

Burlington's Progress

A periodic review of topics and trends of relevance to business and industry interested in locating in 'Beautiful Burlington'.
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**Burlington . . .
Planned for
Total Living**

RECYCLING FIRMS ARE ACTIVE IN BURLINGTON
-- METALS -- OILS -- TEXTILES --

July, 1983

The high cost of living in the 1980's means that no one likes to throw away anything that might be used again -- and that includes everything from clothes, to valuable metals, to household items such as glass, paper, and cans.

But, reclaiming materials for re-use no longer means the community is going to be burdened with an unsightly "scrap yard" operation. Today's recycling operations are housed in attractive new industrial buildings and even laboratories -- a far cry from the traditional scrap operation surrounded by a high fence and protected by mean guard dogs set loose to patrol the yard at night.

Recycling is an important part of regular daily life in Burlington -- in households and industrial operations. The products reclaimed for use in new products include: newsprint, glass, metal -- both ferrous and non-ferrous, clothing and oil.

One of the new recycling firms in the city is Wooltex Recycling Canada Ltd. The Company began operations in Burlington with about 20 employees. Wooltex recycles used clothing and other textiles.

Bales of clothing are compacted into bundles, then sent to the parent company in Holland for processing. The bales of material are shredded and reprocessed to make yarn. All the clothing is stripped of buttons, zippers and other ornaments before baling. Eventually, the reprocessing will be done in Burlington.

Bonar Zimmark, a subsidiary of Bonar Canada, is another recent addition to Burlington's recycling circle. Bonar Zimmark markets technology for cleaning, treating and analyzing used oil for the industrial market. The firm aims to develop and market the chemical formulation and equipment to remove impurities -- and thus extend the life of industrial oil.

Strasser Alloy Steels Limited moved from Brampton to larger facilities in Burlington several years ago. The firm specializes in the processing of high value stainless and alloy steel waste coming from industry.

Federated Genco Limited reclaims non-ferrous metals, for reprocessing into ingots used by other industries in the Burlington area.

Kord Products Ltd. Fibre Division is a well-established firm which produces biodegradable flower pots from newsprint.

At the Canada Centre for Inland Waters on the city's waterfront, a \$250,000 testing program is reaching the final stage in determining whether it will be feasible to convert sewage sludge to oil and coal by roasting it in ovens at 300 degrees Celsius for three hours.

Even householders get into the recycling act in Burlington. All residents are welcome to drop glass, metal, and paper at the recycling centre on Guelph Line run by the Citizens' Committee for Pollution Control. And, Halton's Recycled Resources Ltd. -- a private firm -- collects metal and glass placed in special containers on the regular garbage pick-up day in the Aldershot section.