

# HOME & COUNTRY



## York Road Branch is Proud of Trudie Miller

By Neysa Clark

Trudie Miller of RR 3 Brighton is one Women's Institute member who takes the WI mandate about the environment seriously. She is worried about waste management and ecology, and writes a weekly column in the *Brighton Independent* - "Help Yourself" - headed by a drawing of the world in the palm of a hand. In this column Trudie gives recycling information, useful tips, advice about friendly products and the latest news from the environmental front.

Trudie also attends council meetings, confronts politicians, nags county officials, obtains the latest information from recycling plants, needles manufacturers, and encourages and shames the rest of us to do more towards a cleaner environment.

In part, Trudie's efforts have been responsible for the recycling bins provided at the Brighton Township dump. Some of her current concerns include the need for a chipper to mulch Christmas trees and brush, expansion of the recycling program to include boxboard and plastic containers, and increased participation by the public. Trudie has also persuaded neighbouring churches to collect styrofoam cups and trays which are taken 25 miles to a plant in Campbellford where they are remanufactured.

She is a keen gardener and a dedicated advocate of composting and mulching. She uses layers of newspapers covered with earth between her vegetables which combat weeds and conserve moisture, and eventually break down completely. She successfully composts bags and bags of



Trudie Miller at the recycling bins at the Brighton Township dump in Northumberland County.

leaves over the winter.

Trudie Miller lives in Brighton Township in Northumberland County where she and her husband operate an apple orchard. She holds a Bachelor of Household Economics degree from the University of Alberta. She is a mother of four and operated a nursery school for many years. Today, Trudie is a member of the York Road Branch in the hamlet of Smithfield, and she is an enthusiastic booster of the Women's Institute.

Neysa Clark is a member of the York Road Women's Institute.

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