

Lookin' out my back door

Lately, it seems Monday morning conversations at the office center around the previous weekend's activities at the trailer or cottage.

Some people live for that escape to their little sanctuary up north, where they kick back on the deck, crack a cold one and enjoy the solitude.

And I have no problem with that.

Relaxation is an important part of our lives—I'm a firm believer we all need time to unwind.

But I don't require a cottage or trailer.

You see, I have the verandah.

From the time the sun greens the grass, until the leaves flutter down in the fall, I spend my free time on the verandah, where I have a window on the world, and relaxing solitude to boot.

I might live in the boonies, drive on a muddy road when it rains, and be required to haul my garbage to the dump, (not to mention live in a 'cable-TV deprived' area), I have one thing my urban dweller counterparts can't compete with.

I have the verandah.

As friends talk about a three-hour Friday night drive to cottage country, I smile, thinking of the three-second walk to my verandah.

As they comment on the cold in Huntsville Saturday morning, ("we had to light the furnace, but the damn thing wouldn't keep going cuz it was the first time this year...") I think how warm the sun was on the verandah.

And as they complain about the rain that fell all day Sunday, while cooped up in a trailer with three bored kids, I think of curling up on the verandah with a good book and a hot drink, listening to the rain drizzle through the trees.

It doesn't get much better than that.

Years ago, Creedence Clearwater Revival recorded a song, "Lookin' Out My Back Door."

Countless times, those lyrics have played in my head, as I carried a cold Sleemans out to the wicker chair and put my feet up.

Just got home from Illinois,

A
TED
BIT



Ted Brown

Lock the front door, Oh boy!

Got to sit down, take a rest on the porch.

Imagination sets in, pretty soon I'm singin',

Doo, doo, doo, Lookin' out my back door.

From my vantage point in front of the old Brown farmstead, a pair of rabbits are often seen nibbling about the lawn, and when the flowers are in full bloom, there are usually hummingbirds buzzing about.

There's a giant doing cartwheels,

A statue wearin' high heels.

Look at all the happy creatures,

Dancing on the lawn.

Warm spring nights awaken a chorus of frogs in the wetlands, and later in the year, a pair of Canada geese annually raise a gaggle of goslings in the swamp. By mid-summer, volleys of fireflies dot the lawn below the house, giving it a surreal, dreamy look, flitting about in the dark.

Barn swallows swoop about the house by day, and bats devour mosquitoes by night, doing their job, keeping the bugs at bay.

Did I mention a guitar sounds great on the verandah? It's about as therapeutic as it can get.

I've done the trailer thing, and for a period of time in my life, enjoyed it. But the time's come for me to enjoy taking in the world about me, instead of worrying about caring for a home away from home. And CCR says it best...

Bother me tomorrow, today, I'll buy no sorrows.

Doo, doo, doo, Lookin' out my back door.



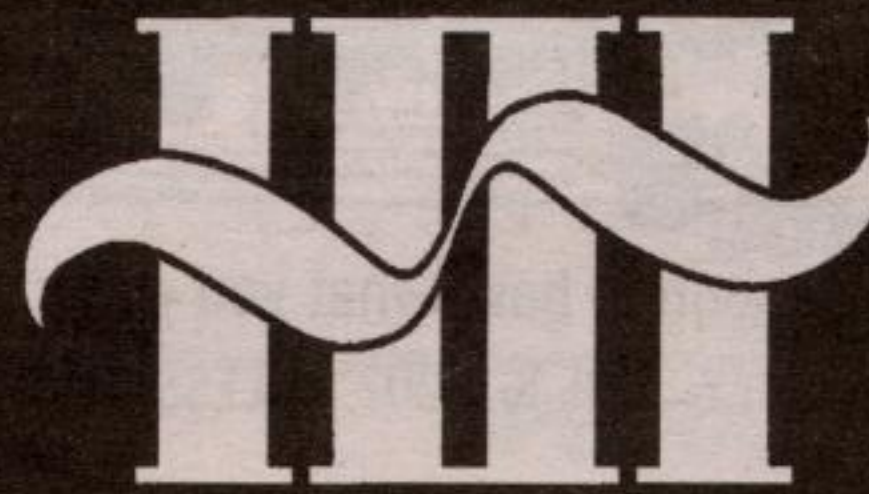
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PUBLIC NOTICE

ON CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS
- Made by DUFFERIN AGGREGATES to
Expand the Milton Quarry

**TOWN OF HALTON HILLS
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**
Halton Hills Council Chambers
Monday, June 10, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.
Note: Recommendations of the General
Committee will be considered by full
Council on June 17, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.

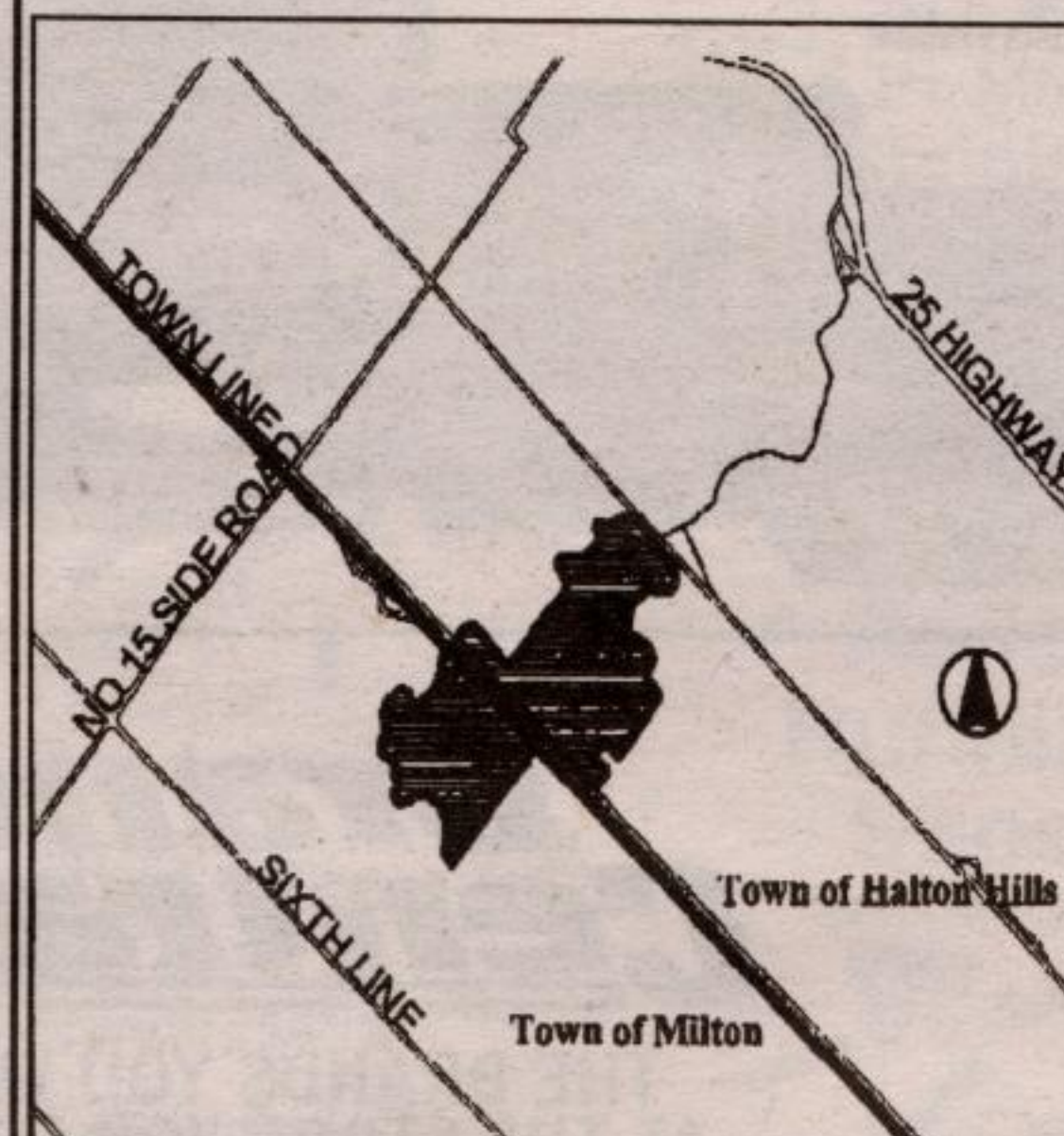
**REGION OF HALTON
PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MEETING**
Region of Halton Council Chambers
Wednesday, June 12, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.
Note: Recommendations by the Planning
and Public Works Committee will be
considered by full Regional Council on
June 19, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.

**TOWN OF MILTON
COUNCIL MEETING**
Town of Milton Council Chambers
Monday, June 17, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

EXPLANATION OF THESE MEETINGS:

Applications have been made by Dufferin Aggregates to: amend the Niagara Escarpment Plan (Amendment 135) and obtain a Development Permit; the Region of Halton Official Plan (amendment 18); the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan (amendment 103); and the Town of Milton Official Plan and Zoning By-law, to permit aggregate extraction to the north and east of the existing North Quarry in Milton.

The lands involved are located within Lots 13 and 14, Concession 1 (Esquesing) in the Town of Halton Hills (47 ha) and Lots 12-14, Concession 7 (Nassagaweya) in the Town of Milton (36 ha). A total of 70 hectares is proposed for extraction of the 83 hectares proposed to be licensed by the Ministry of Natural Resources under the Aggregate Resources Act. The site is shown on the map below.



Staffs have completed their review and are providing a report with recommendations for consideration at the meetings noted above. It should be noted that in the case of the Region of Halton and the Town of Halton Hills, any recommendations coming out of their Committee meetings will require ratification by their respective Councils at the next Council meeting. In the case of Milton, the application is being presented directly to Town Council.

It should be noted that the Niagara Escarpment Commission has not scheduled a date to consider the applications before it. The amendments to the Regional and Municipal Official Plans must conform to the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

The Region's Staff Report may be viewed at the Office of the Regional Clerk between 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. as of June 7, 2002, or on the Region's website (www.region.halton.on.ca). 104

OPEN HOUSE

**NOTICE OF AN OPEN HOUSE
RURAL STUDY FOR THE
TOWN OF HALTON HILLS**

Town of Halton Hills is in the process of undertaking an Official Plan Review. An important aspect of the Review is to obtain input from the community on the land use planning policies that will manage change in the community for the next twenty years. These lands use policies are being prepared to bring the Halton Hills Official Plan into conformity with the Provincial Policy Statement, the Region of Halton Official Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan. The Town is in the process of preparing a number of background studies on the commercial area, the rural area and the Silver Creek subwatershed. Anyone with an interest in the rural area is invited to the two open houses being held on:

Tuesday, June 11/02	Thursday, June 13/02
Gymnasium, Limehouse Public School	Library, Pineview Public School
11139, 22 Side Rd.	1074, 5 Side Rd.
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Background information and illustration panels will be on display at the Open House prior to the commencement of the evening's program. A brief presentation about the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan Program will be made, followed by a presentation on the Rural Study component, which will be the focus of the evening and discussions. The focus of the presentation will be on the role and function of the rural area and the future planning of the Town's rural clusters.

6:00-6:30 - Drop in, view display panels
6:30-7:30 - Overview of Rural Study
7:30-8:30 - Question and Answer Period
8:30-9:00 - Informal Discussion Period

We value your input and hope that you can join us. Information on the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan Program is available at <http://www.town.halton-hills.on.ca> (Planning & Development Services Department). 105

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