

CWMA news

◀ Newsletter Of The Coast Waste Management Association ▶

CWMA April workshop & AGM

The focus of our April workshop was to provide delegates with the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of carbon credits/carbon offsets and greenhouse gas emissions measurement, from a waste and recycling professionals' perspective. B.C.'s carbon neutral regulation requires all public sector organizations to measure, reduce and offset greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.



Howard Goldby with BFI Canada Inc /Progressive Waste Solutions at the April 20, CWMA workshop and AGM

Phil Cull, Director of Sourcing for Offsetters, explained their role in helping organizations and individuals understand, reduce and offset their GHG emissions. Offsetters develop and invest in high-quality offset projects that promote the adoption of clean technology and low carbon fuels. They also partner with organizations to create unique programs that enhance their brand and make a real difference. The biggest opportunities for the waste sector lie in organic waste/landfill avoidance, landfill gas capture and utilization, and switching

to natural gas for transportation infrastructure.



Cameron Stonestreet with Pacific Carbon Trust

Cameron Stonestreet shared with delegates the work being done at Pacific Carbon Trust to grow the low-carbon economy and carbon market. Cameron identified and described the types of waste offset projects that can be pursued to develop carbon offsets. He outlined how Pacific Carbon Trust can help communities and project developers pursue a number of carbon projects. His presentation included a comparison of carbon offsets achieved depending on the waste diversion methods being used. Cameron's presentation included an explanation of BC's commitment to reduce GHG emissions, what carbon neutral means and the value of offsets to a community.

Howard Goldby, VP Environmental Management and Technology Group BFI Canada Inc, provided delegates

with "A Reality Check from the Private Sector Operator's Perspective". Howard explained that when entering into contracts where environmental attributes are part of a project, read your contract carefully to be sure who owns the carbon offset.

While operators investing in alternative fuels will realize a huge environmental gain, the opportunity to benefit from offset credits may be lost in verification costs unless you have a large fleet. Keep in mind that efficiencies in operations, such as auto tire inflators, GPS tracking and using newer trucks, will also lead to lower emissions and provide substantial savings over the life of the vehicle.

Howard told us that as an operator in the Waste Management Sector, BFI Canada Inc has achieved some successes in the offset marketplace, but the initiatives, as a private sector business, are driven more by operational needs than by offset credit opportunities. At the end of the day, what is important is that we focus on a emissions reduction / process improvement pathway. "If you get credits along the way, great!"

Copies of their presentations are available on the CWMA website [events](#) page.

CWMA networking event focuses on curbside organics

Our next workshop and networking event will be in Cowichan on **June 15, 2012** at the **Cowichan Golf and Country Club**, Duncan, BC. The purpose of this session is to hear from

a panel of industry professionals who can provide us with the knowledge to understand **curbside organic collection and composting**, from under the sink collection pails to the sale of finished material and everything in between. Invited panelists include;

Sarah Wilmot - Environmental Planner with [HB Lanarc](#);

Robert Costanzo - Deputy Manager, Operations, [City of Surrey](#);

Diana Wittmann - [Loubac Cart Management](#);

Steve Diddy - Director of Business Development, [Engineered Compost Systems](#);

Ian Vantreight – Proprietor, [Vantreight Farms](#);

Maryam Mofidpoor - Professional Agrologist, [BC Ministry of Environment](#).

Additional details, and registration are available on our website at www.cwma.bc.ca or by email info@cwma.bc.ca

Recycling Expanded Polystyrene Packaging Foam

Article submitted by Buddy Boyd - Gibsons Recycling

The options for dealing with discarded Expanded Polystyrene Foam (EPS) material are many and varied. Opportunities for small and medium sized businesses to create a valuable resource from this waste stream are many.

The recent webinar, hosted by the Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA) gave an overview of an option for how EPS can be recycled. The seminar mostly focused on densification using a method called "cold compression" which is mechanically squeezing this material under pressure to achieve compaction or "densification".

Another method that should be considered is "thermal densification" where heat is used to melt and reduce the volume of the EPS. There are many variables to consider when

looking at the pros and cons of mechanical compaction or "cold compression densification" and melting or "thermal densification".



Gibsons Recycling use "thermal densification" equipment to recycle Expanded Polystyrene Foam (EPS)

I have done a massive amount of research on both options. In my research it was clear to me that cold compression could only reduce or "compact" down to about a 40:1 ratio. Thermal densification offered the ability to reduce down to about 80 to 90:1. At this density greater savings are achieved in the costs and carbon foot print associated with shipping to market. This is the main reason we chose to use thermal densification.

The thermal densification equipment we selected had CSA approval and was manufactured in New Jersey. All parts are readily available by next day air freight. The cold compression machines we looked at were manufactured in China and did not have CSA approved accreditation. Maintenance on the thermal densification machines is very low.

Material processed by thermal densification can be stored outside freeing up valuable floor space. If you are concerned about meat trays, egg cartons or food containers attracting rodents, or material flaking off the cold compressed bales and becoming airborne, thermal densification prevents this from occurring.

One last positive aspect of local thermal densification is that one could add a pelletizing process to the mix in your own community, making shipping even more cost effective, as well as further reducing your carbon footprint

and creating more local job opportunities. If someone had a small injection molder there are many more possibilities to be explored.

[Mansonville Plastics](#) operate a facility in Surrey, one of the first to recycle EPS. Another unique way of dealing with this material can be found in Kelowna, where packaging foam is being used as a drain rock substitute by a company called [Poly Rock](#). We can easily see that if collected EPS should be contaminated, this could be a superior model over incineration or landfilling

Buddy Boyd

Gibsons Recycling Depot
www.gibsonsrecycling.ca

Christchurch (NZ) recyclers get to experience it all

Dead dogs, a belt of machinegun bullets, sex toys, marijuana, a hand grenade and a goat - just some of the things Christchurch people put in their yellow wheelie bins. About 8.5 per cent of material collected for recycling in yellow bins is contaminated, city council figures show. The most common contaminants are used nappies (which recycling workers call "baby bombs"), hosepipes, clothing and live ammunition (during the hunting season).

The council has withdrawn bin services from seven people since last July because of breaches of the rules. It has also sent 256 warning letters, 49 second warnings and visited 17 people to remind wrongdoers of the rules. Council staff can pinpoint bin wrongdoers with a camera that scans rubbish as it is tipped into the trucks.

Eco Central general manager Robert Gerrie oversees the Wigram plant, which sorts 250 tonnes of recyclable material into glass, metal, plastics, card and paper categories every day. "Placing ammunition in a yellow wheelie bin was dangerous", Gerrie said. A bullet started a fire in a ball of paper last year when the pressure of

the bailing machine set it off. Plant workers recently recovered a camera bag full of shotgun shells before it was fed through the machine. Gerrie said a large dead dog was accidentally fed through the plant about three weeks ago, but was recovered intact and disposed of properly. This week, six dead ducks were placed in yellow bins. "In an ideal world, we would try to keep the right things in the right bins," Gerrie said.

The level of contamination in the green (organics) wheelie bins is much lower at 1.6 per cent. Council city water and waste unit manager Mark Christison said the contamination rate in Christchurch compared well with cities in other countries. Nappies and ammunition should go in the red (garbage) bins to landfill, not the recycling depot, he said. "Who would think a nappy is recyclable? We try to stop that when we see it. They are a challenge. We just don't want that material in our recycling stream."

"That some people think ammunition is recyclable is interesting. Ammo and gas bottles and any explosive thing should not be put in the bins because there is risk in the trucks of fires and explosions." It was rare for the bin service to be withdrawn, Christison said. "It has to be quite extreme to get to that stage. There are over 160,000 households that we collect from every week," he said. "That is a very low percentage that we have to take these extreme measures with."

Christchurch City Council figures show that the amount of rubbish being sent to a landfill every year has returned to pre-earthquake levels. The contents of red and green wheelie bins were sent to a landfill for about six weeks after last February's quake as the composting plant was out of action. Extra waste was generated by the quake, with damaged goods from warehouses and supermarkets.

In the 2009-10 financial year, 37,000 tonnes of rubbish was collected at the kerbside and sent to a landfill, but in the next year 47,000 tonnes was collected.

About 34,000 tonnes has been collected so far this financial year. About 40,000 tonnes of recyclable material and about 44,000 tonnes of organic material for composting were collected in the past financial year. Source - Stuff.co.nz



Ontario gets low marks on e-waste program scorecard

Ontario's e-waste program may not be giving the province's residents the biggest bang for their bucks, according to a report to be presented at a global conference starting tomorrow in Montreal.

The study compares the cost and effectiveness of [e-waste](#) programs in four Canadian regions – Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and the combined jurisdiction of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island – based on four measurements.

The Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) program costs \$1,634 per tonne of e-waste collected, making it the second most costly program behind Saskatchewan's which costs \$1,863 per tonne. Yet Ontario's program ranks last out of all four regional initiatives when it comes to the amount of e-waste collected (2.62 kg per capita), how much access residents have to the program, and public awareness.

Ontario's score on the public awareness front was particularly low. Only 65 per cent of Ontarians are aware of the OES and its programs, well below the awareness levels in Saskatchewan (82 per cent), Nova Scotia and Prince Edward combined (80 per cent) and B.C. (78 per cent).

The [OES has come under fire](#) in the past two years for reports that it ran a \$20-million surplus (yet did not reduce [e-waste fees](#) charged on consumer electronics goods) and collected less than half of the e-waste set out in its original target during its first year. Jonathan Spencer became the new head of OES in April after Carol Hochu left to take another job.

The e-waste scorecard was quietly posted on the Web site for the Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) last December and received little or no media coverage. The EPRA was created last year as Canada's national non-profit body to oversee e-waste programs across the country.

The report will be presented on Thursday at the seventh International Telecommunications Union Symposium on Information and Communications Technology (ICT), the Environment and Climate Change. It's the first time the event has ever been held in North America.

The three-day summit will include presentations by Bell Canada, Microsoft Corp., IBM, Ericsson, South Korean Telecom and Telecom Italia. Source:- itbusiness.ca

Study finds more recycling equals more consumption

Consumers who are presented with the option to recycle may increase their resource usage compared to those who don't have that option, according to a new study.

["Recycling gone bad: When the option to recycle increases resource consumption"](#), a report by Jesse R. Catlin, of the University of California, Irvine, and Yitong Wang, of Tsinghua University in Beijing, published in the *Journal of Consumer Psychology*, questions the desirability of making recycling more available, by suggesting that doing so makes consumers more wasteful.

For the study, the researchers did an experiment that asked consumers to evaluate a pair of scissors using a stack of paper. Those that were given a recycling bin used more paper. Those that didn't have a recycling bin used less. The researchers did a follow-up experiment that found that consumers used more paper towels in a restroom after a recycling bin was introduced.

From these experiments, the study concludes that consumers use more of a product they don't have to directly pay for when recycling is an option. According to the study, past research has shown that consumers generally try to avoid being wasteful and this tendency manifests itself in recycling behaviors. If consumers are able to recycle, they will feel that using more of a product isn't as wasteful

"Consumers may view the ability to recycle a product as a 'get out of jail free card' that makes consumption more acceptable ... thus leading to higher consumption levels," reads the study. "Put differently, the ability to recycle a product may also serve as a way to justify increased consumption."

The study notes that public agencies have gone to great lengths to promote recycling. However the researchers use the study's findings to question if this is the best approach, writing "...our findings indicate that merely emphasizing the positive aspects of recycling and enhancing the availability of recycling options may not be sufficient to save natural resources, or at least does not always yield the maximum environmental benefit. The increase of consumption found in our study may be partially due to the fact that consumers are well informed that recycling is beneficial to the environment; however, the environmental costs of recycling (e.g., water, energy, etc. used in recycling facilities) are less salient."

Source;- [Resource Recycling](#)

New CWMA members

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

Maple Reinders Inc.

225 Lougheed Road
Kelowna, BC, V1V 2M1
Contact; - [Bodo Papke](#)
Tel; 250 765 8892
Fax; 250 765 8832
Web;- www.maple.ca

Morrison Hershfield

310-4321 Still Creek Drive
Burnaby, BC, V5C6S7
Contact ;- [Don McCallum](#)
Tel; 604 454 0402
Fax; 604 454 0403
Web; www.morrisonhershfield.com

Renopro Container Systems

1986 4th Street East
Courtenay, BC, V9N 6V8
Contact; - [David Regehr](#)
Tel; 250 871 2088
Web; www.renoprocontainers.com

Joyce Thayer Law Corporation

4209 Clam Bay Rd.
Pender Island, B.C.V0N 2M1
Contact; - [Joyce Thayer](#)
Tel; 604 219 1439

A full listing of CWMA members can be found at www.cwma.bc.ca

Calendar of Events

[Wastecon](#)

August 14-17, 2012
Washington, DC

[Resource Recycling Conference](#)

August 28-29, 2012
Austin, TX

[Green Sports Alliance Summit](#)

September 5 - 7, 2012
Seattle, WA

[National Conference of the Compost Council of Canada,](#)

September 19-21, 2012, Montreal, QC,

[Recycling Council of Alberta Conference](#)

October 3 - 5, 2012
Jasper, Alberta

[CWMA Annual Conference 2012](#)

October 24 - 26, 2012
Victoria, BC

[Canadian Waste Sector Symposium](#)

November 12-14, 2012
Toronto, ON

CWMA 2012 - 2013 Board of Directors

The CWMA AGM took place on April 20, 2012 and the following Directors were elected to the board;

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 – *Schnitzer Steel Pacific Recycling*

Jerry Kupiak – *Sun Coast Waste Services*

Dave Ross – *Emterra Environmental*

Michael Schellinck - *Nanaimo Recycling Exchange*



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