

Clean up and report to Town today

Area residents are being asked to help keep the town beautiful by participating in the annual Oakville Clean Sweep on today (Friday) at 2 p.m.

Residents can use the opportunity to clean up around their home, park, school or business.

“Last year, (more than) 8,000 people participated in the Oakville Clean Sweep program. That’s an amazing turn out and an excellent example of how this community takes care of our neighbourhoods and our environment,” said Oakville Mayor Rob Burton.

The Oakville Clean Sweep event kicks off the Town’s spring cleanup and Earth Week events.

To get free gloves and bags courtesy of Glad, visit www.oakville.ca and register online.

Residents can choose their pickup location and date, and their supplies (one glove per person and one bag per five people) will be ready for them at one of the following locations:

- Town Hall, 1225 Trafalgar Rd.

- Iroquois Ridge Community Centre, 1051 Glenashton Dr.
- Glen Abbey Community Centre, 1415 Third Line
- River Oaks Community Centre, 2400 Sixth Line
- Sixteen Mile Sports Complex, 3070 Neyagawa Blvd.
- Queen Elizabeth Park Cultural and Community Centre, 2302 Bridge Rd.

While cleaning up, residents can take pictures or videos of their efforts and post them on the Town’s Facebook or Twitter pages for a chance to win a basket filled with Glad cleaning products.

After the cleanup, residents can place collected bags out on their regular garbage collection day, and recycle what they can.

Anyone who thinks they will exceed their garbage bags per household limit can e-mail serviceoakville@oakville.ca or call 905-845-6601 to make arrangements for garbage pickup.

Town is committed to green

While Oakville residents celebrate Earth Week (April 16-22) with clean-ups and tree plantings, the Town says it celebrates every week with its environmental-friendly daily operations.

“This Council is committed to a cleaner, greener Oakville,” Mayor Rob Burton said in a press release.

“From ensuring cleaner air for our residents and finding ways to further reduce energy costs, to planning more efficient neighbourhoods and building green facilities, we will continue to make choices that protect our environment today and for future generations.”

One of the goals of council’s 2011-14 Strategic Plan is to reduce the Town’s and community’s impact on the environment. The Town has implemented several programs, such as:

- Participating as one of 12 signatory municipalities to create a Climate Change Adaptation strategy
- Creating an Active Transportation Plan that will see a total of 49 kilometres added to existing cycle/trail ways
- Launching a Community Sustainability Plan
- Implementing a health protection air quality by-law
- Working with Oakville Hydro to launch so-

lar energy panels on town facility roofs — 260 solar power generation panels were installed at Town Hall. The solar installation generates 60 kilowatts, which can power as many as 15 homes in Oakville

- Developing a north Oakville forestry plan to support a 40 per cent tree canopy target by 2057

- Developing an Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy

- Bike racks on all Oakville Transit buses

Other programs the Town is currently undertaking, include:

- Developing green building standards
- Continuing to protect green space
- Implementing a trails plan for north Oakville
- Updating the private tree bylaw and site alteration bylaw
- Developing and implementing a Stormwater Management Plan

The Town of Oakville also has automatic computer shut-down, sustainable purchasing procedures and environmentally-friendly vehicles and building energy audits in place to further reduce its impact on the environment.

For more information, visit www.oakville.ca and search Earth Week.

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