

# Outlook on Halton Hills

## Mandatory restrictions in effect on water use

Halton residents are now on mandatory water use restrictions. Halton's Commissioner of Public Works, Robert Moore, said July 6 that "the situation with the water supply is becoming very severe."

The Region has been asking residents to restrict their water use on lawns voluntarily for the past two weeks but now those who don't could face a fine of up to \$1,000.

It's becoming increasingly difficult to keep water levels in Halton's reservoirs at 40 per cent of capacity and any lower levels would endanger firefighting capabilities in case of a major fire, said Mr. Moore.

"We are now anticipating severe problems."

Residents are being told to abide by the odd-even number watering system. Those who don't, will face a warn-

ing on the first offence and a fine if they are caught a second time.

Residents with even street numbers can water their lawns on even-numbered calendar days and those with odd street numbers can water their lawns on odd-numbered calendar days.

The restrictions also include commercial and industrial buildings, said Mr. Moore.

The Commissioner said water supplies in Milton and Halton Hills are satisfactory but Oakville is having difficulty keeping reserves high enough to ensure safe firefighting capabilities, he said.

"We can't keep the reservoir (levels) where we want them."

Mr. Moore cited Acton residents as the best conservers of water because they "are acclimatized to

severe conditions." Acton residents are "behaving very well," he said.

Halton is also asking municipalities to curb their water use. Municipalities "are only to use water in emergency situations," said Halton's Manager of Water Plant Operations Vince Suffoletta.

That means municipalities won't be watering grass or flushing streets, he said.

Mr. Suffoletta said about two days of rain for about four to five hours a day is needed to bring the situation back to normal.

Environment Canada says there is about a 50 per cent chance of rain on Sunday.

But even that may not be enough. "A had downpour that lasts about 20 minutes really doesn't do anything for us because most of it runs off," said Mr. Suffoletta.

## Car costs rise again

For the second year in a row, the cost of owning and operating a car in Canada has risen at a rate virtually double that of inflation. This according to the 2.6 million member CAA, which has just released its CAA Car Cost 1988-89 brochure at its 74th Annual Meeting hosted in Hamilton, by the Hamilton Automobile Club.

The CAA report is based on computations made by Runzheimer Canada Inc. of Toronto, Ontario. Runzheimer is an international management consultant firm specializing in the cost of living, including transportation costs.

CAA Car Cost for 88-89 are based on a 1988 Ford Tempo GL with a 2.3 litre, 4 cylinder engine. The four door sedan is equipped with standard and optional accessories including AM-FM stereo, automatic transmission, power steering, power disc brakes, rear window defogger, an engine block heater and heavy duty battery.

Both operating and ownership costs are included in the calculations. Operating costs are directly related to the number of kilometers driven. They include gas and oil, 5.27 cents per kilometer, maintenance, 1.36 cents per kilometer, and tires, .60 cents per kilometer totalling 7.15 cents per kilometer.

Ownership costs include such items as insurance (\$100 deductible comprehensive, \$250 deductible collision, \$500,000 inclusive third party liability) \$690 per year; snow tires, \$61 per year; license and registration, \$k79 per year; depreciation, \$2,322 per year and finance charges \$742 per year. Totalling \$3,884 per year, or \$10.64 per day, ownership costs generally are not significantly affected by the number of miles driven.

Car Costs data reveals increases in gasoline taxes, and auto maintenance and insurance fees are major contributors to the rising costs. This year, car costs increased from 6.6 cents/km to 6.6 cents/km. Statistics Canada figures reveal the consumer price index rose by 4.4 per

cent and 4.1 per cent in 1987 and 1986 respectively.

Calculations are made for annual driving distances of 18,000, 24,000 and 32,000 kilometers with gasoline priced at a national average of 51.0 cents per liter. In addition, operating costs and ownership costs are provided in the brochure on a national basis complete with a ranking of provinces according to high to low cost. The average per kilometer cost is determined by combining operating and ownership costs.

## Beavers in the swim



A swim-up to cubs was held recently at St. George's Anglican Church for members of the 2nd Georgetown Beavers. Front row, from left, Ben Redman, David Zenl, Matthew McMullen, Christopher Baker, Ken Thompson,

and Cameron Finnis. Second row, Matthew McCarthy, David Rae Jubenville, and Michael Zammil. Third row, Leaders Dave Dubrevil, Lynn Pegg, and Laverne Brown.

## Calls increase

The Canadian Automobile Association reported that it responded to over two million emergency road service calls from members in 1987 in Canada. This represents a 10.5 per cent increase from the number of calls CAA responded to the previous year. In all of North America, CAA/AAA reported that 21.5 million emergency road service calls were responded to in 1987.

CAA released the data on its emergency road service operations to the more than 300 delegates and club officials attending the motoring federation's 74th Annual Meeting

## Chamber tourney

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf tournament at the North Halton Golf and Country Club on Monday, July 18.

Cost per golfer is \$60, which includes dinner at the club. Anyone is invited to enter.

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