

**Subject: January 19th Agenda Item #8 - Yard Trimmings Collection Program**

**Date:** Sun, 18 Jan 2004 23:03:50 -0800

**From:** Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

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**CC:** fonvca@fonvca.org

Your Worship & Members of Council,

Contrary to the Nov 24/2003 staff report, the District has not, in my opinion, shown environmental leadership by switching away from using clear plastic bags for yard trimmings. Neither was this decision economically sound. I say this because simple math supports my arguments. As my previous reports on this matter have shown - the NET added costs to the taxpayer has increased, even after taking into account savings in debugging the yard waste, possible increase in the quality of the compost (staff says residents have not added contaminants to the non-transparent paper bags - but this is not assured), and the tipping fee reduction from \$50 to \$40 / ton. As well, the environmental impacts, mainly due to the cutting of trees to make those Kraft paper bags, have worsened.

The resumption of the yard trimming collection this spring should harbour some interesting problems as crews try to collect those soggy Kraft paper bags left over the winter due to the termination of yard waste collection before all of the yard trimmings had fallen.

I urge council to either:

- get staff to refute my allegations - backed by numbers or
- revert back to using clear plastic bags for yard trimmings.

Yours truly,

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