

Light timers a key to savings

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Actonites who leave their Christmas lights on day and night are not only burning them for no one's benefit, but are also burning a hole in their wallet, says a Halton Hills Hydro official.

"Festive lighting should be turned on after 7:30 pm and off before bedtime," Hydro's supervisor of customer service George Herrington said last week, adding people who don't could be in for a rude awakening come their next bill. "By adding a timer and having the light controlled automatically, there's more savings."

"Even if we get 10 per cent of Halton Hills residents to use a timer there will be a considerable difference."

Halton Hills Hydro insists on people using five-watt bulbs for outdoor lights rather than the standard seven-watt variety. One five-watt bulb operating four hours per day for a 30-day period would cost approximately five cents a month.

"It can make all the difference between night and day," said Herrington, who makes his half-watt pin lights outside his home more attractive by using a musical timer to have them flash to different beats.

There is a period each day, known as the peak period, when Halton Hills residents use the most electricity at the same time. In the winter, this occurs between 8:30 am and 2 pm.

Since Halton Hills Hydro's supply of electricity has to accommodate peak demands, the higher the peak is, the more hydro customers pay for their electricity 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

"It's easy to bring peak electric-



HOLIDAY SAVINGS! George Herrington, supervisor of customer service at Halton Hills Hydro, suggests that people use five-watt bulbs outside their home instead of standard bulbs to increase savings on their hydro bill. (Doug Harrison photo)

ity consumption down," said Herrington. "Just break a few old habits or form a couple of new ones."

Besides switching to low-watt Christmas bulbs, Herrington suggests you take the heat off your water heater. Wait until after 7 pm or 7:30 pm to use your dishwasher or to take baths or showers.

"If you start your wash after the electrical rush hour, you'll still have plenty of time to finish it before bedtime."

And when the deep cold hits Acton and your car won't turn over in the morning, think of purchasing a timer for your block heater.

A timer — Herrington says one

can be bought for \$40 — will turn on your block heater when it's needed, a few hours before you awake. The savings that result from reducing time to heat your car can offset the cost of buying a timer over a year.

Using a 1000-watt heater — they range from 750 to 1,500 watts — Herrington points out that having it plugged in every night for a month would cost one about \$26.40. However, if the timer is set to heat the car from 3 am to 6 am — all that is required — the cost would hover around \$7.20.

"I can see a difference in the last two or three years on some of the accounts here. The biggest thing is educating the people."

LETTERS

Consistency, please

To the Editor,

Canada's Solicitor General Herb Gray thinks a predator's law, keeping convicted sexual predators incarcerated past the end of their sentence, will contravene the criminal's rights under Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

What about the rights and freedoms of the innocent victims of these compulsive perverts — the children and women on whom these deviants prey? Do honest, hard working, law abiding Canadian citizens not have the right to live safely in their homes and communities, without the fear of these vultures stalking them?

Where was Herb Gray and his cohort, Justice Minister Allan Rock, when Ontario passed Bill 79 (Ontario's Employment Equity Act) with all its racist and discriminatory splendor? Canada's

Charter of Rights and Freedoms explicitly states that a Canadian citizen cannot be discriminated against on the grounds of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability. But Bill 79 blatantly contravenes this charter, discriminating against English-speaking, healthy, heterosexual, white males in Ontario.

Why have these high placed Canadian Justice System Officials chosen not to condemn or take action against Bill 79?

Is Ontario's white male, tax-paying population not also part of Canada's tax base? Is it that Canada's honest, law-abiding population are of little value to these elected officials?

Or have they spent all their energy intensively protecting the rights and freedoms of criminals?

It is time that Herb Gray and Allan Rock took the initiative and got moving in defense of all that is good about Canada, locking away this perverted criminal trash, that they may never again prey on our society.

John D. McConnell
Greenore Crescent



SEARS

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all of our customers
in the Acton area a

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and a
Happy New Year

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LEATHERTOWN Feed Supply

47 Mill St. E.

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with Kids and Adults alike.*

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with some terrific tradesmen, companies and people:*

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- ◆ R.J. Ferrier Container Service Ltd.
- ◆ Halton Hills Electrical Cont. Ltd. (Lyle, Paul and Chris)
- ◆ Home Hardware, Acton
- ◆ ABR Roofing and Aluminium (Drew)
- ◆ Tuitman's Garden Centre
- ◆ G & S Excavating (Greg and Frenchie)
- ◆ Living Lighting, Georgetown
- ◆ Gabriel Contracting
- ◆ Lakeview Flooring (A Touch of Class)
- ◆ Boyes Plumbing

And an Extra Special Thank You to Peter, George and Brian from Tommy (May I have your tape measure, please?!) and all the rest of us!

The Rivers