

Council Briefs

Poor construction practices polluting Credit River

Municipalities bordering the Credit River must improve their own construction practices, as well as the practices of private companies operating in their municipalities, Credit Valley Conservation Authority General Manager Vicki Barron told Halton Hills Council Monday.

Poor construction practices, especially with respect to land stripping by municipalities including Halton Hills, is the cause behind a major Credit River pollutant - sediment. Sediment is comprised of soil particles from land stripped during the construction process, said Ms. Barron. Upon entering the Credit as runoff the particles can destroy spawning areas for fish. Soil particles can also destroy sources of food for fish, said Ms. Barron.

The current sediment level is too high in the Credit and as a result, the authority is conducting a water-quality study to find solutions on how sediment levels can be reduced.

Ms. Barron stated the first step is for the Town and other municipalities to review the Town's construction practices along the river.

The Town should also review its municipal bylaws governing land stripping to determine if the bylaws can be tightened, she said.

For its part, the CVCA will be

meeting with the development community to provide education about the problems sediment can cause to the Credit, as well as, what the developers and contractors can do to ensure the pollutant is prevented from entering the river.

Extension okayed

Halton Hills Council Monday granted Relisco Holding Limited an eight-month extension to its water allocation permit.

Council made its decision after company representative Susan Rogers explained to council that the 106-unit development for Moore Park area has been held back by Halton Region. Before the company could indicate to the Town when construction would begin, Relisco had to determine with the Region, the development company's share in financing Regional well-water projects for Georgetown, said Ms. Rogers. An agreement will soon be settled, said Ms. Rogers.

Councillors thanked

Local Environmentalist Diane van de Valk thanked Town councillors Monday for lending their support to the Wastewise project. Wastewise is a recycling operation on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown.

It was because of council's support for the project said Ms. van de Valk that she was able to ob-

tain provincial and federal grant money to make the project a reality.

The operation opened April 10. Ms. van de Valk singled out Town Engineering staff members Bob Austin, Frank Morette and Ted Drewlow whose assistance was invaluable she said.

In response to questions from Councillor Al Cook, Ms. van de Valk said Wastewise is a non-profit group and a registered charity. None of the executive is paid. As the consultant for the project, Ms. van de Valk said she is paid \$50,000 per year.

National Forest Week

Halton Hills Council Monday declared the week of May 5 to May 11 National Forest Week in town.

Report requested

Town council directed staff to write a report on a request by the Halton Public Board of Education to rehabilitate part of Black Creek in Acton. Council asked for the report, because it wants specifics from the board on how the rehabilitation project will affect the creek during and after the work is completed.

Minors and cigarettes

If Town Council has its way, it will be that more difficult for minors to obtain cigarettes in the future. Council directed staff to review bylaws and if possible strengthen them to ensure this result.

Composters coming

The Town of Halton Hills is once again offering composters to the community.

When the Town made a similar offer late last year all 500 ordered were gone within two weeks of the offering being advertised, said Town Refuse Reduction Coordinator Paul Sargent. A composter converts garden and vegetable waste into fertilizer.

This time around, the Town is offering 1,000 composters at a cost of \$16 per composter. This figure represents one third of the cost of the composter. Two-thirds is being paid by the province, said Mr. Sargent.

People wanting a composter should look for an application form in today's (Wednesday's) edition of the two local newspapers. The composter will be sold on a first come, first serve basis, said Mr. Sargent. Anyone who purchased a composter last year is ineligible to purchase one this year, he said.

Volunteer honored

Hornby man, Frank Chisholm, was honored for this 15 years of volunteer service to the Esquesing Historical Society by the Ministry of Citizenship and the Ministry of Culture and Communications at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton last Sunday.

He was presented with a gold toned trillium shaped lapel pin and a personalized certificate for his service.

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Peek-a-boo

An Open House at the Acton Co-op Nursery on the second floor of M. Z. Bennett Public School Thursday night gave parents an opportunity to see the facilities and allowed children (left to right) Stacey Currie (baby), Heather Currie, Shannon Dyke and Cody Green a chance to play with the nursery's toys. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)