

**Dog Waste Stations Project
The Red Dot Association**



October, 2017

Purpose:

In response to the water quality issues at Parlee and surrounding beaches, a group of concerned citizens met to discuss what they could do to help. Addressing the issue of dog waste littering the beaches and near-by trails seemed to be a good place to start. To that end, a dog waste station prototype was designed. They approached the Red Dot Association for help in funding this project. A request was sent to the Department of Health and the proposal was approved and funding granted.

With a budget of \$9,211.50 , 12 dog waste stations (cover page) were fabricated, installed and maintained for the 2017 tourist season. In addition, educational materials were mailed out alerting the public of adverse health affects of uncontained dog feces.

These stations were installed at selected entrances to the beaches, near-by trails and at Pointe-du-Chene Wharf. Materials were locally sourced and all signage was bilingual.

Financial Report:

Posts, spikes, screws		639.35
Dispensers		897.00
Signs		225.00
Paint supplies		207.39
Locks		179.25
Garbage bins		349.47
Garbage liners		12.67
Labour & maintenance		5410.00
Gas		231.71
Educational material and postage		462.24
Red Dot t-shirts		200.00
Dog waste bags		126.05
Project final report		200.00
Total		9140.13
Balance		71.37

Summary:

It is felt that the stations were well used this summer based on the number of dog waste bags used and the fullness of bins on garbage pick-up days. Positive feedback was heard from both dog and non-dog owners. Management/staff of Parlee Beach Provincial Park, Ocean Surf Campground, Pointe-du-Chene LSD and Pointe-du-Chene Wharf all provided positive feedback concerning the effectiveness of these stations. Nearby trails and the beaches bordering Parlee Beach appeared to have much less dog litter.

There was the expected misuse, initially, of the garbage bins (household waste, fast food containers, cans, bottles ...) along with vandalism of 2 of the stations. Decals indicating “dog waste only” helped to improve proper usage although the problem did persist at one station on the west side.

The Red Dot Association would like to thank the public for using these stations which helped to keep the beaches and trails cleaner. A huge thank you also to the staff at the Provincial Park, Ocean Surf Campground, Pointe-du-Chene Wharf and private citizens who made sure the bins were emptied and bags replenished as needed.

Recommendations:

- **This successful pilot project should be continued and funding provided.**
- **Hire designated staff to monitor and maintain existing dog waste stations during tourist season.**
- **Remove, sanitize and store detachable bins for the winter to prevent damage. This will reduce costs of replacing them.**

Submitted by the following project contributors:

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