

DIRECTOR'S NEWS AUGUST 2010
AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR,
DONNA SHUGAR



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I am taking a break from my Gumboot Office until September 11, but I can arrange to meet with you if you send me an email.

SOUTH COAST CLEAN UP EVENT

The second annual SCRD clean up event for the south coast will take place the week of August 9-15. You will be able to use the SCRD coupon which you received with your utility bill to drop off unwanted items at Gibsons Recycling Depot, 1018 Venture Way, 8:00am-4:30pm daily. No early birds!

Your coupon, which is good for one truck load of materials, should be filled out and signed before you unload. Oversized loads and prohibited materials will be charged extra fees. All materials must be properly separated according to type.

For more information go to www.scrd.ca
Contact: Cathy Kenny 604-885-6800 or Gibsons Recycling Depot 604-740-1425.

PARKING ISSUES

We are working hard to create more alternatives to car travel by improving transit services and building cycle and walking paths in our community. Please help out by respecting the bike lanes and not parking your car there!! If a cyclist has to go out into the road to get around

your vehicle, it creates a safety issue for both the cyclist and motorists.

This has become a problem both on Roberts Creek and Lower Roads.

Many people are also disregarding the no parking areas in the downtown and at the beach in Roberts Creek. There is no parking opposite the parking lot at the Pier Park, any where on the bridge or the approach to the bridge, on the Mandala, or opposite the Gumboot Café.

Please use the large paved parking areas at the elementary school. It really isn't that far to walk to downtown or the beach and you will make it safer for everyone if you do. Thank you!!

RECYCLING

Thank you to everyone who took the time to become informed and to answer the telephone survey on SCRD recycling services. The majority of respondents from Roberts Creek indicated that they would like curbside collection of recyclables. In addition, there was majority support for enhancing the services we provide at recycling depots. The next step is to refer the survey results to the multi-stakeholder Working Group currently updating the Sunshine Coast Regional District's Solid Waste Management Plan. Results will inform the overall development of a Zero Waste Strategy for the SCRD – one of the key elements being developed as part of the overall plan update.

Final decisions by the SCRD Board concerning new recycling services will be reserved until the Board has reviewed and adopted the updated

Solid Waste Management Plan. A draft of the updated Solid Waste Management Plan is expected to be presented to the SCRCD Board in early October, followed by a public consultation process to solicit feedback on the draft plan. The final draft will then be presented to the Board for adoption before it is submitted to the Ministry of Environment for final approval by the province. For the full report on the recycling survey please go to www.scrd.ca.

There are some new Extended Producer Responsibility programs being implemented by the province. EPR is a program to encourage business and industry to take responsibility for the full life cycle of the products they make and sell. We have had EPR programs for things like tires, drink containers and computer equipment for some time. When you buy these products, you pay an eco-fee up front and then, when you need to dispose of them, there are places where they can be responsibly disposed of. July 1, the Province of BC added florescent light bulbs and batteries, as well as a full suite of electronic products to the EPR program. Putting these items in the garbage is no longer acceptable! Light bulbs, which contain small amounts of mercury, are accepted free (you have already paid the eco-fee) at London Drugs, GBS, Gibsons Recycling Depot, and Trail Bay Hardware. Batteries are accepted at all the SCRCD recycling depots, the SCRCD office on Field Road, the landfill, Gibsons Recycling Depot, and London Drugs. Alkaline (AA, AAA, 9V), rechargeable (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Li-Ion), button cells, carbon zinc, lithium primary and small seal lead acid batteries, UPS batteries and cell phones are all covered under this program. Electronic equipment can be taken to Gibsons Recycling Depot.

It is expected that small appliances (anything with a cord) will be added to the EPR program in April 2011.

CAMPFIRE BAN

As of July 23, all open burning, including campfires

and fireworks, are prohibited across the Coastal Fire Area to help prevent human-caused wildfires and protect public safety. This ban applies to open fires of any size, campfires, fireworks, tiki torches and burning barrels. The ban does not apply to cooking stoves that use gas, propane or briquettes, or to portable campfire apparatus with a CSA or ULC rating using briquettes, liquid or gaseous fuel, that are not capable of producing a flame longer than 15 centimetres. Portable campfire apparatus that do not meet these conditions are prohibited. This prohibition is necessary due to dry forest fuels and a forecast for a prolonged period without substantial rain. Please exercise caution on forested land with any activity that could lead to a wildfire. Please discard cigarettes carefully and limit movement of ATVs and motorcycles through tall grass and undergrowth. This ban covers all BC Parks, Crown and private lands.

Provincial regulations state that anyone found in violation of an open fire ban, including campfires, may be issued a ticket for \$345. Should a wildfire occur as a result of recklessness, a person can be fined up to \$1 million, or spend three years in prison and be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs! So be careful!

CREEK DAZE

August 28 is the date for Creek Daze 2010! Assemble at the Hall at 10:30am for the parade... everyone is welcome! Contact Yanira if you have ideas or want to help out: creekdaze@robertscreek.org.

Have a wonderful and safe summer!! See you at the beach!

