

A NEW CEMETERY IN HALTON HILLS

A new cemetery for the general public is taking shape for residents in Halton Hills and their families. Devereaux Cemetery is located in a quiet country setting on the 17th Side Road, just west of Trafalgar Road. It's adjacent to the Holy Redeemer Cemetery and open to people of all religious faiths.

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COMMENT

Green winter? It is what it is...

By Ted Brown
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A Ted Bit

As we prepare to enter 2016, most people would agree that the most outstanding aspect of the past year has been the weather we've experienced in November and December.

In my lifetime, I really can't recall having a warm spell in December that has lasted this long.

I know the environmentalists are crying 'global warming' to the 'nth' degree— and I don't disagree— but when I look at my furnace oil and hydro bills— well, one must find that silver lining on those clouds.

But still, there are people who do enjoy the white stuff, and feel a bit cheated that they don't have a layer of snow to play on.

All in all, it seems most wanted snow for Christmas, just to get in the mood, but as soon as Dec. 25 passed, it was no longer an issue.

Personally, I'm of two minds.

From a purely romantic point of view, a blanket of white snow on the ground is soothing, making me feel warm and cozy, as I peer out the window, especially on a chilly winter morning.

But by the same token, having to keep our quarter-mile long driveway clear of snow makes me become the realist, giving me great joy to see the bare ground outside my window.

I do appreciate the need for snow from a farmer's point of view. Snow is a form of insulation which protects seedlings in the ground (like fall wheat) from freezing and killing out.

Fanatical environmentalists preach doom and gloom, that this lack of snow is an indication that global warming is going to be the eventual end of civilization as we know it today, while some people simply yearn to have an 'old-time winter,' going back to a time 'when

there was three feet of snow on the ground' for nostalgic reasons alone.

Talking to a friend of mine recently, we reminisced about winters when we were kids, how the snow was piled up like small mountains from the snow plows. We walked home from Limehouse School, climbing on top of the five-foot-high banks along the road, with a flat top on them where the grader operator had 'winged back' the snow on top of the banks, to push the roads back wider.

There was a lot more snow back then and this, I suspect, is what people are referring to when they talk about an 'old-time winter.'

But it all depends on your point of view.

I recently looked at my great grandfather John Brown's diary of 1891.

His entry of Thursday, Jan. 1, 1891 read:

"Rained all day, Bella went to Toronto today." His entry the next day said it'd turned cold in the night and the roads were icy. The rest of the week saw clear weather, but no snow which made it easy for him and his brother Bob to haul wood on the clear sunny day of Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1891.

In fact, in 1891, they had no snow at all until Jan. 11, and even that was short-lived. They drove the horse-drawn wagon to town for the entire winter (as opposed to using the sleigh.)

So a green winter isn't as unique as we think— more than 124 years ago, the bare ground showed through at times too.

No matter what type of winter we have— be it white or green, one thing remains.

It is what it is, and all we can do is deal with it when it gets here.

ITEMS NEEDED MOST THIS MONTH

- Canned Pasta • Canned Fruit
- Juice • Canned Vegetables
- Canned Meat • Cookies • Cereal
- Diapers - All Sizes Except 3

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-Derek, Lana and the DEKER team



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