

Litterature



Nova Scotia's Adopt-A-Highway Program

Spring 2014

UPDATES FROM OUR ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY GROUPS



LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB

The Key Club from L.R.H.S carried out their cleanup of Exit 19 near Liverpool in late October. They collected 18 bags of garbage and 2 bags of recyclables. Their unusual finds include a bicycle, shopping cart, and a small swimming pool. This club have a great record in our program and have done at least one cleanup a year since 2005.

AN UNUSUAL FIND FOR ST. MARGARET'S BAY & DISTRICT LIONS



The St. Margaret's Bay & District Lions Club completed their cleanup on Oct. 5/13 and had a beautiful day. They collected 24 bags of garbage, which the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal picked up when they were finished. One of their members found what looked like an engagement ring. The ring was bent and tarnished, however the stones were still brilliant. The attached picture shows the aforementioned ring, with a ring box added as a background.



NEW FAX NUMBER & WEBSITE ADDRESS

A fax line has recently been installed directly in our office. Please make note of our new fax number for sending in your completed Litter Cleanup Permit. The fax number has been changed on the Permit that is on-line, but there may be some outdated permits at the local Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal depots.

Our new fax number is 843-1030

Our Website address has also changed, as the Nova Scotia government has updated their web pages. Our new address is www.novascotia.ca/agri/wi/projects/adopt.shtml.



SUCCESSFUL V.I.S HELD IN MAHONE BAY

Our Volunteer Information Session was held on March 29th at the Mahone Bay Centre. It was a day filled with interesting speakers, exchange of ideas and lively conversation.

The participants were welcomed by Ellen Simpson, Co-Chair of the AAH committee. We were happy to have Don Downe, mayor of the Municipality of Lunenburg County, and John Bain, Councillor with the town of Mahone Bay join us to deliver welcoming remarks to our volunteers. They both passed along thanks to the volunteers for their efforts, and were happy that we had come to their area for our conference.

Kirk Symonds, Waste Educator with Region 6 Solid Waste Management, provided an enlightening presentation



exploring the history of garbage. He passed along many tips that people could use to reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfill.

Kirk also led an informative tour around the Mahone Bay Centre.

He pointed out that there is always the option to sort recyclables and compost along with the garbage container. A variety of stations were observed throughout the centre (pictured above) and some of the units were quite reasonably priced.

Chantal Moore, with the Clean Foundation (formerly Clean N.S.) provided an overview of two major litter initiatives. The Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up is a major community cleanup program. They have been helping groups carry out cleanups around the province for 25 years. Their cleanups had similarities with AAH cleanups, as the majority of the litter collected came from the fast food industry. The Ship to Shore program was started because of the alarming amount of garbage that was evident along the shoreline and in the water around the province.

This program provided proper sorting stations and garbage receptacles at various wharves. They have received positive feedback from the fishermen and

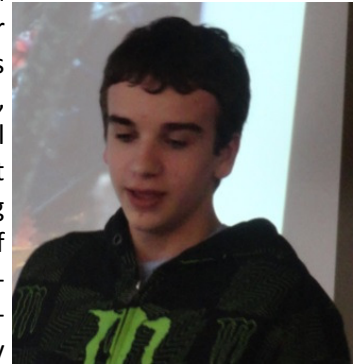


boaters. The industry benefits from the program as the condition of the harbours and underwater environment is improving. Ellen Simpson (on the right, in the photo below) is shown thanking Chantal for her educational presentation.

There was much discussion and exchange of ideas during the Volunteer Round Table. Participants introduced themselves, and their associated AAH group.

A tasty soup, sandwich and dessert lunch was served by the New Germany & Area Lions Club. Nancy Veinot of this Lions Club (who also participate in the AAH program) had helped with the planning of our VIS and offered to provide the refreshments for our session. The delicious food was thoroughly enjoyed by our volunteers.

We were all impressed by James Hebert of Lower Branch. Even though he was only 12 years old at the time, he managed to get an illegal dumpsite cleaned up that was bordering a local fishing spot. The Departments of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and Environment, various community groups and the municipality



all lent equipment and manpower to clean the area up. Over 50 volunteers worked most of a Saturday to get rid of the unsightly mess. Good work James to have the persistence to get everyone on board!



Different groups presented summaries of their roadside cleanups. Kevin Conrick with the Annapolis Valley Geocachers (pictured at left) outlined how his group became interested in our program and had great slides of their unusual finds. Nancy Veinot of the Alexander Family, passed along hints that have made their cleanups easier through the years. They use a bucket while picking up the garbage, and dump it into a the garbage bag when it is full. Sharon Hubley, of Hill n' Dale 4-H club outlined their many years in the program, and how they involve all ages in their cleanup. The younger members help prepare the lunch while the older members carry out the road side cleanup.

Joanna Dunn, Manager of N.S. and P.E.I. Business Operations with the National Diabetes Trust Corp. (pictured on the following page) gave an interesting presentation on Diabetes. She also pointed out the importance of the Clothesline program as their fundraiser. It is very easy to donate clothes which they resell, and in addition the clothing is not going to the landfill. They

SUCCESSFUL VIS HELD IN MAHONE BAY ...(CONT'D)



hire local groups or individuals to maintain their drop boxes. Clothes can be donated even if they are ripped or stained, as they can be made into rags. They are members of the Textile Recyclers Coalition who are working together to reuse or recycle even more clothing. Last year they collected 7,000 tonnes of material and diverted this from the landfill.

We were glad that the volunteers that attended the session found it informative and worthwhile. The Mahone Bay Centre was a splendid venue, with very helpful staff. The speakers were excellent, and we were glad that they could take time to join us at the weekend conference. Special thanks to the companies and individuals that donated door prizes for our session. These included McDonald's in Bridgewater, Michelin North America (Canada) Inc., RRFB Nova Scotia, Select Nova Scotia, Sharon & Kailey Hubley, Tim Hortons, Nancy Veinot, Women's Institutes of N.S., and Wildflower Promotional Products and

Apparel. Tim Hortons also donated coffee and timbits for our refreshment breaks. Thanks also to Brenda Billard of the Milford Lions Club who provided pictures from the VIS.

Many of the AAH Committee were able to attend our VIS. These included Darcey MacBain of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Coni Murray, Women's Institutes of N.S. (Co-Chair) Ellen Simpson, W.I.N.S. (Co-Chair), Mark Durnford



with the Coldbrook Lions (pictured above), Nancy Veinot (pictured above) Norman Bird, Volunteer At Large, and Gina Bain, Program Co-ordinator. It was enjoyable for the committee members to meet the volunteers and hear the presentations for the day. We were happy to come to Lunenburg County and experience the fabulous hospitality of the area.

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.

-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 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.

-Sometimes we seem to have **trouble receiving our email**. If you do not receive a reply from the Adopt-A-Highway office, we probably have not received your message. Please ensure you are using our new email address which is aah@eastlink.ca. We will continue to try and remedy this situation, but in the meantime, we thought that we should make our volunteer groups aware of the situation.



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.

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 Adopt-A-Highway office 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. 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? Send in your suggestions and ideas and we'll pass them along in a future newsletter. One idea passed along at our V.I.S. involved scrap metal. If a large amount of metal objects are found during your roadside cleanup, they can be taken to the metal recyclers for cash!

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Earth Day was April 22nd and this time of year is an ideal time to plan something to benefit the environment. The day has passed but we can still do things to help out our planet. There are many websites that have valuable environmental information including:

www.clean.ns.ca - The Clean Foundation's website has information on many programs including transportation, energy, community, waste, water and youth education. These take in cleanup initiatives such as the Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up and Ship to Shore.

www.putwasteinitsplace.ca - Check out this RRFB Nova Scotia (Resource Recovery Fund Board) site which has lots of useful information about sorting and recycling initiatives. It also has information for grants to encourage proper waste sorting for community groups and events.

www.novascotia.ca/nse - Nova Scotia Environment has an extensive website for environmental concerns.

www.earthday.ca - Earth Day Canada 2014. This site not only covers Earth Day, but has topics for all year long.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY DAY

The Office of the Premier has again agreed to proclaim May 4, 2014 as Adopt-A-Highway Day in Nova Scotia. Every year the politicians of N.S. approve this request in recognition of our hard working volunteers. As well, The Honourable Geoff MacLellan, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, read a proclamation of the resolution in the House on May 1st. The members of the Legislative Assembly are certainly appreciative of the community service and efforts of the Adopt-A-Highway groups.

Important Dates!

April 22, 2014 — Earth Day
April 2014 — Great Pick-me-up
Clean up Kick off
May 4, 2014 - N.S. Adopt-A-Highway Day



1st Week in June - Environment / Tourism Week
3rd Week in October - Waste Reduction Week

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 2013 were a bicycle tire, glass top of a coffee table, political signs, cooler, DOT pylon, paint, baby carriage, sneakers, baby seat, men's underwear, one perfectly serviceable hose rolling device, water softener cylinder, sealed buckets with unknown contents, shopping cart, small swimming pool, fold up chair, end table, patio chair, engagement ring, mat, Volkswagen car overgrown in the woods, two electric heater units, microwave, skunk, CD, crab shells, baby soother and an ironing board.

NEW GROUPS

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

- * 397 Trenton Royal Canadian Air Cadets, Trenton-Pictou Landing
- * The John Howard Society of Nova Scotia, (3 routes) Dartmouth, Halifax, Sackville
- * Kempt Road Group, Cleveland, Cape Breton
- * Atlantic Canada Geocaching Association, Tantallon.



FALL 2013 CLEANUP REPORT

A big thank you to all the groups and individuals who participated in the Fall 2013 cleanup such as the Knights of Columbus – St. Thomas More Council of Dartmouth, who are pictured here.



- 250 Vimy Air Cadets, Tantallon-Lewis Lake
- 596 Phoenix Royal Air Cadets, Tatamagouche
- Annapolis Valley Geocachers, Kingston
- Armdale Fairview Rockingham Lions, Halifax
- Avon 4-H Club, Windsor/Martock
- Bedford Lions Club, Bedford
- Broad Cove Community Association
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Liverpool
- Coastal Cruisers, Bridgewater
- Dartmouth Rotary Club, Windmill Road
- Dartmouth East Rotary Club, Main Street
- Dillon Consulting, Halifax
- Enfield & Elmsdale & Area Lions Club, Enfield
- Eric & Joyce Higgins, Higginsville
- Forest Heights Community School O2 Students, Chester Grant
- Freeport Community Development Association
- Friends of Taylor Head Park, Spry Bay
- Gospel Light Baptist Church Youth Group, Harrietsfield
- Guysborough Academy Green Team, Guysborough
- HGS Canada, Kentville
- Hill 'n Dale 4-H Club, Wileville
- Hub Campers, Lanessville
- Islands Women's Institute, Central Grove
- John Howard Society, Dartmouth
- John Howard Society, Halifax
- Knights of Columbus – St. Thomas More Council, Dartmouth
- Laura Lee and Gil, South Brookfield

- Liverpool Regional High School Key Club
- Mahone Bay Area Lions Club
- Maxxam Analytics, Bedford
- Me to We Group, Tiverton
- Michelin North America, Waterville
- Mortgage Managers, Hammonds Plains
- Moschelle Community Circle
- Nailed It Construction, Sheet Harbour (ongoing)
- New Glasgow Rotary Club, Trenton
- Northumberland Regional High School, Alma
- Point Aconi Generating Station, Bras d'Or
- Port Williams & District Lions Club and Port Williams WI; and NKEC Band
- Queens Co. Special Olympics/ Penny Lane Enterprises, Milton
- River John 4-H Club
- Rotary Club of Sydney - Sunrise
- Seabreeze Campers, Pinehurst
- Shoppers Drug Mart- Upper Tantallon
- Sobeys – Bridgewater, Dayspring
- St. James United Church, Antigonish
- St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club
- St. Mary's District Lions Club
- TOPS NS #2045 East Jeddore
- TOPS NS #2688 Port Williams
- Truro Lions Club/2nd Truro Scouts and Venturers, North River
- Truro Sea Cadets, Truro
- West Branch United Church
- Weymouth Lions Branch Club
- White Point Beach Resort, Liverpool
- Wilson Family, Port Howe to Riverview

THE LITTER CLEANUP PERMIT IS IMPORTANT TO US!

To guarantee your cleanup is listed in the latest edition of our newsletter, please send along a copy of your permit 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 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.

CLEANUP RESULTS BY AREA

It is interesting to see how the different areas did with the roadside cleanups. The Tonnes of Litter Collected in 2013 listed by the counties is as follows:

County/Area	Tonnes of Litter Collected
Annapolis / Digby	4.77
Antigonish / Guysborough	12.03
Cape Breton	1.11
Colchester	8.96
Cumberland	1.83
Halifax East	5.96
Halifax Suburban	8.49
Hants	5.76
HRM	3.89
Kings	2.90
Lunenburg / Queens	7.23
Pictou	4.19
Richmond/Inverness South	1.20
Shelburne / Yarmouth	3.26
Victoria / Inverness North	0.75
TOTAL	72.31

THE GREAT NOVA SCOTIA PICK-ME-UP is now accepting registrations!



Clean Nova Scotia (Clean Foundation) invites you to register a team (such as your school, business or community group) to complete a litter pick up in your community! What better way to provide a hands-on activity to your team while making the planet a little cleaner.

When you [register](#) your team, Clean will mail you supplies including garbage

bags, blue bags, a handbook and posters. Your team will also be represented as an icon on the [cleanup map!](#)

If you have any questions about the Pick-Me-Up program, you can visit nspickmeup.ca or reach a Clean staff member by phoning 420-7944 or toll-free 1-855-533-3672. Thank you for considering joining this great initiative!

RRFB NOVA SCOTIA REPORT

Throughout the month of April, students across the province were recognized for their interest in the environment at the 14th annual Nova Scotia Recycles Contest celebrations.

From September to February, Grade Primary to 12 students throughout N.S. participated in various activities by grade level. The annual contest is organized by RRFB Nova Scotia in partnership with the seven solid waste management regions. It provides an opportunity for students to actively promote recycling and composting in their community, and celebrates the important role Nova Scotia youth play in making our province a recognized leader in waste reduction.

“It is inspiring to meet young people who are so passionate about the environment and putting waste in its place,” says Jeff MacCallum, CEO RRFB Nova Scotia. “I congratulate the winners of this year’s contest and thank them for their creative entries and commitment to our environment.”

Across the province, there were 6,760 entries submitted from 474 classes. Of those submissions, 103 students and 21 Grade Primary-One classes were recognized at the regional dinner celebrations. For a complete list of the winners, please check out the RRFB Nova Scotia website: www.putwasteinitsplace.ca

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

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

250 VIMY AIR CADETS



The 250 Vimy Air Cadets completed their Fall cleanup of Highway #3 in Hubley, near Tantallon. They had a great turnout with 37 cadets and 11 parents taking part! Attached is a picture of the cadets ready to go. They collected 1 bag of recyclables and 46 bags of garbage. Their most interesting find was a DOT pylon. They joined the AAH program in the Spring of 2012 and think that it is a great form of community service and exposure.

ENFIELD & ELMSDALE AND DISTRICT LIONS' DISCOVERY

The Enfield & Elmsdale & District Lions Club has a great turnout with 15 volunteers, eight Lions, family helpers, the O'Neil family and the local scout troop from Enfield led by leaders Monica C. and Gerry W. They had a very interesting find, and discovered this old Volkswagen car in the nearby woods. They also found a baby soother, ironing board, microwave and two electric heater units. Garbage bags and vests were supplied by the Milford TIR depot. Work gloves and extra bags were provided by Rona in Elmsdale. Soft drinks and water were donated by Sobeys, and three huge pepperoni pizzas were generously provided by Papa K's Pizza and restaurant in Enfield. Lion Don Cale thanks all of those involved in the cleanup for the Fall of 2013.



WEYMOUTH LIONS CLUB



The Weymouth Lions Club carried out their cleanup in Mid-October. Their route is on Highway #1 from Exit #27 to Exit #28 in Weymouth (approximately 8 kilometres). They collected thirty-two bags of garbage and a bag of recyclables. They had a terrific turnout with 18 volunteers helping out. The day was perfect for it, sunny and cool. They started at 9 am and were all done at noon. They enjoyed a BBQ lunch put on by the Lions Club and the Weymouth Waterfront Development.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CLEANUP ROUTE IN DARTMOUTH

The Knights of Columbus - St. Thomas More Council had another successful cleanup in Dartmouth. The club recently adopted a 2 kilometer route on the Caledonia Road and completed their first Fall Cleanup this year. They were pleased that their AAH recognitions signs have been installed along their route.



ANNAPOLIS VALLEY GEOCACHERS

The Annapolis Valley Geocachers are pictured here with their new sign at Exit # 17 of Highway #101 in Kinston. Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS enabled devices. They have made their Adopt-A-Highway Recognition sign a geocache in the area. They had 10 volunteers last fall and collected 10 bags of garbage. Their unusual finds include a skunk carcass, diapers, mud flaps, and a Dolly Parton CD. They are appreciative of the help they receive from the TIR depot in Berwick. In the Spring of 2013, they also used their AAH cleanup to participate in the Clean Across N.S. campaign.



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FALL 2013 IN REVIEW

We had pleasant weather last fall, and we were happy that fifty-four groups across the province were able to carry out their Fall cleanup. A grand total of 1,096 bags of garbage and recyclables were eliminated from our highways. Our volunteers covered 248 kilometers of roadsides and five exits of Nova Scotia highways. The material removed is equal to 16.4 tonnes. We were fortunate to have 812 volunteers generously give their time (1660 hours to be exact!) to achieve this remarkable event. We are appreciative that so many groups were able to get out and improve the appearance of their communities.

TOTAL FOR 2013

The total for the year is over **72 tonnes** of garbage and recyclables (4,866 bags) picked up off 784 kilometers of road ways and nine exits, by over 2,000 volunteers. **Well done & Thank You!**



SPRING LITTER SWEEP CONTEST

We are again holding our Spring Litter Sweep Contest for 2014. To enter the contest, participate in the Spring clean up and **photograph your most unusual litter** found by your group (like these groups have done in the past). Mail your **completed Adopt-a-Highway permit** from your Spring 2014 cleanup **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. Your group could **win a cash prize of \$200, \$100 or \$50** for your picture.

Winner to be announced in the Fall 2014 newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: JULY 17, 2014

