

BEAT THE HEAT!

PET SUMMER SAFETY TIPS:



- Do not leave dogs in cars
- Hot sidewalks can burn paws—avoid taking walks in the middle of the day
- Keep pets indoors where it's cool
- If pets are outside, provide shade and water



NEWS

ACTIVAN SERVICE TO OAKVILLE HOSPITAL EXTENDED

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The Town of Halton Hills has extended its Activan shuttle service to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

The town initially approved a 33-week pilot project in November 2021. Since the start of the pilot project, the shuttle has made 921 trips to and from the Oakville hospital.

The shuttle is available between Monday and Friday for registered Activan users who can reserve a spot on one of three shuttles (8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.) for \$4.

If there are no trips booked for a specific time, the Activan is redeployed in Halton Hills.

With that trial period coming to an end

this month, council has approved extending it until the end of the year.

"I was really excited to see this program start, and now I'm even more excited to see that we're going to carry it on," said Ward 3 Coun. Moya Johnson. "I had heard from quite a few people that wished there was some service to the Oakville hospital. Many people who need appointments that can't be covered at the Georgetown hospital have to travel to Oakville."

Johnson said the service is also valuable for people without a means of transportation to visit family members in the hospital.

For people who have regular appointments at the hospital but don't have transportation available, taxis are often the only option and they can become very costly, Johnson said.

"People are saving hundreds of dollars, literally, by having this service available for transportation between Halton Hills and the Oakville hospital," said Ward 4 Coun. Anne Lawlor. "Absolutely, it is needed and worthwhile."

The six-month extension of the shuttle service is expected to cost the town approximately \$21,382, which will come out of the existing budget for the Activan. Town staff recommended that a budget request be made to potentially continue the service in 2023 with options for expanding shuttle times.



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DR. ANOOP SAYAL

Q: How old would you say children should be for their first dental exam? Five or Six? In years past, it was rare for a child to see a dentist before five or six years old. Would most dentists agree that is too long to wait?

A: Today, most dentists recommend the first dental exam to be scheduled around the age of two. Because not all the teeth are present, this visit is mostly a consultation. Parents can ask questions about their child's teeth. The dentist can also show how to best clean the infant's teeth and advise the parents on the best dietary habits for their child's optimum development. This visit also helps the child to realize the dental office isn't something fear. As the child gets older, it is important that the parents not discuss their own negative experiences with dentists. Questions should be answered truthfully and with a positive attitude. Modern day dentistry is much better than when we were children. Keeping your children's teeth healthy begins with timely visits to your dentist.