

227 Costumes Swapped in 2024



During the February 13 council committee meeting Phil Reddin, Director Solid Waste, presented his report. This section deals with the Waste Reduction Facility

Staffing: A new Administrative Support Clerk from the casual pool began cross training on the Solid Waste Helpline on the week of February 3rd. An application was submitted to Clean Foundation for another fully funded intern for the summer auditing program.

Education: Colchester Solid Waste hosted two Waste Reduction Week Events; a Care & Repair Market and a Costume Swap Event. This is our third Care & Repair Market where we partner with the Living Earth Council. There was a bicycle repair, two clothing repairs, a jewelry repair and two small appliance repair people present for the event.

The second event was our Costume Swap. We partnered for the second time with the Colchester East Hants Library in Truro and Tatamagouche, the Village of Bible Hill and the Town of Stewiacke. In 2023, overall costumes swapped was 132 and for 2024 a total of 227.

Under our education contract with Divert NS, Colchester Solid Waste is now 100% complete. Here are three highlights: Participation/Engagement target for students (Grade P to Grade 12) - 552 kids and Colchester met and exceeded the required number - 1,147 kids, with 41 presentations to nine schools. Our targets for business visits and community engagements were eight and we exceeded those numbers by reaching 25 and 16, respectively. Keeping in mind that our deadline is March 31, 2025, we managed to reach these targets two months prior to the deadline.

As an approach to increase the inclusivity of our education material, we recently added to our website Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Hindu, Tagalog and Spanish waste sorting guides. With the help of the Director of Public Works, we are currently working on the French translated version.

Colchester Solid Waste conducted two campaigns: the Litter Campaign and the Sharps Campaign. Under the litter campaign, we partnered with the RECC (one-year) and Steps on Arthur (2 months) to promote litter awareness messaging. Our litter message "Put Waste in Its Place" can be seen on the wall of the Rath Eastlink Community Centre and smaller posters on the bins inside the rink, food court, bathroom etc.

Steps on Arthur posted our graphics on their digital board. We did numerous posts across all our social media platforms for November and December. We added the "Divert NS Understanding Nova Scotia's Litter" link in the description box.

Our second campaign: December was Sharps Injury Prevention Awareness Month. For this campaign we did Social Media posts every Monday for the month of December promoting and encouraging the proper disposal of Sharps; used ReCollect (one initial service alert, a ReCollect campaign for the entire month of December as well as ReCollect Banner).

The Pharmacy Association of NS had a few new recourses which we printed a few handouts, and our Waste Educator visited all the pharmacies across the County of Colchester.

See photos on page 2.

Materials Recovery Facility Supplying Paper for Insulation

During the February 13 council committee meeting Phil Reddin, Director Solid Waste, presented his report. This section deals with the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

Staffing: Staffing at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) remained constant during this reporting period. A full complement of staff from the part-time pool allowed successful production through the Holiday Season. Extra training on forklifts and loader operators were given to staff with new operator certificates.

Further in house operator training, the use of Safety Hub for online training, and training with the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Rescue Team to occur through the winter months.

Production and Markets: Markets for plastic materials remained weak in the third quarter of 2024 but recent trends show improvements heading into the last two months of Q1 2025. Fiber material continued to hold strong for Q4 of 2024 with a slight upswing heading into Q1 2025.

The partnership with Green Fiber Canada's operations in Debert to supply Old Newspaper/Office paper material to produce home insulation has been very good and continues to be an excellent relationship. October through January production was 4087 commodity units produced, and 3962 commodity units shipped.

Continue to work with Lafarge in Brookfield with their alternative fuel project. Loads of MRF residual are being shipped to support the project as they work through some commissioning challenges. This is a very good opportunity for low grade MRF residual material. Continue to expand our Institutional, Commercial and Industrial (ICI) program with external customers.

Projects/Operations: Due to full staffing, production remained high. Backlog was minimal during the holidays, with no MRF customers being asked to hold onto material to catch up. In comparison to Holiday 2024, where some



Colchester
be centred here.

customers were asked to hold onto material before the holiday season. A consultant is expected to get the final bunker design for MRF residual in the

coming weeks. This option will utilize MRF baling equipment of the residual material.

Several loads of containers have been diverted from Sco-

tia Recycling in Kentville to the MRF in Kemptown through the Fall. This was due to major fire damage to equipment at the Kentville facility brought on by suspected lithium batteries. This highlights the importance of proper battery disposal in the Solid Waste industry.

Over 1,500 Tonnes of Wood Chipped

During the February 13 council committee meeting Phil Reddin, Director Solid Waste, presented his report. This section deals with the Balefill Facility

Staffing: The Solid Waste Grounds Maintenance worker has recently started helping the Waste Compliance Officer with green cart deliveries two afternoons a week. This will be an ongoing operation during the off season when the students are gone, and site maintenance and mowing is finished up.

Production & Markets: Halifax C&D has been onsite since December processing the wood, treated wood and shingle stockpiles. There were 340 tonnes of treated wood chipped with a few loads a day now being placed under the garbage bales in the landfill cell for disposal. Over 1,500 tonnes of wood was chipped and hauled off site for hog fuel at Port Hawkesbury Paper. There are also 575 tonnes of shingles that will be ground up and separated in February to use for C&D site cover and as traction sand for roads onsite.

Management continues to work with DHS Engineering from the Colchester Cumberland Windfield. The South turbine has now had the preventative maintenance caught up, as well as completing some other required repairs that were found. Staff now also have SCADA control software to remotely control the turbines as needed and can access three cameras that were recently installed on the South turbine for monitoring and security purposes.

The North wind turbine is still not operational after a blade fell off in March 2023. In-

vestigations have determined it was due to mechanical failure and not weather. A response/decision is anticipated from the insurance company soon.

Projects/Operations: The Citizen's Monitoring Committee met in November and no concerns were brought forward. Two members have declined to continue so the committee currently has three resident members and may be looking for more to be added in the future.

In December, Englobe performed the Summer environmental monitoring event at the Balefill Facility and the report was forwarded to NSECC for their files. Wells that had damages previously reported have been redrilled and are now in service. • The Cell Capping Project to close off the first three landfill cells was awarded to Dexter Construction and is scheduled to start in Spring 2025 once weather permits.

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Neptune Theatre Announces Spectacular 2025-2026 Season Featuring Blockbuster Hits and Timeless Classics

Continued from our Introduction on page 4 and listings on page 11.

More upcoming performances...



Continued from page 9.

The Wizard of Oz

• By: Frank L. Baum,
Music & Lyrics Harold Arlen and E.Y. Yarburt
• Directed by Michelle Langille
Tag: There's no place like home
Dates: November 4, 2025 - January 4, 2026

When a tornado sweeps young Dorothy Gale over the rainbow, she lands in the magical land of Oz. Joined by a Scarecrow, a Tin Man, and a Cowardly Lion - Dorothy must follow the Yellow Brick Road to find the Wizard of Oz who can send her back home to Kansas. On the way she must avoid the Wicked Witch of the West, and while discovering that in the end, there really is no place like home.

Featuring all your favourite songs from the movie, this beloved family-friendly musical is guaranteed to be a wickedly good time.

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