:00pm	Event ends	

Ongoing Throughout Earth Day:

- Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Art Studio Tour Artists turn their focus to WATER!
- THREE Live Music Stages bringing you the best of local entertainment & beyond
- Electric Vehicle Display by members of the Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association
- Water Compasses & Geocaching techniques from the Downtown Maple Ridge BIA
- Create your own wetland & learn about Aquaponics in the Water Play Stations (Bandstand)
- Bring your tummy to the inaugural FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL!!
- Do you know your Water Address? Find it on the Bandstand
- Library Live & On Tour – Interactive, electronic library fun!
- First Haney Farmer's Market of the Year – Food! Glorious Food!
- Maple Ridge Library's Story Picnic in the BIG Fish Tent
- Unveiling of Sidewalk Poetry in the Downtown core
- Facepainting by Emerald Pig Theatrical Society
- Family Freecycle in the Greg Moore Youth Centre
- Eco-Friendly Balloon Twisting by Lauren Preston
- Get your photo taken with Snow Queen Elsa!
- Children's Crafts & Activities galore!!
- Surprise Flash Mobs & Roving Performers





Leigh Hodgins,
Vice-President, Ridge
Meadows Recycling Society

Leigh Hodgins On the Many Ways to Re-invest in Our Community

Leigh Hodgins has lived in Maple Ridge since 1985 and has always had a keen interest in protecting the environment.

She is the Assistant Corporate Secretary (Canada) for Spectra Energy Corporation and received her Bachelor of General Studies degree from Simon Fraser University in 2007.

Leigh previously volunteered with the Minerva Foundation and annually participates in the Spectra Energy Helping Hands in Action event.

Spring is in the air and with that comes the excitement and renewal of the year ahead. We start getting out into the garden and cleaning up from winter, starting new home projects, planning vacations and sporting activities. With this new enthusiasm, let's take a look at our lives both at home and the office to what kind of recycling programs we have in place and see what we can do to **Re-invest** our efforts to take recycling to the next level.

Look at our sorting styles, can we be doing more recycling or do we need more containers to be more efficient? Have your recycling bags from the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society gone missing or are in rough shape? Do you need another blue box? Call or come by the Recycling Depot at **604-463-5545** or fill out an online form on our website (www.rmrecycling.org) if you need new bags or boxes.

Does your office have any recycling programs in place other than just office paper? A number of building management companies have instituted new recycling programs such as organics into their current level of service. This is the perfect time of year to Re-invest not our efforts with little or no money to recycle more, make our lives greener and reduce our carbon footprint. If everyone made one small change to how they recycle we could become more efficient!

If your home and office have already maximized how and what is recycled, perhaps look at new ways or things to recycle. Take a look at the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society website and see what is new out there. We have an "A to Z" list of what can be recycled at the depot and it's quite a lengthy list. There are always helpful employees at the depot to assist you with what can and cannot be recycled. Re-invest some time and energy cleaning up your home and properly dispose of unwanted items.

Do you attend a school in Maple Ridge and would like to learn about recycling or other environmental initiatives? Ask your teacher to contact the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society to see if Dan Mikolay is available to come into your class room and teach Environmental Education Workshops. You can schedule via an online form. Re-invest in learning new ways to make our lives and the earth a better place to be!

Finally, Re-invest in your future by contributing to a worthwhile organization working to create a waste free, socially responsible community. There are many ways to get involved - become a member of the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society (it's **free!**), attend events such as Earth Day on **Saturday April 18** at Memorial Peace Park on 224th in Maple Ridge or volunteer to assist with community projects and events.

So get out there and Re-Invest your time and energy in making a difference in your Community.....and making our World a better place!

*"Unless someone like you
cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get
better. It's not."*

-Dr. Seuss

RMRS at Earth Day 2015

In addition to taking the lead in coordinating Celebrate Earth Day, we take part in many of the activities. This year, we were one of the **Family Freecycle** sponsors, donating blue boxes to use as collection bins and covering venue costs for the Greg Moore Youth Centre. We also donate any gently-used bikes that are dropped off at the Recycling Depot that the folks at HUB think will be good for the **Cycle**



FREE BIKES



Recycle Free Bike Draw. Finally, this year, we partnered with **Artist-in-Residence Robi Smith** to apply for a Community Art Grant from the Maple Ridge Public Art Steering Committee which is funding the creation of **WaterWorks** on the Bandstand. WaterWorks describes the interactive art & music that will be created with Robi and two other Artists-in-Residence, as well as the WaterWalls and Water Play Stations set up by our Environmental Educator, Dan Mikolay. With all the WaterWorks activities, a nearby music stage, facepainting, the Welcoming Ceremonies at 11am, and Queen Elsa's storytelling at noon, the Bandstand will really be the heart of this year's festival. See you there!



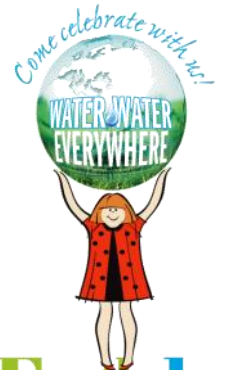
“Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink”

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

Our Earth Day 2015 theme highlights water in its many forms – from rivers, lakes, & oceans to weather systems, from drinking & waste water infrastructure to puddle-jumping and kayaking, from protecting fish habitats to climate disruptions around the world.



Focusing on different themes each year allows us to highlight local organizations and businesses. We have enjoyed learning more about the good work the **Alouette River Management Society (ARMS)**, the **Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS)**, and **Watershed Watch Salmon Society** are doing in our area to enhance and protect local waterways.



New Recycling System Available Exclusively at Earth Day & Home Show!

Have you seen these three boxes yet? After hearing for many years from many residents who don't like the bags (they tear, get dirty, and get blown away), we are moving toward replacing a couple of the bags with boxes made with recycled plastic.

In our experience, we've found boxes also need replacing far less frequently than bags.

The newest box to join the recycling family is the **grey box for glass**. Most households are decreasing the amount of glass they produce for recycling, despite it being one of the easiest to recycle. While glass doesn't lose its integrity with multiple meltings & reshaping, one of the reasons it's not used as much is its weight, which translates into more expensive shipping costs.

The abundance of cheaper, lightweight plastics is why we are introducing the large **red box**. Part of a pilot project we ran last year, most people who tried it out loved it. Because of this, are now starting to shift from the pink, white, & clear bags to the red box.

Another bag we are phasing out is the orange Can and Carton bag. **Cans & cartons** will be going into the (now empty) **blue box**, which has been a part of our recycling system since 1992. With glass now going in the grey box, people can use the blue box for metal cans (tin, aerosol, aluminum) and cartons (milk, tetra-pak-style, ice-cream, and juice).

Retaining bags for cardboard (yellow) and all other types of paper (blue) makes sense for two reasons: one, the bags don't get too heavy for our workers to lift, and two, it keeps the paper (mostly!) dry in case of rain.

Until we deplete our stock of recycling bags, we will continue to give these out to people who call in or order new ones online. If you want to be one of the first to get your new recycling box system, drop by our booth at **Celebrate Earth Day** (Saturday, April 18) in Memorial Peace Park or the **Ridge Meadows Home Show** (Friday - Sunday, May 1-3) at Planet Ice.



Upcoming

MAPLE RIDGE
PITT MEADOWS
ARTS
COUNCIL



Monday, April 27, 2015

Watermark

Rated G | Canada

Jennifer Baichwal, Edward Burtynsky

Following their acclaimed collaboration *Manufactured Landscapes*, photographer Edward Burtynsky and filmmaker Jennifer Baichwal reunite to explore the ways in which humanity has shaped, manipulated and depleted one of its most vital and compromised resources: water.

Opening Celebrations of the Haney Farmers Market

Saturday, May 9, 11a.m.

Market is open from 9 - 2 p.m.

Memorial Peace Park on 224th
in Downtown Maple Ridge.



17th Annual Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows

Art Studio Tour

Mother's Day Weekend

Saturday May 9th & Sunday May 10th | 10am - 4pm

Join Us on a Self-Guided Tour of Local Art Studios

Paintings, Pottery, Sculpture, Glass Art, Carvings, Fabric Art, Jewelry, Mosaics & more

Maps are available online at www.artstudiotour.ca, Maple Ridge Library, Pitt Meadows Library, Tourism Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows Centre, Little Cricket Gift Gallery, The ACT

www.artstudiotour.ca



A HUGE Thank you to our sponsors and members of the 2015 Earth Day Planning Committee!



farnsworth
Designs

THE NEWS



OUR VISION:

To celebrate and embrace the Earth's past, present and future
by engaging people in

Nature and the Outdoors, Family and Community, Green Innovation and Technology
through business, info, arts, activities and entertainment.

OUR MISSION:

The Mission of the Celebrate Earth Day Organizing Committee
is to celebrate and promote
environmental groups, interactive programs, initiatives, issues and ideas
in the communities of

Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows-Katzie First Nations
through an annual participatory event on or around April 22.

