



## For immediate release

May 15, 2013

## Time to Wake Up Your Composter

The Comox Strathcona waste management service (CSWM) invites residents to the Campbell River compost education centre (228 South Dogwood Street) on Saturday, May 24 from 10 -11 a.m. for a free workshop that strategizes ways to activate your backyard composter after the cooler winter season.

Spring represents the start of the gardening season and for many residents this means starting to prepare by selecting their plants, flowers, fruits and vegetable seeds. What is equally important to this process is what the plants will grow in. Fresh compost is a nutrient-rich food for your garden and will help improve the soil structure and maintain moisture levels.

Compost can be used in more applications than just your average garden; it can be applied on flowerbeds, around trees, to replenish potted plants and containers, and it can be used to feed your lawn.

"As a compost educator, I get an increased volume of calls or visits from people who have questions about the condition of their compost in the spring," said Elaine Jansen, CSWM compost educator. "This workshop will provide an opportunity for residents to get a hands-on demonstration on how to prepare their compost and will offer tips on how to manage nuisances such as bad smells, fruit flies and rodents."

The workshop will be held outdoors – rain or shine. Elaine is ready to answer all your questions and get you energized and enthused about creating a beautiful outdoor oasis with the help of compost.

For information on the operating hours and programs at the compost education centre, visit www.cswm.ca/composting.

The Comox Strathcona waste management (CSWM) service is a function of the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and is responsible for two regional waste management centres that serve the Comox Valley and Campbell River, as well as a range of transfer stations and smaller wastehandling and recycling facilities for the electoral areas of the CVRD and the Strathcona Regional District. The CSWM service manages over 100,000 tonnes of waste and recycled material and oversees a number of diversion and education programs.

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