

**Report says:**

# No leachate, stop monitoring dump

An annual monitoring report is no longer required for the Halton Hills landfill site say consultants to the region, because the dump, closed since 1979, is having a limited impact on the environment.

The site, just north of Armstrong Ave. in Georgetown, borders the Credit River, and the consultants say what little leachate from the dump that does seep into it is heavily diluted by its waters.

"We've been monitoring for four years now and found no discernible effect on the water quality or the stream bed of the Credit," said Bob Leech, Senior Hydrogeologist for Gartner Lee Associates Limited of Markham.

"By and large the site is good in terms of impact on the environment which is minimal," he said.

Five studies of the site have been conducted by the firm since 1979 and the most recent 1982 report, presented to regional council last week, says the environmental protection features installed there are functioning well.

A cap of clay till over the site is causing over 77 per cent of the annual precipitation to run-off directly into the Credit without entering the landfill.

A toe-drain set between the site and the river collects leachate amounting to over 21 per cent of annual precipitation.

The leachate discharging into the Credit is calculated to be .7 per cent of annual pre-

cipitation, says the report, which Leech said is a slow migration.

"The Credit is a very large river and very diluted amounts (of leachate) reach it," he explained.

Impaired water quality was found in a storm sewer running east through the site, and while the landfill had some effect on it during the summer of 1982, the water is already of poor quality before it passes through the landfill area, says the report.

The storm sewer was constructed to keep out leachate but a manhole was found leaking two years ago. It was repaired last November but the report says not enough data has been collected to indicate if this has stopped the flow.

The only concern raised by the report is over levels of methane gas migrating upstream in the sewer though it is not certain the gas originates from the landfill. Levels of up to 4.5 per cent methane were found in catch basins along the sewer and a 5 per cent level is considered the explosive limit. The report recommends a gas venting system be installed to bleed off the methane.

Methane levels at the site are consistently high and exceed the explosive level, though Leech said, "All landfills, no matter where they are can reach levels as high as 15 per cent."

Methane has the capacity to move through the trenches dug for these service pipes

# McCracken gets year for bank robbery

James McCracken, convicted of robbing an Erin bank, has been sent to jail for one year, even though the judge who sentenced him felt his penalty should be stiffer.

McCracken pleaded guilty September 16 in Wellington County Court to holding up the Toronto Dominion Bank in Erin on February 9. He made off with about \$1,600 while a partner in the crime, William Warnock, netted more than \$4,000. McCracken was arrested in his Georgetown home several days later, with one of two hold-up notes and the money in his possession.

Warnock, who was involved in two other bank hold-ups in the Barrie area, following the Erin offense, was sentenced to two years less a day in an Alliston court in May for the three robberies. He received two years less a day for one hold-up, and one year for each of the other two crimes, one of which was the Erin job, to run concurrently.

Wellington County Court Judge Edward McNeely felt that Warnock's sentence was "very lenient" for three bank robberies. He stressed he would have given McCracken a longer

sentence, however "when people commit crimes together, and when the involvement seems to be on an equal plane, efforts should be made to see that they are not treated in widely different ways, except for criminal records."

The judge noted "It is absolutely essential that people know if they rob banks they go to jail regardless of whether they are 18 years old with no record or not."

While there was no violence involved in the February 9 robbery, notes were given to the tellers to do as they were told and they would not be hurt. This implied violence could take place, Judge McNeely said, and the bank staff and the police do not know how the suspects will react.

Defense lawyer David C. Smith pointed out there were no weapons used in the robbery, and all the money was recovered except \$10, which McCracken had used to purchase a pizza. His client cooperated with the police from the beginning, and noted he "acted out of character and it is highly unlikely he will do anything like this again."

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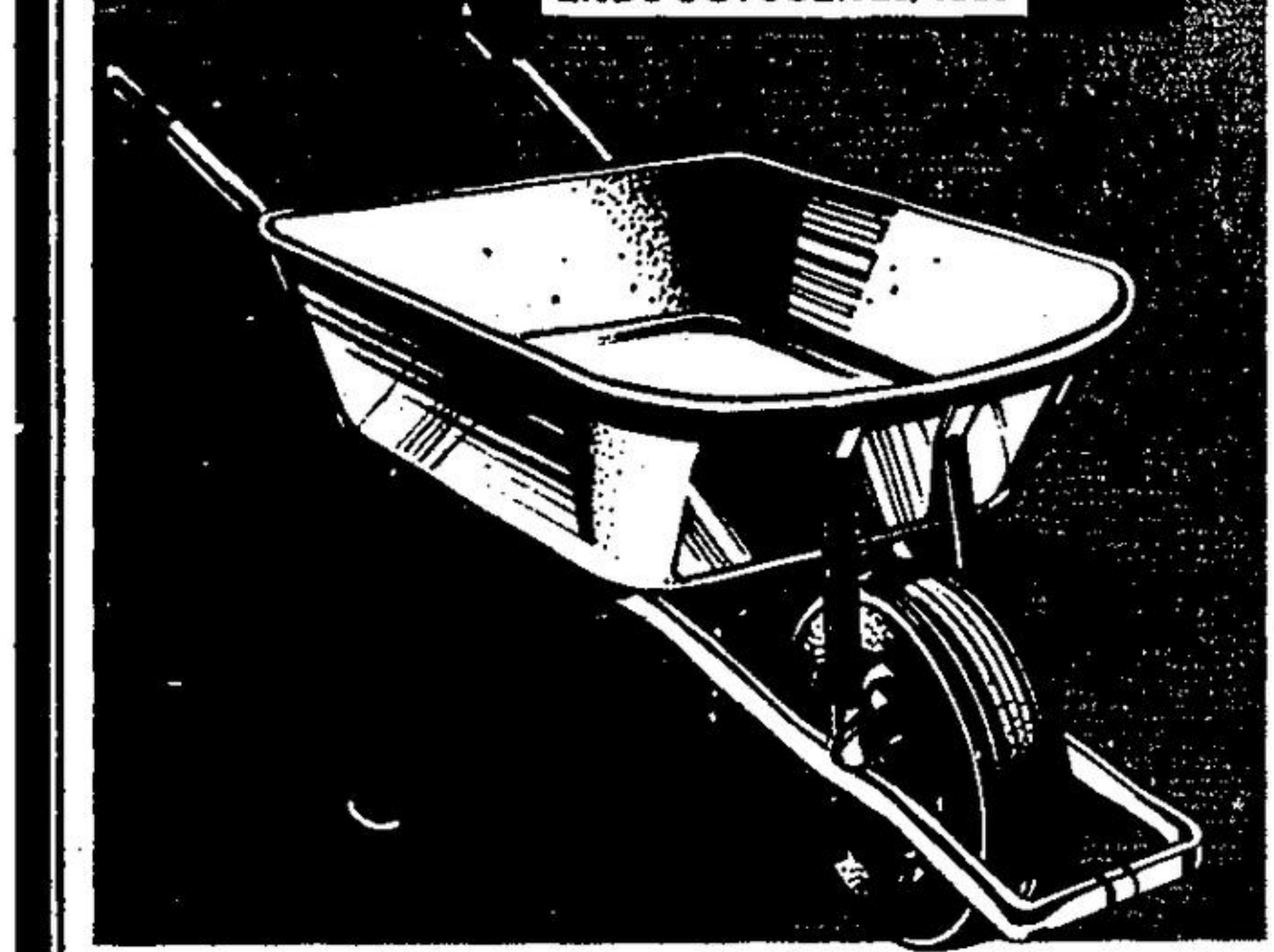
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