

The NLEN E-UPDATE – September 8, 2009

www.nlen.ca

EVENTS

1. Georgestown Neighbourhood Association AGM, September 8
2. Get Growing Neighbourhoods Gathering/Workshop, September 10
3. Fall Plant Sale at MUN Botanical Garden, September 12
4. Workshops at the St. John's Farmers' Market, September 12
5. East Coast Trail Association Annual General Meeting, September 14
6. St. John's Mayoral Debate, September 15
7. Sustainable Planning for Small Communities Workshop, September 16
8. NLEN Lunch & Learn with Justin Dearing, September 16
9. Synergy Session: Will the Cod Ever Come Back? September 17
10. Bicycle Trek for Better Breathing, September 19
11. Open Garden Day and Local Food Potluck Picnic, September 20
12. Municipal Elections Across NL, September 29
13. FEAST Retreat, Brother Brennan Centre, October 3 - 4
14. NLEN Annual General Meeting, October 17
15. Tck Tck Tck... This is our Future, October 24

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

16. Brother Brennan Environmental Education Centre – Teacher Assistants, Deadline September 8

FUNDING, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

17. Shell Environmental Fund, Deadline September 13
18. ENGO Biodiversity Contest Extended, New deadline September 15, 2009
19. ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles Funding Opportunity, Deadline October 15

NEWS

20. Provincial Government News Releases
21. Environmental News Articles
22. Recent Environment Related CBC Podcasts

EVENTS

1. Georgestown Neighbourhood Association AGM, September 8

7:30pm, Tuesday Sept 8th
The Lantern, 35 Barnes Rd.

Featuring a special update on Georgestown gardening, including: FEAST's Get Growing Neighbourhoods, the Safer Soils demonstration garden, St. Bon's organic garden, and a possible greenhouse to be built in the area. Refreshments & chance for discussion after the meeting. For info: GeorgestownNeighbourhood@gmail.com

2. Get Growing Neighbourhoods Gathering/Workshop, September 10

Thursday Sept 10th, 6:30pm - 8pm

Safer Soil Garden (behind the Gathering Place, Barnes/Military Rd.)

An opportunity for participants in FEAST's Get Growing Neighbourhood project to share gardening successes & challenges, ask questions, and get to know each other!

Special Features: Dr. Tony Brunetti will lead a workshop on Backyard & Neighbourhood Composting: Creating our own Gold for the Garden; + info on rain barrel construction, what's new in the Safer Soil garden, and much more!
(Contact: growing.local@gmail.com)

3. Fall Plant Sale at MUN Botanical Garden, September 12

MUN Botanical Garden's annual fundraiser, the fall plant sale, will be held on Saturday, September 12, starting at 10 a.m. Most plants are usually sold by 12 noon; everyone is encouraged to come early for a good selection.

The sale usually features a good selection of heaths, heathers, shrubs, and perennials suitable for our local area, as well as some unusual rhododendrons. This event is sponsored by the volunteer members of the Friends of the Garden (FOG). All proceeds raised help support the Botanical Garden, a non-profit organization. Plant sale lists will be available the day before the sale. For more information, please call 737-8590 or visit www.mun.ca/botgarden.

4. Workshops at the St. John's Farmers' Market, September 12

The St. John's Famer's Market (<http://stjohnsfarmersmarket.org/>) is every Saturday at the Lion's Club Chalet on Bonaventure Avenue. 9am-2pm

Sept 12th - Seed-Saving with Dan Rubin.

Sept 19th - Food & the Environment
(+ at noon: Tick Tick Tick...This is our Future: Learn how you can be part of St. John's Biggest Action on the World's Biggest Issue!)

Sept 26th - Edible, Sustainable City: How our Municipal Government can help create a green, food secure city (we will be inviting all St. John's Mayoral candidates to take part!)

Oct 3rd - Canning & Preserving w/ Ross Traverse

Workshops are free and organized by NLEN and FEAST.

5. East Coast Trail Association Annual General Meeting, September 14

Monday, September 14th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Foran Greene Room at St. John's City Hall

East Coast Trail Association AGM and election of Officers: Reports will be made on the year's business and questions or comments will be welcomed. If you are considering volunteering with us and wish to offer yourself as a Board member, the nominations committee would be delighted to hear from you. For information call 738-4453. Feel free to call if you have any questions: Darlene Scott, Secretary Board of Directors, (709) 368 6620, darlene.scott@eastcoasttrail.com

6. St. John's Mayoral Debate, September 15

Tues. Sept 15th, 7pm - 8:30pm
D.F. Cook Recital Hall, MUN School of Music

The St. John's Board of Trade hosts this event as part of its municipal issues campaign leading up to the Sept 29th election. Declared candidates for mayor include incumbent Dennis O'Keefe, Ron Ellsworth, the current deputy mayor, and Mark Wilson, who works on local food & community issues and sings for The Idlers.

7. Sustainable Planning for Small Communities Workshop, September 16

Hosted by: NEIA, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the City of Corner Brook
Date: Wednesday, September 16th, 8:30am - 4:00pm
Location: Glynmill Inn (Grenfell Salon A & B), Corner Book
Registration Fee: \$30.00 + HST

Sustainable Planning and Development for Small Communities is a workshop designed as an introduction to best practices in sustainable planning specifically for municipal councils, municipal staff, developers, planners, educational institutions, community groups and the general public. The workshop provides basic, practical information about sustainable development issues for smaller communities and at the same time lays a solid conceptual foundation. The aim of the workshop is to inspire the participants and to demonstrate that sustainability for all communities is both practical and attainable. Attend this informative workshop and have a stake in the outcome of your community's sustainable planning. Registrations are limited and will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Register by calling Joanne at 709-772-3333 or go to www.neia.org and follow the link.

8. NLEN Lunch & Learn with Justin Dearing, September 16

Wed. Sept 16th, noon - 1pm
Environmental Gathering Place, 172 Military Rd. (next to the Basilica)

Justin Dearing, Provincial Director of Ocean Net, earlier this summer visited the Pahala Plantations in Hawai'i to attend a Sustainability Champions workshop with The Natural Step Canada. Justin had a remarkable experience with the people and culture of Hawai'i, gained a good deal of knowledge with respect to The Natural Step's framework for sustainability, and has since began looking at the incredible opportunities here in NL for changes toward sustainability. Justin is happy to share his personal and professional experience with you through this Lunch & Learn. See you there!

Please bring your own lunch. Fair trade organic coffee & tea provided.

9. Synergy Session: Will the Cod Ever Come Back? September 17

Comparing the Grand Banks with New England and the North Sea
Hosted by The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development
With Dr. Ray Hilborn, Faculty of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington

Thursday, September 17, 2009, 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
4th Floor Boardroom, Spencer Hall, Memorial University
Free admission, free parking, lunch provided*

While most cod stocks in the North Atlantic have been heavily fished, there are major differences in their histories. The North Sea and Georges Bank are both seriously overfished, but remain very productive, that is there is considerable annual surplus production and if fishing was removed they would rebuild reasonably rapidly. In contrast, most Canadian cod stocks ceased to have any significant surplus production in the period between the mid 1980s and early 1990s, despite some being at reasonably high levels of abundance.

* 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.

10. Bicycle Trek for Better Breathing, September 19

You can survive three days without water, three weeks without food, but only three minutes without air. Yet most of us take breathing for granted. Most of us, but not the one in five Newfoundlanders and Labradorians with lung disease.

Lung disease is the single fastest growing cause of hospitalization, disability and death in Canada today. Every year lung disease changes, cripples and end lives at an increasing rate.

This is why the Newfoundland and Labrador Lung Association is developing a Bicycle Trek to raise awareness of lung disease and help raise money so we can further develop projects to protect the air we breathe and help people breathe a little easier.

The Bicycle Trek will take place on September 19th, 2009 where cyclist will ride the 80km loop from Quidi Vidi Lake to Pouch Cove then returning to Quidi Vidi Lake The Newfoundland and Labrador Lung Association will take care of everything, including emergency gear transportation from start to finish, rest stops, Mechanical and Medical route vans, and a celebration afterwards.

Are You Up For The Challenge?

Join us for an incredible day as we challenge ourselves so we can all breathe a little easier.

You can make a difference. See you at the starting line!

For registration and more information:
The Lung Association
15 Pippy Place, St. John's, NL
Tel: (709) 726-4664 or Fax (709) 726-2550
Email: info@nf.lung.ca web: www.nf.lung.ca

11. Open Garden Day and Local Food Potluck Picnic, September 20

Sunday Sept 20th, 1-5pm (Open Garden Day)
+ Autumn Equinox Celebration, 5-8pm, Bannerman Park

FEASt will be preparing a map of interesting food gardens in St. John's. People are invited to use the maps for self-guided tours to see all of the different ways food is being grown in the city! Ideally, the gardeners will be present to share info & ideas.

The maps will be available on the FEASt website and at the St. John's Farmers' Market (Sat. Sept 12th and 19th) and Food for Thought (382 Duckworth St.).

Then bring your favourite 'local food' dish over to Bannerman Park to share with others for a yummy potluck celebration!

12. 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.

You can run as a candidate if you are all of those things, plus not in arrears of taxes or other money owed to the municipality and "not otherwise disqualified under the Municipal Elections Act." (Nomination dates vary slightly by municipality.)

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. (Deadlines for this vary, but it seems best to do so by the end of August, to be on the safe side.)

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

13. FEASt Retreat, Brother Brennan Centre, October 3 - 4

Saturday, Oct 3rd / Sunday Oct 4th: Food Education Action St. John's Retreat, Brother Brennan Centre

Looking to get more involved with FEASt? Wanting to inspire change from the ground up, through the growing of food & community? Interested in getting to know a bunch of wonderful people in a relaxing, beautiful setting?

Join in this 2-day retreat to socialize, scheme, conspire, play, create, rejuvenate & celebrate! By pay-what-you-can donation + bring your own food. Carpooling from St. John's (about 75 min drive). (Further logistics TBA.) To reserve a space or for more info, email: local.feast@gmail.com.

14. 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.

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

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

16. Brother Brennan Environmental Education Centre – Teacher Assistants, Deadline September 8

Enthusiastic teacher assistants are needed for mid September to end of November at the Brother Brennan Environmental Education Centre off Salmonier Line. Knowledge of Newfoundland's natural history, a love of the outdoors and experience working with children in an overnight, wilderness setting are assets. First aid certificate and a certificate of conduct are needed. Own transport preferred. Pay \$11 hour, usually 23 or 46 hour/week.

Send resume to helenspencer@esdnl.ca by 2pm on September 8.

FUNDING, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

17. Shell Environmental Fund, Deadline September 13

The SEF is open to all not-for-profit organizations including environmental/wildlife groups, community groups and associations, Aboriginal organizations, municipalities and educational institutions. Eligible projects are action-oriented and make a measurable impact to the environment, are grassroots/community-based, have volunteer involvement, and demonstrate creativity and innovation. Up to \$10,000 per project. For more info & forms: http://www.shell.ca/home/content/can-en/responsible_energy/shell_in_society/social_investment/social_investment_areas/environment/shell_environmental_fund/

18. ENGO Biodiversity Contest Extended, New deadline September 15, 2009

Don't let Newfoundland and Labrador be left out!

In advance of the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010, the Canadian Environmental Network is launching a Best Practices/Case Studies Contest to gather innovative and effective examples of environmental non-governmental organizations' (ENGOs) work related to the conservation, sustainable use, and awareness of biodiversity.

The "winning" case studies and best practices will be featured in a 20-page handbook that will be included as an annex to Canada's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity in preparation of the tenth meeting of the Parties to the Convention from October 18-29, 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. Our aim is to include one best practice/case study from each province and territory. If your best practice or case study is selected, you will receive \$200 to write a 1-2 page summary to be included in the handbook.

More information here: http://www.cen-rcen.org/eng/consultations/comment_calls/09_07_biocontest.html?utm_source=RCEN+E-Bulletin&utm_campaign=f41e15a552-e_Bulletin_aug6_Eng&utm_medium=email

19. ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles Funding Opportunity, Deadline October 15

Have a great idea to improve fuel efficiency? Looking for a contribution to your project? Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan's) ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles program is launching Round 3 of its funding process. Details about proposal submissions and evaluation criteria are available on the Web at <http://www.vehicles.nrcan.gc.ca>.

NRCan is soliciting proposals for projects to help Canadian drivers change their behaviours when buying, driving and maintaining their vehicles to reduce fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, the principal greenhouse gas (GHG) linked to climate change. The funding is for all non-governmental organizations, community groups and associations, educational and academic institutions, and provincial/territorial and municipal agencies, just to name a few.

Funding priority will be given to projects that use a multi-faceted approach to address the ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles program objectives. Examples of possible projects include: developing clinics, workshops and campaigns on fuel-efficient driving styles targeted at Canadian drivers; building on NRCan's national campaign to encourage Canadians to reduce idling (www.idling.gc.ca); developing outreach activities that will increase the purchase of fuel-efficient vehicles; or encouraging school boards to develop and implement a "no idling" policy with an accompanying awareness and outreach campaign.

Funding support is from \$10,000 to \$150,000, up to 90% of total budget, less any amount provided by other federal government program.

The deadline for applications for this funding round is October 15, 2009. Approved projects will start April 1, 2010 and run to March 31, 2011.

NEWS

20. Provincial Government News Releases

September 4, 2009 - 800,000 Seedlings Take Root on the West Coast
<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/nr/0904n04.htm>

September 2, 2009 - Canada's Energy Ministers Discuss a Sustainable Recovery
<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/nr/0902n02.htm>

September 2, 2009 - Environmental Assessment Bulletin
<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/env/0902n06.htm>

September 1, 2009 - Canada's Mines Ministers Discuss a Sustainable Recovery for the Mining Sector
<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2009/nr/0901n03.htm>

21. Environmental News Articles

Memorial University Becomes Bottled Water Free http://today.mun.ca/news.php?news_id=4844
Video shown at MUN orientation: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9WSq2DVpVI>

No power lines through Gros Morne: Williams <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2009/09/02/williams-gros.html>

They're pedal pushing for climate change <http://www.mississauganews.com/news/article/80736--they-re-pedal-pushing-for-climate-change>

His Holiness the Dalai Lama knows the clock is ticking on climate change
<http://tcktcktck.org/story/campaign-story/his-holiness-dalai-lama-knows-clock-ticking-climate-change>

The fallacy of climate activism: it's time to tell it like it is (highly recommended!)
<http://www.grist.org/article/2009-08-23-the-fallacy-of-climate-activism>

Water must be on the agenda at Copenhagen talks <http://www.grist.org/article/2009-08-24-water-must-be-on-the-table-at-copenhagen-talks/>

Companies CO2 cuts fall short of scientific needs <http://www.grist.org/article/2009-08-26-companies-co2-cuts-fall-short-of-scientific-needs-study-finds/>

Call for 350ppm is breakthrough moment for climate movement (by Bill McKibben)
<http://www.grist.org/article/2009-08-25-pachauri-call-for-350-breakthrough-moment-for-climate-movement>

Thoreau, Walden, and civil disobedience in the age of climate change
<http://www.grist.org/article/2009-08-27-thoreau-walden-climate-crisis>

Hello baby, goodbye chemicals <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/family-and-relationships/hello-baby-goodbye-chemicals/article1278030/>

The most radical ideas on Earth might just save it
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/technology/science/the-most-radical-ideas-on-earth-might-just-save-it/article1272747/>

22. Recent Environment Related CBC Podcasts

Radio Noon - <http://www.cbc.ca/podcasting/pastpodcasts.html?53#ref53>

Sept. 3, 2009 - Mealy Mountains climate change research

Sept. 3, 2009 - CROSSTALK: Eat Atlantic

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

Sept. 2, 2009 - Bowring Park meeting (The future of Bowring Park)

West Coast Morning Show - <http://www.cbc.ca/podcasting/pastpodcasts.html?62#ref62>

Sept. 4, 2009 - Nalcor

Sept. 3, 2009 - Power line

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

Sept. 4, 2009 - Combined Councils of Labrador on the Lower Churchill development

Sept. 3, 2009 - Endangered bird from below equator found off the coast of Labrador

August 31, 2009 - Golden Cod

--

The E-Update Instructions

This E-Update is intended to announce your meetings and showcase your interests and events. 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 network of more than 40 member groups in the province. The goal of the NLEN is to facilitate communication between non-government environmental organizations, and assist members with initiatives through non-advocacy means. Member groups operate to conserve, protect or restore the Earth's ecosystem through action, education; stewardship and/or modeling ecologically sound ways of life. All provinces and the Yukon have environmental networks funded by the Canadian Environment Network. www.cen-rce.org.

Rick Kelly

Funding and Communications Coordinator, NL Environment Network

nlen.funding@gmail.com

www.nlen.ca

tel 709.753.7898

fax 709.726.2764