

# REAPS



# REPORT

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January 2026

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **JANUARY**

- 1 Happy Green New Year
- 3-4 Christmas Tree Recycling
- 4 PGNC Christmas Bird Count
- 5 National Bird Day
- 12 Draft Food Charter to Council
- 16 NRESi Colloquium - Forestry in BC
- 20-22 BC Natural Resource Forum
- 23 NRESi Colloquium - Integrating Genomics & Nitrogen
- 30 NRESi Colloquium - Wastewater Treatment to Resource Recovery

### **FEBRUARY**

- 6 NRESi Colloquium - TBA
- 13 NRESi Colloquium - Dasiqox Tribal Park

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**Thank you** for an amazing 2025! The REAPS board of directors would like to sincerely thank all of the members, partners and sponsors for your ongoing support of REAPS and our activities. It has been an incredible year!

### **Some highlights include:**

- 2nd growing year at the Growing Knowledge Community Compost Garden (GKCCG) donating over 300lbs of produce
- Addition of our Education / Resource centre at the GKCCG
- Film evenings with a focus on food security
- Organic waste diversion program once again offered to the community
- A UNBC partnered youth engagement and learning event
- Partnered with GAP diverting over 13,651 lbs of apples from landfill to the community



Photo: Dec. 10/25

# REAPS NEWS

## Web Pick of the Month

Friends of the Earth <https://foecanada.org/>

Friends of the Earth provides a voice for the environment, nationally and internationally, working with others to inspire the renewal of our communities and the earth, through research, education and advocacy.



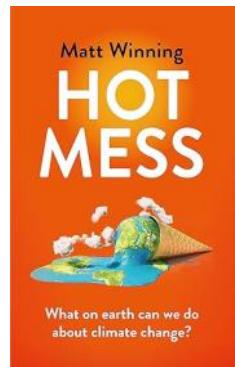
Friends of the Earth  
Les Ami(e)s de la Terre

## Book of the Month

*Hot Mess: What on Earth Can We Do about Climate Change?* by: Matt Winning

ISBN:1472276728

HOT MESS lightens the mood and enlightens readers on climate change. It answers questions like 'Are We Screwed?' and 'What Can I Do About It?' and explains why we're playing the world's worst Choose Your Own



REAPS  
RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLANNING SOCIETY

## DONATIONS

### DID YOU KNOW WE ARE A CHARITY?

That means your donation over \$20 you receive a "charitable tax receipt RIGHT in time for tax season".... Every contribution you make, helps us reach our goals! E-transfer to [recycling@reaps.org](mailto:recycling@reaps.org)  
THANK YOU!

#### WE ALSO ACCEPT DONATIONS OF:

- plant pots and containers
- shredded paper
- garden plants
- craft supplies (tp rolls, medicine containers)



250-561-7327

@ recycling@reaps.org

suite 101 1595 5<sup>th</sup> / UNBC plateau

REAPS

RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLANNING SOCIETY

## Join or RENEW your Membership

The few dollars that your membership costs (\$8) can make a much bigger difference than you realize.

etransfer [recycling@reaps.org](mailto:recycling@reaps.org)



Become a member today! Show your support!

[www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org)

## REAPS WORKSHOPS / PRESENTATIONS

We are in the process of finalizing our 2026 schedule of our workshops, Junk in the Trunks, activities and community events. Check out our website and FaceBook events

Calendars monthly for the postings. Have a topic? Want to host a presentation? WE would love to hear from you! [garden@reaps.org](mailto:garden@reaps.org)

## LOCAL NEWS

### 23rd Annual BC Natural Resources Forum

23rd Annual BC Natural Resources Forum (BCNRF) at the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre, January 20–22, 2026. The Forum annually hosts a large contingent of Indigenous, federal, provincial, and local government leaders, as well as continuing strong interest, support and attendance by representatives from resource developers and service and supply sectors that are the foundation of our resource economy. <https://bcnaturalresourcesforum.com/>



### Draft Food Charter for PG

For over a year dedicated individuals under Everyone At the Table PG have been researching, interviewing, hosting events and compiling information to present to Mayor and Council for consideration and adopting a Food Charter for Prince George.

A community needs a Food Charter because it serves as a shared vision and guiding document for creating a healthy, just, and sustainable local food system for all residents. It is a declaration that highlights the fundamental importance of food beyond mere sustenance, connecting it to public health, economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and social equity.

#### Key Reasons a Community Needs a Food Charter

- Addresses Food Security and Social Justice: Food Charters advocate for the principle that food is a basic human right.
- Guides Policy and Decision-Making: While typically not a legally binding law, a food charter acts as a powerful guide for local governments, policymakers, and community organizations.
- Strengthens the Local Economy: By emphasizing greater reliance on local food systems, charters support local farmers, producers, and food businesses, creating employment opportunities and ensuring more money stays within the community.
- Promotes Health and Well-being: A food charter focuses on improving community health by increasing access to nutritious food, which can help address diet-related chronic diseases like obesity and diabetes.

### PGNC Christmas Bird Count, Sunday January 4, 2026

Mark your calendars! Prince George Naturalists Club presents the 58th annual Christmas Bird Count. To get involved, [PrinceGeorgeNaturalistsClub@gmail.com](mailto:PrinceGeorgeNaturalistsClub@gmail.com)

Birdwatching Backpacks for loan at Prince George Public Library, five birdwatching backpacks are available for [checkout](#).



- Encourages Environmental Stewardship: Charters promote sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices, the protection of agricultural lands, and the reduction and redirection of food waste.
- Fosters Collaboration and Civic Engagement: The process of developing a food charter typically involves extensive public consultation, bringing together diverse stakeholders—farmers, health authorities, businesses, non-profits, and residents.
- Celebrates Culture and Diversity: Food is a central part of human experience and cultural identity.

Show your support at the Council Meeting January 12th at 6 p.m.

### RECYCLE YOUR TREE

Saturday, January 3rd and Sunday, January 4th, 2026 from 10 am to 4 pm at the CNC Brink Trades & Tech Centre parking lot (18th Avenue & Central Street).



## AROUND BC

[Nechako Bottle Depot opens at new location two months after fire](#) PG Citizen

[Men's Shed offering new beginnings for men in need across PG](#) PG Citizen

[RDFFG Board approves tipping fee increase for 2026](#) PG Citizen

[Surrey's free waste disposal programs help cut illegal dumping by 19%](#) City of Surrey

[HSR Zero Waste wins Canada's Clean50 2026 Top Project Award for Convention Centre Zero Waste Transformation](#) hsr

[BC politicians push for ship recycling hub on Vancouver Island](#) CBC

[House movers race to save older Metro Vancouver homes from the dump](#) Vancouver Sun

[How BC's hospitality sector is trying to solve its garbage problem](#) CBC

[Waste pickers want deposits back on more materials—and it's not just about the money](#) CBC

[UNBC records best-ever result in research rankings](#) UNBC

[UNBC researcher recognized among world's most influential scientists for conservation research](#) UNBC

[Prince Rupert awards \\$3.7M landfill contract to Delta-based Supplier](#) The Northern View



## AROUND CANADA

[Why is Toronto considering burning its waste?](#) CBC

[Children's car seats now acceptable at Maple Ridge Recycling Depot](#) The News

[Montreal artist's zero-waste jewelry shines during Fashion Week](#) CTV News

[Renovating? This Toronto company wants to recycle your bricks and lumber — instead of sending that 'gold' to the landfill](#) The Star

[Yukon starts paper and packaging EPR](#) Waste & Recycling

[Five Canada organizations develop eco-design, recyclability guidelines](#) Recycling Today

[Canada's first asphalt shingle reprocessing facility opens east of Calgary](#) Calgary Herald

[Government of Canada invests in Canadian-made solutions to help reduce plastic pollution and waste, expand consumer choices, and build a strong and resilient circular economy](#) Government of Canada

[Circular Economy Action Plan for Canada](#) Canadian Circular Economy Summit

[Nespresso Canada donates trees to the Municipality of Jasper to support rebuilding efforts following historic wildfires](#) Comunicaffee



## AROUND THE WORLD

[Sustainable bras made from captured CO2](#) Springwise

[Shipping companies form alliance to reduce ocean plastic pollution](#) edie

[agreement with H&M Circular](#)

[Wireless charging roads for EVs](#) Springwise

[Amazon aims to replenish 200 million litres of water a year with new nature-based solutions partnership](#) edie

[From Ruins to Reuse](#) Yale Environment 360

[Co-op trials in-store coffee pod recycling with Podback](#) Springwise

[Natura launches global climate education programme for staff](#) edie

[Big chocolate brands accused of sourcing cocoa linked to deforestation](#) edie

['Reduce, reuse, recycle' is corporate gas-lighting – the real change must come from the fossil fuel industry](#) The Conversation

[The Game-Changing Potential of Balcony Solar](#) reasons to be cheerful

[Recover signs multi-year recycled cotton](#)



## Green Tips for the New Year

With the New Years comes the resolutions to do something different this year. If you are choosing to be more environmentally friendly, here are 52 ideas, one new tip a week, that can make a big difference.

### FOR YOUR HOME

- Participate in a community garden.
- Make a bee-friendly garden in your backyard or on your balcony.
- Try to repair more things, whether it is a lamp or a sew a zipper.
- Find sustainable alternatives for your favorite items and brands.
- Do repairs yourself in your home to avoid waste.
- Choose reusable batteries such as in your remotes or cameras.
- Cut the trash. Reduce your garbage as best as you can.
- Choose greener energy in your home.
- Build a backyard composter
- Collect rain water for watering your plants.
- Switch to rechargeable batteries
- Purchase quality used furniture or items needed

### FOR YOUR KITCHEN

- Cook more meals from scratch.
- Eat more organic food.
- Save veggies scrap to make vegetable broth.
- Avoid meat and have fun finding alternatives for protein.
- Start a garden and grow your own food.
- Cut down on food waste and compost where you can.
- Find fair trade products for the exotic types of food, such as coffee and tea.
- Choose seasonal foods in your cooking.
- Make a grocery list before you shop.
- Buy from your local farmers where possible.

### FOR THE KIDS

- Cut phantom energy from your home. Ask the kids to help shut off lights and unplug electronics when not in use.
- Get your family outside to learn about their local backyard parks
- Create a backyard habitat for local animals, like a bird house.
- Make your own cloth bees wax paper wraps to use in lunches.
- Donate toys not used anymore
- Use old crayon's wax in crafts such as making candles.

### FOR THE WORKPLACE

- Switch to LED lights and cut the phantom energy.
- Go paperless.
- Purchase recycled paper or seed paper.
- Talk to your company about greener solutions around the office such as recycling or composting.



### FOR SHOPPING

- Bring your own shopping bags
- Avoid fast fashion. Check out thrift stores.
- Create a capsule wardrobe with only the classics out fits you will need.
- Donate old clothing or use old t-shirts for cloths for household cleaning.
- Host clothing swaps.
- Learn to sew.

### FOR YOUR CLEANING

- Hang laundry to dry.
- Switch your washer to cold and reduce time settings.
- Make your own home cleaners and / or use eco-friendly cleaners.
- Use reusable cloths instead of paper towels.
- Cut stray water usage.

### FOR YOUR TRAVELS

- Bring a reusable water bottle on trips.
- Walk, bike and take public transit where possible.
- Reduce gas use by driving electric or more fuel efficient car.
- Try your best to carpool where possible.
- Carry a reusable straw and cutlery for eating fast food out.

### OTHER GREEN TIPS

- Become more aware of changes in our environment and the importance of biodiversity through reading or watching a documentary.
- Reach out to your favorite brands to ask about how they can make their products more environmentally friendly.
- Volunteer for your local environmental charity.
- Give the gift of time, gift certificates, homemade items

## RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION & PLANNING SOCIETY

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Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/REAPSPG>

### Dumpy's Tip of the Month

### Five New Year's Recycling Resolutions

1. Add 1 more item to your recycling
2. Put the right things in your recycling bins
3. Recycle materials from all over your home
4. Save items for schools, NGOs needed for crafts (REAPS always needs toilet paper rolls and shredded paper)
5. Reuse before you recycle. Leftovers - put into a margarine container for lunch the next day; pill bottles store screws and paper clips in.



## Recycling and Environmental Action Planning Society (AKA REAPS)

The REAPS Report is published six times a year, on the first of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Articles, originals or reprinted with permission, are submitted by members and represent the opinions of the authors only, not necessarily those of the Society, Board, or members as a whole.

Deadline for submission is two weeks prior to publication date. Articles, suggestions for articles, or comments in general are *much* appreciated, and can be submitted to the REAPS office via email at [newsletter@reaps.org](mailto:newsletter@reaps.org)

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletters via email please email [REAPS](#) and state UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

### RECYCLE CRAFT CORNER - DIY feeder



The few dollars from your membership makes a much bigger difference than you may realize!

Students and Seniors: \$5.00  
Individual: \$8.00  
Family: \$15.00  
Business: \$25.00

### CHARITABLE DONATION:

REAPS provides charitable tax receipts for any donation over \$20

Consider donating to our Growing Knowledge Community Compost Garden near UNBC

### To Donate:

Mail to: PO Box 444 PG, BC V2L 4S6  
e-transfer to: [recycling@reaps.org](mailto:recycling@reaps.org)  
paypal on our website [www.reaps.org](http://www.reaps.org)

in "notes" state what payment is for ie/ membership; donation