



## Media Release

September 1, 2011

---

### **Stinkin' hot weather at Willow Point seashore**

Hot weather and seaweed on the shore along Highway 19A near Hilchey, Simms and Adams Road have created a "rotten egg" smell in Willow Point.

The City of Campbell River reminds residents that the source of the unpleasant odour is caused by seaweed "pools" fermenting in the summer heat.

*"Decaying seaweed found in a number of small pools along the shoreline of Willow Point are sending a rotten-egg smell into the air, and we want to remind people that this is a natural occurrence when the temperatures rise,"* explains Ron Neufeld, the City's general manager of operations. *"Because tidal pools are in a sensitive ecosystem, we are not in a position to remove the seaweed and reduce the smell, so people will have to make the best of it until the weather cools off."*

Tidal pools located along the beach near Willow Point are home to a type of seaweed called sea-lettuce that emits hydrogen sulphide gas when it decays. The gas smells like sulfur or rotten eggs and is often mistaken for sewage. These odours generally occur when temperatures are hot, and they intensify when water gets trapped and collects in pools or ponds.

– 30 –

**Contact:** Ron Neufeld, General Manager Operations

250-286-5765