

Quarry concerns

Calling an abandoned pit an aerodrome allowed the owner of a former quarry to sidestep municipal fill rules, prompting members of the Greater Toronto Countryside Mayors' Alliance (GTCMA) to ask the federal and provincial governments to clarify who has the authority to regulate dumping of commercial fill in mined-out pits and quarries.

The issue arose when the owner of an abandoned pit in the Scugog area applied for a fill permit, and when the municipality raised concerns about what was being dumped in it, was

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told its bylaws did not apply because the depleted pit was an aerodrome (small air field or airport) and federal aviation regulations took precedence.

At the inaugural meeting of the GTCMA on Friday, Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette said without access and the authority to monitor such operations, local officials can't be sure what is in the commercial fill.

"There are jurisdictional issues here, and we must get clear-cut direction

from our federal partners to protect to the health of our communities," Bonnette said in a press release.

The GTCMA expects fill operations to increase as the economy recovers, and there's a growing concern among members about protecting ground water sources from fill being dumped into abandoned pits that have been quarried below the water table.

Mayor Bonnette was

acclaimed as vice-chair of the GTCMA at its recent meeting. The group, formed in 2004, monitors federal and provincial initiatives and provides research and analysis to enhance local government in the northern rural communities in the GTA.

"The GTCMA has made important inroads with federal and provincial decision-makers since its inception," Bonnette said, adding that as an association of communities, it shares experiences and insights while offering upper-tier partners practical solutions to its unique challenges.



FAIR HONOURED: For continuing the 97-year tradition of staging a successful Acton Fall Fair, members of the Acton Agricultural Society were honoured with Arts Alive Awards at a ceremony on Friday at the Acton Town Hall Centre. Fair Board president John Miller (left) accepted the plaque from Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette.

— Ron Stiel photo



The Regional Municipality of Halton www.halton.ca

Bulk Waste Collection

- Check your 2011 Waste Management Guide & Collection Calendar to determine which day bulk waste is collected in your area.
- There is a three (3) item limit per scheduled bulk collection day. Additional items will not be collected.
- If an item can fit into a garbage bag or can, it is not bulk waste. Put these items inside a garbage bag or can, and place out for pick up on your regular garbage collection day. Do not exceed the regular six (6) bag/can garbage limit.
- Do not pile items on top of one another. Remove all nails and staples.
- All flooring and wood must be bundled, and be no larger than 0.6 m x 1.2 m (2 ft x 4 ft).
- Ensure only the items you want collected are at the curb. Personal items left at the curb may be mistakenly collected by the collection truck or scavenged by other residents.
- Items collected for bulk are disposed of in the landfill. Consider giving items in good condition to a reuse centre. Visit www.halton.ca/waste for a list of reuse centres.



Upcoming Bulk Waste Collection Dates for Halton Hills

Collection Area 3	Wednesday, February 9
Collection Area 4	Wednesday, February 2
Collection Area 5	Wednesday, February 16

- Three (3) items maximum per collection.
- Items must be too big to fit in a garbage bag/can.
- One bundle of flooring or wood is equal to one item.



Acceptable Bulk Waste Materials (3 items maximum)

Large household item that is over 23 kg (50 lbs) and/or that will not fit into a closed garbage bag or container:

- ✓ Furniture (couches, chairs, tables, mattresses, etc.)
- ✓ Flooring (carpets, under padding, linoleum, etc.), bundled in maximum 1.2 m x 0.6 m (4 ft x 2 ft) lengths (one bundle equals one bulk item)
- ✓ Toilets
- ✓ Windows and mirrors (to avoid glass shattering, place tape across in an "X" pattern)
- ✓ Wood (fencing, picnic tables, shelving, skids, doors, etc.), dismantled and bundled no larger than 0.6 m x 1.2 m (2 ft x 4 ft) (one bundle equals one bulk item) – please remove nails



Unacceptable Bulk Waste Materials

- ✗ Metal and Appliances (Visit www.halton.ca/wastetools to schedule collection)
- ✗ Automobile parts, including vehicle seats
- ✗ Building, construction, demolition and renovation debris
- ✗ Cardboard boxes
- ✗ Concrete and bricks
- ✗ Electronics (Visit www.recycleyourelectronics.ca for drop off locations)
- ✗ Household Hazardous Waste (Visit www.makethedrop.ca for drop off locations)
- ✗ Mixed waste piles
- ✗ Propane tanks
- ✗ Soil and rocks
- ✗ Tires (Visit www.ontariots.ca for drop off locations)
- ✗ Tree branches and stumps

Please let us know as soon as possible if you will have an accessibility or accommodation need at a Halton Region hosted event or meeting.
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