

# CWMA news

◀ Newsletter Of The Coast Waste Management Association ▶

## Curbside Recycling. What will be the New Normal?

This year's CWMA conference promises to deliver a great program with plenty of the networking opportunities that delegates tell us they enjoy so much. **Usman Valiante**, a specialist on economic and fiscal policy analysis related to environmental issues with Corporate Policy Group will be joined by **Susan Antler**, Executive Director of the Composting Council of Canada to kick off the proceedings.



Susan Antler; Executive Director of the Composting Council of Canada

Roundtable sessions, receptions, facility tours of; Cascades Recovery, Ellice Recycle, Greater Victoria Compost Education Center, Hartland Landfill, Syntal Products and Foundation Organics are all included in the program.

Due to a phenomenal response received this year we have reached maximum capacity for this venue and are now placing delegates and tradeshow participants on a waitlist. (Mark your calendar now to register early for next year's conference

taking place October 24-26, 2012 and avoid any disappointment!)



Usman Valiante, Corporate Policy Group, LLP

## Save the Beach hotel



The Save the Beach Hotel in Rome is Made from Recycled Rubbish

The Save the Beach hotel is a temporary tourist destination in Rome made completely from debris found in European beaches. The materials used to build the hotel include plastic bags, fishing nets, skateboards, and unwanted clothes. Guests can even see a rocking horse and a mannequin's leg in one of the walls.

The Save the Beach hotel has no showers, and the lavatories are

chemical toilets. Ha Schult, a German artist, is the creator of the temporary recycled hotel. Helena Christensen is among the Save the Beach hotel's celebrity guests.

Source: [trendhunter.com](http://trendhunter.com)

## BASF takes practical approach to biodegradable plastics

GUANGZHOU, CHINA -- After more than 10 years in the biodegradable plastics business, BASF SE has grown tired of waiting for the market to develop on its own. Through composting pilot programs and awareness building initiatives, the global chemical company is taking a practical approach to going green.

BASF featured its two biodegradable lines, Ecovio and Ecoflex, at the 2011 Chinplas exhibition held in Guangzhou, in a promotion careful to embrace the limitations of biodegradable plastics.

"Our goal must be that we achieve the same performance with biodegradable plastics as with regular plastics," said Tobias Haber, the head of specialty plastics in BASF's Asia Pacific division. "We're not there with every plastic."

BASF is focusing on the areas where biodegradable adds value without compromising on performance — plastic film and packaging.

"We only want to use renewable products when they improve sustainability," Haber said. "We want to focus on areas where biodegradability adds value.

"We don't want to replace each and every plastic in the world."

The two products that Haber focused on were agricultural film and plastic bags intended to be used for composting and agricultural films that can be plowed back into a field. The bags are being promoted along with a push to increase the number of industrial composting facilities around the world. "We're especially focused on markets where industrial composting is available," Haber said. BASF also ran a pilot composting program in Thailand as well as Germany. It's a program the company plans to take global

"The consumer goes shopping with this bag," said Haber, holding up a BASF compostable bag and a tiny waste bin during the BASF news conference. "He can do that multiple times because it's a very strong bag, and then he can collect bio waste in the bag and put it into the bio bin.

"It's very hygienic, non-smelly and convenient."

Then, when the bag of organic waste goes to the , micro-organisms will help break down the bag into a mix of harmless leftovers. Agricultural film, while it has to be tailored to specific uses, is also broken down over time by micro-organisms in the soil. The compost left behind, said Haber, is not garbage. "We don't see organic waste as waste," he said. "We see it as a valuable resource--compost is a marketable commodity."

BASF has been offering at least one of its biodegradable lines since 1998.

"Maybe this was a situation when we were too early," Haber said. "You also need the right market."

Today, with increasingly environmentally-conscious customers, BASF feels the time is right. In China, Haber added, these

goals align with the government's recently released 12th Five-Year-Plan, which supports composting. Beijing has already experimented with industrial composting on a small scale during the Beijing Olympics in 2008. These experiments are valuable lessons, said Haber.

"First the consumers have to experience the product and see the value," he said. "And we, as the leading chemical company in the world, want to prove these products work in a real life situation."

Source; [Plastics News](#)

### Ground Glass Solution for Cleaner Water

British science has led to a use for waste glass that cannot be recycled that could help clean up polluted waterways by acting as an ion-exchange filter to remove lead, cadmium and other toxic metals.

Details are published in a forthcoming issue of the *International Journal of Environment and Waste Management*.

Only a fraction of waste glass bottles and jars can be recycled, partly because much of the glass is coloured, brown or green, and partly because the market sustains only a limited weight of recyclable glass. Millions of tonnes of waste container glass are generated across Europe. As such, large amounts of waste glass, purportedly for recycling, are shipped to China and elsewhere to be ground up and used as hardcore filling materials for road building.

Now, Nichola Coleman of the University of Greenwich, London, has developed a simple processing method for converting waste container glass, or cullet, into the mineral tobermorite. Tobermorite is hydrated calcium silicate, silicate being the main material that can be extracted from glass. In the form produced, the phase-pure 11-angstrom form -- the mineral can be

used as an ion-exchange material that can extract toxic lead and cadmium ions from industrial effluent, waste water streams or contaminated groundwater.



Crushed glass

To make the tobermorite, Coleman simply heats a mixture of ground cullet, lime (as a calcium source) and caustic soda (sodium hydroxide solution) to 100 Celsius in a sealed Teflon container. Initial tests show that uptake of lead and cadmium from solution are rather slow, so Coleman suggests that, at this stage of development, the synthetic mineral might best be used in the in situ remediation of groundwater rather than in industrial ex situ effluent filtration processes. The concept is now being extended to create other classes of ion exchange filter from unrecyclable and low-quality waste glass.

"The cullet-derived sorbent could be used in reactive barriers to prevent the lateral migration of pollutants in groundwater, rather than as a remediation material for waterways," says Coleman. "Heavy metal-contaminated land and groundwater are global problems, arising from industrial and military activities and also from the natural leaching of heavy metal-bearing minerals," she adds.

Source; - [Science Daily](#)

### EPAS Perspective

Ministry of Environment Information Session on B.C's New Recycling Regulation

Following appropriate introductions, the Ministry of Environment (MoE) provided an informative 20 slide presentation that outlined very well the new Recycling Regulation. This was followed by an open two hour question period including preliminary points of concern submitted by the 80 plus registrants in attendance.

As is to be expected, a change of this nature generates a wide range of somewhat apprehensive questions from involved/concerned stakeholders.

Why the change? Apparently this is the British Columbia Government's response to the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment (CCME) call to harmonize addressing the high profile Retail Packaged Goods Category and the Printed Discards Category, to be followed by other specific categories listed in [Canada-Wide Action Plan For Extended Producer Responsibility](#).

An extended period of consultation is scheduled through implementation in May of 2014. To provide appropriate public consultation, the MoE earnestly solicits submission of points of concern directly to [MoE](#) and the [Retail Council of Canada](#) in order that they be adequately reviewed and considered by the Ministry before the program implementation in 2014.

A great variety of questions were raised and understandably it is early days in the process and specific answers could not be provided to all questions.

Some examples of concerns raised were;

*Situation regarding milk packaging? Why the combination of Printed Discards and Retail Packaged Goods into one category? What will be the future of independent depots and existing collection infrastructure? What is the impact of contamination resulting from excessive comingling?*

No doubt further points/questions for consideration will be raised as the process evolves.

This is a daunting task considering the differing performance levels of sustainable management of manufactured discard approaches currently being utilized by the Provinces. - Does One size necessarily fit all? Consider the differences between the Western model versus Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Maritimes yet there is degree of commonality. Hopefully, in true Canadian fashion, we can all learn from each other, sustainably addressing the diversity of packaging.

Sharing of environmental care cost -- The evolution of the [B.C Product Stewardship Model video](#) – How much is it costing municipal budgets for the highly successful deposit/refund systems being stewarded by Encorp in cooperation with the independent depot operators?

Article submitted by; - Jim Cairns  
Enthusiastically Promoting Allthings Sustainably (EPAS)



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### Salvaging Synergies

Synergy, a small community-orientated company helping local businesses in Victoria go green, is hoping to form a relationship between our clients and salvagers, where our clients can go green by helping to reduce the communities waste while using low-carbon impact, recycled material, and we can together support the work of local salvagers. We are looking for salvagers who are interested in entering this relationship and would be interested in providing

material when building projects come up or even advice on what materials are better to use. We are hoping to relay that information back to our clients or connect salvagers to clients directly. Once a successful compilation of contacts has been constructed, we are hoping to post a directory on our website. If you are interested, it would be great to work together! Contact Joty Dhaliwal at [jotyfy@gmail.com](mailto:jotyfy@gmail.com) and feel free to look at our website at <http://www.synergyenterprises.ca>



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### New CWMA members

The CWMA would like to extend a warm welcome to the following members who have recently joined the association.

#### Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

1138 Melville Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6E 4S3

Contact; [Ananthan Suppiah](#)

Tel; 604 666 2668

#### EPAS

101 - 2165 Argyle Avenue  
West Vancouver, BC V7V 1A5

Contact; [Jim Cairns](#)

Tel; 604 922-7899

#### Ermeltek International Services Inc

13246 - 17A Ave, Surrey, BC, V4A 6R9

Contact; [Bill Ermel](#)

Tel; 604 690 4702

#### Foundation Organics Ltd

6341 Old East Rd, Victoria, B.C., V8Y1R7

Contact; [Matt Mansell](#)

Tel; 250 818 4709

**Hazco Waste Management**  
700 South Shawnigan Lake Rd  
Malahat, B.C. V0R 2L0  
Contact; [Erica Ellefsen](mailto:Erica.Ellefsen@hazco.ca)  
Tel; 250 743 4200

**Hummingbird Urban Biomass Ltd.**  
21 - 21 Dallas Road  
Victoria, B.C. V8V 4Z9  
Contact; Kris Obrigewitsch  
Tel; 250 508 4994

**North West Environmental Group Ltd.**  
210 - 2950 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC  
V9B 0L2  
Contact; [Julie Scott-Moncrieff](mailto:Julie.Scott-Moncrieff@nwestenv.com)  
Tel; 250-384-9695

**Powell River Regional District**  
5776 Marine Avenue  
Powell River B.C. V8A 2M4  
Contact; [Sean McGinn](mailto:Sean.McGinn@powellriver.ca)  
Tel; 604 483-3231

**Williams Scrap Iron & Metals**  
2690 Munns Rd, Victoria, BC V9E1H4  
Contact; [Lloyd Williams](mailto:Lloyd.Williams@williams-scrap.com)  
Tel; 250 479-8335

**Zerowaste Products Inc.**  
12440 - 232nd Street  
Maple Ridge B.C., V2X 1R6

Contact; [Dyanne Wayland](mailto:Dyanne.Wayland@cwma.bc.ca)  
Tel; 778 833-4432

A full listing of CWMA [members](http://www.cwma.bc.ca) can be found at [www.cwma.bc.ca](http://www.cwma.bc.ca)

### CWMA 2011-2012 Board of Directors

**Jeff Ainge** – *Regional District of Nanaimo*

**Anke Bergner** – *Capital Regional District*

**Peter Grant** – *Salt Spring Island Community Services Society*

**Malcolm Harvey** – *Encorp Pacific (Canada)*

**Reid Hudson** – *Steel Pacific Recycling*

**Jerry Kupiak** – *Sun Coast Waste Services*

**Dave Ross** – *Emterra Environmental*

**Michael Schellinck** - *Nanaimo Recycling Exchange*

### Calendar of Events

[Waste Reduction Week in Canada](#)  
October 17 - 23, 2011

[CWMA Annual Conference 2011](#)  
October 26 - 28, 2011  
Victoria, BC

[Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo 2010](#)  
November 9-10, 2011  
Montreal, Quebec



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## Curbside Recycling. What will be the New Normal?

We are grateful for the generous sponsorship of

