



Ridge Meadows Recycling Society

Recycling Report

MAY, 2013

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Member Paula
Panek on how to
Refuse refuse

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Join the
FOOD
REVOLUTION
May 17 & 18
with Haney
Farmers Market,
Big Feast,
Dishing in the
Kitchen and
Golden Ears
FEAST!

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Earth ARTS Day
a Success!
Over 3000 people
came out to
celebrate
Enviro-Arts!

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All About STYROFOAM at the Ridge Meadows Home Show!

At the Ridge Meadows Home Show at the beginning of May, we worked with Foam Only to focus on the latest commodity we accept, **Styrofoam!**

Technically known as polystyrene, this #6 plastic is collected at the **Maple Ridge Recycling Depot ONLY** (NO Blue Box pickup, the bulkiness would fill the trucks to overflowing in no time flat!). It is then shipped to **Foam Only** in Coquitlam. Foam Only takes all types of styrofoam, from polystyrene used in road construction and fridge packaging to household items like egg cartons and meat trays. This new company condenses the foam into smaller blocks which are then used to make photo frames and crown molding.



As an environmental, non-profit society, Ridge Meadows Recycling is committed to finding sound, environmental end markets for the material we collect. We are excited that one has developed for polystyrene, and we are now able to accept this previously un-recyclable item.

Save up your styro and bring it to the Recycling Depot at 10092—236th Street, Maple Ridge, just off River Road in the Albion Industrial Park!

REMINDER!

Monday, May 20 is Victoria Day, a statutory holiday, so there will be **NO BLUE BOX PICKUP** and the Recycling Depot will be **CLOSED** that day.





**Paula Panek,
Board Member,
Ridge Meadows
Recycling Society**

Paula Panek on ReFUSing REFuse

Paula Panek, a retired IT project manager, is a long-time resident of Maple Ridge. She is a passionate advocate for building community resilience through the re-localization of economic activity and the judicious use of resources. She has served on the Haney Farmers Market Society and CEED Centre boards and has contributed on a number of Council advisory committees. She also presently serves as a director of FarmFolk CityFolk.

What's in a name? (to borrow from the Bard). REFuse may smell as "sweet" as a rose to some, and to others not so much. What is it, really? In its broadest sense REFuse is waste, the detritus of society, which has reached the end of its use. But to some, such as Ridge Meadows Recycling, there is still great value to be wrung from the discarded pots and pans, lawnmowers, cardboard boxes and varied flotsam and jetsam that issue forth from our homes and businesses. Not only is there value to be gained by the re-processing of this waste, there is also great benefit in diverting it from conventional means of disposal – burying it in the ground or sending it skyward. And of course there are also the unconventional disposal methods that are avoided, such as sending it away on a cruise to the North Pacific Gyre or camping in our fields and forests.

While Ridge Meadows Recycling captures much of what is thrown "away" in Maple Ridge, most of us could discard less by merely making a small shift – think "reFUSE", not "REFuse" – and your weekly pile of waste will gradually diminish. When we adopt the reFUSE approach we reFUSE to be persuaded to consume impulsively, we buy only with intention and real need and we reFUSE unnecessary packaging. By so doing, we reFUSE to participate in the creation of future unnecessary waste.

We reFUSE to create REFuse!

Food Revolution Day!

Stand up for REAL FOOD!

Farm to Fork Dinner at Big Feast May 17 & 18 is a yummy way to support the Interactive Hot Lunch Program at the Maple Ridge Environmental School and the Jamie Oliver Food Foundation!

PLUS, lots of yummy, healthy goodness at the Haney Farmers Market **Saturday, May 18!**

Community shows ART and Heart at Earth Day 2013!



The community came out, the rain held, and Earth Art was everywhere for April 20th's Celebrate Earth Day festival in Maple Ridge!

This year, Earth Day Partnered with the ARTS! From the tents full of Art Studio Tour artists displaying their talent and giving demonstrations to Maple Ridge Dance Circle's dancers performing throughout the site, it was a day to remember. The tunes of Penelope Above and musicians at the Farmer's Market kept the park alive with music and people gathered to hear eco-stories from the Maple Ridge Library inside the big Fish Tent in the ACT Lobby. Flash mobs were everywhere, including Robyn Picard's swing dancers and the Ridge Meadows Seniors Society's Spanish Dancers, Dancing Stars, and Zumba Gold.



Eco-Art connections were everywhere at Earth Day! The Maple Ridge Environmental School invited people to participate in Found Art and by the end of the day had created a beautiful mandala (roughly translated as "circle art") out of leaves, flowers, pinecones, horsetails, and other pieces of nature. The Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council, Ridge Meadows Recycling, & Cinema Politica presented Eco-Films at the ACT and the Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association displayed electric vehicles with colourful artistic decaling.

Two favourites from last year's event, the Family Freecycle and the Cycle Recycle, were great successes, just like the first Farmers Market of the year. "We can report a very good day," added Eileen Dwillies, manager of the Haney Farmer's Market, "Over 3000 people attended again this year - our counter couldn't keep up! Sales were one third more than last year and we had very happy concession and food vendors."



With this year's success under their belts, organizers can start to look forward to celebrating next year's Earth Day theme, "Food!"

All Earth
Day
Photos
by

Amber Light
PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

www.amberlightphoto.com



Upcoming Events

Food Revolution Day at Haney Farmers Market

Saturday, May 18 at Memorial Peace Park

For more information visit www.haneyfarmersmarket.org



MAY 20 - 26, 2013

DRINKING WATER WEEK

GET TO KNOW YOUR H₂O

Drinking Water Week

May 20 - 26, Everywhere!

Learn more about your drinking water and what you can do to protect it! www.drinkingwaterweek.org

Bike to School & Work Week

May 27 - June 1, Everywhere!

For more information visit

www.biketoschoolmetrovan.ca

& www.biketoworkmetrovan.ca



How Do You Build a Neighbourhood?



2nd Annual Neighbourhood Development Forum

Saturday, May 25, 9am - 3pm at the Pitt Meadows Seniors Centre, 19065 - 119B Avenue, Pitt Meadows

*RSVP Dave Speers at dspeers@mapleridge.ca or 604-467-7433

Join the Neighbourhood Champions and MRPM Parks & Leisure Services for a FREE, interactive workshop on how to build YOUR Neighbourhood. "It Starts With You!" www.mrpmchamps.ca

Pitt Meadows Day

Saturday, June 1, at Harris Road Park & PM Heritage Hall in Pitt Meadows!

Don't miss this annual, family-friendly parade and festival!

www.pittmeadows.bc.ca

Mission Statement

"Ridge Meadows Recycling Society is a community-based, non-profit organization that advocates zero waste, operates responsible waste reduction services and provides environmental education. We employ people with developmental disabilities to work on site, thereby assisting their integration into the community."

Goals

"To empower the residents of Maple Ridge to become interdependent stewards of the environment."

"To operate an organization that offers as full a range of integrated, environmentally sound waste reduction services as possible."



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