

## Environment Advisory Committee Meeting

April 5, 2012

**Present:** Carol Williams, Shelley Innes, Anne De Gobeo, Sylvia Blanchard, Councillor Dave Nash, Mayor Doug Struthers, Tom Beach.

**Regrets:** Councillor Don Halpenny

No pecuniary interests declared

Added to the Agenda under New Business - Draft Drinking Water Policies

M/S Tom Beach/Anne De Gobeo to accept agenda with addition. Carried

M/S to approve minutes of February, 2012 Anne De Gobeo/Shelley Innes and carried by e-mail messages.

Old Business

1. Environmental page on website

Revisions were added and sent to all EAC members by email. Moved/seconded Shelley Innes/Carol Williams by email and carried by email responses. (See attachment below).

**ACTION: Anne De Gobeo will send the website text version that was passed by the Environment Advisory Committee via email to Jill Eagle to send to Council and Tom Beach will attach it to the Minutes.**

2. Pitch-In Campaign

Yellow Pitch in bags have been ordered and should be in next week. They will be available at the municipal office and at the landfill site.

Moved/seconded Anne De Gobeo/ Shelley Innes to recommend Council accept the following details. Carried.

*People sign up for up to two bags (depending on the supply of bags we receive) and sign up with their name, address and the roadway and section they will be cleaning. There will also be a map of the township for people to mark, on the map the road and section they will be cleaning. Bags are easily identifiable and can be disposed of for garbage pickup where pickup is a service or at the landfill site up to and including May 5<sup>th</sup>. After May 5<sup>th</sup> bags can be disposed of but will need a bag tag.*

*People will be requested to put any recycling items into their usual recycling and only use the Pitch In bag only for non recyclable garbage they collect on the roadside.*

*People will be encouraged to send photos of the largest clean up team and the most unusual items found to the Environment Advisory Committee. The EAC will request the EMC and Phoenix to publish photos and give recognition to the groups. Information will also be put on the Merrickville Wolford website.*

*Printed instructions will be available when people pick up the bag.*

#### **ACTION**

**Carol to determine how many bags have been ordered and adjust the instructions accordingly.**

**Shelley will pick up the bags from the municipal office on April 20<sup>th</sup> and take them to the landfill site.**

**Shelley and Dave Nash to assist at the landfill site on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Anne will pick up the bags from the municipal office on April 27<sup>th</sup> and take them to the landfill site.**

**Anne and Carol will assist at the landfill site on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**Shelley will put a notice up at the Post Office and office staff will post a notice at the municipal office in Merrickville and in Easton's Corners.**

**Anne will contact Ashely Culp to cover the first weekend of Pitch In.**

**Shelley will notify the schools in the area and ask children to encourage parents to participate.**

**Carol will talk to Frederick about putting the information on the Village Website.**

3. Tour of Perth Waste Management Centre EAC to pick potential dates for a tour.

**ACTION: Dave Nash will get potential dates from Dave Power when he would be available to do a tour the last week in April or first week of May.**

4. Earth Hour – 2012. The event occurred but was not as well attended as past years. The EAC agreed to identify ways to promote it more for next year – website, Phoenix.
5. Merrickville Goes Green – Ecofair now has more than 30 tables. May 12<sup>th</sup> date. EAC members to spread the word and promote the sale of the Rain barrels.

Moved/Seconded Anne/Sylvia to request council to promote wise use of water, referencing the article on low water levels and recommend to residents, the purchase of Rain barrels via rainbarrels.ca. Carried.

Merrickville Goes Green has also begun discussions on planting a fruit and nut orchard. They are seeking support from the EAC to promote it to council because they would like to plant them on municipal land. Trees would be bought and planted by Merrickville Goes Green and maintained by MGG and other groups such as the MAD Gardeners.

6. North Grenville Earth Day Fair will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11 to 3.
7. Draft Drinking Water Policies RVCA

Link to the RVCA website from the EAC section of the Merrickville Wolford Website.

**ACTION: Sylvia will attend one of the Open Houses and report back to the EAC.**

Moved/Seconded Tom Beach/Sylvia Blanchard to adjourn the meeting at 6:30

Next meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:15

BF for next meeting.

8. Registration for [www.sustainableeasternontario.ca](http://www.sustainableeasternontario.ca) and [www.rideau.reuses.com](http://www.rideau.reuses.com)
9. Recycling in other municipalities
10. REAL
11. Yellow Fish
12. Items for joint meeting of Ag. Advisory Committee and EAC
13. Low Glare Lights

## ATTACHMENT

### **Information for the EAC section of the Merrickville Wolford Website.**

Merrickville-Wolford encourages and promotes respect for the environment. There are a number of community activities (typo) and programs which support this mandate.

#### **OUR COMMITMENT**

The Village of Merrickville-Wolford has a very active **Environmental Advisory Committee**. This committee is composed of volunteers from the community who have been appointed by Council to make recommendations on Environmental matters. Agendas for Environment Committee Meetings are located under the [Agenda and Minutes tab](#) (should be a direct link, Jill) on the main webpage. For more information, please feel free to contact either one of the Co-Chairs, [Anne de Gobeo](#) or [Carol Williams](#).

#### **BY-LAWS**

Question, Jill: By-Laws associated with the environment, like the **No Idling By-Law** should be listed but are not. When added, can we have a direct link to them from our page? What about the Lawn Pesticide Ban?

#### **RECYCLING & HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL**

Residents and visitors are encouraged to recycle. Merrickville Ward Residents enjoy bi-monthly curbside pick-up. [Click here for details of Calendar](#). Wolford Ward residents must take their garbage and recycling to the Landfill site which is located at 3512 County Rd. 16. The phone number is [\(613\) 269-2987](#).

The Landfill site also offers such services as: Electronics recycling (for a complete list of electronics that can be recycled, [click here](#)); Tires can also be dropped (free of charge); "Free cycle Trailer" on site to drop off any household items that you no longer want.

**Cell phones** can be dropped off at the [Merrickville Community Health Centre](#).

**Household Hazardous Waste Days** are provided by the [United Counties of Leeds and Grenville](#).

In order to divert waste from our Landfill sites, **we encourage composting**.

#### **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Active community groups include the Merrickville cycle group, [Merrickville Goes Green](#), the [Merrickville Trails group](#). These groups offer local residents an opportunity to become more involved in the community. A number of local restaurants participate in the **Buy Local program** and area farmers

markets encourage residents and businesses to support their local farming network.

#### IMPORTANT CAUSES & PROGRAMS

- Recently the municipality embraced the Yellow Fish program operated by the Girl Guides. Municipal storm drains are painted with a yellow fish icon to remind everyone that storm drains empty into the nearby river.
- The municipality encourages residents to become a part of Eco-events like Earth Hour, Earth Day, the local Eco- Fair and the Zero Volt Challenge.
- For the health of your Well and Septic: Well Aware
- Pitch-in Canada – a clean-up by local residents of our community

