

TIME TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH!



On May 4 - 5, 2019, the Rotary Club of Parksville AM joined with the residents of Little Mountain and other interested volunteers to take out the trash from this pristine wilderness area. Over the years, the base of Little Mountain has become a dumping ground, either because the dumpers didn't want to pay for proper disposal of their garbage or because they thought it would be exciting to throw something large over a 100 foot cliff.

Working with Kestrel Helicopters, items were lifted out of this remote location at the mountain base and dropped in a receiving area where sorters prepared the garbage for transport and disposal. During two and a half hours of flying time, a total of seven tons was removed, including over a ton of tires, three and a half tons of metal and more than two tons of assorted garbage.

The Rotary Club of Parksville AM would like to thank all those businesses who volunteered at the Little Mountain clean-up on May 4 and 5, 2019:

Kestrel Helicopters, Mike & Jodi Gillen - for supplying the helicopter and fuel and for Mike's expertise as pilot.

Dave Bedard & Sons Contracting and to Sam Bedard - for trucking, excavator and bobcat for onsite moving of bags

RDN Transfer Station, Kevin Guizzetti, Transfer Station Supervisor, Solid Waste Dept - for waiving fees for dropping 5500 pounds of garbage

228 Junk and Rubbish Removal, Al Fras & Gerald DuPont - for sorting and trucking one ton of garbage to the Transfer Station

DBL Disposal (Nanaimo), Darcy Glencross & driver Heath - for supplying a dumpster for metal garbage (6500 pounds)

French Creek Valley Farm, Claudia & Dean Bruyckere - for supplying large fertilizer bags for garbage collection

Springford Farms, Ross Springford - for supplying large fertilizer bags for garbage collection

OK Tire Parksville, Richard Taekema, Kevin Strobiki, Nico VanWieringen - for supplying 3 trucks, sorting and taking 2200 pounds of tires and rims

Parksville Heavy Equipment, John Christie, Ryan Christie & operator Hayden - for removing the berm at the sorting site and re-setting it after sorting was completed

Trail Appliances (Victoria), Jaclyn St. Pierre - for supplying 2 trucks and a 4-man team to sort and load garbage. The team, led by Justin Gauthier, consisted of Isaiah Gilbert, Eric Redden & Isaiah Brassat

Errington Volunteer Fire Department, Andrea Wilson - for supplying ropes and traffic pylons

Fuller Landscaping - for supplying high visibility vests at the last minute

For great media support from:

CHEK6 News - Dean Stoltz, Skye Ryan

PQB News - Karly Blats

CTV VI - Andrew Garland

And our sincere thanks to:

The Volunteers Who Loaded Helicopter Nets on the Mountain and who sorted garbage for disposal at the Transfer Station

Steve Alexander-Pope
Mark Angerilli
Sam Bedard
Annette Bissette
Isaiah Brassat
Trevor Brietzke
John Chittick
Grace Dodd
Gabe Dodd
Gerald DuPont
Lane Franklin
Al Fras
Justin Gautier
Isaiah Gilbert
Jason Gosling

Nigel Gray
Jeff Grognet
Clete Hunt
Mae Hunt
Julie Imbach
Jeremy Knapman
Cara MacDonald
Tom MacNair
Diana Matsuda
Deidre Michael
Tom Milne
Libby Naylor
Devin O'Rourke
Kelly Pyrik
Bill Rawlins

Eric Redden
Casey Reumkens
Codey Reumkens
John Stephenson
Kevin Strobiki
Leana Taekema
Richard Taekema
Heather Tryon
Nico VanWieringen
Ray Walker
Dave Welz
Andrea Wilson
Mike Wilson

If you meet any of these individuals or businesses, please take a moment to thank them for their community spirit in giving of their time, equipment and staff. We could not have done it without them!

While this was a good start, it did not begin to return the area to its previous pristine state. It is estimated that approximately 50% of the debris was removed and thus the job is not yet finished. The Rotary Club of Parksville AM is already planning another clean-up effort in the coming year in order to get the job done.



STOP THE DUMPING!

It is our hope that this effort and the public awareness it has created will help to deter future incidences of illegal dumping at Little Mountain. We live in one of the most beautiful communities in the world - let's keep it that way!

Check out our website for dates for future clean-up efforts:
<https://www.parkvilleamrotary.org/>

