

STAFF REPORT: RECREATION



REPORT TO: Infrastructure and Recreation Committee
MEETING DATE: March 8 2011
REPORT NO.: DOR 11 15
SUBJECT: Christmas Tree Pick up
PREPARED BY: Terry Green, Manager of Parks & Trails

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 11 15 entitled "Christmas Tree Pick up" for information purposes.

B. Background

The Christmas tree pick up program has been done by the Parks Department for the past 5 years. The trees are gathered by staff using a 20' trailer and taken to the landfill site where they are ground up with the tub grinder when it is there to do work at the landfill.

This season we gathered 430 with the majority collected in a five day period over two weeks. With some exceptions of a few property owners that forgot to set their trees out at the curb.

We have looked at different ways to accomplish picking up these trees. What we are proposing for next season is to utilize the roads and drainage wood chipper which will be towed behind our landscape truck. We would chip the trees at the curb side into the truck to see if this would be a more efficient way of accomplishing the pickup.

Another suggestion would be to charge a garbage tag for the cost of pickup for each tree which would help offset the fuel costs. This suggestion is something that would have to be discussed with the solid waste division prior to the 2011 – 2012 seasons.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Providing a strong, well managed municipal government

D. Environmental Impacts

Grinding of the Christmas trees which is turned into mulch

E. Budget Impact

Staff time and vehicle costs \$3500.00

F. Attachments

None

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Green, Manager of Parks & Trails

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