

# NEW LANDFILL SITES ARE A MUST BEFORE 1977

## SANITARY LANDFILLING

The current waste management system in Halton Region relies completely on landfilling. The landfill sites which currently serve the area municipalities will be filled to capacity by 1977. New sites, therefore, must be located immediately.



Landfilling is a controlled method of dumping, compacting and covering wastes on land in an environmentally acceptable manner. It is also the most economical and widely used method of solid waste disposal. Even with resource recovery, some landfilling will still be required:

- to accept wastes which cannot be handled at the plant such as construction debris;

- to serve as a back-up facility for the plant;

- to provide a disposal facility for processed residue from the plant;

- and to provide for waste disposal until the plant is built.

Inconveniences from traffic, noise and dust associated with a landfill operation may occur during the operating life of the site. Potential hazards such as methane gas and pollution of ground water must be controlled. These disadvantages can be greatly minimized or eliminated through careful selection, planning, engineering, and operation of the landfill sites.



## Some Reactions

"In conjunction with this very expensive program should be an education and reduction of garbage at source program, as well as permanent liaison with industry with a view to reduction in volume of waste and an increase in re-use of materials".

Pollution Probe member  
Halton Hills.

"The need for a resource recovery system of solid waste management is urgent. Let's get it off the ground."

Environmentalist  
Burlington.

"Could the study express concern for the need to decrease the amount of solid wastes generated? Can completed landfill sites continue to generate revenue for new sites and operations?"

Social planner and conservationist  
Burlington.

"It is essential to start an education program to convince people to use less, and therefore to create less garbage. . . we need to encourage major industries to recycle and re-use materials.

Community planner  
Halton Hills.

"We are concerned with the costs, both financial and energy-wise, of a resource recovery plant. To reduce costs we would encourage reduction of garbage going to a plant or site by separation at source of materials which can be recycled, e.g. cardboard, paper, organic waste, metal, glass and aluminum. These materials can be moved to different places to be re-used or recycled.

Recycling organization  
Burlington.

"I am a very strong believer in programs of this nature. . . they should be one of our number one concerns for the future."

Oakville resident.

# ONTARIO INITIATES RESOURCE RECOVERY PROGRAM

Ontario's Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has initiated a comprehensive 15-year resource recovery program.

Objectives of the program are: to reduce the quantity of wastes; to minimize the amount of land used for waste disposal; and to recover, as much valuable materials as possible from waste.

The key agency studying ways to reduce the production of wastes is the MOE's Waste Management Advisory Board, an independent body of concerned citizens appointed to study this entire area and to advise the Minister on solid waste policy.

To minimize the amount of land used for waste disposal, 18 area waste management studies, such as the study done in 1974 for the Halton Region, have been completed or are in progress. These studies indicate anticipated quantities and types of waste over the next 20 years. Recommendations are made for waste management systems including landfills, transfer stations and waste processing facilities.

To recover valuable materials from waste, the Experimental Plant for Resource Recovery is now being built for MOE in Metropolitan Toronto. This Plant will develop and test new technology for recovering valuable wastes from garbage.

MOE has offered to build a resource recovery plant to reclaim material and energy from Halton's



wastes, paying all capital costs and recovering half of these costs through a 40-year user charge to the Municipality.

Where Resource Recovery Plants are established, they will initially have "front-end" processing only. "Front-end" processing removes corrugated paper and bundled newsprint, shreds the remaining wastes to a uniform size and separates, magnetically, tin and other ferrous materials from waste material.

If profitable markets for fuel or material are established, air classification equipment may be installed to separate paper and plastics from the heavier materials and the remaining wastes may go on to further "back-end" processing.

Implementation of the physical program will be done in three 5-year stages.

Stage One (1975-1980)

- Replace small scattered disposal sites by transfer stations and where feasible build centralized "Front-End" Processing Plants

- recover corrugated paper, bundled newsprint and ferrous metals

- Landfill the processed refuse.

Stage Two (1980-1985)

- Develop province-wide transfer station and transportation network to reduce long-haul costs for refuse

- Construct remaining "Front-End" Plants
- Install some "Back-End" processes as they prove practical and as markets are developed.

Stage Three (1985-1990)

- Install further "back-end" processes, with proven markets to provide complete Resource Recovery Plants for 80 per cent of the province's population and thus significantly reducing the need for sanitary landfills.

