

More Blue and Green for a Better Planet



by Regional Chair Gary Carr

More Online Waste Tools

New Waste **Customer Service Request** tools have been added to Halton Region's website to allow residents to notify Halton staff of potentially missed yard waste and bulk waste collection, and to book a date for metal and appliance collection.

These new tools complement several existing online tools created in 2010 that include being able to report potentially missed garbage, Blue Box and GreenCart collection, exchange broken Blue Boxes and GreenCarts, and to order items such as Yard Waste labels and Waste Management Calendars. All of these tools can be found online by visiting www.halton.ca/wastetools.

Electronics – Do your part to recycle!



Do you have an old computer sitting in the basement? What about an old record player or VCR? Electronic waste is becoming a major issue in the world because we have so much of it. In Canada for example, the average computer lasts only two years before a new one is purchased.

Electronics contain recyclable materials such as steel, glass, copper, aluminum, plastic and lead and should not be placed in the garbage. In Halton, electronics are not collected with garbage or bulk waste.

Halton Region has been recycling electronics at the Halton Waste Management Site since 2000. The Region has always had a commitment to ensure our electronic waste is recycled within North America, complying with environmental and health and safety standards.

In 2008, a province-wide program was established to make electronic waste recycling even more accessible to all Ontarians. The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) program is operated by Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) which helps keep old computers, televisions and other electronics out of landfill.

The first priority of the WEEE program is to promote the 3Rs—reduce, reuse and recycle. Residents and businesses are encouraged to take electronics that are still useful to reuse and refurbishment organizations. Electronics at the end of their useful life are directed to recycling facilities that

are required to meet strict environmental, health and safety standards. OES approves collectors, haulers and processors to ensure materials are safely recycled within North America.

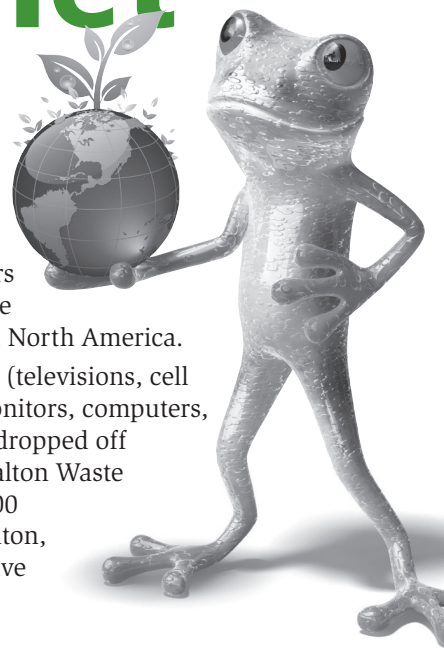
Unwanted electronics (televisions, cell phones, computer monitors, computers, printers, etc.) can be dropped off for recycling at the Halton Waste Management Site, 5400 Regional Road 25, Milton, for no charge (up to five items per trip).

Some retailers and community organizations also accept electronic waste for recycling as part of the WEEE program. **Before dropping off electronic waste at these OES-approved collection locations, please visit www.recycleyourelectronics.ca for a list of their acceptable electronic waste materials.**

Bulk Item Collection – three item limit, no electronics

Throughout the month of February, many residents will have had their first bulk waste collection date for 2011. Bulk waste is considered a large household item that is over 23 kg (50 lbs) or that will not fit into a closed garbage bag or container (i.e. furniture, wood, flooring). Please remember there is a **three item limit** per scheduled bulk collection day.

Bulk waste collection takes place in all urban and rural areas, excluding Halton Hills Collection Areas 1 and 2. **Please note:** bulk waste is suspended for one collection cycle in May. Metal and appliances are not accepted as bulk waste but are collected by booking an appointment that can be made by dialing 311 or 905-825-6000 or toll free 1-866-4HALTON or by visiting www.halton.ca/wastetools.



Did you know?

- The Halton Waste Management Site collects wooden hockey sticks and skis! These materials are reused becoming furniture such as coat stands and coffee tables. Standard fees apply. Visit www.halton.ca/waste for more information.
- Reusable and disposable household batteries can be dropped off for recycling at most community centres and City or Town Halls in Halton. In 2010, 10,347 kg of single-use batteries were collected at these sites. Visit www.halton.ca/takeitback for a list of drop off locations.
- There are currently 102 publicly-funded elementary and secondary schools using the GreenCart program in Halton. Halton Region is the first municipality in Ontario to have so many schools participating in the program.
- Compostable plastic cups, plates and cutlery are not accepted in Halton's GreenCart program. These products do not compost properly in the organics processing facility and should be placed in the garbage. The best option is to simply use reusable items, which leave no waste.

Halton Region Meeting Schedule

- Feb. 8, 9:30 a.m.** Health & Social Services Cte
 - Feb. 9, 9:30 a.m.** Planning & Public Works Cte
 - Feb. 9, 1:30 p.m.** Administration & Finance Cte
 - Feb. 16, 9:30 a.m.** Regional Council
 - Feb. 21** Offices closed for Family Day
- Meetings can be viewed at www.halton.ca.

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.

This page has been donated by this newspaper to communicate important information to Halton residents at no cost to taxpayers.