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Abbotsford News

# Earth Day celebrated

By Vikki Hopes - Abbotsford News

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Some local environmentalists plan to spend Earth Day tomorrow talking to candidates for the upcoming provincial election.

John Vissers, a member of the Central Valley Naturalists (CFV) and a director of the Fraser Valley Conservancy, said a group will attend the Abbotsford-Mission all-candidates forum at Matsqui Hall.

“We hope to get people asking questions about the environment. This (Earth Day) is a big day for those of us concerned about the environment,” he said.

The CFV held its own Earth Day event on Saturday, when a group hiked up Sumas Mountain to an old-growth grove of firs and cedars. This area is on Crown land and is slated to be logged.

Vissers said Earth Day is important because it brings awareness to these types of issues.

“It’s just a reminder; it’s a wake-up call. We need to acknowledge our dependence on the environment.”

Earth Day activities planned in Abbotsford include a “bike to work” promotion. Workplace teams and individuals can register at [biketowork.ca](http://biketowork.ca).

Those who bike to work tomorrow may be

entered into a draw for a white-water rafting adventure for two. To enter, email Sue Vince at [sue@biketowork.ca](mailto:sue@biketowork.ca).

Also on Earth Day, the Abbotsford Mission Recycling Program holds an open house at its two locations – 33670 Valley Rd. and 7229 Mershon St.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to educate the community about materials that are currently accepted for recycling. Call 604-850-3551 for more details.

The City of Abbotsford's Earth Day activity is a community clean-up day – part of the annual Pitch-In Canada Week.

Residents can register their clean-up area with the parks, recreation and culture department at 604-859-3134. In return, they will receive free yellow garbage bags and gloves.

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