



LET'S THINK ABOUT TOMORROW.

P.O.W.E.R. plans special recognition of Earth Day

By BARBARA HALSALL
Take Action On
Global Warming

P.O.W.E.R. has arranged for a 15% discount off the price of any shade tree when you clip the ad in this paper and bring it in the next two weeks to Tuitman's Nursery on Highway 25. This is our way to recognize Earth Day, April 22nd and encourage all citizens to take action. Remember, "Think globally, act locally."

One of the first columns I wrote was on the importance of trees. Recently distressed citizens in Georgetown have seen a number of large trees taken down on Charles Stret. Trees that are dying must be replaced. We can hardly profess concern for the Amazon rainforest and not do our part here by planting a tree.

Global warming is a human-made problem created by our increasing emissions of greenhouse gases which include CO₂, Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's), methane, nitrous oxides, and ground-level ozone (smog). Scientists attribute approximately 55 per cent of the warming effect to the CO₂ which spews from our cars, our industries and our coal-powered stations that generate electricity.

According to Pollution Probe the ecological damages that could result from global warming have been compared to those of a



nuclear war. Scientists have warned that a global warming future could result in coastal flooding, species extinction, drought, damage to forests and erratic weather patterns. Such impacts could, in turn, cause the migration of millions of people, starvation, reduced agricultural output and the spread of diseases in many regions throughout the world.

In 1988, a conference on global warming, attended by scientists, policy-makers and environmentalists from around the world, was held in Toronto. The conference participants endorsed the "Toronto target," an initial goal to cut 1988 levels of CO₂ emissions by 20 per cent by the year 2005. Scientists now say that the 20 per cent goal is only a first step and that at least a 60 per cent cut will be needed.

Adopting a more energy efficient future is both good for the

environment and cost effective for consumers. Energy efficiency opens up several opportunities for developing industrial bases for new energy efficient technologies in Canada.

Action: 1) Reduce your energy consumption. 2) Write to Premier Bob Rae and urge that Ontario adopt the "Toronto target" a 20 per cent cut in 1988 levels of carbon dioxide emissions by the year 2005 - to begin the fight to stop global warming. 3) Plant your first tree to celebrate Earth Day and let that be the first of many that you plant. Trees remove CO₂ and pollutants from the air. It is a bit of a back end solution but with a problem of this magnitude we must attack from all sides.

Events: Mayfield School on the corner of the 17th Sideroad and Bramalea Road, is holding an Environmental Fair on Thursday, April 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome.

P.O.W.E.R.'s Giant Garage Sale is next Saturday, April 27th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Public Works Yard on Trafalgar Road north of Maple. Donate your castaways

and shop for bargains to help P.O.W.E.R. stop the dump. For pickup call 853-1328 (Ruth) or 877-7745 (Donna). See you there. You can make a difference!

THINK GLOBALLY - ACT LOCALLY

IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY, APRIL 22nd

PLANT A TREE!

P.O.W.E.R. has arranged a Special Discount - Receive 15% off any Shade Tree
APRIL 22nd - MAY 5th

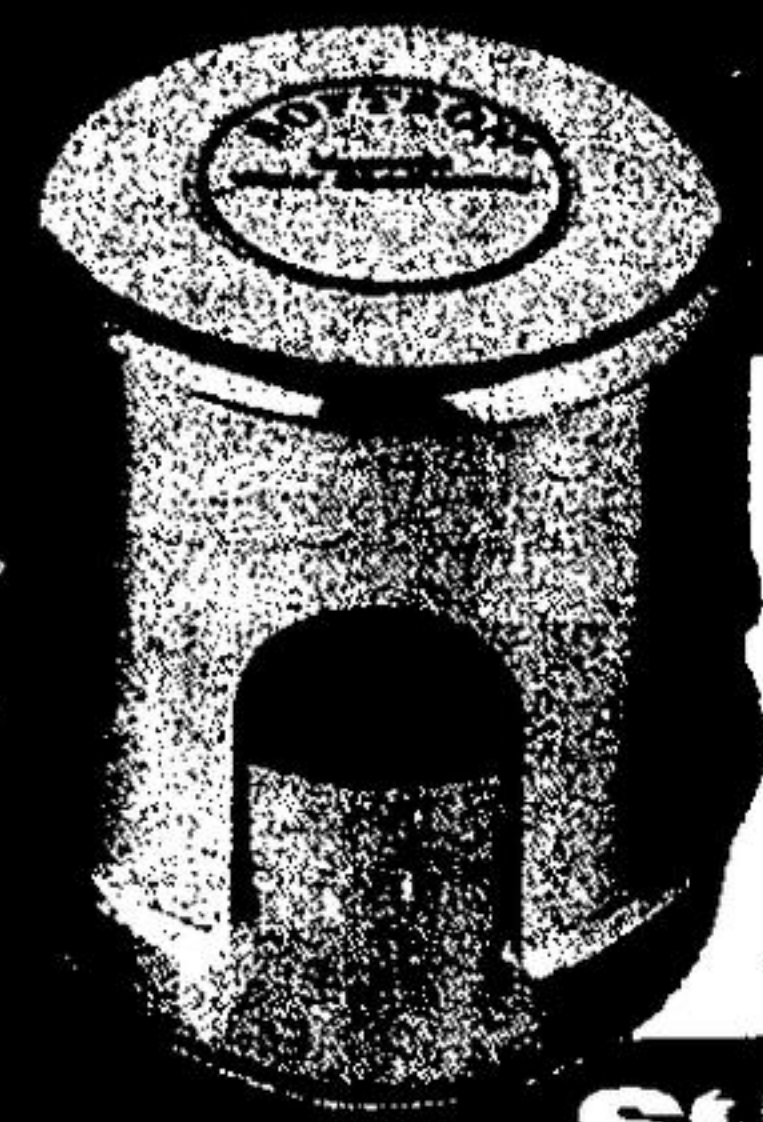
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Environment protection research

Piles of scrap tires, wood waste, or plastic containers are by now familiar examples of our problems with getting rid of waste. One of the key solutions is recycling - but into what? The answer is, ideally, into items such as car dashboards, "plastic" lumber, or even furniture frames - items that we already use in our everyday lives. But now the question becomes - how? A one day workshop, sponsored by the Ontario Centre for Materials Research, recently tried to answer that question. Specifically, the workshop looked at new ways of processing mixtures of wood, paper and plastic scrap into value-added composite materials.

The Honorable Ruth Grier,

Minister of the Environment, spoke to the group, commenting that "...one of the areas of greatest need is research that will lead to solutions to the environmental problems that we have created for ourselves in this century." The minister added "Research leading to new and useful materials made from paper, plastic and wood waste has enormous potential for making a major contribution to both our environment and our economy." Workshop participants agreed. Presentations were by university researchers and by speakers from the plastics and forest products industries.

Each industry has, so far, been attempting to deal with its own waste. For example, plastic pop bottles collected in Blue Boxes go

into making fibres for carpets. Building lumber scrap can now be used for agricultural products such as mulch or animal bedding. The workshop heard of new research into combining parts of these waste streams into wood/plastic composites. The work is at an early stage, but has already shown promise for items as complex and widely used as car door panels. With further work, it is hoped that our current waste streams will become the raw materials for a much wider range of common products in the future.

The Ontario Centre for Materials Research is supported by the Ontario Technology Fund. For further information please contact Tony Redpath, OCMR, (416)978-4314.



Environmentally conscious store

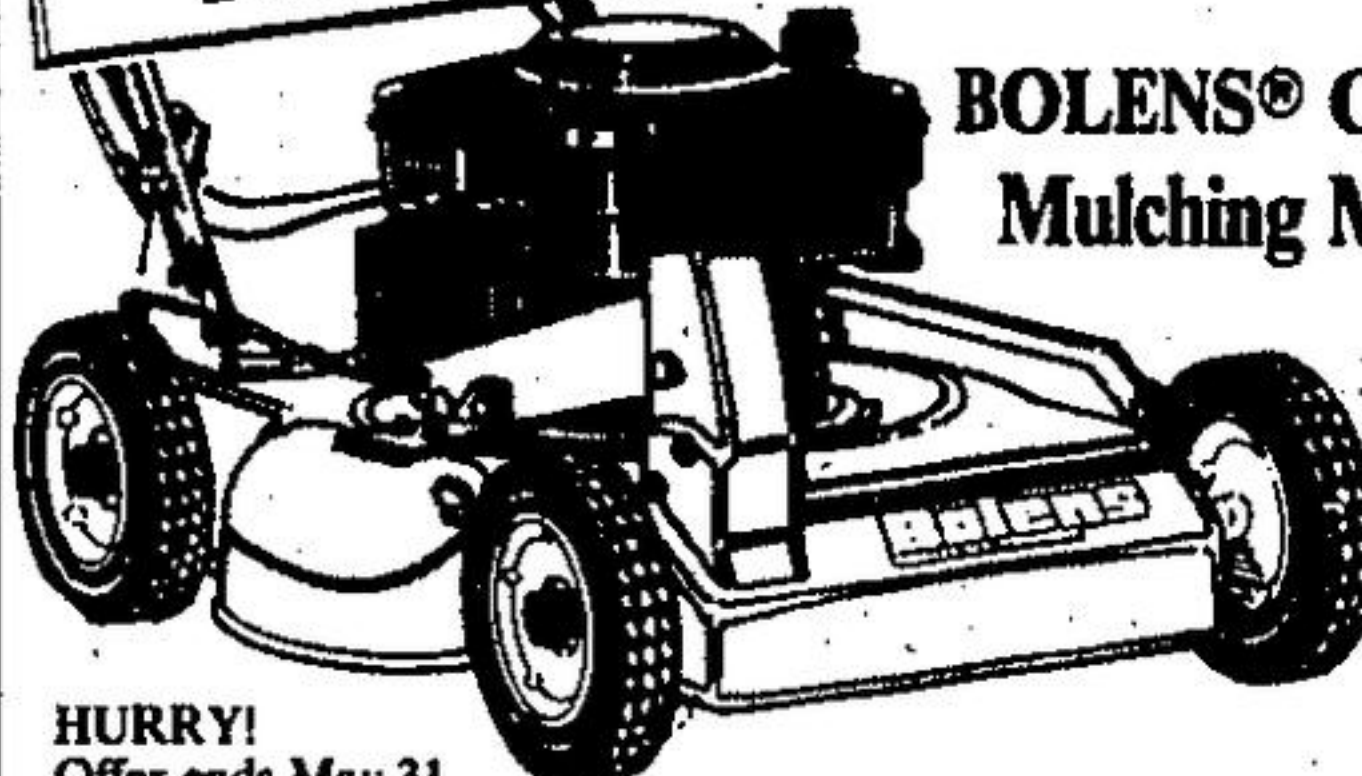
Kari and Doris Hentschel are two of the seven owners behind the new Acton business in Acton, Modern Concepts, The Store. The business, which is located at 75 Main Street, caters to those interested in making their home or office more environmentally efficient. The store will have its official opening

May 4 starting at 12:30 p.m. During the proceedings Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller will award prizes to the winners of the store's coloring contest for Acton school children. All drawings must be based on the Earth Day theme. (Herald photo)

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