



Litterature

The Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program

Spring 2004

\$\$ Third Annual Spring Litter Sweep Contest \$\$

Want to win some money for your Adopt-A-Highway Group?

Why not enter the Spring Litter Sweep Contest?

Take a photo of the most unusual litter you find (must be one item and clearly visible in the photo) and send it to the Adopt-A-Highway office **along** with your completed clean-up permit.

Entries must be received no later than Friday, July 2, 2004. Only one photo may be entered per group.

Prizes will be \$200.00 for first place, \$100.00 for second place and \$50.00 for third place.

You have a great chance of winning!

Luck of the Draw \$\$\$ Winner

Last Fall we had a contest called 'Luck of the Draw \$\$\$'. Groups were asked to send their completed clean-up permit to the Adopt-A-Highway Office and they would be entered in to a contest to win \$100.00. The winner of the contest was the Hill 'N Dale 4-H Club. The Hill 'N Dale 4-H Club completed their clean-up on October 25, 2003 collecting 30 bags of garbage with fast food containers being the most common item found.

Volunteers

Many will be shocked to find,
When the day of judgement nears,
That there's a special place in heaven
Set aside for volunteers.

Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and footstools,
Where there are no committee chairmen,
No church suppers or rummage sales at the local school,

No tickets to sell or highways to clean,
There will be nothing to print and staple,
Telephone lists will be outlawed, and there'll be
not one thing to fold or mail.

But a finger snap will bring
cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And rare treats fit for a king and queen.

You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
And work for all they're worth?"

Why, all those who reaped the benefits,
And not once volunteered on Earth.

Written by Ann Landers and adapted by Theresa Osborne

Happy Spring!



Mark Your Calendar



| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Provincial Volunteer Week | April 18 -24, 2004 |
| Earth Day | April 22, 2004 |
| Adopt-A-Highway Day | May 4, 2004 |
| Environment Week | May 30 - June 5, 2004 |
| Waste Reduction Week | October 18-24, 2004 |

Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator and Committee Chair attend the 8th International Adopt-A-Highway Conference in Charleston, West Virginia

Last Fall the Coordinator and Committee Chair for the Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program had an opportunity to attend the 8th International Adopt-A-Highway Conference in West Virginia on October 12 - 15, 2003.

We were the only Canadians attending the Conference.

While at the Conference we learned what other Adopt-A-Highway Programs are doing to rid litter from their Province/State.

Sessions were held on Litter Laws and Enforcement, the Effectiveness of Litter Hotlines, Adopt-A-Highway Sign Regulations, Promoting Adopt-A-Highway and Litter Control, Hidden Camera Surveillance of Open Dumps and Heavily Littered Sites, Tires - an International Problem, Finding Volunteers and Keeping Them Happy, Adopt-A-Highway Newsletters, and Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers Speak Out - Presentation by an Adopt-A-Highway group.

Each person attending the conference gave a report on their state/province.

We feel the Conference gave us many new ideas to incorporate into the Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program. It was a very worthwhile

experience and we are pleased that we could attend the Conference.



Congratulations!

In our Fall, 2003 Newsletter readers were given a chance to win one of ten 'Patty Pitter...She Hates Litter' books by correctly answering five questions to which the answers could be found throughout the *Litterature* Newsletter.

The winners are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Betty Lou Scott - | Salt Springs 4-H Club |
| Campbell Gunn - | Hub Campers |
| Frank Works - | Branch 26 Colchester Branch, Royal Canadian Legion - Truro |
| Don Hill - | TOPS #NS 2688 Port Williams |
| Juanita Mattinson - | River Phillip Community Hall Association |
| Darlene Hennigar - | Greenwich Women's Association |
| Anne Marie Currie - | Le Moine Development Association |
| Susan Oakes - | Debert Community Assoc. |
| Helen McDonald - | Earth Day Friends |
| Ernie Wilson - | New Minas Lions Club |

Litter Clean Up in Progress Sign

Litter Clean Up in Progress signs are being developed for Adopt-A-Highway groups to use during their clean up. These signs should be ready in time for your Fall clean up. Groups should request these signs when they call for their cleanup permit, garbage bags, etc., from the Department of Transportation and Public Works in your clean up area. Two signs will be available - one to be placed at the beginning of your clean up and the other to be placed at the end of your clean up, near your Adopt-A-Highway sign.

The 'Men Working' signs are no longer available for the Adopt-A-Highway groups to use.

Any questions on the signs, please call the Adopt-A-Highway Office.

Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer Coordinator Information/Recognition Session

The Information/Recognition Session held on Saturday, March 20, 2004, was a great success!

The session was held at AgriTECH Park in Truro. Forty volunteers attended the session, travelling from Yarmouth, New Glasgow, Antigonish, Halifax, Amherst, and many points in between.

The day included presentations by the Department of Transportation and Public Works and two of the three founding members of the Program, Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia and the Lions Clubs of Nova Scotia. Clean Nova Scotia was unable to attend the session.

Topics included safety procedures, tips for a successful cleanup, litter laws (a presentation by the Department of Environment and Labour) and volunteerism - motivating volunteers. An Information package on recycling was given to the volunteers.

Each volunteer gave a report on their group's cleanup effort and all enjoyed a wonderful lunch.

During the afternoon break, Craig White from Cobequid Physiotherapy joined the volunteers to demonstrate some stretches to do before and after their cleanup.

The volunteers were presented with a certificate for their participation in the Session.

It was a fun and informative day for all!



Photo: Volunteer Coordinator Information Session, March 20, 2004

Observations Made During the 1st Enfield Scouts Fall, 2003 Clean up



The 1st Enfield Scouts and Venturers collected six bags of recyclables and 128 bags of garbage and general debris - 420kg in all, during their Fall, 2003 clean up. Eleven volunteers took part in the clean up.

Some light observations made as a result of the clean up by the Scouts and Leader are as follows:

- ▶ Patrons of McDonald's restaurants always travel in pairs (always found two of a debris item, cups/french fry containers, etc.).
- ▶ Players Light smokers outnumber other brands by 2 to 1.
- ▶ Many smokers drink coffee (cigarette packages always found near coffee cups)
- ▶ Coffee drinkers travel farther before tossing cups than cold drink consumers (based on distance from originating location).
- ▶ Drink container tops and bottoms exit vehicles at different times/locations.
- ▶ Most food eaters/plate tossers find utensils in vehicle after they have thrown out the dishes (forks and knives not found near plates).
- ▶ Utensils travel in mass quantities (forks and knives found in multiples).

Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program Safety & Clean Up Tips

Hazardous and Large Items to Flag:

- ◆ Medical Waste - needles, urine bottles
- ◆ Corrosive Waste - car batteries
- ◆ Animal Carcasses
- ◆ Heavy Items

Appropriate clothing and supplies:

- ◆ Wear CSA approved boots and safety hat, long sleeve shirts and pants, gloves, and of course a CSA approved safety vest.
- ◆ Use sunblock
- ◆ Drink lots of water or fruit juice
- ◆ Bug repellent

Parking on the shoulders of the highway or on Exit ramps is not permitted.

- ◆ Arrange to shuttle volunteers to clean up site.

Prohibited:

- ◆ Volunteers must not have in their possession, or consume illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages immediately before or during clean up activities.
- ◆ Do not use personal music devices during clean up.
- ◆ No pets shall be present during clean up.

Lost and Found:

- ◆ If items of value are found, surrender them to the group representative, who in turn will surrender to the nearest police station.

General Tips:

- ◆ Never compress litter in a garbage bag with your foot or hand.
- ◆ Don't fill garbage bags too full or make them too heavy. They will be hard to tie and carry.
- ◆ Use a rake to gather litter.
- ◆ Use a plastic ring to hold garbage bag open.
- ◆ Any recyclable material found, such as beverage containers, can be claimed by the group to raise funds.
- ◆ Remember to send a copy of your completed permit to the Adopt-A-Highway office after each clean up.
- ◆ Return all unused supplies to Transportation and Public Works.

Promotion:

- ◆ *Litterature* Newsletter - circulate to volunteers in group
- ◆ Brochures - available upon request
- ◆ Invite the media to take part in clean ups or to cover the event
- ◆ Encourage local businesses to support your volunteer work
- ◆ Encourage volunteers to enter Adopt-A-Highway contests

****Most Important: Be Safe and Have FUN!****

Groups Who Participated in a Fall, 2003 Clean-up

| Group | District | Group | District |
|--|----------|---|----------|
| 1st Enfield Scout Troup | Central | Avon Animal Hospital | Central |
| Central Chapter Nova Scotia (HOG) | Central | Enfield & Elmsdale District Lions Club | Central |
| Linden 4-H Project Club | Central | Mt. Traber Bible Camp | Central |
| East Hants & District Chamber of Commerce | Central | Rotary Club of Sydney Sunrise | Eastern |
| St. Mary's District Lions Club | Eastern | Debert Community Association | Northern |
| Hub Campers | Northern | NSAC Environmental Club | Northern |
| River Phillip Community Hall Association | Northern | Rotary Club of New Glasgow | Northern |
| Gold Wing Road Riders Assoc., Chapter "T" | Northern | Your Group's Name Here | ?? |
| Salt Springs 4-H Club | Northern | Friends of the Environment | Northern |
| Truro Lions Club | Northern | Westchester Fire Dept. & Ladies Aux. | Northern |
| Zonta Club of Amherst | Northern | Br. 26 Colchester Branch, Royal Canadian Legion | Northern |
| 2nd Petite Riviere Scouts | Western | Aylesford Lions Club | Western |
| Bridgetown Lions Club | Western | Byron & Gloria Winters | Western |
| Camp Spondo & Friends - Woodstock Rd. | Western | Canning Lions Club | Western |
| Chester Basin, New Ross Chester Lions Club | Western | Coastal Cruisers | Western |
| Greenwich Women's Assoc. | Western | Hill 'N Dale 4-H Club | Western |
| Kempt Women's Institute | Western | Kingston Lions Club | Western |
| Knights of Columbus, Sigogne Council 6948 | Western | Lawrencetown & District Lions Club | Western |
| Middleton Lions Club | Western | New Germany & Area Lions Club | Western |
| New Minas & Distict Lions Club | Western | North Brookfield Women's Institute | Western |

| Group | District | Group | District |
|---|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Port Williams Women's Institute & Lion's Club | Western | Seabreeze Campers | Western |
| South Shore Stamp Club | Western | TOPS #NS 2688 Port Williams | Western |
| Walden Jr. Fire Dept. | Western | Waterloo Women's Institute | Western |
| White Point Beach Lodge | Western | Wolfville Lions Club | Western |

Fall 2003 Clean Up Report

Forty seven groups participated in a Fall clean up. A total of 1152 bags of garbage and 77 bags of recyclables were removed from 277.4 kilometres of highway by six hundred and thirty eight volunteers.

Hurricane Juan seemed to have an impact on the Fall clean up effort. Many trees were down along the roadsides making it unsafe for volunteers to complete their clean up.

We have four 100 Series Highway Interchanges adopted and many more waiting to be adopted. Thousands of kilometres of secondary highway are still waiting to be adopted.

If you know a group, business in your area who you think may be interested in adopting a section of highway, please let us know and we would be happy to send them some information on the program. Challenge another group to adopt a section of highway!

Thank you to all volunteers who participate in the Adopt-A-Highway Program - without you, there wouldn't be an Adopt-A-Highway Program.

Partnerships

The Adopt-A-Highway Program is able to continue due to the support of our volunteer groups and also from the continued support

through in-kind services from the Department of Transportation & Public Works and financial support from the Resource Recovery Fund Board Nova Scotia.

As well, we are fortunate to have committee support from the Department of Tourism and Culture, Environment and Labour. The three founding groups of the Adopt-A-Highway Program; Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia, the Lions Clubs and Clean Nova Scotia remain as important contacts for the program. The Halifax Regional Municipality participates in the program as well.

Litterature is a semi-annual newsletter published by the Adopt-A-Highway Program. It is mailed to Adopt-A-Highway groups who beautify Nova Scotia roadways and to supporters of our program.

After reading *Litterature*, please share the publication with others. Suggestions are always welcome. If you have any questions or comments please send them to:

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