

CVCA seeks assistance in controlling sediment

By Staff
A general observation presented at the provincial council was that sediment control is the second phase of the CVCA's Credit River Water Management Strategy, the purpose of which is to improve all aspects of the water system, from swimming to fishing to overall aesthetics.

Barron stressed that legislation exists that puts the onus of controlling sediment on the developer, but

it is "weak and reactive," and enforcement is difficult.

"We're asking the Town review its construction practises — we must all lead by example," Barron said. "We must control sediment on site, and not have it go naturally downhill and through the watercourse. We are looking at different techniques to do that."

Sediment is caused by runoff from development, agriculture and stormwater. It clogs the waterways with pollutants which inhibit wildlife habitats.

Unfortunately, the CVCA doesn't have the authority to regulate the control standards on its own, so co-ordination with the Town and higher levels of government is very important, Barron added. "Collectively, we should

have enough resources to enforce it...and sort out a better system of penalties (so) we'll have a heavy stick when we need it," she said.

Barron noted in her written report to council that sediment problems "are dealt with on a site-specific basis, often after the damage is done."

Fines for these offenses can reach a maximum of \$1,000, but "there is no stop work order or restitution provisions," the report added.

Barron suggested Aurora's and Brampton's controlling bylaws maybe a good role model for Halton Hills to use, adding the CVCA "is prepared to assist in any way."

"The Credit is a spectacular natural asset, and we're asking the Town to support our goals," Barron concluded.

NEWS DIGEST

Indecent act

A man who allegedly committed an indecent act followed a woman right into the Halton Regional Police office at 1:15 a.m. Wednesday.

According to the police report the Brampton woman and Georgetown man left a local establishment to go for a drive.

After the man exposed himself the woman stopped the car and kicked him out, but the man jumped back in the passenger seat with his pants down. The woman drove him to the police station, and the accused followed her into the station.

The accused has been charged with committing an indecent act and will appear in court in Milton June 3.

Bylaws to be reviewed

As a result of numerous requests by merchants and business people throughout Halton Hills, Town staff are reviewing its two bylaws which restrict and/or regulate signs on municipal and private properties. Two recent requests by Norval's Club 2000 and the Georgetown Autohaus dealership to keep their advertising signs on Town-owned land were deferred by council until the bylaws are reviewed. Mayor Russ Miller will set up a committee made up of a cross section of business people, staff and others to handle the report.

Halton wins award for recycling efforts

Halton Region's administration centre in Oakville has been called the jolly green giant due to its bright, distinctive paint hue. But this week there was another reason for regional staff and politicians to be jolly and it had to do with thinking green.

Halton took the top prize in the province for its waste management efforts at the Recycling Council of Ontario awards last week. The region was pitted

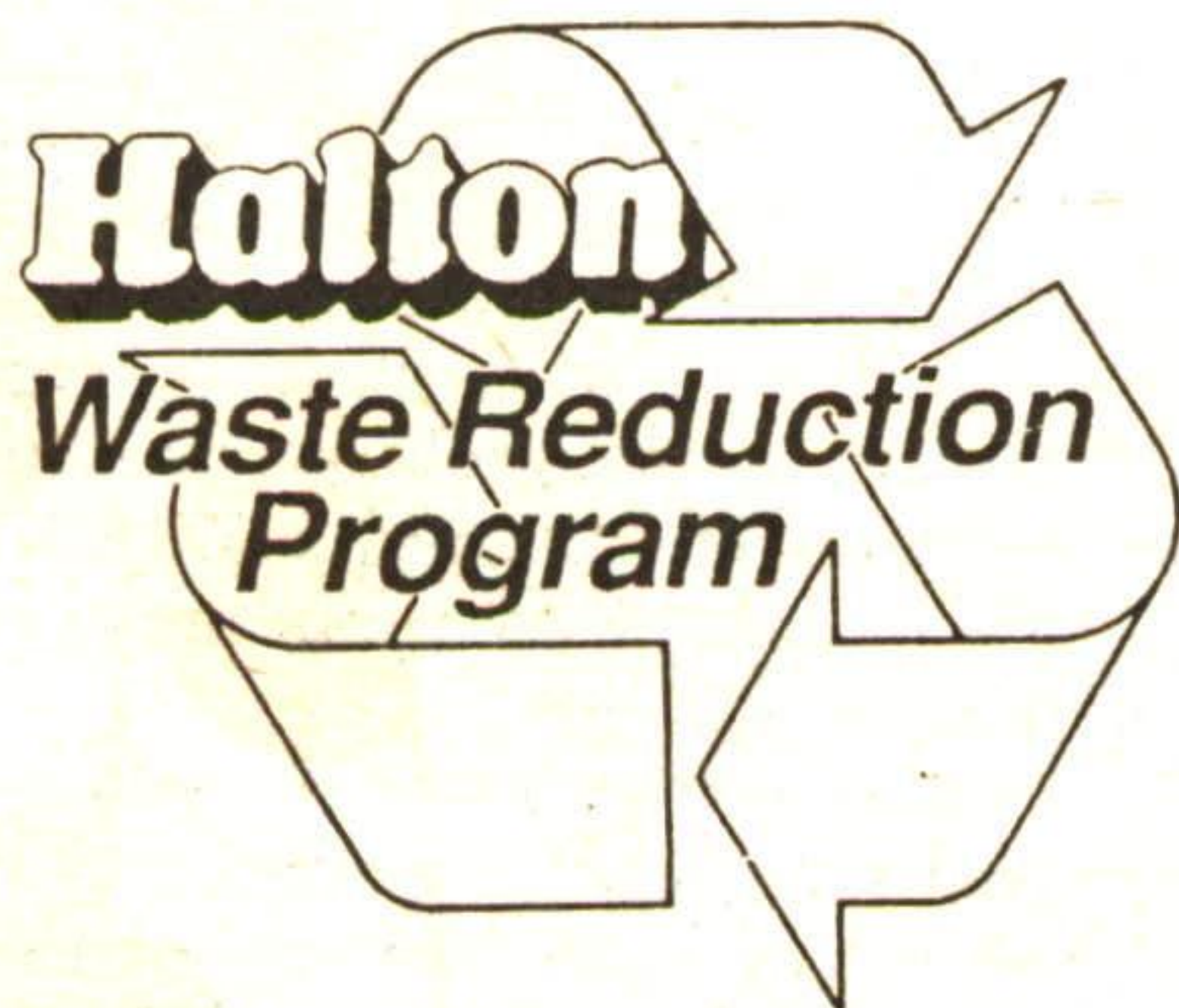
dispose of household hazardous waste such as cleaners and solvents and a mandatory recycling bylaw. The award is "based on all the things we've done since 1985," MacKay said.

"It's quite an honor," he continued, especially in view of the fact there was such "worthy competition." The other finalists in the category were the Town of Markham and Peel Region, both of which have "excellent programs," said MacKay.

The population category Halton competed in covers all municipalities with more than 100,000 people, including major urban centres such as Toronto. With a smile, MacKay compared the recognition with the top Oscar film prize. "It's really the Best Picture of the Year award."

At present Halton diverts 28,000 metric tonnes of garbage from households to its recycling program. That's more than 25 per cent of the residential waste generated. The provincial goal is to stream 50 per cent or more of home garbage into recycling efforts by the year 2000 and "we hope to meet that well in advance of that date," MacKay said.

The Recycling Council of Ontario is a private non-profit group supported by provincial and municipal governments and private industry, MacKay said. The award was given at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto April 18.



against other heavyweights in the competition, that is, centres with populations exceeding 100,000 people.

"We won it based on our total program," said Halton waste management director John MacKay. That program includes an aggressive blue box recycling effort, the creation of depots to

Johnson trashes NDP minister's waste stand

Milton regional councillor Bill Johnson has blasted Ontario environment minister Ruth Grier for being "ill advised, ill informed and unbelievably naive" in her decision to abandon energy from waste (EFW) garbage disposal systems.

Although the handwriting was on the wall for some time, last week the Province announced it would formally abandon EFW as a viable waste management alternative, citing potential damage to the environment through emissions and a fear that EFW would curb recycling.

Mr. Johnson has long been a staunch supporter of EFW, which in essence means garbage would be burned in high-volume incinerators and the heat used for energy. Halton Region was considering the technology a few years ago, but dropped it when EFW fell out of favor with the previous Liberal government at Queen's Park.

Johnson obviously harbored hopes that the new government would breathe life into the abandoned concept, and now that it has turned away from it he isn't about to let the matter drop, he warned in an interview last Thursday.

He said he will attempt to organize a symposium on EFW involving both Halton and neighboring Peel Region, in an attempt to re-open debate on the subject.

Johnson, whose commitment to the ruling New Democratic Party runs so deep he was personally presented with a lifetime membership by Premier Bob Rae in Milton last Friday night, said Grier is getting bad advice from "perennial bloody students."

The Province recently limited Peel, York, Durham and Metro Toronto to inside their own borders as they frantically search for landfill space in which to bury their waste. Given that and the recent EFW announcement, "what are they going to do with it?" Johnson asked.

The stalwart NDP supporter said he has no qualms about going public in opposition to the government because he firmly believes Queen's Park is wrong. And he vowed not to yield on the issue even if pressured to do so by his own political party. "I can take pressure from anybody."

GEORGETOWN



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