

THE DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF CWMA
WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



"The Social Life of Waste"

Over 260 delegates joined us to help celebrate our 20th anniversary at this year's annual conference in October. With five roundtable meetings on the first day, tours of local facilities and four stewardship plan consultations, the biggest challenge was trying to fit everything in during the three-day event.



First Nations, government, non-profit and private industry came together to discuss issues of common interest. Topics on the agenda included; disaster debris management, remote location and ocean waste, textile and mattress recycling, industry safety and economics. [Dr. Jennie Moore](#) with the British Columbia Institute of Technology, helped us understand how to maintain healthy

cities and keep civilization in balance with earth systems, and actions that support the One-Planet Lifestyle. [JD Lindeberg](#) with Resource Recycling Systems explained the challenges and limitations of trying to reach higher recovery rates, and how the ReFED road map will benefit the environment, economy and society by diverting more food waste.

[read more](#)



Human-made Junk Now Outweighs Humans Themselves, Scientists Say.

Human-engineered structures and gadgets from cities to cellphones now represent an enormous mass weight of nearly 30 trillion tonnes on the planet, or vastly more than the world's forests or life in the oceans.



Photo via Shutterstock

Scientists call this artificial system created by humans over the centuries "the technosphere," and they say it is growing and evolving at a rapid rate. Furthermore, the variety of obsolete and working technological gadgets that litter landfills and cities now outnumber the planet's biotic species and probably "far exceeds recognized fossil diversity, and may exceed total biological diversity through Earth's history," say scientists in a new journal *paper* published in the *Anthropocene Review*.

[read more](#)

More plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050 - and other fun garbage facts!

If there's one thing Americans enjoy more than buying stuff, it's not recycling that stuff when we're done with it. We've put together a by-the-numbers look at this country's expanding waste line.



Photo by Gideon Wright.

4.4: Percent of the world's population living in the U.S.
18: Percent of the world's municipal solid waste (aka trash) generated in the U.S.
7: Seconds you might want to take to reread those two stats

- 4.4: Pounds of trash the average American produces each day
- 3.7: Pounds of trash the average American produced each day in 1980
- 2.7: Pounds of trash the average American produced each day in 1960
- 2.9: Average pounds of trash generated per person per day in Europe today
- 2.4: Average pounds generated per person per day in Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia
- 1.4: Average pounds generated per person per day in sub-Saharan Africa

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The Trashbot Will Eat And Sort Your Garbage

This robotic trash can will automatically sort all of your garbage, pitching metals into one can and non-recyclables into another



TrashBot is the world's first "smart" waste bin that automatically sorts your recyclables from everyday trash. By combining next-generation robotics, advanced sensor technology, and the Cloud, TrashBot not only categorizes your unwanted materials, it can audit your waste generation, let you know when it's full, and can be wirelessly updated if there is a change in your community's recycling program.

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PROUD TO BE A SPONSOR OF CWMA:



150 million tons of reeking garbage now holds up a park

Fresh Kills on Staten Island was once the world's largest landfill. Today, it's a grassland park.



Photo courtesy of Freshkills Park and the City of New York

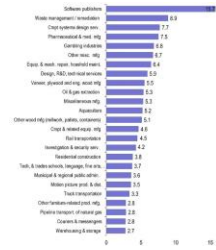
If the sheer size of it didn't take your breath away, the stink would. Every time. Fresh Kills was once the largest landfill in the world. 2200 acres that took in all of New York City's garbage. 150 million tons of trash between 1948 to 2001. Wrap your head around that. 150 millions tons.

And then wrap it around this. That gargantuan and malodorous heap is now in the process of being transformed into something truly beautiful.....

[read more](#)

BC's Fastest Growing Industries Come from a Diverse Mix of Sectors

Reflecting the steady improvement of environmental practices, the waste management and remediation industry has consistently been a BC growth leader over the past two decades.

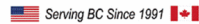


Amid the steep downturn in global commodity markets, the BC economy has held up surprisingly well. Two decades ago, a comparable world-wide mining/energy downturn would have meant malaise for the provincial economy. But what we see now, notwithstanding some regional challenges, is an economy that is on a solid growth footing. The BC economy is estimated to have expanded by 2.6% (after inflation) in 2015, and based on our forecast it is on course to grow by 2.8% this year. These are not barn-burning figures, but to put them in context, the Canadian economy is likely to grow by 1.5-1.9% in 2016. With many other provinces suffering from the commodities slump, BC is likely to top the provincial growth rankings this year.

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RABANCO

A Republic Services of BC Company



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15 fun things to type into Google

From making your browser do a 'barrel roll' to playing a quick game of Breakout with your search results, Google's full of quirky little easter eggs

Google's easter eggs - funny little images, programs or widgets - are legendary, but many of them lie dormant, just waiting for users to type the magic words into the search box.

Are they clever? Some are. Are they useful? Most aren't. But they're all a welcome distraction from working. They all work in Chrome on desktop, most work on mobile too, and some of them also work in other browsers. Enjoy.



[read more](#)

Calendar of Events

WMABC Annual Conference & AGM

January 19, 2017 Sheraton Guildford Hotel, Surrey, BC

Recycling Council of BC Annual Zero Waste Conference

June 21-23, 2017 Whistler, BC

Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference

October 11 - 13, 2017 Lake Louise, AB

CWMA Annual Conference 2017

October 18-20, 2017 Victoria, BC

****Mark your calendars - don't miss out!****

Canada

n Waste & Recycling Expo 2017

October 25-26, 2017 Niagara Falls, ON



CWMA Board of Directors

The CWMA AGM was held on April 22, 2016 and the following Directors make up our elected board;

Jeff Ainge - Regional District of Nanaimo

Anke Bergner - Capital Regional District (Chair)

Avery Gottfried - Tetra Tech

Peter Grant - Salt Spring Island Community Services Society

Harmony Huffman - Cowichan Valley Regional District

Jerry Kupiak - Sun Coast Waste Services

Mark Kurschner - Product Care Association

Jacqueline Tudor-Jones - Cascades Recovery Inc



Left to Right Standing: Mark Kurschner, Jeff Ainge, Jerry Kupiak, Anke Bergner, Jacqueline Tudor-Jones, Peter Grant, Will Burrows, Harmony Huffman and Avery Gottfried

About CWMA

[Coast Waste Management Association](#) is a membership association serving the solid waste industry in coastal British Columbia.

We are made up of approximately [160 members](#), drawing from the private sector, local and regional governments and non-profit organizations from across North America.

CWMA members are involved in such diverse activities as recycling, composting, deconstruction, product stewardship, waste disposal, environmental education and consulting, and managing solid waste facilities.

CWMA offers a forum to assist our diverse membership in meeting the challenges and opportunities of waste management. We do this by facilitating communication and offering networking and educational opportunities for members. We provide an annual conference, ongoing technical sessions and workshops and e-mail updates.

Membership is open to everyone. We welcome new members and invite you to [apply today](#).

The Coast Waste Management Association fosters environmental leadership and best practices by providing a forum for discussion, education and networking

Will Burrows
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[Contact us today!](#)

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