

# Litterature



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

**Fall 2014**

### **UPDATES FROM OUR ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY GROUPS**

#### **SALT SPRINGS 4-H CLUB**



The Salt Springs 4-H Club in Pictou County, has been participating in annual highway clean ups for a number of years. They cover a 5 kilometre stretch of Highway #4, in the Salt Springs area. Some of the things they found this year were: 6 deer carcasses, family of tadpoles, car parts, tires, blown up tires, hard hat, oil jugs, diapers - both baby and adult; along with the usual beer bottles, pop cans, and coffee cups. There weren't too many interesting finds this year, however, the carpool parking lot on Exit #19 is still holding its reputation as the place with the most weird items.

#### **HMCS HALIFAX**

A passing rainstorm did not deter the volunteers from HMCS Halifax from completing their roadside cleanup. They are responsible for a 2 kilometre route on Bell Boulevard, which runs from Exit #6 of Highway #102 towards the terminal at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. A large portion of the litter they collected was made up of cigarette butts. We are appreciative of their efforts to improve the appearance of this busy highway.



#### **SHOPPERS DRUG MART – UPPER TANTALLON / KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – THOMAS MORE CHAPTER**



We continue to have great participation from these two groups in the Halifax area. The Knights of Columbus-Thomas More Chapter (pictured below) completed their fourth cleanup of Caledonia Street in Dartmouth this Spring. Shoppers Drug Mart-Upper Tantallon (at left) have been a member of our program for three years now, and have collected almost 100

bags of garbage along their route on the St. Margaret's Bay Road (Highway #3). We are glad that these urban groups make the Adopt-A-Highway roadside cleanup part of their annual schedule of events.



## 569 BROOKFIELD AIR CADETS



The Brookfield 569 Colonel GN Henderson Air Cadet Squadron completed their clean up of the section of Highway #2 from Hilden to Brookfield. They picked up 30 bags of litter and 2 bags of recyclables from the area. They also found a hot water heater, a sleeping bag, and a cooler during their clean-up. The Air Cadets and leaders are pictured with one of their replacement AAH recognition signs, which were installed last year. This group is very appreciative of the help they receive from their local TIR depot in Brookfield.

## SACKVILLE LIONS CLUB



The Sackville Lions Club were glad to again have the assistance of the cadets and scout troop from their local area. Their adopted route is Sackville Drive (Old Beaverbank Road) from Cobequid Drive to Beaverbank Road. They had a great turnout for their cleanup with 30 volunteers. They worked together to collect thirty bags of litter along this well-travelled urban route.



## HGS CANADA



HGS Canada joined our program in the Spring of 2012, choosing the route of Chester Avenue and Highway #12 in Kentville. They had a good turnout for their cleanup this year, and with the help of 10 volunteers, picked up approximately 18 bags of garbage. The day started out lovely, but as can happen so often in N.S., the weather went downhill quickly and it started to rain. Their volunteers persevered though, and completed their cleanup despite the unsettled conditions.

This is the third year participating in the Adopt-A-Highway Program for this workplace group.

## HILL N' DALE 4-H CLUB

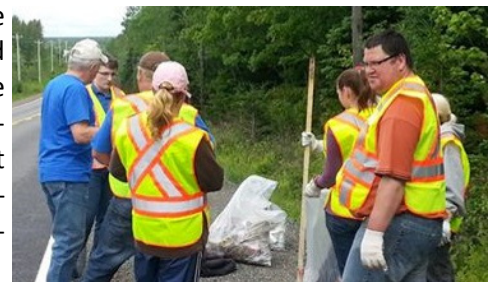
Hill n' Dale 4-H Club completed their cleanup of Highway #325 in Newcombville on April 26th on a super morning that was sunny and warm. They found that the traffic was more respectful, and slowed down more than in other years. They noticed that fast food paper products continue to be the major cause of garbage. They also thought that used diapers are becoming more common, which is unfortunate. They collected 35 bags of garbage and 6 bags of recyclables. They had 22 volunteers work for 2 1/4 hours on the clean up. They also discovered some interesting hub caps, truck springs, gas caps, large plastic jugs, and a Visa card.



## SPRINGHILL 2011 LIONS CLUB



The Springhill 2011 Lions Club are shown here getting ready for their cleanup of Junction Road and Trunk# 2. They removed 15 bags of garbage from the side of the road between Springhill and Springhill Junction. They were very proud of the Lions and Leos that helped out with the cleanup. They are making their community a better place one day at a time. They also participated in a community cleanup day earlier in the Spring.



## SPRING 2014 CLEANUP REPORT

A big thank you to all the groups and individuals who participated in the Spring 2014 cleanup!!

- 250 Vimy Air Cadets, Tantallon—Lewis Lake
- 569 Colonel GN Henderson Air Cadet Squadron, Brookfield
- 719 Stora Air Cadet Squadron, Port Hawkesbury
- Alexander Family, Stanley Section
- All Hands on Deck, Dayton—Hebron
- AMEC, Lawrencetown
- Annapolis Basin Conference Centre, Deep Brook – Clementsport
- Annapolis Valley Geocachers, Kingston and Windsor
- Antigonish Lions Clubs & Cadets
- Annapolis Royal Reg. Academy, Annapolis - Upper Clements
- Atlantic Canada Geocaching Association, Five Rivers - Timberlea
- Back Road Brierly Brook Group, Antigonish
- Bass River Heritage Society
- Bedford Lions Club
- Berwick & District Lions Club
- Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, Mahone Bay
- Bridgetown Lions Club & Army Cadets
- Broad Cove Community Association
- Cameron Lake Group, South Brookfield
- Clarence 4-H Club
- Coastal Cruisers, Bridgewater
- Coldbrook & District Lions Club and Leo Club
- Community of Lawrencetown Beach
- Dartmouth Rotary Club, Windmill Road
- Dartmouth East Rotary Club, Main Street
- Dillon Consulting, Halifax
- Dora's Explorers, Sluice Point
- East Bay Area Community Council
- Englishtown Community Hall
- Eric & Joyce Higgins, Higginsville
- Fellowship Lodge #112 (LM&FM), Truro
- Forest Heights Community School O2 Students, Chester Grant
- Friends of Crescent Beach / Green Bay & Area Society
- Friends of Route 245, North Grant
- Friends of Taylor Head Park, Spry Bay
- Gospel Light Baptist Church Youth Group, Harrietsfield
- Great Village & Area Community School and Friends of the Community
- HGS Canada, Kentville
- HMCS Halifax, Halifax Stanfield International Airport
- Hill n' Dale 4-H Club, Necombville
- Hopewell 4-H Club
- Hub Campers, Lanesville
- Islands Track & Field, Freeport to Tiverton
- Joggins Fossil Institute, Macaan Woods
- Kempt Road Group, Kempt Road to Cleveland
- Kingston Lions Club
- Knights of Columbus—St. Thomas More Council, Dartmouth
- LaHave River Watershed Enhancement Foundation, Meisner's Station to New Germany
- Lake Echo Lions Club
- Lawrencetown Lions Club
- LeMoine Development Association, Grand Etang
- Lower River Road Group, Cleveland
- MacPherson's Mills Women's Institute
- Medway River Salmon Association, Charleston Bridge to Greenfield
- Michelin Health & Safety Group, Granton
- Michelin North America, Waterville
- Middleton Lions Club
- Milford & District Lions Club & Air Cadets
- Moschelle Community Circle
- MPI Atlantic Canada Chapter, Halifax
- Nailed It Construction, Sheet Harbour (ongoing)
- New Germany & Area Lions Club
- North Shore Volunteer Fire Dept., Cribbons Point to Malignant Cove
- Northumberland Regional High School, Alma
- Nova Scotia Jeep Club, Upper Sackville
- Point Aconi Generating Station, Bras d'Or
- Porter's Lake Cleanup Crew
- Queens Co. Special Olympics / Penny Lane Enterprises, Milton
- Rhyno's Ltd., Bridgewater
- River John Consolidated School
- River Phillip Community Hall
- Riverport & District Lions Club
- Rotary Club of Lunenburg
- Rotary Club of Sydney - Sunrise
- Rotary Club of Truro
- Sackville Lions Club
- Salt Springs 4-H Club
- Second Paradise Retreat, Second Peninsula
- Sea Shore Volunteer Fire Dept., Port Bickerton
- Shoppers Drug Mart- Upper Tantallon
- Sobeys – Bridgewater, Dayspring
- South Berwick W.I. and Berwick Scouts
- Spa Springs Women's Institute
- Springhill 2011 Lions Club
- St. Andrew's 4-H Club
- St. James United Church, Antigonish
- St. John's United Church, Middle LaHave
- St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club
- St. Mary's District Lions Club
- St. Paul's Church / Spryfield Scout Troop
- The John Howard Society (3 routes - Dartmouth, Halifax and Sackville)
- Toney River Community Centre
- TOPS NS #2045 East Jeddore
- Truro Lions Club / 2<sup>nd</sup> Truro Scouts and Venturers, North River
- Wedgeport Legion Branch 155
- West Branch United Church
- Weymouth Lions Branch Club
- White Point Beach Resort, Liverpool
- Wilson Family, Port Howe to Riverview
- Winding River Art Gallery, Stewiacke
- Wolfville Lions Club, Grand Pré
- Woodville Community Centre
- Yarmouth Area Community Fund, Grove Road - Overton

## TEXTILE RECYCLING

Recycling your old clothes and household textiles is a great way to reduce the amount of material that goes to the landfill. People often donate their unwanted clothing to the “second hand” stores or local charities. They may not know that you can also donate clothes that are ripped, stained, or worn out. These can be made into rags, or reprocessed back into fibers. The partners in this program have a very informative and helpful website: [www.afterwear.ca/wp](http://www.afterwear.ca/wp). You can donate clothing, footwear, accessories, curtains, tablecloths and stuffed toys. The Association for Textile Recycling (AfTeR) include Big Brothers Big Sisters, The Salvation Army, Value Village, Canadian Diabetes Foundation, Canadian Red Cross, Canadian Breast Cancer Foundations, and the Enviro-Depots. Donating is also a great way to help out these very worthy charities. Their website also has a map of drop off locations across the province.



## 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. A new item we have this Fall is thermal lunch bags. We thought that our volunteers would enjoy this item, and would be happy to send some out for your hardworking participants.



-If you would like to help reduce the use of paper, please 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 Volunteer Information Session information, by email.

-When corresponding with our office, please remember to use our **NEW CONTACT INFORMATION**. Our address is 90 Research Drive, Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2, Phone 902-843-9467, Fax (recently changed) 902-843-1030, and email is [aah@eastlink.ca](mailto:aah@eastlink.ca). If you do not receive a reply from the Adopt-A-Highway office after sending an email, we probably have not received your message. Please keep this in mind and resend your messages if necessary. Our website address is now [www.novascotia.ca/agri/wins/adopt/](http://www.novascotia.ca/agri/wins/adopt/). If the old website address is typed though, the user is automatically forwarded to the new site.

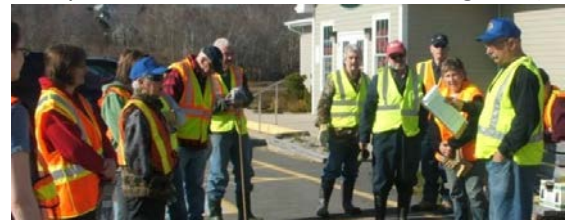
**-Looking for V.I.S. Hosts** – We really enjoy holding our Volunteer Information Session in different areas of the province. It is a great opportunity for our volunteers to attend a session in their local area, if they are not inclined to travel. If you would like to host our V.I.S., send a proposal including a venue, caterer, cost estimates, and a possible tour site/idea. We will decide on the location for our 2015 V.I.S. in late January.

## FALL CLEANUP PREPARATIONS

Now that summer will be coming an end, it's time to start thinking about your upcoming Fall 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 TIR depot (or HRM office). They will arrange to have the supplies ready for your group.
- ✓ On the day of the cleanup, **review the safety guidelines with all members of your volunteer group** (as the Weymouth Lions Branch Club is doing here).



- ✓ Fill out the information on the Litter Cleanup Permit after your cleanup. 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**.
- ✓ Return the department vests and unused garbage bags, etc. to the TIR depot in the next day or two.

## 2014 SPRING CLEANUP TOTALS

The Spring 2014 cleanup was an amazing event, with 99 groups taking part. A total of 3,130 bags of garbage and 199 bags of recyclables were removed from 578 kilometers of highway and 6 highway interchanges. Over 1,450 volunteers carried out these many roadside cleanups for 4,052 total hours. All together, almost **50 tonnes** of garbage and recyclables were picked up from our highways this Spring. The public is very appreciative of the time and effort that our volunteers give to improve the appearance of our surrounding areas. **Thank You!!**

We also heard from several groups that they had made plans for their cleanup, but had to cancel because of wet conditions or inclement weather. Hopefully things will work out for their next scheduled event.

## **WE WANT YOUR INPUT** **Send Along Your Pictures...**

We love to have pictures of your group doing your Spring & Fall Cleanups. Snap some photos of your group and send them to the AAH office (as the St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club have done) when you submit your cleanup permit. They may be included in the upcoming editions of **LITTERature!** You could also include "before and after" shots of your highway or interchange area.



### **...And Your Ideas**

At our Volunteer Information Session, our participants emphasized that they like to hear about other cleanups. Send in your suggestions and ideas and we'll pass them along in a future newsletter.

## **NEW GROUPS**

We are pleased to welcome **Rhyno's Ltd. in the Bridgewater area** (pictured below) to the AAH program. They have adopted Exit #12 of Highway #103 and had a good turnout for their first cleanup. They braved the heat



and collected 25 bags of garbage, and 3 bags of recyclables. They were also fortunate enough to win our Spring Litter Sweep Contest. The details of their unusual find can be found on the last page of our newsletter.

We are also glad that the following groups have recently joined the AAH program:

- **Yarmouth Area Community Fund, Grove Road to Overton**
- **Linden 4-H Club, Linden Corner to Shinimicas**
- **Medway Salmon Association, Charleston Bridge to Greenfield**
- **L.I.U.N.S. (Labourers' International Union of North America) Local 616, Dartmouth**
- **Dartmouth PigDogs Rugby Football Club, Dartmouth**

## **THE GREAT NOVA SCOTIA PICK-ME-UP**

The Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up (GNSPMU or PMU) is Nova Scotia's primary volunteer-driven litter abatement program, facilitating year-round, community-driven clean-ups across the province. 'Clean' (formerly known as Clean Nova Scotia) coordinated the first PMU event in the spring of 1992, and since that time the program has evolved into one of Nova Scotia's largest volunteer environmental events.

They support cleanups all year long and kicked off the 2014

cleanup season with a month long campaign during the month of April. In partnership with the Portland Estates &



Hills Residents Association, 'Clean' launched their Great Nova Scotia Pick Me Up program. This photo shows some keen volunteers who helped with the Portland Estates event!

'Clean' have had great results so far. As of the end of July, they had assisted in 269 cleanups across the province involving 18,771 participants. They estimate that their groups have collected almost 7,000 bags of litter and 668 bags of recyclables!

If you are interested in a GNSPMU cleanup, you can check out their website at [www.nspickmeup.ca](http://www.nspickmeup.ca) or call toll-free at 1-855-533-3672.

You are welcome to choose any cleanup location you like. This can include shoreline, parks, a school, or any outdoor space that you value.

## **UNUSUAL FINDS**

You never know what you might find in the ditch, and our groups found some unusual items on their cleanups this Spring. They include Christmas mini-lights, fridge door, coffee grinder, lamp, dress shirt, pocket knife, \$5 bill, \$20 bill, canine omega oil, rear car seat, vinyl blinds, broken apple bin, lamp shade, burnt out mattress, air bag, carpet cleaning machine, broken barbeques, propane cylinders, steering wheel, plastic barrel, golf ball, hot water heater, sleeping bag, cooler, large black plastic composter, shopping cart, toilet, microwave, garbage cans, bag of fresh fish, air exchanger core, old couch, lumber and shovels!



## RRFB NOVA SCOTIA REPORT RECYCLES CONTEST



Each year RRFB Nova Scotia hosts the Nova Scotia Recycles Contest for students in grades Primary to 12. Students throughout the province participate in colouring and design contests, a video challenge and an essay competition for a chance to win more than \$55,000 in cash, prizes and scholarships. The contest provides an opportunity for students to actively promote recycling and composting in their community and celebrate the important role Nova Scotia youth play in making our province a recognized leader in waste reduction.

This year, they received over 6,700 entries from 201 schools, such as this entry for the whiteboard design from a student at Ferrisview Elementary in North Sydney. In April they awarded prizes to 103 students, and 21 Grade Primary/1 Classes. Visit [www.putwasteinitsplace.ca](http://www.putwasteinitsplace.ca) for contest details and the full list of 2013-2014 winners.

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## MOBIUS AWARDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

This fall, RRFB Nova Scotia will host the 16th annual Mobius Awards of Environmental Excellence. The awards recognize the achievements of Nova Scotia organizations and individuals who help make our province a leader in waste reduction, recycling and composting.

Nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

- Business of the Year (Small and Large)
- Institution of the Year
- Innovation in Waste Reduction
- Waster Reduction Education
- Individual Excellence in Waste Reduction
- School of the Year
- Best Community-Based Project

Nominations will be accepted until September 15, 2014. For nominations forms, more information about the awards, and to view past winners, please visit their website at [www.putwasteinitsplace.ca/mobius-awards](http://www.putwasteinitsplace.ca/mobius-awards).

An example of a winner from 2013 is Best Community-Based Project: Scotsburn Pork Chop BBQ. This category is important because at the heart of all our work is the drive to keep our community beautiful, vibrant, and a wonderful place to live. This popular event raises funds for the volunteer fire department to purchase equipment. Even though they served over 1,900 meals this year, they only produced three bags of garbage. Among other improvements, they repainted old signs, provided sorting instructions, composted during preparation, and collected refundables. Not only is this group of volunteer fire fighters protecting us, they are protecting the environment.

## LITTER PICK - UP TOOLS

Some groups are interested in the various litter pick up tools that may be available for use. There are some that can be purchased at local dollar stores for a minimal costs. There are also options at hardware stores and auto supply stores. Bill Alexander, from the Alexander Family AAH group in Stanley Section, makes his own litter pick up tool. He has kindly agreed to share the instructions with other groups.

### Pattern for Litter Pick-Up Sticks:

The litter pick up sticks can be made from 3/4" clear pine.

1. Cut a strip that is 1 1/4" wide. A length of 4 feet long is popular.
2. Put a 3" finish nail, 1" from the end through the 1 1/4 " thickness.
3. Round the corners on the other end for 2 to 3 feet.

You can pick up cans and bottles with small openings with these sticks, along with other litter. Bill also suggests that a 20 liter plastic bucket (he likes the square ones) is best with the sticks, as you can tap the bucket to get the litter off.



***Nova Scotia's Adopt-A-Highway Program is funded 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/wins/adopt/](http://www.novascotia.ca/agri/wins/adopt/).

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.***

## **MORE AAH CLEANUP REPORTS**

### **LAKE ECHO LIONS CLUB**

The Lake Echo Lions Club had a great day, and a lot more people (30 volunteers!) showed up to help this year. This was mainly due to the effort of a local resident (Kay Gerard) who made posters & contacted



other community groups to lend a hand. Because of the extra help, they were able to clean up a few extra roads in addition to their usual route. They collected 150 bags of garbage & a mixture of items that should not be along any highway or street. Not all participants are in the photo. They would like to pass along their thanks to everyone for their concern & help.

### **FRIENDS OF CRESCENT BEACH – GREEN BAY & AREA SOCIETY**



The Friends of Crescent Beach – Green Bay & Area Society had a great group of students help out, plus a number of adults who did not want their pictures taken. They were actually pleasantly surprised that there was less debris on both the beach and the road than in past years. However they did have some strange items like a burned out mattress and an air bag from a car. The students are from Petite Rivière School. Their teacher said that they will be back with another group next year!

### **TRURO ROTARY CLUB**

Sixteen Rotarians, friends and family worked happily under sunny skies and mild weather on Saturday April 26th to complete their Spring Cleanup. They collected 56 bags of garbage out of the ditches at the Robie Street / Hwy 102 interchange. They also found 2 tires, an old couch and a five dollar bill! The interchange was spotless when the cleanup was complete! We are pleased that the Truro Rotary Club continues to clean up this Interchange (which recently became a round-about), as one of their many projects in the area.



### **NEW GERMANY & AREA LIONS CLUB**



The New Germany & Area Lions Club faithfully clean up their route on Highway #10 in New Germany. This year they found several spray paint cans, a tire, a plastic garbage barrel, a bicycle frame, and a louver (from a roof). The top finds were coffee cups, food wrappers, cigarette packages and break open tickets. They had 14 volunteers help out, and picked up 20 bags of trash and one bag of recyclables. They are always thankful for the service provided by the Hebbville TIR base. Pictured in top photo: Lion Bill Alexander, Lion Nancy Veinot, and Lion Blaine Moffatt. Bottom photo: James Varner, Elaina Varner, Lion Louise Veinot, Baby Lion Helen Acker, and Lion Carla Carver.



### **NOVA AGRI INC. / DYKEVIEW FARMS**

Nova Agri Inc. / Dykeview Farms' 15 kilometre route includes Middle Dyke Road and Saxon Road in the Sheffield Mills area. They had about 40 volunteers (who normally work in the blueberry fields pruning) participate and they cleaned up quite a bit of garbage—enough to fill two pick up trucks. They spent about 3 1/2 hours on the cleanup, and then had a BBQ after to feed the hungry workers! Pictured are some of the volunteers before they headed home.



## MILFORD & AREA LIONS CLUB & 652 R.C.A.C.S.



The Milford & District Lions Club cleaned their adopted section of highway #2 in Milford Station with the help of 652 Milford & District Lions Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron. They had a great turnout with 12 Lions, and 18 cadets and leaders helping out. They picked up 67 bags of trash, and one keen-eyed cadet was lucky

enough to find a \$5 bill, and another a pocket knife. They were appreciative of the kindness of the Elmsdale Atlantic Superstore which donated five pizzas for their lunch afterwards!

## ST. ANDREW'S 4-H CLUB

St. Andrew's 4-H Club is a very active club that has been involved in our program since 2004. Their cleanup includes not only their route on Highway #316, but the village of St. Andrew's as well. This year they had a good cleanup with approximately 30 volunteers helping out. They collected seventy-one bags of litter. We are sure that the community appreciates the efforts of the local 4-H club. They usually have a good turnout of members, some of which are pictured here.



## SPRING LITTER SWEEP WINNERS

### FIRST PLACE (\$200): RHYNO'S LTD.



Congratulations go out to Rhyno's Ltd. who found their very unusual item while cleaning up their interchange near Bridgewater. They are a brand new group who were doing their first cleanup near Exit #12 off Highway #103.

They found this blood pressure monitor, which is a definitely a weird find, near the interchange. We hope they enjoy their first prize of \$200!

### SECOND PLACE (\$100): THE ALEXANDER FAMILY

Bill Alexander found this wind turbine during the cleanup of their route on Lower Branch Road in Stanley Section, near New Germany. It is an item that is not seen in the ditch very often. This group received some positive feedback from the motoring public. One woman thanked them



"so much for what they do". A few locals travelling through gave a toot, and the school bus driver also blew the horn. It is nice to hear that others appreciate the efforts of our volunteer groups.

### THIRD PLACE (\$50): THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA

The John Howard Society have adopted three routes in the Halifax Regional Municipality. When they joined this organization decided to clean up a route in Halifax, Dartmouth, and Sackville. During their cleanup in Sackville on Cobequid Drive, they found these three items from a long time ago.

The license plate has its sticker on it from 1978 and 1979. Also the bottles are the short stubby variety that have not been sold for a long time. There hadn't been a clean-up along this road for a while! Our judges picked these items as the third most unusual find, which earned this group a prize of \$50.



*Thank you to everyone for participating in our contest, and congratulations to our winners!*