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"YOUR BEST DEAL... IS A CAPITAL DEAL"

Friday, April 22, 1983

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Landfill 'best' for handling waste

By CHRIS AAGAARD

Herald staff writer

While there are other methods waiting in the wings, burying garbage is still the cheapest way of handling Halton's wastes, a consultant's report has concluded.

Other methods, like incinerating a large part of it, or at least turning it into a burnable fuel to provide steam power for large manufacturing plants, should still be considered. However, the report maintains, methods like these in Halton need research and development.

That will take time and, even in the short run, landfilling is the most viable method of disposing garbage, the report says.

With the Burlington landfill site due to close next March, Halton is desperately searching ways of getting rid of the annual 205,116 tons of trash, about 19,000 tons from Halton Hills.

Last Fall, the region hired Toronto's Walker, Wright, Young Associates Ltd. for \$100,000 to carry out an environmental assessment of "Halton's landfill component (in the) solid waste manage-

ment systems."

It is one of several studies which the region has commissioned to look at the problem since 1974 and the landfill issue has cost the region millions of dollars even before a new garbage dump has been built.

Previous studies had narrowed the region's search to Site F, a 248-acre corner of farmland in Milton near the Tremaine-Britannia Roads intersection. Halton had hoped to carry out a "site specific" environmental analysis on Site F alone; but prior to the February, 1981 provincial election, the environment ministry ordered Halton to review its landfill needs under the broad terms of the Environment Assessment Act.

This meant that the region had to thoroughly look at all the waste disposal options available including landfilling at other sites.

Presented to a public meeting at regional headquarters last Thursday night (April 14), the study argues that a landfill site in Milton would be the cheapest way Halton could dispose of its trash. If trash were eventually

dumped at Site F, it would cost between \$11.70 and \$17.87 per ton. A site in northeast Milton also provides a reasonably cheap alternative of between \$12.34 to \$18.68 per ton.

Of the five landfill site options, including Halton's only operating dump in Burlington, a site in the Ashgrove area ranked third in providing the region with an inexpensive place to dump waste.

Disposing waste near the tiny rural cluster on Trafalgar Road would cost the region between \$13.55 and \$20.18 per ton. (Since Halton's Oakville dump closed in December, Halton Hills has been taking its trash to a "transfer station" on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown. Here, garbage is compacted and trucked by a private firm to the dump in Burlington.)

Throughout the study, consultants were careful to stress that garbage dumps mentioned were hypothetical ones and not the recommended choices.

Unless there are more technical advances in waste disposal, landfilling may always be part of

Halton's solid waste management responsibilities. The report noted that even if the region were to have its wastes burned, some unburnable material and ash would have to be buried.

RESIDENTS' CHOICE

The reports suggests that what the region does with its garbage over the next 20 years will be determined by the residents who live here.

While the consultants note that many people want to get away from landfilling as much as possible, they wonder whether residents willing to pay more for alternatives like burning it, hauling it to out-of-region sites or adopting thorough but slightly "inconvenient" methods of separating bottles, cans and newspapers for recycling.

MARKET DEMAND

Separating reusable items in trash or burning trash in large incinerators rely on markets to work, the study says.

Landfilling, the consultants maintain, is a proven way of handling trash since it was endorsed by the province about 20 years ago and it isn't subject to highs and lows in the market for garbage.

The review of Halton's landfill needs continues. Halton is hoping to have a solution to its waste disposal woes by the end of the year.



GLT THRILLER OPENS TONIGHT

Cast and crew members of Georgetown Little Theatre's production of "Deathtrap" are tying up loose ends in preparation for opening night Friday. Checking props are (clockwise from left) producer Dorothy Hunt, assistant producer Edie Behle, Jill Evans (cast as Myra Bruhl) and Mary Goebel (Helga Ten Dorp). The performance begins at 8 p.m.

(Herald photo)

CREATIVE!



Although it was Stacie Hodgson's first time taking part in a poster contest, she managed to win the first prize last Friday. Her poster in honor of volunteer firefighters won her a calculator and a visit from Georgetown volunteer bureau co-ordinator Carol Clark. The 12-year old Centennial Public School pupils poste was up all week for Volunteer Week.

Crawford Lake Heritage Festival

A chance to hike with Bateman

If, over the next few weeks, someone tells you to take a hike — don't interpret it as an insult! They might be asking you to buy a ticket to the first Crawford Lake Heritage Festival.

The \$3 admission ticket will also serve as a lottery ticket with the families of five lucky ticket holders all winning a nature hike along the Niagara Escarpment, with internationally renowned artist Bob Bateman and his wife, Birgit as the guides.

The winning tickets will be drawn during the Heritage Festival at the lake — at Guelph Line and Steeles Avenue, on Sunday, May 29, 1983. The hike will actually take place in late September, and will end at the Bateman's house and studio in rural north Burlington.

Other prizes to be awarded during the lottery include: a framed limited edition print of Bateman's "Kingfisher in Winter"; and an original acrylic painting of Crawford Lake by Burlington artist Leigh Cockburn.

Tickets are on sale at a number of business outlets across Halton. All proceeds from the project go toward the \$700,000 Crawford Lake Indian Village and Conservation Centre fundraising campaign.

Other Festival events include: live entertainment all day, native artisans and craftsmen at work; art exhibits, archeology display, exhibits from the Royal Ontario Museum, walks along the elevated boardwalk. Refreshments will be available during the day.

TICKET LOCATION
Halton Hills: Niagara Escarpment Commission

232 Guelph St., Georgetown.

Red is Best at Oxbow Books

The author of "Red Is Best" will be reading from her newest book for toddlers "Big or Little" May 7 at 10:30 a.m. at Georgetown's Oxbow Books. Kathy Stinson will autograph her books as well. Everybody's welcome, especially the little ones.

On probation

An Acton man was put on 12 months probation for the careless use of a firearm and found not guilty of a criminal negligence charge.

Larry Vernon Ivory, 28, was sentenced in Milton provincial court Wednesday in connection with an incident Dec. 14 in Acton.

Marie Elizabeth Ivory, 3, had been struck in the chest by a pellet from a 22-calibre pellet pistol and was rushed to Toronto's Sick Children's Hospital.