

# Litterature



**Nova Scotia's Adopt-A-Highway Program**

**Spring 2015**

## **AAH VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION UPDATE**



We were excited to be returning to Port Williams for our 10th Annual Volunteer Information Session, on April 18th. Lewis Benedict, the Chairman of Port Williams Village Commission was kind enough to bring greetings from the area, and shared his appreciation of the AAH volunteers efforts. We had a beautiful day for our session, which started with a bus trip to the Valley Waste Administration Building. Andrew Garrett, Manager of Communication pointed out many innovative products that contribute to the environmental friendliness of this commercial buildings in North America! These

included recycled tumbled glass as a mulch, and also was an ingredient in the flooring. Recycled tires were used as a stabilizer in the surrounding soil, and recycled newspaper was used as insulation. The building is passive solar and has very low heating and cooling costs for the year. The volunteers also had a chance to look around the "Last Re-Sort" Re-use Centre. This ingenious idea came about because many items would arrive at the Waste Facility that were still in good condition and could be used by others. These items are now placed for sale at the Centre at a greatly reduced price, and are diverted from the landfill.

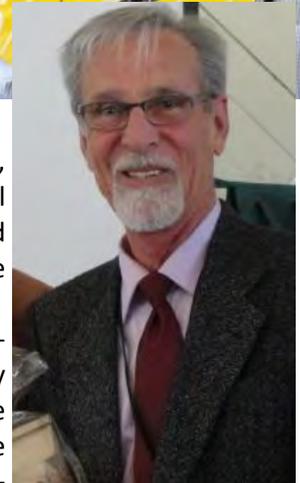
We had a delicious lunch that was served by the TOPS #2688 Port Williams. Not only is this group amazing caterers, they are also an Adopt-A-Highway group, with their route in the Port Williams area.

Our program continued with Gina Bain, who updated the groups with the cleanup results from the previous year, and the activities within the program.

Carson King, Site Inspector with Valley Waste (pictured at right) had very interesting presentation concerning illegal dumpsites. Andrew Garrett joined Carson for the presentation and gave a brief background of illegal dumping including the "who, what, when, why when and how much". Carson gave a summary of some of the illegal dumpsites he had investigated in the last year and the varied and ingenious ways he used to resolve the issues. They also discussed what they do to prevent re-occurrences in the same area, and Andrew is shown one of the signs that can be posted at the site.



Amy Brown, with Efficiency Nova Scotia shared many of the programs that her organization offers to help save electricity. They include Home energy assessments, the Home energy report, Low income programs, home heating advice, appliance retirement, and instant rebates on energy efficient products. They also offer advice with new home construction, and can arrange financing to help with energy efficient renovations. They have Energy solution Advisors who are a great resource to offer personal support, technical advice, and referrals. Since they have started, Efficiency N.S. had served 150,000 customers, and saved millions of dollars in power costs.



**The Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program**

**"Put Litter in it's Place!"**

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION UPDATE (CON'T)

During our volunteer Round Table, Michèle Ashby of St. James United Church in Antigonish shared an experience from last Fall. She asked some of the local fast food restaurants to provide a staff member to help with their cleanup. One restaurant agreed, and provided two staff members, and another business has indicated that they will also help out part in the Spring. Jean McHarq with the Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay and Area Society told of their experience of getting the local Grad 6 & 7 classes of Petite Reviere school to help with their cleanup. They do a road, and also the beach area, and it is a great time to also educate the youth to respect and take care of the beach vicinity. Other volunteer also shared some tips and thoughts on the program.



Coni Murray, Co-Chair of the AAH Program, made a special presentation of a new hat to Norman Bird (left). Norman has been a member of our AAH committee for many years, and was a big help with the organizing of the Information Session. We were fortunate to have many door prizes for our volunteers, and Gina is shown presenting one to Bill Alexander of the Alexander Family, in Stanley Section, Lunenburg County.

We were fortunate that many members of our Adopt-A-Highway committee were able to attend, These include Mark Durnford, and Mike Turner ( N.S. Lions) Dale Lyon (RRFB N.S.) Charlyne Robertson (Clean Foundation), Norman and Nancy ( Volunteers– At Large), Coni (Women's Institutes of N.S), and Gina. Other members were unable to attend because of health issues, or prior commitments. Overall it was a ideal opportunity to hear environmental speakers, share and learn from other groups, and get ready for the Spring Cleanup season.



## RRFB Nova Scotia- MOBIUS AWARDS

Many people in N.S. are not aware of the Mobius Awards but they recognize very important initiatives in waste reduction in our province. Many individuals and organizations are using ingenuity and innovation to significantly reduce the amount of waste they send to the landfills. RRFB N.S. has set an impressive goal for our province of 300 kg of waste per year per person and these recipients are helping to get us there. The awards were held in October at Pier 21 in Halifax. The inspirational guest speaker was Jon Montgomery, gold medal winner in skeleton at the Vancouver Olympics, and host of "The Amazing Race Canada (pictured with Gina Bain, program coordinator, at left). Jon congratulated N.S. on their waste programs and was aware that we were among the leaders in Canada with reductions in the amount of waste per capita.

The Nova Scotia Liquor Commission, was the large business of the year. In recognition of their admirable efforts. They have set a goal of zero waste, and are diverting 98-99% of their cans, bottles, cardboard boxes, plastic bags and everything else from the landfill!

Another impressive organization that significantly reduced the amount of garbage is Wearwell Garments In Stellarton. They send their fabric scraps to a textile recycler, and reduced their waste by 100,000 pounds per year! They also recycle their cardboard, plastic and refundable containers. They generously donated the proceeds from the refundables to the IWK.



It is always encouraging to hear of schools that have great programs to get their youth on the right track. Two schools recognised this year were Thompkins Memorial School in Reserve Mines (pictured at left) and Northfield Elementary, Lunenburg County (pictured at right). They increased their diversion rate to 75-80% and have implemented many programs that were introduced and implemented by the students themselves .

These are just a few examples of excellent efforts around our province to help reach our reduced waste goal. A full list of winners of the Mobius awards are listed on the RRFB N.S.'s website. If you know of someone in your area that is doing an admirable job in reducing/recycling/reusing, please consider nominating them next year for a Mobius Award.



## FALL 2014 CLEANUP REPORT

A big thank you to all the groups and individuals who participated in the Fall 2014 cleanup such as the Dartmouth PigDogs RFC, shown here on their first cleanup on Burnside Drive.



- 596 Phoenix Royal Air Cadets, Tatamagouche
- Alexander Family, Stanley Section
- Annapolis Valley Geocachers, Kingston
- Baha'i Community of Truro, Lower Onslow
- Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, Mahone Bay
- Bluewave Energy Ltd., Cole Harbour
- Broad Cove Community Association
- Coastal Cruisers, Bridgewater
- Dartmouth PigDogs Rugby Football Club, Burnside
- Earth Day Friends, Tatamagouche
- Eric & Joyce Higgins, Higginsville
- Fellowship Lodge #112 (AF & FM), Bible Hill
- Forest Heights Community School O2 Students, Chester Grant
- Friends of Taylor Head Park, Spry Bay
- Gospel Light Baptist Church Youth Group, Harrietsfield
- Guysborough Academy Green Team, Guysborough
- Guysborough Waste Management Facility, Boylston to Monastery
- Hill n' Dale 4-H Club, Wileville
- Kempt Road Group, Grand Anse
- Knights of Columbus – St. Thomas More Council, Dartmouth
- Laura Lee and Gil, South Brookfield
- Mahone Bay Area Lions Club
- Me to We Group, Tiverton-Freeport
- Meteghan Lions Club
- Middleton & District Lions Club
- Nailed It Construction, Sheet Harbour (ongoing)
- New Germany & Area Lions Club
- Northumberland Regional High School, Alma

- Point Aconi Generating Station, Bras d'Or
- Port Williams & District Lions Club and Port Williams WI; and NKEC Band
- Rhyno's Ltd., Bridgewater
- River John 4-H Club
- Riverport & District Lions Club
- Second Paradise Retreat,
- St. James United Church, Antigonish
- St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club
- St. Mary's District Lions Club
- The John Howard Society, Dartmouth
- The John Howard Society, Halifax
- The John Howard Society, Sackville
- TOPS NS #2045 East Jeddore
- Truro Lions Club/2<sup>nd</sup> Truro Scouts and Venturers, North River
- White Point Beach Resort, Liverpool

## THE LITTER CLEANUP PERMIT IS IMPORTANT TO US!

Please send in your permit to ensure that your group is listed in the latest edition of our newsletter. This permit gives us important information such as the number of hours spent on the cleanups, amount of garbage and recyclables collected, and the number of volunteers that took part. We like to hear about your unusual finds as well.



If your group is missing from this cleanup list, please notify our office, and you will be included in the next newsletter.

## UNUSUAL FINDS

You never know what you might find in the ditch, and we enjoy hearing about your unusual finds. Some of the items found in the Fall of 2014 were a reclining chair, microwave oven, drive wheel from a car, windshield, freezer lid, stroller, broom, hair extensions, fishing rod, lei, a safe— (opened and empty), a raccoon skull, washer, brand new teddy bear, electronics board, and a "Dodge Ram" decal.



# Clean

**THE GREAT N.S. PICK-ME-UP**  
Is now accepting registrations!



The **Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up** launches this spring and registrations are now open all year round for teams across the province!

Spring weather will eventually arrive, and with it the litter and garbage underneath all that melting snow. After a particularly long winter and an unprecedented amount of snow, litter will make an unsightly appearance as never before. The Clean Foundation (Clean) has a solution and is inviting all Nova Scotians (families, youth, individuals, businesses and schools) to take part in the Great Pick-Me-Up, our long-standing litter abatement program and one of the largest volunteer initiatives in the province to tackle this issue.

With support from municipalities, Clean will provide teams with everything they need to run a successful litter clean-up event. Groups can register by calling (902) 420-3474 or by going online at [nspickmeup.ca](http://nspickmeup.ca). Clean will send a free kit that includes supplies, information on how to coordinate your event and a data card to track results. Litter is an eyesore, poses health risks, affects water quality, and is often mistaken as food for wildlife. Studies show people tend to litter in areas where there is already garbage on the ground. That's why Clean wants Nova Scotians to pick it up and promote clean communities across the province.

Clean is encouraging teams to post photos of their teams in action to social media using the hashtag #GladToCleanUp

**THE Great  
NOVA SCOTIA  
PICK-ME-UP**

## **PATIENCE PLEASE !**

The huge amount of snow that is still in our area could create problems when an appropriate time for highway cleanups finally arrives. We imagine that many groups may want to carry out their cleanup at the same time. This may not be a concern if your local TIR depot only has one or two groups associated with it. For depots that have several AAH groups, scheduling could become a problem. We ask that our groups have patience and show consideration for other volunteers and TIR staff in this situation.

It may be helpful to give the depot lots of notice when you decide on the date of your cleanup. Some depots have a limited number of safety vests, and may not be able to provide vests to another group for their cleanup until the supplies from a previous cleanup are returned. One possibility is to consider doing your cleanup on an evening through the week, instead of on the weekend when there is more demand for the supplies. (sometimes an evening may be a better time for the volunteers as well!) Groups may also be able to arrange for the transfer of supplies themselves, if one group does a cleanup in the morning, and another group would like to do their cleanup in the afternoon, or the next day.

We are hoping that our volunteers can work together to make this a successful cleanup season, despite the colossal snowfall of the past winter!

## **SPRING LITTER SWEEP CONTEST**

We are again holding our Spring Litter Sweep Contest for 2015. To enter the contest, participate in the Spring clean up and **photograph your most unusual litter** found by your group ( Mail your **completed Adopt-a-Highway permit** from your Spring 2015 clean-



up **and a photograph of your unusual litter**, to the Adopt-A-Highway Office, 90 Research Drive, Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2. You could also email your entry to [aah@eastlink.ca](mailto:aah@eastlink.ca). Your group could **win a cash prize of \$200, \$100 or \$50** for your picture.

**Winner to be announced in the Fall 2015 newsletter.**

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: JULY 16, 2015**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:



-All volunteers are eligible to receive various Adopt-A-Highway **promotional items** for carrying out their roadside cleanup! Groups can request these items when they send in their completed Litter Cleanup Permit. We have refillable pocket hand sanitizers, tape measures, bandage dispensers, pens, and window decals available. A recent item that we have added is a insulated lunch bag. Brand new this Spring is a magnetic clip (pictured at left) that is great for holding memos and important papers.

## SPRING CLEANUP PREPARATIONS



Now that winter has come 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 local depot of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR). They will arrange to have safety vests, garbage bags, flagging tape and supplies ready for your group.
- 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.
- Take a picture of your unusual finds, and enter our Spring Litter Sweep Contest
- Fill out the permit after your cleanup.
- Return the department vests and unused garbage bags, etc. Keep a copy of the permit for your records, give the Department of TIR depot 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.



## ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY DAY IN NOVA SCOTIA

The Office of the Premier of N.S. has proclaimed that May 4th will again be Adopt-A-Highway in Nova Scotia. We are appreciative that the members of the Legislative Assembly continue to recognize our hard working volunteers with this special recognition!

## JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

Postage is continually increasing, and if you would like to help reduce our costs, and reduce waste, **sign up to receive our newsletter electronically, via email!** Simply send an email stating your request, and your email address, to [aah@eastlink.ca](mailto:aah@eastlink.ca) and you will be added to our electronic mailing list.



**Another option we have added** is to receive the newsletter by regular mail, and to receive other correspondence, such as notices and V.I.S. information, by email. Please consider this easy option to help with our expenses, and the environment!

## CHECK YOUR SIGNS!

This winter we have an incredible accumulation of snow in many areas of the province. There is a good chance that the snow plows may wreaked havoc with your AAH recognition signs. They may have been knocked down, or damaged by the plows. Please have a look at your signs along your route this Spring. If they need attention, either with reinstallation, or repair, please let our office know, and we will pass this along to your local depot.



## Important Dates!

April 22, 2015 — Earth Day  
May ?— Great Pick-me-up Clean up Kick off  
May 4, 2015 - N.S. Adopt-A-Highway Day  
1<sup>st</sup> Week in June - Environment / Tourism Week  
3<sup>rd</sup> Week in October - Waste Reduction Week

## FALL 2014 IN REVIEW

At times the weather would cooperate last fall, and this allowed our volunteers to get out and improve the appearance of their communities. We had 43 groups take part, picking up 844 bags of garbage, and 59 bags of recyclables. We had over 557 volunteers take part, and they cleaned up 213 kilometres of highway and 5 interchange areas. We truly appreciate their time and effort they dedicate to cleaning up the litter in their area.

## TOTAL FOR 2014

The **total for the year** is over 66 tonnes of garbage and recyclables (4,453 bags) picked up off 822 kilometers of road ways and eleven exits, by over 2,100 volunteers. **Well done & Thank You!!**

## TOTALS FOR THE YEAR

Group	Region	Km. Adopted	Bags of Garbage	Bags of Recyclables	Volunteers	Individual Hours	Total Volunteer Hours	Tonnes Of Litter
Cape Breton, Inverness, Richmond, Victoria	1	59.0	204	8	98	39.50	329.00	3.2
Antigonish, Guysborough, Pictou	2	188.0	876	89	527	65.50	1334.50	14.5
Colchester, Cumberland, Hants East	3	75.7	643	15	191	55.50	531.00	9.9
Halifax, HRM	4	152.0	1252	46	505	111.00	1370.50	19.5
Annapolis, Kings	5	107.5	383	11	286	51.75	674.50	5.9
Hants West, Lunenburg, Queens	6	191.0	564	79	395	93.75	976.75	9.6
Digby Yarmouth	7	49.0	255	28	99	20.25	220.50	4.2
GRAND TOTALS	11 Exits	822.2	4177	276	2101	437.25	5436.75	66.8

## RRFB NOVA SCOTIA REPORT

### N.S. RECYCLES CONTEST

From September to February, Grade Primary to 12 students across the province participate in various activities from colouring contests to short films to promote participation in waste reduction. More than \$55,000 in cash, prizes and scholarships is available annually for students and schools.

They had an abundance of terrific entries this year, and the winners in the different regions are listed on their website at : [www.putwasteinitsplace.ca](http://www.putwasteinitsplace.ca) . Congratulations to all of the winners!

### NEW GROUPS

We are pleased to Welcome these new groups to the Adopt-A-Highway program:

- \* Rotary Club of Sackville & Area, Lower Sackville
- \* Musquodoboit Harbour Lions Club, Musquodoboit harbour (re-joining)



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

PUT WASTE IN ITS PLACE



**LITTERature** 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.novascotia.ca/agri/wi/projects/adopt.shtml](http://www.novascotia.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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**This newsletter is printed on FSC paper.**

## AAH CLEANUP REPORTS

### DARTMOUTH PIGDOGS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



The Dartmouth PigDogs RFC carried out their first cleanup of their adopted road in October 2014. They have adopted Burnside Drive in Dartmouth. It is great to have this busy thoroughfare receive a cleanup from this community minded sports team. They had 15 volunteers take part, and collected 31 bags of trash including a stroller. The club thought the event was a lot of fun and are looking forward to their next cleanup!



### METEGHAN LIONS CLUB

The Meteghan District Lions Club had their clean up of Highway #1 in their community under less than ideal conditions. The weather did not cooperate but they braved rainy windy and cold conditions and were successful in completing their 6.5 km, cleanup. They had 8 volunteers take part and were happy to have 4 youth assisting them. They collected 25 bags of litter. They were pleased to report that this was a reduction compared to last year. 45 bags of litter. They are glad that it appears that the local citizens are taking more pride in keeping their main highway cleanup.



### PORT WILLIAMS & AREA LIONS CLUB



The Port Williams & District Lions Club held their cleanup in Mid-October. Their route is on Highway #358 from Greenwich to the Canard River. They had thirteen participants including Lions, community volunteers and two students from Landmark East School in Wolfville. Eighteen bags were collected, including this sofa chair along with 1/2 bag of recyclables and .

Pictured at left are, left to right. Lin Dave Seaboyer (in the chair) King Lion Kendall Hutchinson, Ken Pick, Stan Dodge, Deanna Smith, Lion Eldon Smith, Lion Patricia Hamm, Evan Fairn and Lion Brian Tupper.

### ST. MARGARET'S BAY LIONS CLUB

The St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club held a successful highway cleanup on their section of Highway #213 from Highway 103 to the St. Margaret's Bay Road. Thanks to all the participants who made this day a great success with over 40 bags of garbage collected. Thanks also to Lion Jim Miller made arrangements and organized the project. Pictured at right are Reg Sollows, Jim Miller, Steve Belliveau and Harry Ward. Other participants were Margot Fraser, Warren Wyatt and Leonard Bugbee.



## BAHA'I GROUP OF TRURO



The Baha'I group of Truro performed their cleanup of Exit 14A in Onslow, outside Truro. They were happy to resume their cleanup of the exit, as they had been finding it difficult to do their cleanup because of an aging membership. They were able to get enough volunteers this Fall, and accommodated their schedule. All were not able to come at the same time, so some came early and left early, while another groups came later on in the cleanup. They picked up 16 bags of garbage and found a car windshield and the discarded lid off a freezer. They had eight volunteers help out, and completed the cleanup in 1 1/2 hours.



## GREEN TEAM- GUYSBOROUGH ACADEMY

Guysborough academy had their annual highway clean up on Monday, November 10th, and was a great success! This annual cleanup includes the entire student body and staff at Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy of 325 students and staff. Our 5 km stretch of highway through the village of Guysborough, our school grounds and additional side streets were cleaned. They collected 40bags of garbage and 10 bags of recyclables. The Green Team here at the school leads this process for the entire school. They also sent along of some pictures of their unusual finds that are posted on page ## of the newsletter. The Green Team at Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy (collectively referred to as Chedabucto Place) sent along their thanks for the support that they receive from the AAH program.



## ANNAPOLIS VALLEY GEOCACHERS



The Annapolis Valley Geocachers again did a cleanup of their interchange area at Exit #17E of Highway 101 near Kingston. . They got together in mid-October and picked up 13 bags of garbage and a small bag of recyclables. They had and had a good turnout for their event with 13 volunteers helping out.

They found many unusual items this year during their cleanup including car parts, hair extensions, Rubbermaid containers. A bowl, fishing rod, and a container of wet ones.

## HILL N' DALE 4-H CLUB

In early November Hill n' Dale 4-H Club finally got a dry Saturday to clean up their route on Highway #325 in Wileville. They had 20 young 4-Hers, leaders and parents ready to start with a cold 5 degree temperature and 50-60 km/hour winds. With a lot of rain previously, the conditions were not great, however the persevered and collected 28 bags of garbage and 2 bags of recyclables. Everyone was pleased they did the job although some had cold feet and hands. Hot chocolate and food was welcome!

