

August 30, 2011

Watershed Clean-up surpasses last year's efforts

A total of 2,470 kilograms of garbage were removed from the area surrounding Campbell River's drinking water during the Aug. 27 watershed clean-up event.

The one-day effort surpasses last year's total by 220 kilograms. This is in addition to the 476 total tonnes removed with heavy equipment during the month of August by the City of Campbell River.

Couches, stereos, tires, mattresses, and construction materials were among the debris removed by volunteers. All items were picked up by hand, and often had to be dragged from the forest before being hauled away.

The third annual Watershed Clean-Up Day is part of an on-going effort to preserve the high quality of Campbell River's drinking water source by removing illegally dumped waste from around John Hart Lake.

Participants in the event included public volunteers, NVI Mines, BC Parks, Timberwest, the Vancouver Island Health Authority and City of Campbell River employees, who all worked in teams dispatched to collect waste from access roads north and south of John Hart Lake between Highway 28 and Loveland Bay road.

"This was the first year the clean-up day was open to the public and it was a great benefit to have members of the community join our efforts," says Ron Neufeld, the City's general manager of operations. *"The City of Campbell River extends thanks to everyone from the public, the Watershed Technical Committee and City employees who dedicated their time to this clean-up effort. Your hard work has helped to ensure that our community has a safe, clean, and reliable drinking water."*

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Photos: Volunteers pick up garbage in the watershed.