

Litterature



Nova Scotia's Adopt-A-Highway Program

Spring 2011

GREENWOOD RADIO CLUB

FALL 2010 IN REVIEW



Thirty-three groups across the province participated in the Fall cleanup last year. A total of 842 bags of garbage and recyclables were successfully removed from 181 kilometers and two exits of Nova Scotia highways. This is equal to **12.6 tonnes of garbage and recyclables removed from Nova Scotia's highways!** We appreciate the efforts of the 383 generous volunteers who donated 994 hours of their time.

Our thanks go out to the many groups that performed the Fall Cleanup. The weather was less than ideal at times and we admire their dedication. **Keep up the excellent work!**



The Greenwood Amateur Radio Club found this new shopping cart on their Fall Cleanup at Exit 17W (Highway 101) near Kingston. The cart had been pushed down the hill into the woods. Twelve members of the Club participated and collected 8 bags of garbage at the interchange. We thank them for their continuing efforts to keep this busy exit litter-free.

BE SURE TO ENTER...

THE NOVA SCOTIA ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



SPRING LITTER SWEEP CONTEST

When? April - June, 2011

Where? Along your adopted highway or interchange

How? Participate in the Spring 2011 cleanup during the months of April, May or June and photograph the most unusual litter found!

Why? Your group could win a **cash prize** of **\$200, \$100 or \$50** for your picture.

To enter the contest: Mail your completed Adopt-a-Highway permit from your Spring 2010 cleanup and a **photograph of your unusual litter**, to the Adopt-A-Highway Office, Box 550, Truro, NS B2N 5E3 or email to adopt-a-highway@gov.ns.ca.

Winner to be announced in the Fall 2011 newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: JULY 15, 2011

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS!

*All volunteers are eligible to receive Adopt-A-Highway **volunteer T-shirts** or other promotional items following their cleanups! The T-shirts are dark green with white AAH logo. If your group would like t-shirts, let us know your size requirements when you send us your completed cleanup permit. We will send them out to you after your request. We also have AAH gold volunteer lapel pins, ball point pens, and window decals on hand. In addition, a new item available this year is car litter bags, which have been generously donated by the RRFB Nova Scotia.

*Also if you would like to help reduce waste, **sign up to receive our newsletter electronically, via email!** Simply send an email stating your request and your email address to adopt-a-highway@gov.ns.ca and you will be added to our electronic mailing list.

*We now have a permanent email address for the Adopt-A-Highway program. Our new email address is adopt-a-highway@gov.ns.ca.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION SURVEY RESULTS

Our planned Volunteer Information Session for the fall of 2010 had to be cancelled because of low registration numbers. A questionnaire was sent out to our groups for input on the Volunteer Information Session. We were very pleased with our responses, and received over 33 % of our surveys back.



- several respondents would like to attend a VIS.
- many thought that Truro was a central location
- some suggested the VIS could be held in different locations.
- people thought that Spring or Fall would be a convenient time for the session.
- Saturday afternoon or morning would be a suitable time, but some suggested a weekday session.

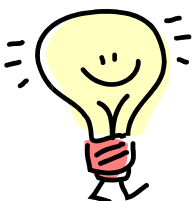
Overall people were very complimentary of our program, but some mentioned that we need more publicity and youth involvement. We will certainly work towards meeting these goals.

Our thanks go out to all the volunteers who took the time to fill out our survey. We value your input, and watch for more information concerning the upcoming Volunteer Information Session.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT

Send Along Your Pictures...

We love to have pictures of your Group doing your Spring & Fall Cleanups. One suggestion is to include "before and after" shots of your area. Snap some photos of your group and send them to the Adopt-A-Highway office when you submit your cleanup permit. They may be included in the upcoming editions of **LITTERature!**



...And Your Ideas

Do you or your group have a particularly good idea for keeping your group involved, or an ingenious way of collecting litter along your adopted section of roadway? Also, many groups are interested in **tools used to pick up litter**. Send in your suggestions

and ideas and we'll pass them along in a future newsletter. **We want to hear from you!**

SPRING CLEANUP PREPARATIONS



Now that winter is hopefully coming to an end, it's time to start thinking about your upcoming spring cleanup. Here is a check list of items to help you prepare.

- ✓ Discuss with your group the best day to perform the cleanup.
- ✓ Request an Adopt-A-Highway Program Cleanup permit at least one week before your cleanup from the Department of Transportation, so that they can arrange to have safety vests, garbage bags, etc. available for you.
- ✓ On the day of the cleanup, review the safety guidelines with all members of your volunteer group.
- ✓ Make sure the contact person for your group has a copy of the permit with them during the cleanup.
- ✓ Fill out the permit after your cleanup.
- ✓ Return department vests and unused garbage bags, etc. Keep a copy of the permit for your records, give the Department of Transportation a copy **and send a copy to the Adopt-A-Highway office. This is very important!** This information is essential for our records, and is needed for your group to be included in our newsletter.
- ✓ Enter the Spring Clean Sweep Contest by sending in a picture of an unusual find from your cleanup, along with your permit, to our office. Cash prizes available are \$200, \$100, and \$50.

New 2010-2011 Adoptions

- 1st Tatamagouche Scout Troop
- 1st Timberlea Scout Troop
- AMEC, Dartmouth
- Armdale Fairview Rockingham Lions Club
- Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, Mahone Bay
- Bridgewater Sobeys
- Dartmouth Rotary Club
- Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay & Area Society
- Guysborough Academy Green Team
- Point Aconi Generating Station
- St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club



May 4, 2010 has been proclaimed
Adopt-A-Highway Day in Nova Scotia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR EARTH DAY?

Get out and help the Environment!

Earth Day is April 22nd and is an ideal time to plan something to benefit the environment. There are numerous ideas available in local papers or by searching the internet. One option is to take part in a local litter cleanup. You could participate either individually, with a group, or register with Clean Nova Scotia to be part of this year's **Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up**. (Details are available at www.nspickmeup.ca.) It is also an excellent time to make a commitment to decrease your energy use, reduce household waste, or become a more efficient driver.

Some websites with valuable Earth Day information include:

- www.clean.ns.ca - Clean Nova Scotia
- www.gov.ns.ca/nse - N.S. Dept. of Environment
- www.drivewiser.ca - Drive wiser for fuel efficiency
- www.earthday2011.net - Earth Day 2011 website
- www.bestthingyoullneverdo.ca/pledge.php - Take a pledge here to "Never Litter"
- www.wrwcanada.com - Waste Reduction Week website - "Resources" section has many waste awareness suggestions.

Check out this RRFB site for great ideas for reducing waste:



Let's Sort it Out!
Together we can reach
the goal of reducing
waste by 2015 to just
300kg/person/year!


RRFB
NOVA SCOTIA
reduceyourwaste.ca

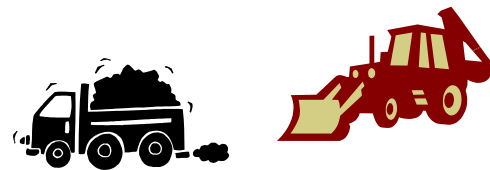


HUB CAMPERS BRAVE WET WEATHER FOR FALL CLEANUP!



Hub Campers carried out their Fall Clean-up of the Stewiacke Road during a very rainy day. They had a good number of resilient members take part, and collected 12 bags of garbage and 1 bag of recyclables. As with many groups, the most numerous items were coffee cups and fast food containers. Many thanks to the Hub Campers for braving the elements in an effort to keep our highways clean, a very worthwhile task.

ILLEGAL DUMPSITE CLEANUPS PLANNED BY TIR DEPARTMENT



The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal is planning to initiate a project to cleanup illegal dumpsites in conjunction with Earth Day. In past years selected illegal dumpsites have been cleaned up by TIR. This year they hope to make it a province wide effort. Illegal dumpsites are not only eyesores, but are health and fire hazards. They can also negatively impact surface and ground water quality as they may contain various contaminants. These cleanups often require heavy

equipment, and we commend the Department of TIR for tackling this major environmental problem.

GROUPS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FALL 2010 CLEANUP

A big thank you to all the groups and individuals who participated in the Fall 2010 cleanup. To guarantee your cleanup is listed in the latest edition of our newsletter, please ensure a copy of your permit is forwarded to the



Adopt-A-Highway office. This permit gives us important information such as the number of hours spent on the cleanups, amount of garbage collected, etc. If your group is missing from this cleanup list, please notify AAH, and you will be included in the next newsletter.

- 2nd Wellington Scouting, Wellington
- Alexander Family, Stanley Section, Lunenburg Co.
- Armdale Fairview Rockingham Lions Club
- Audit Services Canada, Atlantic Region, Dartmouth
- Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, Mahone Bay
- Coastal Cruisers, Bridgewater
- Dartmouth Rotary Club
- Earth Day Friends, Tatamagouche
- Fellowship Lodge #112 AE &AM, Bible Hill
- Freeport Community Development Association
- Friends of Taylor Head Park, Spry Bay
- Gospel Light Baptist Church Youth Group, Harrietsfield
- Greenwood Amateur Radio Club
- Guysborough Academy Green Team
- Hill 'n Dale 4H Club, Wileville
- Hub Campers, Lanessville
- Islands Women's Institute, Central Grove
- Liverpool Regional High School Key Club (with help from Kiwanas Club)
- MacPherson's Mills Women's Institute
- Mahone Bay & Area Lions Club
- New Germany Lions Club
- Nova Scotia Jeep Club, Upper Sackville
- Nova Scotia Piper, East Earlton
- Order of the Eastern Star, Annaval Chapter #31, Middleton
- Port Bickerton and Area Planning Association
- Second Paradise Retreat, Lunenburg
- South Queens Junior High, Liverpool
- Spa Springs Women's Institute, Middleton
- St. Mary' District Lions Club, Sherbrooke
- TOPS Port Williams
- Truro Lions Club (with help from 2nd Truro Scouts & Venturers)

- White Point Beach Resort
- Yarmouth Lions Club

RAINED OUT!

A number of groups attempted to do their Fall Cleanups, but they could not be completed because of inclement weather. Thanks



to the Zonta Club of Amherst, Port Williams Lions Club and other groups for trying to carry out their cleanup. Hopefully the weather will cooperate in the Spring.

UNUSUAL FINDS OF 2010:

Some of the unusual finds reported in the Fall 2010 cleanup included: *televisions, rocking horses, a tank of a fire extinguisher, mowing deck from a ride-on mower, a door, part of a chair, a rocking chair, shopping cart, deep fryer, large quantity of bubble wrap, a bale of insulation, a deceased lynx, a booster seat, a stove, and various car parts.*

SPRING CLEANUP OMISSION

We like to acknowledge the efforts of Audit Services Canada, Atlantic Region who had a successful Spring Cleanup. We're happy to have them join the Adopt-A-Highway program in the Dartmouth area.

Nova Scotia's Adopt-A-Highway Program is supported by:



LITERature is a semi-annual newsletter published by the Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program.

If you have missed a recent issue of our Adopt-A-Highway newsletter, be sure to check out our website for a link to many of our previous issues, along with updated information regarding the program.

www.gov.ns.ca/agri/wi/projects/adopt.shtml

If you have any questions about the Adopt-A-Highway program or this newsletter, please contact:

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