

# UCLUELET RECREATION

Earth Day Edition



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## HISTORY OF EARTH DAY

The first ever celebrated Earth Day was in 1970 when a senator from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson had witnessed the effects of an oil spill in Santa Barbara, CA. Senator Gaylord used national media to advertise an informal lecture on the topic and organized a number of Earth Day events across the country.

Over 20 million Americans took to the streets and demonstrated against the effects of the industrial revolution on the environment. When the 90's came around, Earth Day went global, mobilizing over 140 countries to join the efforts and today, Earth Day is widely recognized. Although climate issues are still on the horizon, there's much more awareness around the topic and efforts going into correcting the problem - the biggest societal undertaking of our time.



## INVEST IN OUR PLANET

This year is the 52nd anniversary for Earth Day and earthday.org has coined the theme '**'Investing in our Planet'** - Everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable.

Have you thought about ways you can invest in our planet?



"PROGRESS IS  
IMPOSSIBLE  
WITHOUT CHANGE,  
AND THOSE WHO  
CANNOT CHANGE  
THEIR MINDS  
CANNOT CHANGE  
ANYTHING."

- GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Although there are many small scale efforts to abolish single use-plastic, corporate responsibility really could go a long way . This is why on March 15, 2022, the District of Ucluelet banned all plastic and bioplastic utensils. "With the recent ban of plastic utensils in our neighbouring municipality, we are proud to take this next step in empowering our West Coast communities to transition to a culture of environmental protection and stewardship.' Said Paula Mason, Manager of Corporate Services.

There are also a number of non-profit societies in our west coast communities who are dedicated to getting down to the nitty gritty of ecological and biological understanding and restoration. Gifting your time to beach cleans, surveys, restoration work, etc. is part of a collective contribution. Find one you like, get in touch and see how you can help!

Whether you decide to try your hand at gardening, plant flowers that attract pollinators, donate your time or resources to environmental groups, say no to single-use plastic, advocate for climate literacy, or reduce your meat consumption, there are so many ways you can start to invest in our planet today. So what's it going to be?

**INVEST  
IN OUR  
PLANET**

**"THE SECRET TO  
CHANGE IS TO  
FOCUS ALL OUR  
ENERGY ON NOT  
FIGHTING THE  
OLD, BUT  
BUILDING THE NEW**

**- THE SOCRATES**



## EARTH DAY IN UCLUELET

Did you know, 80% of marine debris originates on land, and litter lining our streets very rapidly blows or runs-off into the ocean? Surfrider Pacific Rim uses the data collected at annual clean-up events as an indication of what litter items are most prevalent in our communities, informing their campaigns and programs to eradicate marine pollution at the source.

On Friday, **April 22**, Surfrider will be around town doing an Earth Day cleanup and they want your help!

Bring your own bucket, gloves and garbage picking tools to give back to your community and mother earth! Refuse drop-off stations will be situated at the Seaplane Base Rec Hall, the Village Green and Relic Surf Shop at the junction on **April 22** from **10AM - 2PM**.

On April 22 & 23, tidy up your space, inside and out! Refuse bins will be provided at the Seaplane Base Rec Hall for proper disposal. Please, no household waste or recycling. Do you have items you want to get rid of? Drop-off or pick-up gently used items under the tents at the Rec Hall. Come and check out our re-purpose program! One persons trash is another persons treasure!

Surfrider will engage volunteers in waste diversion education where we learn proper waste management to keep recyclable goods out of the landfill and into a re-usable cycle.

Also, don't forget to check out the recycling display down at the Municipal Office at 200 Main St.





## GO BY BIKE WEEK - MAY 30 - JUNE 5

The Ucluelet Recreation Department will be celebrating Go By Bike week from May 30 - June 5, 2022. Be sure to stay tuned to our Facebook and Instagram pages for contest information!

Have you been looking for ways to reduce your carbon emissions? Cycling is a great alternate mode of transportation as it has positive impacts on your health & wellbeing, as well as the environment. So, what are you waiting for? Pump up those tires, grease up that chain and start peddling your way into a greener future.

## SUPPORT POLLINATORS

Bees are a vital piece to the environmental puzzle because they are relied on to pollinate food crops, trees, and play a complex role in a very interconnected ecosystem. With endangered species on the rise, you can help by planting flowers in your garden to support these pollinators. Plant some calendula, celosia, chives, cosmos, echinacea, marigolds, and become a bee friendly neighbour.



## FACTS

- Every year, Canadians throw away **3 million tonnes** of plastic waste, only **9%** of which is recycled, meaning the vast majority of plastics end up in landfills and about **29,000 tonnes** finds its way into our natural environment.
- In Canada, up to **15 billion** plastic bags are used every year and close to 57 million straws are used daily.

## ENVIRONMENTAL GOAL

With soaring gas prices comes the **PERFECT** time to switch to a more carbon neutral mode of transportation. Bike, walk, or skate to where you need to your destination. Exercise and doing good for the environment has never looked better on you!

