New recycling units in parks

Residents enjoying Town parks can now make use of an increased number of recycling bins thanks to a partnership with local business operator Wastewise Halton Hills. Eighty seven new blue wire mesh units were added to twelve major parks and sports fields across Town to help divert the amount of recyclable material that ends up in landfill sites.

Wastewise has pledged $20,000 for two years to help pay for the new recycling bins as their part of the agreement with the Town. The Town has looked after the fabrication and placement of the blue wire mesh bins and the collection from the units. Collected materials will be sorted by the Region of Halton as part of the existing recycling program

"I'm pleased to see the level of interest for recycling in Town parks" said Mayor Rick Bonnette, adding "and it is a real benefit to have a local partner like Wastewise to make it happen. Recycling is an important part of our Green Plan and Community Sustainability Strategy and a simple way to make a real difference."

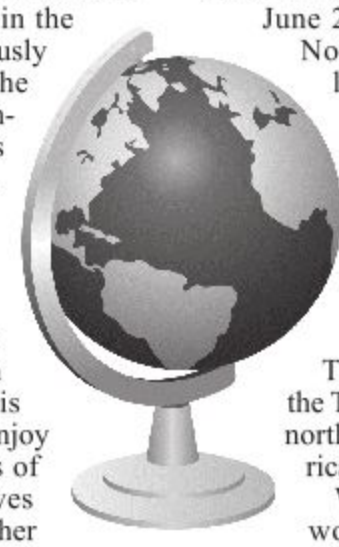
Wastewise has been supporting reuse, recycling and environmentally friendly disposal of electronic waste for over twenty years. Monies earned from sales of used items are given back to the community by supporting sustainability programs like these recycling bins. Look for the Wastewise logo on the side of each park recycling bin, along with a quick code link to the Wastewise website. Residents can find out more information about the local not for profit company by visiting www.wastewise.ca

WASTEWISE
A COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE FOR HALTON HILLS

SPRING FLING: There was dancing, food, fun and over $2,000 in prizes as the congregation of St. Alban's Anglican Church, and friends, celebrated on Saturday at the Spring Fling. The Reverend Brian and Karen Galligan danced up a storm. – *Ted Tyler photo*

A matter of latitude

June 20-21 is a very important day for our planet and its relationship with the sun. June 20-21 is one of two solstices, days when the rays of the sun directly strike one of the two tropical latitude lines. June 21 marks the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere and simultaneously heralds the beginning of winter in the southern hemisphere. In 2013, the summer solstice occurs and summer begins in the Northern Hemisphere on Friday, June 21 at 1:04 a.m. EDT.



The earth spins around its axis, an imaginary line going right through the planet between the north and south poles. The axis is tilted somewhat off the plane of the earth's revolution around the sun. The tilt of the axis is 23.5 degrees; thanks to this tilt, we enjoy the four seasons. For several months of the year, one half of the earth receives more direct rays of the sun than the other half.

When the axis tilts towards the sun, as it does between June and September, it is summer in the northern hemisphere but winter in the southern hemisphere. Alternatively, when the axis points away from the sun from December to March, the southern hemisphere enjoys the direct rays of the sun during their summer months.

June 21 is called the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere and simultaneously the winter solstice in the Southern Hemisphere. Around December 21 the solstices are reversed and winter begins in the Northern Hemisphere.

On June 21, there are 24 hours of daylight north of the Arctic Circle (66.5° north of the equator) and 24 hours of darkness south of the Antarctic Circle (66.5° south of the equator). The sun's rays are directly overhead along the Tropic of Cancer (the latitude line at 23.5° north, passing through Mexico, Saharan Africa, and India) on June 21.

Without the tilt of the earth's axis, we would have no seasons. The sun's rays would be directly overhead of the equator all year long. Only a slight change would occur as the earth makes its slightly elliptical orbit around the sun. The earth is furthest from the sun about July 3; this point is known as the aphelion and the earth is 94,555,000- miles away from the sun. The perihelion takes place about January 4 when the earth is a mere 91,445,000- miles from the sun.

When summer occurs in a hemisphere, it is due to that hemisphere receiving more direct rays of the sun than the opposite hemisphere where it is winter. In winter, the sun's energy hits the earth at oblique angles and is thus less concentrated.

During spring and fall, the earth's axis is pointing sideways so both hemispheres have moderate weather and the rays of the sun are directly overhead the equator. Between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn (23.5° latitude south) there really are no seasons as the sun is never very low in the sky so it stays warm and humid ("tropical") year-round. Only those people in the upper latitudes north and south of the tropics experience seasons.