



Municipal Newsletter

Available On-line
www.pcsp.ca

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 9 OCTOBER 2006

The Town's New Website address is short and simple...
WWW.PCSP.CA
Please use this URL in the future, as the old URL of
www.portugalcove stphilips.com is no longer active.

THE TOWN OF PORTUGAL COVE ST. PHILIP'S VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

CHRISTMAS PARADE 2:00 P.M.
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY..... 5:00 P.M.

Parade Route: Parade will begin at Murray's Horticultural Services.



- *Route will travel Portugal Cove Road to Old Broad Cove Road.*
- *Across Old Broad Cove Road to Bennett's Road.*
- *Down Bennett's Road to Thorburn Road.*
- *Thorburn Road to Town Hall/Recreation Centre.*

If you or anyone you know is interested in entering into the parade, please contact one of the following individuals:

- **Darren Dawson @ 895 2442**
- **Karen Squires @ 859 3876**
- **Shawn Ennis @ 728 6494**
- **Dawn Chaulk at the Recreation Department @ 895 8000**

Deadline for entries is Friday November 25th



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

RECREATION CENTRE @ 5:00 P.M.

- ✓ Lighting of the Christmas Tree
- ✓ Singing of Christmas carols
- ✓ Serving of Hot chocolate

*Special visit by me...
Santa Clause!
Come out and enjoy a day of*



Family Entertainment with Ray Lake

Community Bonfire

The 1st Portugal Cove Scouting Movement and the Portugal Cove – St. Philip's Volunteer Fire Department would like to invite all residents to the Community Bonfire!

When: Bon Fire Night (Guy Faulkes Night) Sunday November 5th, 2006

Where: Voisey's Brook Park (Indian Meal Line)

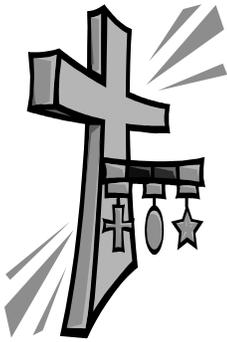
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



**Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows to follow.
Fun and Enjoyment for the whole Family!!**

B.Y.O.M...Bring your own mug

Honoring our Hero's



Attention: All relatives of the men from Portugal Cove - St. Philip's who served in the British Royal Navy during World War 11

Historical Data is being prepared to remember and document these brave naval seamen who fought on or beneath the seas during the Second World War.

To have your family member included, please forward their name, contingent number, photo, years served, and any historical information pertaining to their service during this time (for example the ships served, copies of memorabilia items, metals etc.)

Please forward all information to:



Honoring our Hero's
7 Longmarsh Road
Portugal Cove - St. Philips,
NL, A1M 2E6



2007 Property Assessments

The 2007 property assessments have been completed and mailed for all properties in the Town. The average increase in assessments in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's was a little over 20%. The increase in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's was consistent with the average increase of approximately 20% for other municipalities on the North East Avalon.

The increase in assessments will bring in extra revenue to the Town. As part of the 2007 budgetary process the town is currently reviewing how much extra revenue this will provide, what its financial obligations are and what monies it will

need to effectively operate the town for 2007. Once this has been completed a decision will be made as to what the appropriate reduction in the mill rate will be.

Property Assessments are carried out under legislative Authority by the Municipal Assessment Agency. The Agency provides assessments for all municipalities (with the exception of St. John's) in Newfoundland and Labrador with a property tax system. Under the legislation the agency is required to provide a reassessment every three years. The 2007 assessment is the first reassessment in three years and is based on January 2005 Market Values.

A message for Taxpayers with Overdue Accounts



This message is for all those property and business taxpayers who have tax account arrears and have **not** made payment arrangements. The 2006 taxes are long overdue. You have had ample opportunity to make arrangements with our Accounts Receivable office and we now require your immediate **payment in full of all tax arrears**. Your failure to comply with this request for payment may result in your account being listed with a

collection agency and/or further action taken. Please call 895-8000, ext. 223, to take care of this matter.



Fire Hall News

Congratulations to Jr. Fire Chief Jared Tucker and Jr. Fire Chief Sarah Adams, who got to be Fire Chief for the day during Fire Prevention Week. They got a ride to school in a Fire Truck, and had lunch with Chief Lamar and some of the Firefighters at the Cozy Corner.

Thanks to the Cozy Corner for their continued support of Fire Chief Day Lunch.

The clocks went back an hour on October 29, 2006. The Fire Dept. would like residents to

use this as a reminder to **CHANGE THE BATTERY IN YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR, and test it.**

Organic Waste



(\$80 retail value)

makes up as much as 30% of all the waste generated in Newfoundland and Labrador. Composting is an efficient and effective way to reduce the amount of waste sent to our landfills. Composting is important, it's easy, and the rewards are simply beautiful.

The Town of Portugal Cove -St. Philip's has continued its partnership with the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board to bring this exciting new program to our Community. More than 150 bins have been sold to date, and a new shipment is expected this week.

Homeowners can purchase one bin per household at the Town subsidized rate of \$12.00, and additional units can be purchased for \$23.00. With little effort, most households can reduce the amount of organic waste going to waste disposal sites, help reduce pollution, lower waste collection and disposal costs, conserve resources, limit greenhouse gases, and create a healthy and beautiful lawn and garden.

GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT COMPOSTING? WE HAVE THE ANSWERS....

1. What is composting?

Composting is a natural process, and when carried out under controlled conditions, converts organic material (like food scraps and garden waste) into a product called compost. During composting, various microorganisms, including bacteria and fungi, break down organic material.

2. Why should I compost?

Although organic waste may not seem harmful - it actually represents more than 30% of all the material sent to landfill sites. When organic material is held in a landfill, it produces harmful gases. In addition, as water runs through this decomposing waste, toxic liquid runs out the bottom.

3. What can and cannot be composted?

What's in - fruits and vegetables, baked goods, rice and other grains, dried corn stalks, pasta, peanut shells, coffee grounds and filters, tea leaves and bags, egg shells, paper towels, egg cartons, toilet paper rolls, cereal boxes, dry leaves, dried and untreated grass clippings, weeds, twigs, small branches, sawdust, plants (non-diseased), and grass clippings.

4. What's out - all meat and fish products, bones, fat and oils, all dairy products, weeds that have gone to seed, diseased plants, dog and cat waste, and plants previously sprayed with non-degradable pesticides.

5. What are brown and green materials?

Your compost pile requires both carbon and nitrogen to work properly. Brown materials supply carbon and they include things like dry leaves, woodchips, dry grass, and paper products. Green materials provide nitrogen and include things like fruits and vegetables, coffee grounds, tea bags, and fresh grass clippings.

6. Where should I put my backyard composter?

The composter should be placed in a partially sunny, well drained, and convenient area.

7. How do I start composting?

Step 1: Decide on a compost bin and location.

Step 2: Build your compost pile. Start by layering brown and green materials. Begin with a layer of browns, then add a layer of greens, finish by covering with a layer of browns ensuring that the materials are fairly evenly balanced by weight, not volume. As you add to the pile throughout the season, continue alternating layers of browns and greens, always finishing with a layer of browns on top.

Step 3: Sprinkle with water (if necessary).

Step 4: Add a couple of shovels of soil, and mix everything together.

Step 5: As you add new compost material, turn the compost by moving material from the outside to the centre, and from the bottom to the top and vice-versa.

8. Can I compost all year round?

Yes, you can compost year-round. Your composting activity may decrease in the winter, but it will start up again as the weather warms up. To make room for your winter organics, empty the finished compost from your compost bin in the fall. Also, it is a good idea to add leaves during the winter. This will help soak-up extra moisture when materials begin to thaw in the spring.

9. What should I do if my compost starts to smell?

If your compost pile emits strong odours, it may not be getting enough air and/or is getting too much water. To fix smelly compost add some brown material, mix in some healthy garden soil, aerate the pile, then top it off with a layer of brown material.

10. Will my compost pile attract pests?

Properly maintained compost piles should not attract pests, as long as you are following these general guidelines:

- * do not put meat, bones, dairy, or fat products into your compost bin,
- * have a secure lid on your compost,
- * turn food scraps into the pile as you add them, or cover with leaves, and
- * keep the pile well aerated.

Animals are a very rare occurrence in a properly managed compost pile.

11. My compost is not composting. Am I doing anything wrong?

Occasionally, a compost pile's performance is less than optimal.

If you pile is:

- * too wet - turn, add dry materials, and cover
- * too dry - turn, add water, and mix thoroughly
- * too warm to the touch - turn and add green material
- * emitting strong odours - turn the pile and add brown materials
- * not heating up - if the pile is damp and sweet smelling but not heating, it may need nitrogen. Add grass clippings, table scraps, or a small amount of organic fertilizer.

12. What can I do with grass clippings from my lawn?

It is a good idea to leave grass clippings on your lawn. Clippings are an important source of nutrients and they can help reduce the need for water and fertilizer. If you feel you must gather up the cut grass, you can put it into your compost; but remember to balance the fresh green grass with brown material.

13. What are some uses for compost?

Compost can be used around the home for fertilizing flower beds, vegetable gardens, adding with soil on newly seeded lawns, or

as a mulch around plants and established lawns.

15. Looking for additional composting information?

Composting Council of Canada
www.compost.org