



Community goes green with week full of events

By <u>Staff Writer - Vernon Morning Star</u> Published: **June 03, 2011 1:00 AM**

Environment Week (June 4-10) in Vernon will be packed with a series of week-long activities and events to get everyone thinking "green."

The week begins with International Trails Day Saturday.

Allan Brooks Nature Centre invites residents to experience the new interpretive trail and reclaimed wetland along BX Creek in North Vernon Park on Saturday.

Award-winning nature tour guide, Roseanne Van Ee will lead Discover the BX Creek Wetland tours at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Those wanting to attend the free event are asked to register today by calling 250-260-4227 as spaces are limited for the nature celebration.

Another celebration of trails takes place with the North Okanagan Regional District's Art-Out on the Grey Canal Trail (Blackcomb Way) between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Join in on B.C. Parks' 100 year celebrations by participating in the Parks 100 multi-sport event at Ellison Park, on Eastside Road, Sunday. Registration for this fun-filled family event is between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Activities hosted by the North Okanagan Cycling Society start at noon and finish with a 3:30 p.m. barbecue.

Monday is all about celebrating environmental leaders and film makers within the North Okanagan.

The Regional District of North Okanagan and City of Vernon will be hosting the 2011 Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Awards, in conjunction with the inaugural Inquisitive Clips Award Presentations and Film Screenings. Come out Monday evening to the Powerhouse Theatre (2901-35th Avenue) and cheer on those individuals and business owners that are making

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the North Okanagan a great place to be and catch some of the winning inquisitive clips films. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., event starts at 7. Entry is free and suitable for all ages.

Tuesday is Water Awareness Day. Celebrate water and learn more about this precious resource. Visit www.okwaterwise.ca to find out how you can be more waterwise at home, school and work. Keep tuned to local radio stations for waterwise tips and opportunities to win a rain barrel. Remember, every drop counts.

Celebrate Clean Air Day on Wednesday and enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast at the downtown transit exchange on Coldstream and 30th avenues from 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Also, take transit for free anywhere in the North Okanagan.

It is all about Styrofoam recycling on Thursday, June 9, with the second annual Styrofoam Round Up. Bring clean meat trays, egg cartons, and other Styrofoam packing products (no tape, stickers, plastic, or Styrofoam insulation please) in a clear bag to the Wholesale Club parking lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to ensure it is recycled properly and not landfilled. There is no charge to drop off the Styrofoam and staff will be on hand to answer any questions about the Styrofoam recycling program.

Local Food is the focus for Friday, June 10. Come down and see what eating locally is all about and view the many local producers and products at Vernon's Friday Night Farmer's Market at the Sport Chek parking lot, 4900 27th Street, between 3 and 7 p.m.

For more information on these events contact the Regional District of North Okanagan at 250-550-3700 or the City of Vernon at 250-550-3634 or go online to www.rdno.ca or www.vernon.ca/sustainability.