

Region warning: take precautions when dealing with mice this spring

There's no need to panic, but it won't hurt rural residents to use caution following discovery of the deadly hantavirus disease in mice at Algonquin Park.

Ontario's Ministry of Health urged campers and those heading to cottages to take precautions.

Halton Region's environmental health supervisor, Dave Stronach, says rural residents should take the same precautions.

"I wouldn't have people overly concerned about it but on the other hand it wouldn't hurt to use a bit of caution when cleaning up areas where mouse droppings are," said Stronach.

No cases of the relatively rare disease, which reportedly kills one of every two people it attacks, have been reported but the Ministry of Health warned people to avoid being bitten by mice or breathing in

dust that may contain the virus. Stronach confirmed there've been no cases of the disease in Halton, and said he expected it would be quite rare. Nor has he heard of it affecting other animals.

Humans can be infected with the virus by sweeping or vacuuming areas where mouse droppings or urine is present. The ministry advocated the use of breathing masks for work in closed rooms or at woodpiles, a spot mice often nest.

Stronach said it would be smart to use a painter's mask while cleaning. "I would not suggest vacuuming," he said, noting vacuuming can stir up particles in the air. "Mopping would be a lot better than sweeping

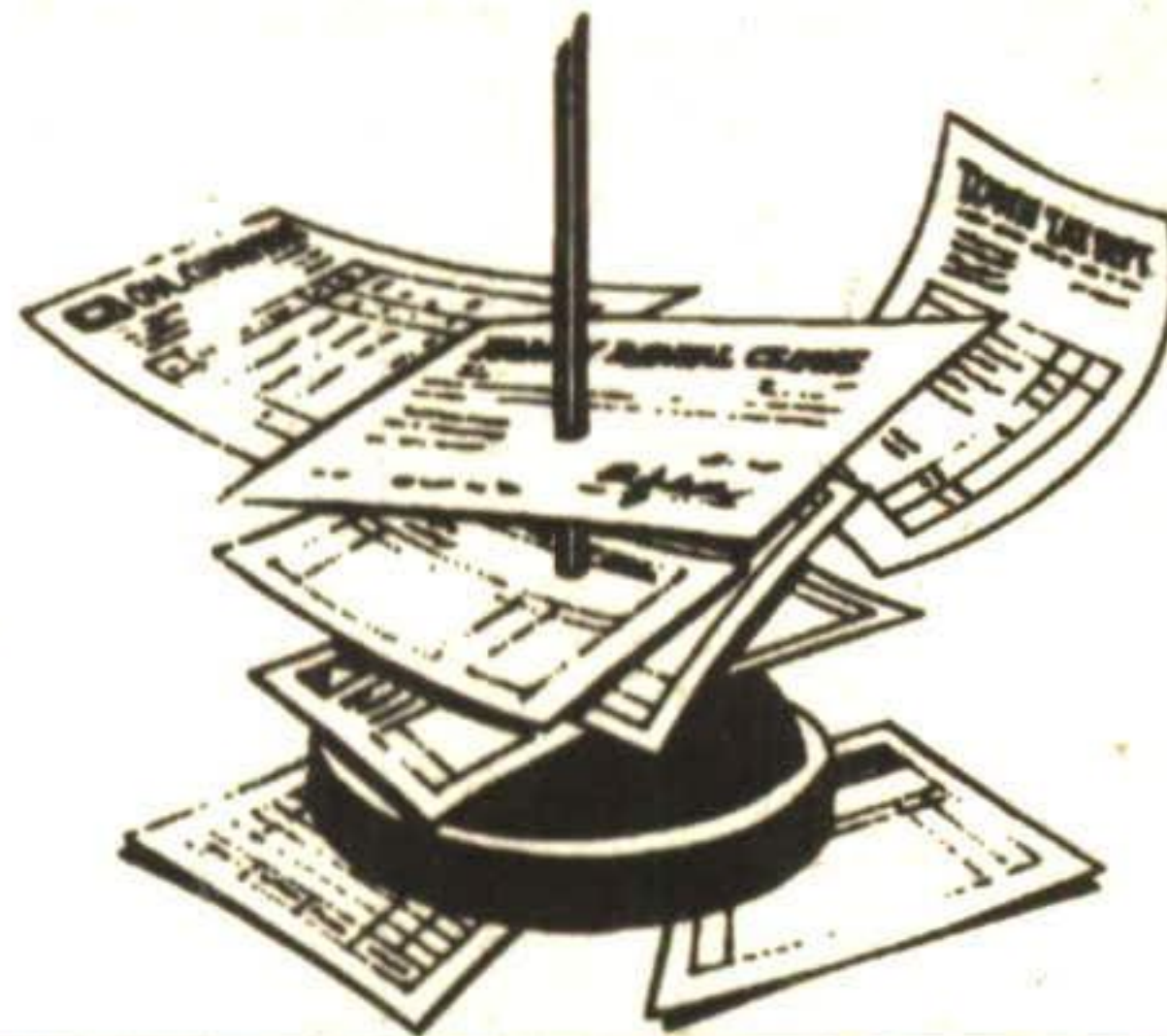
and if you're washing an area down, it would be a good idea to put bleach in the mop bucket," he said. Disinfectant should be used after cleaning.

Similarly, rubber gloves should be used when trapping or handling dead mice.

The disease is more prevalent in deer mice, as opposed to the house mouse common in urban areas or field mice. Deer mice are found primarily in wooded areas, said Stronach.

Hantavirus first strikes with flu-like symptoms, a cough, headache and muscle pains. However instead of getting better, the virus progressively worsens, creating large amounts of fluid in the respiratory tract.

INCOME TAX DIRECTORY



RECYCLE

**GOEBELLE
MACADAM
ALEXANDER**
Chartered Accountants
*Partners in your community
Serving Georgetown 27 years*
Electronic Filing
Us Accounts
37 Main Street South
Georgetown, Ontario L7G 3G2
877-5155

**STARRET
STARRET &
MacDONALD**
Chartered Accountants
129 Main St. S.
Georgetown, Ont.
Tax Consulting for personal and
business accounts of all sizes.
Electronic Filing
873-1601 846-2561
Business is great, always looking for more.

**Sharon
Anderson C.M.A.**
Accounting Services
Personal/Corporate Taxes
EFILE Authorized
Accounting/Bookkeeping
G.S.T./P.S.T./Payroll
(905) 877-8978
Ballinafad
Specializing in small business and taxation

Daniel Varanelli
Certified General Accountant
Revenue Canada
Authorized EFILE Agent
Personal and Business
Tax Returns
Accounting Services
Saturday & Evening
Appointments Available
76 YOUNG STREET, ACTON
(519) 853-4311

BARRY D. TIMLECK
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
16 Mountainview Rd. S.
Georgetown, Ontario
Authorized EFILE Agent
Personal and Business Tax
Corporate Tax Consulting
Estate Tax Planning
877-6948

**TAX
RETURNS**
Free E-File
Personal and Business
Consulting & Tax Planning
**MONEY
CONCEPTS**
The Money Management People
Harry Linton C.A. 873-1877

**FREE
ELECTRONIC FILING**
WHEN WE PREPARE YOUR RETURN



- * NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
- * NOW OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY
- * WHILE YOU WAIT SERVICE
- * LOTS OF FREE PARKING
- * OPEN YEAR ROUND

REFUNDS IN DAYS! 130 Guelph St., Georgetown (905) 873-7855 and

56 Mill St. East, Acton (519) 853-5612 **REFUNDS IN DAYS!**

JOHN A. GIBSON
(Chartered Accountant)
SMALL BUSINESS ACCOUNTING
PERSONAL TAX RETURNS
CORPORATE TAX RETURNS
873-0996
10 MOUNTAINVIEW RD. S., SUITE 201
(MOUNTAINVIEW & GUELPH)

**Only 14
more days
left...
File Now!**

The HEARING CLINIC

CORY SOAL REGISTERED HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALIST
MEMBER ASSOC. HEARING INSTRUMENT PRACTITIONERS OF ONTARIO

- Reg'd with the Ministry of Health, A.D.P.
- Complete Hearing Aid Services
 - Freshest Batteries
 - Repairs
 - Custom molded sound & water ear plugs
 - Free Consultation & House Calls Available

We care about your hearing!



18 Church St., Georgetown
(905) 873-6642



The goods and services tax credit

To offset the effect of paying GST on their purchases, modest and low income families are eligible to receive the refundable GST credit. Revenue Canada makes applying for this credit very easy. Taxpayers simply complete Step 2 of the tax return by answering three short questions. All the calculations and determination of eligibility are done by Revenue Canada.

How much will I get?
The basic GST credit for 1994 is \$199, the same as last year. You may also receive \$199 for your legal or common-law spouse, and \$105 for each child under 19 as of December 31, 1994. If you were not married or living common-law, you may be eligible for an equivalent to spouse credit of \$199 for one of your children instead of the usual \$105. If you are single or separated and made over \$6,456 you may be eligible for an additional credit of 2% of your net income in excess of \$6,456, up to a maximum of \$105. All credits are reduced by 5% of the excess of family income over the threshold

Tax News

This is one in a series of articles dealing with tax matters. The articles are written by H&R Block Canada, Inc., Canada's largest tax service.

amount of \$25,921. Not that family income includes your income plus the income of your legal or common-law spouse. Only one spouse may apply for the GST credit, as there is a limit of one claim per family.

When will I get my cheque?
As in prior years, the GST credit applied for on the 1994 return will be paid in four instalments, with the final 1994 payment not being paid until April 1996. If the credit is less than \$100, of course, it is paid in one lump sum.

What if I didn't apply last year?
If you were eligible to receive the GST credit last year but did not apply for it, you can still do so. In fact, you can apply for the GST credit for every year from 1990 on, if you are eligible and neither you nor your spouse have already applied. To do so, you must file

a tax return for each of the years and, for 1990 and 1991, complete the GSTC application form.

The GST credit replaced the federal sales tax credit in 1990. If you were eligible for the federal sales tax credit, but did not apply for it, you can do so now. You can apply for the federal sales tax credit as far back as 1986.

How do I know if I'm eligible?
In any year that you were 19 or older by the end of the tax year, and were resident of Canada, you were probably eligible for the GST credit, (or, until 1990, the federal sales tax credit). If your income was too high, the credit(s) may have been reduced or eliminated, and if you were married, your spouse may have applied on your behalf. Otherwise, you should have applied for and received these credits.

If you didn't, you have to file a tax return for each year in order to apply for the credits. You may wish to consult a tax specialist about filing returns for the years you missed.

130 Guelph St.,
Georgetown
(905) 873-7855



You can trust H&R Block.

56 Mill St. East,
Acton
(519) 853-5612