



## ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT REPORT

Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2015

Green Chair Recycling Inc (Green Chair) were proud and excited to be invited to provide our recycling and waste management service for the Blueridge Good Neighbour Day event (June 7, 2015). With a team of 4 staff and 10 volunteers we were able to recycle 103 kg of materials, as follows:

- Organic waste composted: 34 kg
- Refundables: 20 kg
- Total plastics (hard and soft): 21 kg
- Mixed paper and cardboard: 28 kg
- Metal: 1 kg
- **Total waste diverted from landfill: 103 kg**
  
- Event garbage (non-recyclable): 12 kg
- **Diversion rate: 90%**

### OBSERVATIONS

- The recycling efforts were a huge success and our team received a lot of positive comments throughout the event.
- The event attendees were happy to learn about recycling and many stopped to ask where their items should be placed.
- The presence of attendants at each station was critical to assuring a low contamination rate. In the absence of our attendants, the recyclables would have been too contaminated to be acceptable for recycling. The contamination rate in our bins of 1% or less means that ALL materials collected could be treated as recyclables rather than rejected as garbage by the recycling facilities.
- We set up 3 full recycling stations throughout the event area plus a smaller recycling station in the beer garden and a recycling station for one of the food vendors.
- Our team circulated the event area regularly to make sure that litter was picked up and taken to one of the recycling stations for sorting.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE EVENTS:

- Ban balloons at the event. There were a lot of balloons being given out at the event and our team picked up a lot of balloons (both still inflated and popped). Balloons should be banned at all outdoor events; particularly those that are so close to oceans and waterways! There is no evidence that shows that bio-degradable balloons are any better for the environment than 'regular' balloons therefore all balloons should be banned.
- Discourage giveaways that are wasteful and/or will encourage littering. There were a lot of individually wrapped candies being given out. These caused a lot of littering across the event area.
- Keep doing what you are doing and encourage other events to follow suit!