



An undrained septic system, open septic wells, abandoned buildings, blowing insulation, refuse and rats have turned Willow Park in Norval into a health and safety nightmare. photo submitted

Willow Park a disgrace

By Oksana Buhel

Federal laws may have to be used to prompt the provincially-legislated Credit Valley Conservation Authority to correct health and safety concerns at Willow Park in Norval.

Norval resident Ted Thompson, whose property borders the park, painted a picture for Town of Halton Hills councillors at Monday's meeting of a visually disturbing and hazardous site. He listed an undrained septic system, open septic wells, blowing insulation, garbage throughout the site and open buildings which may house vagrants and become fire hazards.

Thompson also mentioned rats which come up to his house in broad daylight from the park.

"And you know what they say," he told councillors. "If you see a few during the day, you know there are a lot more there at night."

The park, which had once been a trailer park, was expropriated by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority last year. The people and the trailers left and the litter stayed behind.

"It's a problem now," Thompson pointed out, "but it's nothing like the problem we'll have in the spring when everything starts melting and flows into and down, the river."

Thompson told councillors he phoned the Conservation Authority at least four times in the past few months and each time he was told the clean-up project "will begin in two weeks."

"I can no longer trust the

CVCA to do what it says," Thompson said.

He requested councillors to "apply pressure or persuasion - whatever you want to call it," to compel the CVCA to take action.

"It's too bad as a municipality we can't charge them," said Councillor Ron Chatten, referring to the exemption of provincial bodies to municipal legislation. "We always have to jump through hoops to get things arranged with them," he added.

Gail Rutherford pointed out the CVCA is not exempt from the federal Fisheries Act and suggested the town solicitor investigate which legislation would force the authority to clean up the area.

Tom Shepard, director of
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Halton
Hills This

WEEKEND

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Water conservation needs addressed

By Oksana Buhel

The Halton Water Conservation Strategic Action Plan, presented Wednesday to the regional planning and public works committee members, predicts in 14 months, all sectors of water users will be using the resource more efficiently.

"The need for water conservation is based on the understanding that a greater demand for potable water has both environmental and financial implications," announced commissioner of public works, Art Leitch, in a report to committee members.

The Halton Water Conservation Advisory Committee (WCAC), which compiled the report, has addressed the dilemma of water conservation by dividing it in four categories: pricing and systems, technologies, policies and regulations and social interactions, behaviors and attitude shifts.

Each category was dealt with separately by a WCAC subcommittee and, in total, 14 projects were devised, ranging from various methods of educating the public, to conducting revenue and



Marilyn Sergeantson

metering studies. These projects are to be carried out between now and Nov. 30, 1994, at a cost of \$128,000.

The report listed numerous benefits of the proposed action plan, which will be voted on by regional councillors this Wednesday. Advantages included reduced environmental impacts, reduced energy consumption for the treatment and disposal of potable water, deferring large capital expansions, allowance for improved waste water treatment and allowance for control of water rates.

"Everyone has to realize water prices will go up," explained planning and public works chair and Halton

Hills councillor, Marilyn Sergeantson. "There are all sorts of reports around saying we are not paying enough for our water and we will have to learn to use it more effectively if we don't want to see costs skyrocket."

Sergeantson said the situation in Halton Region is of prime importance because the region uses a stream-based water system. "That (stream-based water system) makes it harder to find the resource," she explained.

The provincial government introduced legislation in September naming methods to decrease water consumption. "We (Halton Hills) did not feel the legislation was restrictive enough, so we passed a resolution requiring developers to install water-conserving toilets in their structures." (Toilets are one of the most significant water-consuming fixtures in the home).

At Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, a pilot project is being discussed to bring in a water audit consultant to determine the extent of water waste and ways of rectifying the situation.



Devastating fire

Halton Hills firefighters were called to Jet Industrial on Commerce Crt. in Acton Tuesday at 11:45 a.m., when the propane cylinder 51-year-old Speyside resident and Jet employee James Thring was fixing, exploded. Thring, was taken by a passerby to Milton General Hospital where he was treated for burns to his hands and face and released. Damage to the building, was estimated at \$100,000. The Fire Marshall's Office and Ministry of Labor are investigating the incident.

photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

MacKenzie-Smith and Stewarttown win
North Halton Championships - see page 18

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