

PHOTO FEATURE

John Deere Kids Day in Lower Onslow
(Harrington Photos)



Ethan Young and Connor Crossman enjoyed a ride in the big green tractors during John Deere Kids Day on Nov. 25th. (Harrington Photo)



Santa was at Green Diamond in Lower Onslow during John Deere Kids Day on Nov. 25th and he was handing out treat bags to all the children. (Harrington Photo)



The corn box filled with toys provided lots of fun for the little ones at John Deere Kids Day in Lower Onslow. (Harrington Photo)



The indoor race track was a very popular spot to try out the mini version of the John Deere gator during John Deere Kids Day on Nov. 25th. (Harrington Photo)



Not a ripple in the water as Newville Lake precisely reflects real life. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Recyclables: Global Prices Have Tanked

By Maurice Rees

The global price for recycled materials has tanked and it is going to impact all municipalities in Nova Scotia. Prices have tanked because in July China advised the World Trade Organization (WTO) that by the end of 2017, China will forbid the import of 24 kinds of wastes, including plastics waste from living sources, vanadium slag, unsorted waste paper and waste textile materials. China has stated they are implementing these sanctions to improve their overall environmental state, including domestic recycling programs and resources.

To address the matter council committee approved sending a letter to Minister of Environment seeking their guidance on how to handle the volume to low grade plastics now at the landfill. Currently, Colchester has 13 containers full. A letter will also be sent to the premier expressing council's concern and assistance to find a solution.

China is an important recycling market for western countries. Within the plastic scrap and recovered fibre import market China imports 51% and 55% respectively of the global supply. China is the world's largest paper recycler.

In addition to prohibiting material entering China, the Chinese government has not been issuing or renewing processing mill licenses. The government has also been decreasing the allowable tonnage at the existing permitted sites. This effectively reduces and may potentially eliminate the markets for imported scrap resources in China.

Included in the categories of materials affected by China's policy are materials captured in Halifax's blue bag collection program: LDPE (film plastic) mixed plastics (rigid containers, clamshells, thermoforms) and mixed paper (newspaper, office paper, boxboard).

There are ongoing discussions because of China's ban, some municipalities will be seeking approval to bury plastics in existing landfills as there is no market. According to a report prepared by Deborah Searle, Colchester has at

least eight trailer loads of plastics it is unable to sell. Larger municipalities are facing a more critical situation.

If the markets are closed in 2018/19 the net financial budget impact for HRM is estimated to be between \$600,000 to \$2,400,000. The \$600,000 figure is based on lost sales revenue and alternate markets taking the mate-



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- The Jennings Family*

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Dec. 28th to 30th - 9AM- 9PM

Dec. 31st- 9AM - 5PM

Jan. 1st & 2nd - Closed

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