

The NLEN E-UPDATE – September 21, 2009

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EVENTS

1. St. John's Safer Soil free garden tours, September and October
2. Harris Centre 'Synergy Session': Biomass/Bioenergy: Foundation For Forest Sector Regeneration, September 21
3. TONIGHT – Film Screening: HOME, a film by Yann Arthus-Bertrand, September 21
4. Lecture and Discussion: Sustaining What for Whom? Why Does Nature Have Value? September 21
5. Lower Churchill Information Sessions, September 21 – 24
6. Meet the Torbay Candidates Evening, September 22
7. Strategy Session for Sustainable Forests, September 25 - 27
8. Organic Gardening Workshops on the West Coast, September 26
9. The Ken Proudfoot Potato Festival and NL Horticultural Society Fall Vegetable Show, September 26
10. PUBLIC FORUM – An Edible, Sustainable St. John's, September 26
11. Municipal Elections Across NL, September 29
12. The Institute of Public Administration of Canada 2009 Fall Symposium, October 5
13. Memorial Sustainability Celebration, October 6
14. Film Screening (St. John's Premiere) – You, Me and the SPP: Trading Democracy for Corporate Rule, October 9
15. NLEN Annual General Meeting, October 17
16. Tck Tck Tck... This is our Future, October 24
17. Training Opportunity for Environmental Educators, October 29 - 30
18. 2009 Atlantic Green Forum on Sustainable Landscapes, November 9 - 10

ACTIONS

19. Call for Abstracts: Species at Risk Stewardship Workshop, Deadline October 30
20. Save B.C.'s Wild Salmon

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

21. Volunteer Opportunity with the NL Environment Network: Computer support

FUNDING, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

22. The 2010 "Women of the Earth" Awards, Deadline September 30
23. 2nd Annual FEASt Photo Contest, Deadline October 1

NEWS

24. Eco-Quote of the Week
25. Website of the Week
26. Provincial Government News Releases
27. Environmental News Articles
28. Recent Environment Related CBC Podcasts

EVENTS

- 1. St. John's Safer Soil free garden tours, September and October**

Come check out the demonstration garden behind the Gathering Place, situated at the north side of the Basilica Parking Lot. The garden is an educational tool to promote simple techniques for safe gardening and recreation in areas with elevated soil lead levels. We also conduct research in innovative and environmentally sound methods to promote overall soil health in support of urban agriculture.

Learn about safe city gardening; landscaping to prevent lead exposure; phytoremediation: using plants to clean the soil; and biochar: an organic soil amendment which increases soil fertility while sequestering carbon; and more!

To arrange a free garden tour and presentation for your family, workplace or community group, please contact Project Coordinator Lori Heath at 738-7542 or safersoil@gmail.com. Educational materials are also available at our website at www.safersoil.ning.com. St. John's Safer Soil is a project of the Centre for Long-term Environmental Action in Newfoundland and Labrador (CLEANf/Ld).

2. Harris Centre 'Synergy Session': Biomass/Bioenergy: Foundation For Forest Sector Regeneration, September 21

with Mr. Peter Milley, M.B.A., C.M.C, Halifax Global Inc.

Monday, September 21, 2009, 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
4th Floor Boardroom, Spencer Hall, Memorial University

What are the various biomass processing technologies to which idled forestry processing facilities can potentially be converted? What are the key conversion challenges to developing a viable 'green' biomass/ bioenergy business on the foundation of an industrial platform that dates from the early decades of the last century? Do current policy and industry structure constrain the available supply of biomass to new ventures and tend to encourage existing traditional forest sector companies to resist introduction of new biomass-based businesses? What public policy changes and other new initiatives are necessary to foster combinations of processing technologies and products which can serve as the foundation for a viable forest sector of the future? Are these new technologies a panacea or a Pandora's box? This presentation will address these and other questions as the forest industry of Newfoundland and Labrador struggles to re-invent itself in the light of major global changes.

Peter Milley is a founding partner of Halifax Global Inc., one of Atlantic Canada's leading independent management consulting firms. He has been involved with numerous forest and bio-resource projects in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Eastern and Northern Ontario. In 2008, Mr. Milley led the Halifax Global team that developed the forest sector strategy currently being implemented by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

* Admission is free, but registration is required for catering and parking purposes. Space is limited, so register early. Parking is available in Lot # 19 (in front of Queen's College) and a sandwich lunch is provided by the Harris Centre. Please advise if you have any dietary requirements. To register, contact Chelsey Laird at claird@mun.ca or (709) 737-8405.

3. TONIGHT – Film Screening: HOME, a film by Yann Arthus-Bertrand, September 21

Mon. Sept 21st, 7pm
The Loft, University Centre, UC-3013, MUN. Free

MUN Oxfam and the Climate Action Network NL present this stunningly beautiful film with unique footage from over 50 countries around the world. Synopsis: Humanity has upset the balance of

the planet established by nearly 4 billion years of evolution. Scientists say we have less than 10 years to change the way we live and avert climate catastrophes and the depletion of natural resources. HOME has been conceived to take a message of mobilization out to all of us.

View the trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8lozVfph7I>

4. Lecture and Discussion: Sustaining What for Whom? Why Does Nature Have Value? September 21

King Henry's Pub, Glynmill Inn, Corner Brook

7:00 pm – Lecture by Dr. David L. Thompson

8:00 pm – Book Launch: "Science and Human Value: Dennett's Defence of Humanity".

Followed by a response by Dr. Bernie Wills, Philosophy, SWGC and discussion.

Admission is free.

5. Lower Churchill Information Sessions, September 21 – 24

The Secretariat for the Joint Panel appointed to review the proposed Lower Churchill Hydroelectric Generation Project invites the public to attend additional information sessions.

The information sessions will give Aboriginal groups, the public, governments and other interested parties an opportunity to hear about how the joint panel review will proceed and how they can participate. Federal and provincial representatives who form the Secretariat will be making presentations and will answer questions. The Panel will not be present at these sessions.

The dates and locations of the information sessions are as follows :

September 21, 2009 – North West River (NL)

Labrador Interpretation Center, 2 Portage Road, North West River

7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

September 22, 2009 - Hopedale (NL)

Amaguk Inn dining room, Hopedale

7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

September 22, 2009 – Mud Lake (NL) ***CHANGE OF TIME***

Community Hall, Mud Lake

6:00 pm to 9:30 pm

September 23, 2009 - Rigolet (NL)

Community Hall, Rigolet

7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

September 24, 2009 - St. John's (NL)

Holiday Inn, 180 Portugal Cove Road, St. John's

7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

September 24, 2009 - Sept-Îles (QC)

Hôtel Gouverneur Sept-Îles, 666 Laure blvd., Sept-Îles

7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Further information on this project is available on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry at www.ceaa.gc.ca, registry number 07-05-26178.

6. Meet the Torbay Candidates Evening, September 22

Tuesday, September 22, 7:00 PM
Torbay Kinsmen Centre on Bauline Line

Torbay Environment and Trails Committee, in cooperation with Torbay Heritage Committee, is hosting a "Meet the Candidates evening" on Tuesday September 22 at 7pm in the Torbay Kinsmen Centre on Bauline Line.

If you live in Torbay this is your opportunity to hear municipal council and mayoral candidates' views on some of the many environmental issues facing Torbay today. Get to know your candidates' views before you vote.

7. Strategy Session for Sustainable Forests, September 25 - 27

Grenfell College, Corner Brook, NL
Sept.25 to Sept.27

The Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter of Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) is presenting a strategy workshop for sustainable forestry facilitated by the Environmental Policy Institute (EPI) of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. For more information, a copy of the agenda or to register, please email: nlforest@cpaws.org

8. Organic Gardening Workshops on the West Coast, September 26

Learn about general principles of growing food organically; get inspired to create your own family or community garden; share ideas about sustainable agriculture. Lunch w/ local organic food will be served.

Sat. Sept 26th, 9am - 3pm: Birchy Head Recreation Centre, Bonne Bay South (Reg. by Sept 24)

To register: call Ryan 709-638-9846 or email: nlorganicworkshops@gmail.com. Free.
(Participants will be asked to complete a survey in lieu of a registration fee.)

9. The Ken Proudfoot Potato Festival and NL Horticultural Society Fall Vegetable Show, September 26

Saturday, September 26, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
MUN Botanical Garden, 306 Mount Scio Road

Admission to this popular event will be a donation of a non-perishable food item or funds and all proceeds for the day will help support the Community Food Sharing Association.

The event will feature:

- Newfoundland and Labrador Horticultural Society Fall Vegetable Show
- Jigg's Dinner
- Cooking Demonstrations
- Potato Displays
- Potato Experts

- Live Music
- Potato Tasting
- Vegetable Stand
- Children's Activities
- Compost Challenge Awards

This food drive, held before Thanksgiving, is vital in the Food Sharing Association's efforts to raise awareness, funds and food for Thanksgiving and the fall season.

For additional information, please call 737-8950. We look forward to seeing you at our Potato Festival!

10. PUBLIC FORUM – An Edible, Sustainable St. John's, September 26

Sat. Sept 26th, 11:00 AM

At the St. John's Farmers' Market (Lion's Club Chalet, Bonaventure/Mayor Ave., to be held in an outside tent)

PUBLIC FORUM - An Edible, Sustainable St. John's: How our Municipal Government can help make this a green, food secure city

Candidates for Mayor and Deputy Mayor have been invited to give opening statements on this topic, and then to answer questions during a 30-minute moderated Q & A session. (Candidates for all seats have been invited to attend.)

Come with questions & ideas!

Hosted by the NLEN.

11. Municipal Elections Across NL, September 29

Tues., Sept 29, 2009 - Municipal Elections across NL

You can vote if you are 1) a Canadian citizen, 2) 18 years of age or older on election day, 3) a resident of that municipality at least 30 days prior to election day.

If you recently moved, recently turned 18, or for whatever other reason might not be on the voters' list, you must fill out an 'Application to Have Name Included in List of Electors' and provide ID, including something with your address.

Call and/or check out the website of your municipality for more information, including key dates, downloading forms, etc.

12. The Institute of Public Administration of Canada 2009 Fall Symposium, October 5

"Who is Rowing and Who is Steering" – The Increasing Role of the Third Sector in Public Policy and Service Delivery

DATE: Monday, October 5, 2009, 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Comfort Inn Airport, St. John's, NL

For more information and to REGISTER go to: <http://www.ipac.ca/NL-Registration>

Deadline to register: 5:00 PM on Thursday, October 1, 2009.

13. Memorial Sustainability Celebration, October 6

Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: The Landing, 3rd Floor University Centre

Celebrate the signing Memorial's Sustainability Declaration and the completion of the construction phase of the Energy Performance Contract. Learn about Memorial's green actions and what you can do on campus and at home to save energy and protect the environment. Visit displays on sustainability projects and energy efficiency and conservation.

Sustainability Declaration signing will occur at 1 pm with displays and prizes throughout the day. Sponsored by the MUN Sustainability Office.

14. Film Screening (St. John's Premiere) – You, Me and the SPP: Trading Democracy for Corporate Rule, October 9

Fri. Oct 9, 7pm. Admission by donation.

Main Engineering Lecture Theatre - EN2006, MUN

This is a feature length documentary about the Security & Prosperity Partnership. Hosted by the Council of Canadians – St. John's Chapter and the MUN Students' Union. Filmmaker Paul Manly will be in attendance for a Q & A.

15. NLEN Annual General Meeting, October 17

Oct 17th, NLEN Annual General Meeting, Bonne Bay Marine Station
(Carpooling from St. John's area on the 16th and returning on the 18th)

Save these dates and join us for an exciting & informative gathering in beautiful Bonne Bay!
More details coming soon.

16. Tck Tck Tck... This is our Future, October 24

Sat. Oct 24th (Global Day of Action on Climate Change), 3pm, Nagle's Hill (by the Fluvarium), St. John's

Count Yourself In -
St. John's Biggest Action on the World's Biggest Issue!
Tck, Tck, Tck...This is our Future

Help create a human hourglass and show Canada that it's time to step up in Copenhagen.

We need YOU to be there! To sign up: email tck.Oct24@gmail.com

(For more info see: 350.org, www.nlen.ca, www.kyotoplus.ca, + VIDEO (1 min): Tck, Tck, Tck: It's Time to Act on Climate Change <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xld3SCLT54k>)

17. Training Opportunity for Environmental Educators, October 29 - 30

Thurs. Oct 29 & Fri. Oct 30, 8:30am - 4:30pm, St. John's (venue TBA)

Environment Canada will be delivering two FREE full-day environmental education training workshops for ENGOs, public servants, & educators.

1. Planning for Success: Designing Effective Environmental Education Programs will help you develop knowledge and skills in environmental education (EE) program design. In this workshop participants will:

- explore the purpose and intended outcomes of EE programs,
- discover the value of conducting needs assessments,
- practice creating educational program objectives,
- identify appropriate approaches to use when developing an EE program
- discuss program evaluation; In addition, participants will have an opportunity to network and share resources with fellow environmental educators.

2) Project WET (Water Education) is an experiential environmental education program with a focus on water, designed primarily for students in K-12 but can be used for a wider audience. This session has been developed to train people in the delivery of Project WET in formal and non-formal educational settings. This one day hands-on, interactive workshop will introduce participants to Project WET. By the end of the day you will be able to use the educators guide to deliver water education activities to various audiences. Participants will receive a free educators' guide. <http://www.cwra.org/Branches/ProjectWet/default.aspx>

TO REGISTER: Email Susan Glynn-Morris at susan.glynnmorris@ec.gc.ca or (902) 426-1704 if you would like to register for one or both training sessions. Please indicate which session(s) you are registering for in your email. Space is limited.

18. 2009 Atlantic Green Forum on Sustainable Landscapes, November 9 - 10

St. John's, Nov. 9 - 10

Landscape Newfoundland and Labrador invites you to participate in the 2009 Atlantic Green Forum. The goal of the Atlantic Green Forum is to investigate how the environmental horticulture industry interacts with the landscape and what we can do to encourage sustainability in landscape design and installation.

Seminars will be offered from local, national and international experts on topics related to Sustainable Landscapes. Exhibits will be set up, and networking opportunities will be offered to share best practices for our industry. Prospective delegates include municipal planners, government officials, landscape architects, academics, members of the environmental horticulture industry, and suppliers to our industry. Topics include: 'Water Issues in Sustainable Urban Landscapes', 'Green Roofs and Living Walls', 'LEED & Sustainable Sites', and much more.

Cost: \$200 for two days; \$125 for one day; \$30/day for students.

For more information, contact Rebecca Wetselaar by phone at 1-866-383-4711 or by email at rebecca@canadanursery.com. Visit our website at www.landscapenl.org.

ACTIONS

19. Call for Abstracts: Species at Risk Stewardship Workshop, Deadline October 30

Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation and partners are organizing a Species at Risk Stewardship Workshop, December 3rd to 5th, 2009 at the Old Orchard Inn & Spa, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Workshop themes include Habitat Stewardship Program, Capacity Building during Stewardship

Opportunities, Issues surrounding Critical Habitat, Role of Invasive Species with regards to Species at Risk, Native/Aboriginal Involvement in Species at Risk Stewardship, Roles and Responsibilities of Recovery Teams, and Breaking the Barrier: Better Communications between all Stakeholders.

Please email abstracts to nicolle@coastalaction.org and ensure the phrase "Abstract Submission" is in the subject line of the email. The deadline: October 30th, 2009. For registration information and other workshop details please see attached pdf documents or visit <http://www.coastalaction.org>.

20. Save B.C.'s Wild Salmon

Sign a letter to Fisheries Minister Gail Shea asking that the laws of Canada be applied to fish farms <http://www.adopt-a-fry.org/>

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

21. Volunteer Opportunity with the NL Environment Network: Computer support

Want to spruce up your resume? We are looking for someone with strong computer/internet skills to assist us for a few hours per week with our webpage and the E-Update. A great way to learn about a range of environmental issues & to gain experience with a non-profit! Students very welcome. Email: nlen.ed@gmail.com or call 753-7898. (www.nlen.ca)

FUNDING, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

22. The 2010 "Women of the Earth" Awards, Deadline September 30

The Yves Rocher Foundation's Women of the Earth Awards annually rewards three Canadian women who contribute to a greener world. Generous, original, inspiring, their actions are at once simple yet exemplary. If you are Canadian and involved in an environmental project with a non-profit organization, or if you know a woman who is, do not hesitate to let the Yves Rocher Foundation know about her. This year's first prize is 5000 Euros and a chance to win the international grand prize of 10,000 Euros. To participate, fill out the application form at the following address before September 30th: www.yvesrocherpromo.ca/foundation/.

23. 2nd Annual FEASt Photo Contest, Deadline October 1

Start snapping!

This summer, be sure to capture your best local food moments - growing, harvesting, preparing &/or eating!

Email your photos to local.feast@gmail.com, along with your name & contact info. A dozen photos will be selected and featured on FEASt's 2009 'Local Food is Beautiful' cards and the grand prize winner will receive a wonderful gift basket of goodies!

Submission deadline: Oct 1, 2009.

NEWS

24. Eco-Quote of the Week

"Our Fraser River sockeye go to sea small and return large, imbued with energy originally sourced from sunlight hitting open ocean waters. They carry this energy deep into the interior of B.C. In life, they feed everything around them. In death, their bodies feed forests that remove atmospheric carbon and help stabilize the climate. Most British Columbians have inhaled oxygen made by a salmon-fed tree. If we consider life sacred, a fish as generous as the salmon should be revered, not trashed"

- Alexandra Morton, biologist

25. Website of the Week

Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland (SAEN): The Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland (SAEN) "is a non-profit conservation group dedicated to the preservation of our province's freshwater resources. Since 1979 this group of volunteers has carried out conservation, research, education, and enhancement projects worth over \$6 million."

<http://www.saen.org/>

26. Provincial Government News Releases

September 16, 2009 – Outdoors Comes Alive When Parks as Nature's Classroom Program Begins <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/env/0916n07.htm>

September 16, 2009 – Environmental Assessment Bulletin <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/env/0916n12.htm>

September 16, 2009 – Atlantic Environment Ministers Meet in St. John's for Regional Discussions <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/env/0916n11.htm>

27. Environmental News Articles

MUN dining hall has gone trayless <http://www.dineoncampus.ca/mun/?cmd=CampusSustainability>

Stick with the science (Letter to the Editor about climate change science from Bill Hynd of Oxfam Canada) <http://www.thetelegram.com/index.cfm?sid=287432&sc=87>

Global Warming Could Cool N. America in a Few Decades? (Report based on analysis of ancient Newfoundland peat moss) <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/09/090914-north-america-cooling-warming.html>

Head in the sand - Why salmon are dying from politics <http://www.themarknews.com/articles/486-head-in-the-sand>

New climate plan would favour oil sands <http://www.thestar.com/article/691316>

Pedal power on the Hill – Cyclists converge to seek climate-change action <http://www.metronews.ca/ottawa/local/article/311915--pedal-power-on-the-hill>
(Related: Pedal for the Planet Visits Ignatieff's Office: <http://blogs.greenpeace.ca/?p=1718>)

Twiddling our thumbs while waiting for a U.S. climate-change bill <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/twiddling-our-thumbs-while-waiting-for-a-us-climate-change-bill/article1291916/>

It is time to rethink our approach to garbage

http://www.davidsuzuki.org/about_us/Dr_David_Suzuki/Article_Archives/weekly09180901.asp

Arctic Geese Skip Migration as Planet Warms <http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2009/09/16/birds-migration-warming.html>

Why I Still Oppose Genetically Modified Crops <http://e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2191>

White House hosts farmer's market <http://www.grist.org/article/2009-09-17-white-house-hosts-farmers-market/>

Neighbourhood Solar Cooperative: an interview with one of the founders

<http://www.grist.org/article/2009-09-16-interview-solar-activist-any-schoolman>

Following trash & recyclables on their journeys

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/17/science/earth/17trash.html?_r=2&hp

28. Recent Environment Related CBC Podcasts

St. John's Morning Show - <http://www.cbc.ca/podcasting/pastpodcasts.html?38#ref38>

Sept. 16, 2009 – Partridge Forever targets ATVs

Sept. 17, 2009 – St. John's deputy mayor's debate

Sept. 15, 2009 – St. John's mayor's forum

Sept. 14, 2009 – Cyclists and motorists

Labrador Morning - <http://www.cbc.ca/podcasting/pastpodcasts.html?31#ref31>

September 16 - New sewer plant for Sheshatshiu

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The E-Update Instructions

This E-Update shares information on environmental events, actions, opportunities (job, volunteer, funding), and news. Please send notices to nleneupdate@gmail.com by Friday 10 a.m. as a paragraph with 10 point font, simple formatting, single spaced and left hand justified. Notices less than 200 words, and with no attachments, are best.

More about NLEN

The NLEN is a non-profit, non-advocacy, member-based organization that currently serves 50 groups throughout the province. NLEN member groups are all not for profit and operate to conserve, protect & restore our ecosystems through action, education, & stewardship. In addition to facilitating member capacity-building and communication, NLEN serves as a point of contact for government, media and the public to learn more about environmental topics. We also organize coalition/working groups on a range of issues, and host a variety of public education events.

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