

The North Halton Compass

Reach then a soaring quill,
that I may write
As with a Jacob's staff
to take a height

CLEVELAND

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and
Wetherby's,
149 Church St. E., Acton

The Barnyard Adventures of Nassagaweya Ned & Emmy Esquesing



Brass Tacks

Editorial -

I don't mean to step on the toes of Compass's Lawn Chair Gardeners, our excellent 1st Line Home Maintenance Gurus (especially since I had to cut their column this month) but if this editorial saves just one household from an environmental disaster, I know they'll understand.

Forty years ago, most rural homes were heated with wood or coal. Some had oil-burning space heaters. Surviving a Canadian winter was a lot of work - chopping and shoveling work. In the fifties and sixties, many rural households installed oil furnaces and instant heat on the coldest January morning was just a turn of a thermostat away.

Along with these oil-burning marvels came 200 gallon tanks which were filled by furnace fuel companies that delivered right to the tank. Clean, safe, efficient.

Protect your home environment
and your pocketbook

Check your oil tank!

Talk about progress!

Oil tanks are either stored in the basement or outside the house. These tanks were the homeowner's friend ... always full, always ready to supply the fuel for that instant heat we've become so accustomed to.

Now that fall fair season is over, furnace fuel companies across the area will be filling up their customers for the start of another winter.

However, many oil tanks, those same old reliable storage vessels we've taken for granted for years, are now at the age where they can become a homeowner's worst nightmare. They do rust, they do wear out. No homeowners in his right mind wants to face the clean up costs associated with a leaking oil tank.

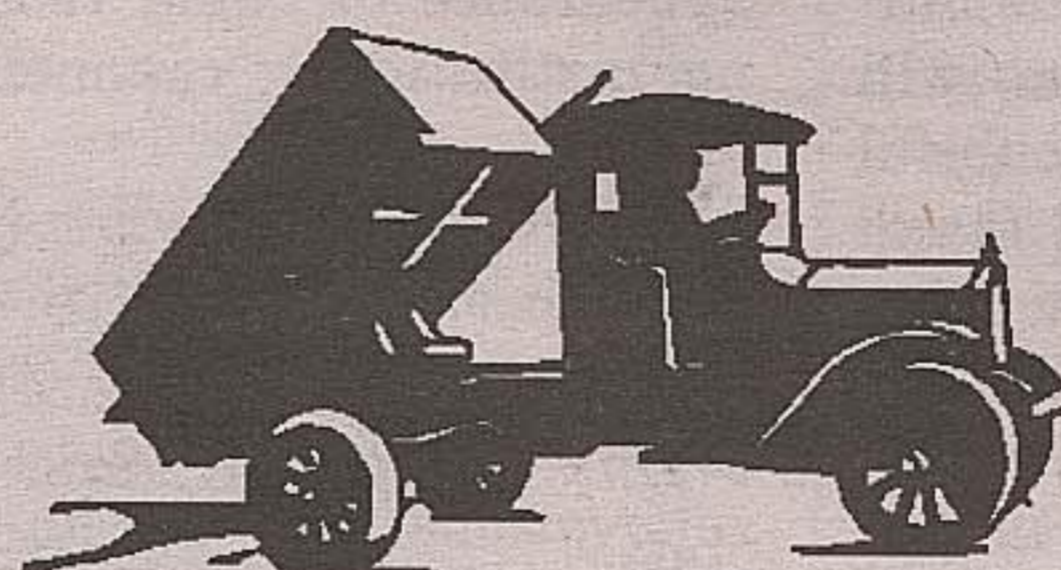
Not only does furnace oil stink and the smell is almost

impossible to remove, all soil contaminated by the oil, (and that possibly includes the soil under a concrete basement floor) must be decontaminated. That means the soil must be removed from the site and trucked to an environmental firm for treatment.

Be aware, once the Ministry of Environment and Energy become involved in an environmental disaster, somebody's going to be shelling out big bucks for the cleanup. And don't count on your homeowner's insurance policy. Maintaining your home against wear and tear is not the insurance company's responsibility. It's the homeowner's.

So do yourself a huge favour this fall. Avoid a home disaster. Take the necessary steps to ensure your oil tank is safe and reliable. Protect your home environment and your pocketbook!

Wayne Taylor



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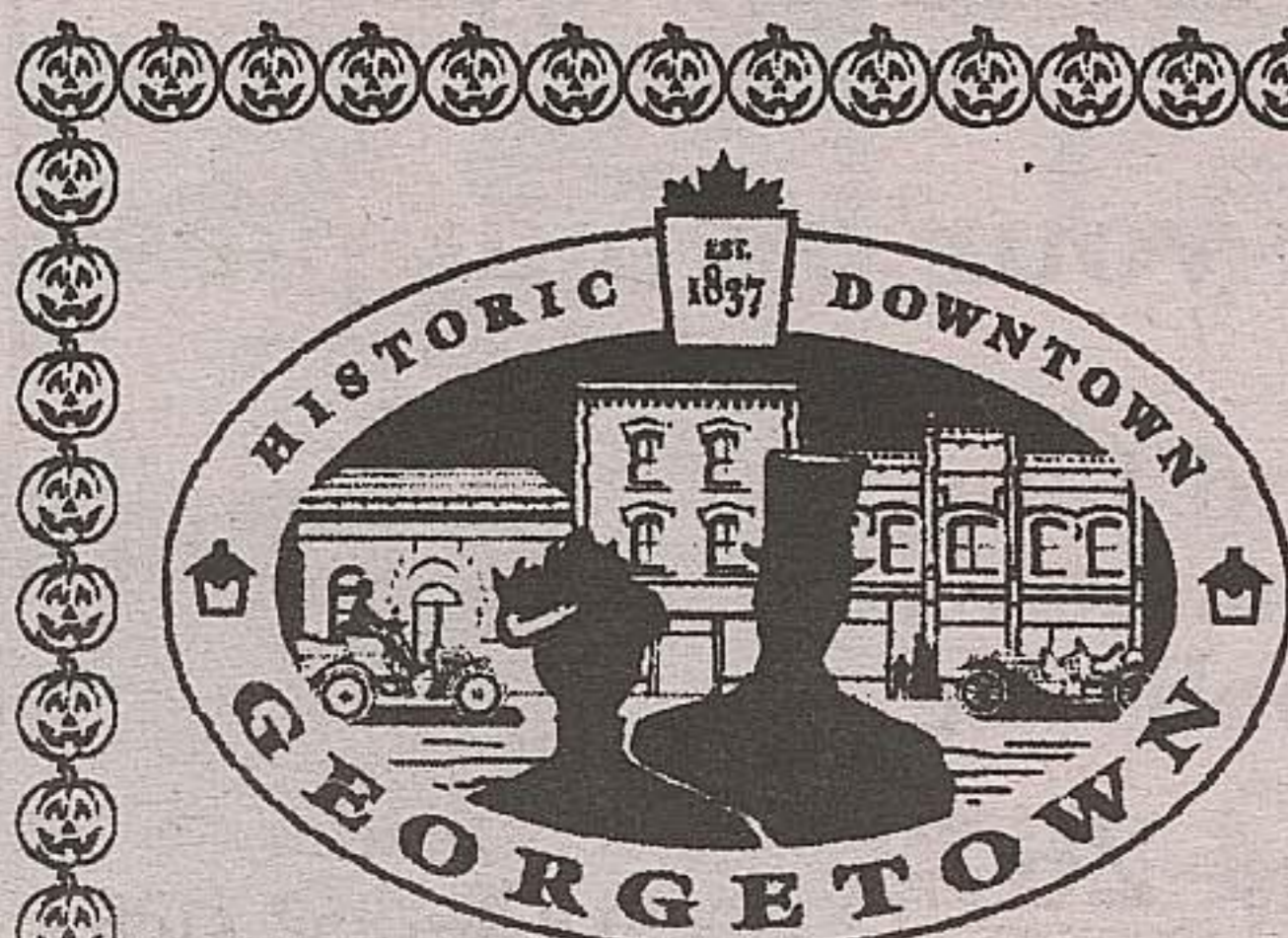
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