

# Growing Green!

## Festival Information & Guidelines 2011

### Green Living Skills Demonstrators



#### **Bridgewater is Growing Green!**

The Festival is organized and funded by the Town of Bridgewater as part of its efforts to provide education to the broader community on the topic of sustainability. It ties in with Bridgewater's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan – a long-term vision for how all people in our community can live within the Earth's means, while meeting their basic needs. The Festival is organized by a team of community volunteers working together with Town Council and staff to create a successful event.

***Mission:** The Growing Green! Festival is Bridgewater's way of expressing its pride in becoming a sustainable community. Through it, our community engages itself in deliberate small and large acts of vision and daring to improve our home town, build our sense of community, and celebrate the simple things we can all do to make a difference. We do so by creating an environment that explodes in a colorful and fun mosaic highlighting the unique individual passions, talents, and efforts of our local people, businesses and organizations. The Festival plants positive ideas... in order to harvest a sustainable future.*

The Festival organizers hold the following "core values":

- Green
- Inclusive
- Interactive
- Educational
- Fun
- Healthy
- Local
- Shared effort
- Inspiring

We encourage all participating groups, businesses, and individuals to share in these values, and help us create a positive event that lives up to them.

#### **Festival Details**

Date & time: Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: King Street in Bridgewater, between Empire St. and Dominion St. That section of the street will be closed to vehicular traffic from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will also be a Sustainability Art Display at the Bridgewater Library (547 King St), a short walk down the street.

#### **Contact Information for Green Living Skills Demonstrators**

Coordinator: Lindsey Sarty  
Email & Telephone: linz\_8@hotmail.ca / 212-1476  
Festival Website: [www.growinggreenfest.com](http://www.growinggreenfest.com)

## Sustainability Guidelines

The Growing Green Festival is about learning to live within the Earth's means, while celebrating our community and meeting our basic needs. The Festival will embody this spirit wherever possible, both through organization of the event, as well as through the specific workshops, products, and activities that are offered during the day by participating groups and businesses. We encourage all participants to carefully consider the following list of guidelines, and to plan their involvement in a way that meets them as much as possible:

Topic	Good practice	Better practice
Waste	Produce very little waste. Any waste can be properly recycled or composted. No hazardous materials.	Produce no waste at all
Energy	Use much less energy (fuel, electricity) compared to usual products or practices	Use no energy at all, or use only renewably generated power (wind / solar, etc)
Transportation	Use very little transportation, and don't truck things in from thousands of kilometers away. Use energy efficient transportation where possible	Require no motorized transportation at all. Promote "active transportation" (walking / cycling)
Chemicals	Minimize use of hazardous or toxic chemicals, replace them with environmentally friendly or non-toxic, naturally based products	Use no hazardous or toxic chemicals. Products produced through manufacturing processes are certified environmentally responsible by a reputable third party.
Materials	Make little use of natural resources (mined materials, harvested lumber, fish and other wildlife) that cause significant damage to the environment. Use recycled materials.	Use no raw natural resources at all, or use only those produced using sustainable harvesting practices. Larger sustainable operations are certified environmentally responsible by a reputable third party.
Food	Grown & harvested using more environmentally friendly practices. Not trucked in from thousands of kilometers away.	Grown locally using only sustainable practices. Larger sustainable operations are certified by a reputable third party. Little or no packaging.

### In addition, good sustainable practices:

- ✓ Are healthy and safe, and promote people's overall physical and mental wellbeing
- ✓ Help other people in our community meet their basic needs too (eg. building skills & capacity, fair labour standards, reduce poverty, etc)
- ✓ Improve relationships and cooperation between people, and increase our sense of community
- ✓ Support the local economy
- ✓ Increase our ability to be self-sufficient
- ✓ Improve the places where we live (eg. making them safer, beautiful, and more accessible)

All participating groups and individuals are requested to put in their best effort to live by these guidelines during the Festival. We will also be encouraging people to walk to and from the Festival, bring their own reusable coffee mugs, refill their water bottles using safe and affordable municipal water, and do other simple things to enjoy our downtown while leaving a light “environmental footprint”.

Participating groups are also encouraged to interact with Festival visitors in a way that educates and engages people in thinking about sustainability. Please consider explaining how what you are selling, offering, or teaching can make people’s lives more sustainable, or improve our environment or our community. The Festival organizers will advise interested participants if their contributions are generally in line with these expectations, but will not micro-manage your participation. Please use common sense and the honor system when doing business at the Festival.

## Participating in the Growing Green Festival

The Growing Green! Fest is seeking people and organizations to offer live demonstrations of “sustainable skills”. These skills help people by reducing their environmental impact on the world, and increase their ability to be self-sufficient. Skills may be “old” traditional skills such as fishing or basket making, or “new” such as installing solar panels on a home. Community members should be able to learn about these skills preferably through interactive, hands-on approaches (eg. not just standing and watching). Some examples:

- Home building or renovation using “green” methods (cob, strawbale, heritage carpentry, etc)
- Traditional sewing, weaving, or knitting skills
- Traditional agricultural skills
- Using recycled or waste materials to produce useful items or art
- Gardening, canning, and other methods of growing and preserving food
- Home-made soaps & cosmetics using non-toxic, environmentally friendly materials
- Etc.



While we will strive to be as inclusive as possible, the Festival is an educational event with a purpose to promote sustainability, and the Festival organizers reserve the right to accept only skills demonstrations that are in line with the goals and spirit of the Festival. Applications from political groups will not be accepted.

When planning your Green Living Skills Demonstration, we encourage you to consider the following:

- How is the skill you are demonstrating related to the Sustainability Guidelines above? Is there some way you can actively use that language in your demonstration?
- How can your skill be taught or demonstrated in a way that is engaging, participatory, and interactive? How can it have appeal to people of all ages? How can it be accessible to people with mobility, linguistic, or financial challenges?
- Keeping in mind that this is an environmentally-themed, “no waste” event, how can your skill be taught in a way that minimizes waste? If you would like to give out free handouts, can they be reused? Can they be properly recycled?

All Green Living Skills groups / individuals will have access to a 15x15 ft. space. Additional space may be available - groups requesting more space need to discuss their specific site needs with the Festival organizers as soon as possible. Important information:

- **Participating groups will receive a mini-honorarium of up to \$50 to help cover costs of participating during the day (buying & transporting materials, etc).**
- **The Festival organizers will provide a table & chairs for your comfort. All participating groups are encouraged to provide their own shelter (tent), and other items they will need to be comfortable for the duration of the day. If you need support locating a portable shelter or other materials, please let us know and we'll do our best to assist you.**
- **All groups will have their name displayed on the Growing Green Festival website, along with a short write-up, which can be linked to your own website if you have one.**

The Festival has room for approximately 10-15 Green Living Skills groups, though these numbers are subject to change based on the space requirements of interested groups, and other site needs. To be eligible for a space, Green Living Skills Demonstrators must submit a completed Registration Form and Liability Agreement (pages 5 and 6) to the Festival organizers by no later than **Tuesday June 28, 2011**.

## **Zero Waste Policy**

The Growing Green! Fest strives every year to be a “low-waste” or “zero waste” event. This means that the Festival organizers, and all participating groups and businesses, commit to producing as little waste as possible. Waste sorting stations will be placed at several locations across the festival grounds, and we will have waste sorting educators at the event. We ask all participating groups to follow proper waste sorting practices, and help community members learn to deal with waste appropriately.

## **Electricity and Other Site Needs**

**Electricity:** electrical outlet and load capacities are very limited at the Festival location. However, a limited number of spaces are being made accessible to power sources. Vendors, Information Kiosks and Green Living Skills groups are requested to keep their power needs to an absolute minimum, and work without power as much as possible. If you would still like to have access to power, please inform the Festival organizers as soon as possible to reserve a powered location. No power load may exceed 15 amperes (approx. 1500 watts).

**Toilets & sanitation:** several “portapotties”, including at least one that is wheelchair accessible, will be available on the street during the day of the event. We will provide hand sanitizer at various locations.

**Other requirements:** If you have special site needs such as wheelchair accessibility, water or other services, please contact the Festival organizers as soon as possible to discuss your needs. We would like to help all participating groups meet their needs and make the Growing Green! Festival a success for everyone.

## **Liability & Insurance**

All participating groups are required sign a Liability Agreement with the Town of Bridgewater. This agreement confirms that the participating business, group, or individual will not hold the Town of Bridgewater liable for damages or claims resulting from the use of the space during the day of the Festival. Liability Agreements must be submitted together with your Registration Form.

# Bridgewater Going Green! Festival 2011

## Green Living Skills Demonstrator Registration Form

Name of Business / Group (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person & Title \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please Describe Yourself or Your Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What Skills Will You Offer That Relates to Sustainability? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any Special Needs? (e.g. power; extra space; etc): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand and agree that: (please check all boxes)

- This is a “green” event and I will do my best to have a low environmental impact on the day of the Festival, by adhering to the “Sustainability Guidelines” and “Zero Waste” policy
- The Festival runs from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and I will be on site from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- I am encouraged to supply any necessary tent(s) for my booth, and anything else I need for comfort
- I (or a representative of my group) have signed the Liability Agreement

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Bridgewater Growing Green! Festival 2011

## LIABILITY AGREEMENT

Between the Town of Bridgewater (hereinafter referred to as the "Town") and

\_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter referred to as the "Participant").  
(name)

WHEREAS the Town of Bridgewater (hereinafter referred to as the "Town") is sponsoring the "Growing Green! Bridgewater Sustainability Festival" to encourage the development of skills, interests, and activities related to sustainability on the South Shore.

AND WHEREAS the Town has agreed to host the event on the King Street right-of-way between the intersection of King St and Empire St, and King St and Dominion St (the "Premises"), as well as a partner location at the Bridgewater Public Library.

AND WHEREAS the Participant wishes to take part in the Growing Green! Festival as a Vendor, Information Kiosk, Green Living Skills demonstrator, or Performer / Artist, agreed upon with the Town organizers and volunteers.

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto agree as follows:

- 1) The Participant will arrive at the Premises no earlier than 7:00 a.m. June 23, 2011 and will completely vacate the Premises no later than 2:00 p.m. that same day.
- 2) The Participant will occupy only such portion of the Premises as is deemed necessary by the Town.
- 3) The Participant will at all times follow directions of the Town.
- 4) The Participant shall be responsible to ensure that all activities on the premises are conducted in a safe manner, to provide all necessary safety equipment for both the Participant and spectators, and to ensure that adequate supervision is provided to ensure the safety of those taking part in the activities of the Participant.
- 5) The Participant shall be responsible for all damages occurring to the Premises as a result of the Participant or its representatives' activities thereon.
- 6) The Participant shall indemnify and hold harmless the Town from and against all liability, claims; damages or expenses due to or arising out of the Participant's occupancy of the Premises, and such indemnification shall survive the termination of this lease, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.  
(day) (month)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant (Signature)