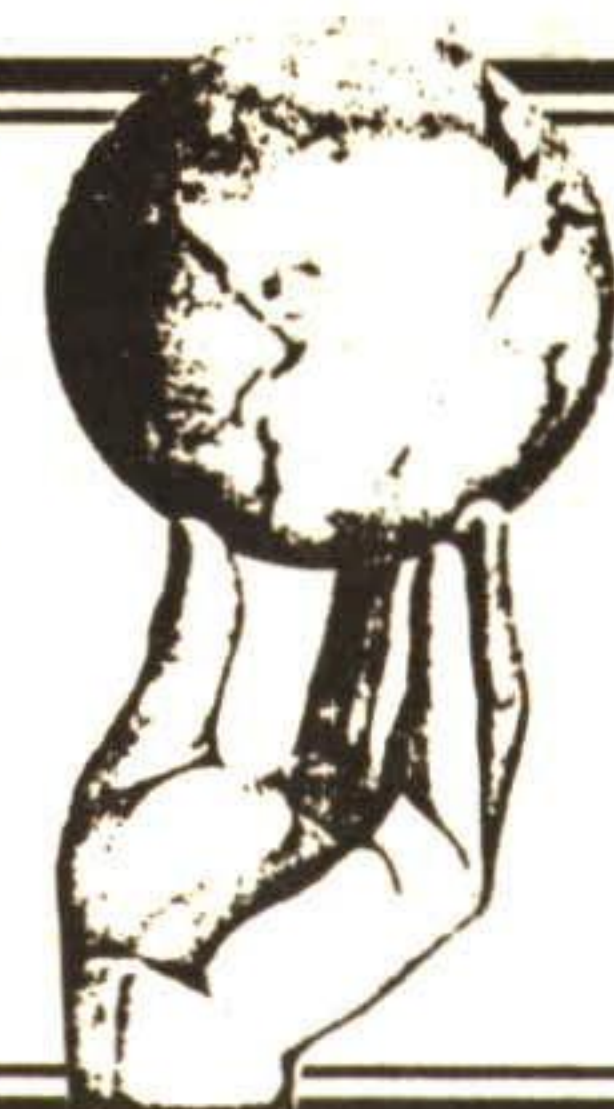


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There was plenty of activity at Silvercreek Conservation Area last weekend as several different groups planted trees for Earth Week. It was a family affair for the Stiehl family. Allen and Iris Stiehl help son Alexander and Randy Benoit of 2nd Georgetown with some of the planting. The boys planted 202 trees each.

BARB STEPHENS /Halton Hills Weekend



Michael Cluney (4th Georgetown), Andrew Durham (1st Limehouse) and John Stapleton (1st Georgetown) were out in force on the weekend planting trees at the corner of the Sixth Line and Maple Ave. Parents joined in and helped plant 5,000 trees in celebration of Earth Week.

Photo by JEAN LAYMAN

## Pitch-In

### Recycling programs successful in attracting participants

Ontario's blue box recycling program and Pitch-In Ontario's increased emphasis on recycling is having a marked effect on the amount of litter and waste being recycled during Pitch-In Week according to organizers of the annual province-wide campaign which takes place in close to 500 communities throughout the Province during the week of May 6 to 12.

Pitch-In Week, a program of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in cooperation with Pitch-In Canada, is sponsored by NOVA Corporation of Alberta, Ontario Multi-Material Recycling Inc. (OMMRI), the Ontario Ministry of Environment and local governments.

"Sixty-five per cent of the participants in this year's campaign indicate that their community has a door-to-door recycling program and, of this total, 92 per cent will be separating and recycling the waste which they plan to collect during Pitch-In Week," states Dr. Dave Ankney, President of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

The number of participants separating and recycling their waste is up dramatically from 1990. "A third of the participants residing in communities without door-to-door recycling will also separate and recycle the litter they plan to collect during clean-up campaigns," states Ankney who credits the increased support for recycling to not only the added emphasis which Pitch-In Week organizers have placed on the importance of separating and recycling waste, but also to the blue box programs sponsored by Ontario Multi-Material Recycling Inc., a consortium of industry groups who were instrumental in developing and promoting Ontario's recycling program.

In addition to recycling projects, participants of all ages will plant trees, organize and participate in composting projects, sponsor poster contests and organize clean-ups or urban, rural and wilderness areas.

"Composting was added to the thrust of the 1991 campaign and we are finding that a number of

groups, schools and communities are exploring the opportunities to reduce the volume of waste by composting."

Ankney referred to St. Brigid School in Brampton, one of many schools participating in a composting program. "Their junior grades will recycle paper and the intermediates are making compost boxes and breeding worms for their composters."

In addition to schools, communities are also pitching in by mounting comprehensive composting programs. The Township of West Garafraxa, which recently purchased 624 composters for their community, will kick off Pitch-In Week with a community meeting to provide information about their composting program.

"It's becoming obvious that the objectives of Pitch-In Week have broadened considerably as people become more and more aware of the fact that waste should no longer automatically be deposited into a litter or waste container," said Ankney adding, "We now have so many more choices and we realize that litter and all waste

is, in many cases, a resource which can be reused or recycled."

The increased emphasis on recycling and composting is not reducing the emphasis which communities continue to place on cleaning up litter and unsightly debris during Pitch-In Week.

"The Town of Capreol is only one of many communities undertaking a massive clean-up and beautification campaign involving schools, Girl Guides, Cadets, residents and other youth groups," adds Ankney. Activities planned during the seven day campaign, according to Pat Madigan, Chairperson of Capreol's "Operation Litter Lift," will include cleaning an extensive area of walking and bike trails, school yards, ten parks and the sponsorship of a poster contest among the community's school children.

Pitch-In Week is a program of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in cooperation with Pitch-In Canada. Further information about the campaign can be obtained by contacting Pitch-In Ontario, 500-6 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1H6.

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