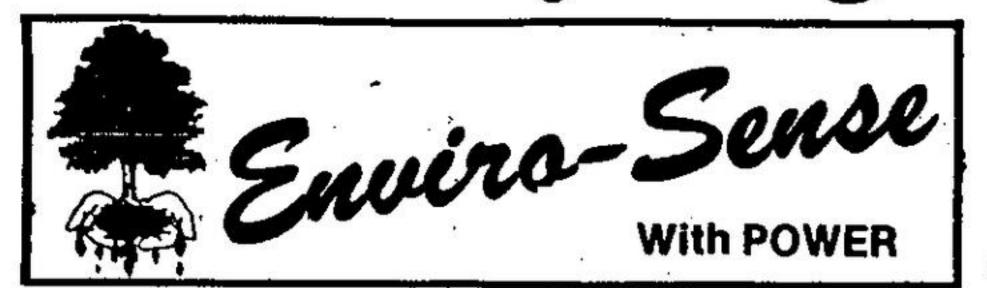
## Reuse beats Recycling

By BARBARA HALSALL Reuse Beats Recycling

How times have changed. The 3R's used to stand for reading, writing and reckoning. Now they stand for Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. It is no accident that Reduce and Reuse come ahead of Recycle. This order is intentional. While recycling is important and gets far more media exposure, reduction is the best option and reuse is the second best with recycling coming in only third.

Clothing should never be thrown out. Things that have been outgrown can be passed on to friends or neighbours. Items that are nearly new can be sold at Penniesworth in Georgetown. The Salvation Army is always glad to accept donations and some churches collect clothes for needy people or hold rummage sales.

Garage sales are a great way to keep many things from going to disposal. "One man's junk is another man's treasure." It is a tremendous waste of our scarce



resources to throw out anything that could be used by someone else. Very often only a small amount of repair will give an item new life.

The University Women's Club-Book Sale, taking place later this month, connects used books with new owners. When that sale is over P.O.W.E.R. will pick up the books that have not found a home and they will be on sale at P.O.W.E.R.'s Giant Garage Sale on Saturday, April 27th from 9 until 4

Yes, P.O.W.E.R. is still raising money to fight the dump proposed for the Acton Quarry We feel very good about fund raising through a garage sale because so many things will be reused as a

result. Anyone who does not want the bother of holding their own garage sale can call P.O.W.E.R. for a pick up (853-1328 Ruth) or drop off the donation on Friday night, April 26th after 5 p.m. at the town works yard on Trafalgar Road in Georgetown.

Schools are looking at how to reduce lunch garbage by encouraging students to bring containers that can be reused such as thermos bottles and lunch boxes.

Reuse plastic shopping bags or carry your own canvas bag to be reused a thousand times. Remember to question the one time use of anything. Reuse is better. You can make a -difference.

## Blue box program to expand

By BEN DUMMETT The Herald

A Halton Regional pilot program to expand the blue box program in order to divert more garbage from the waste stream will likely get the go-ahead to start up this June.

Regional Planning and Public Works Committee recommended the year-long \$600,000 program start this June involving 650 residents in Joshua Creek Community of Oakville. If the pilot projects proves successful, it would be expanded Region wide, the report states. The Region's share of the \$600,000 cost is \$109,000. The province pays the remaining amount.

The pilot project calls for the residents to separate more of their garbage at source than is currently required through the recognized blue box programs. The residents will continue to put material such as bottles, cans, newspapers in a blue box like container. However they will also be required to deposit waste such

as grass clippings and leaves in clear plastic bags.

These bags will be collected and transported to a compost site in Oakville and converted into soil nutrients for agriculture.

Material not suitable for the blue box or the plastic bags will constitute garbage.

Management John Mackay, told committee Wednesday the project will determine if an expanded blue box program can divert more potential waste from the waste stream. Alternative methods must be found if Halton is to meet the provincial requirement that all municipalities divert 50 per cent of their waste from dumps by the year 2000.

If the pilot project proves successful, it will be expanded Region wide, he said.

The compostible element of the project is only centred on garden waste because this is the best material to convert into compost. High quality compost must be developed in order to determine if markets for the material can be found, said Mr. Mackay.

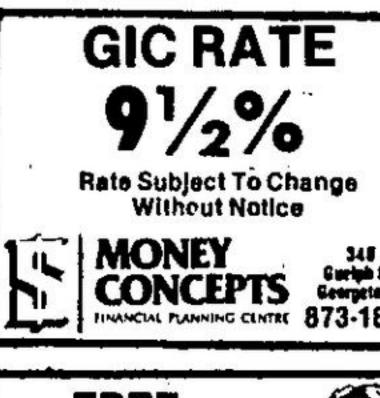
It's his hope that the material can be of such high quality that the Region will be able to sell the compost material to Halton's farming community. At the very least, the material must be good enough that the farming community would be willing to accept the material free of charge, Mr. Mackay explained.

Mr. Mackay told committee, depending on the quality of the compost, the potential exists to collect other wet materials such as kitchen vegetable waste along with garden waste if the project is expanded throughout the Region.

He said expansion will require the Region to build a larger and more technically advanced compost facility under the scenario.

Oakville Regional Councillor Janet Mitchell, although supportive of the project, said she would have preferred that the collection of kitchen waste be included in the pilot project.

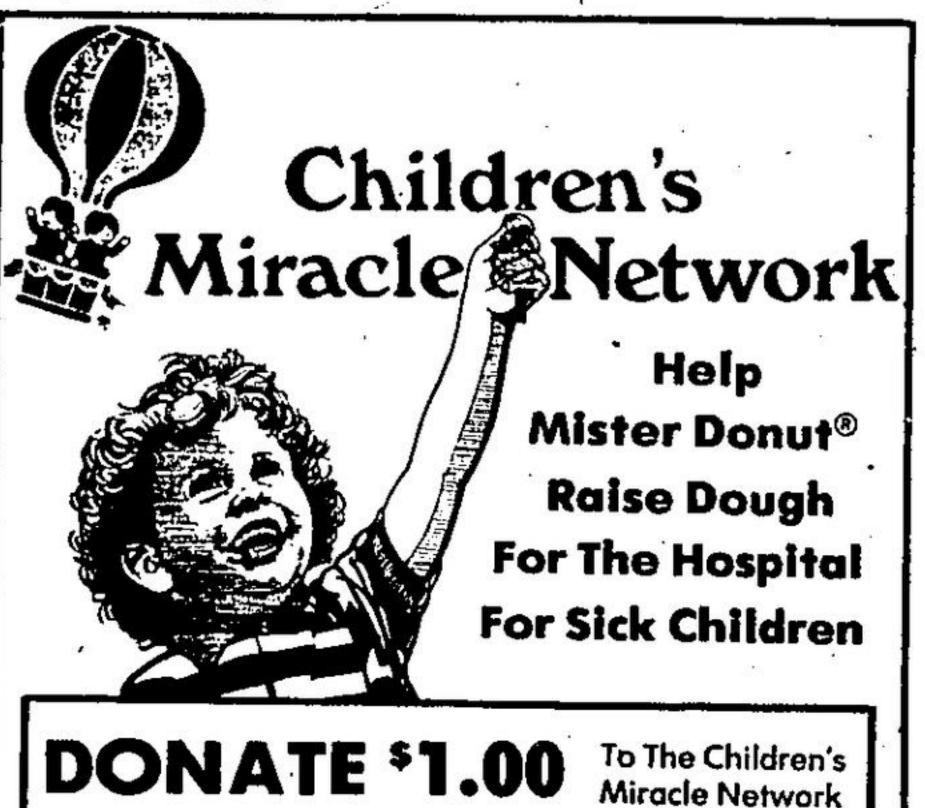
Halton Regional Council will vote on committee's recommendation this Wednesday.





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