

Celebrating Earth Week 2008

April 18 to 26



Gary Carr
Halton Regional
Chair

Halton Region

Halton residents have inherited a rich and diverse natural legacy that includes a wide range of plants and wildlife, unique features and areas of spectacular beauty, such as the Niagara Escarpment and Lake Ontario.

Halton Region has a number of key initiatives intended to preserve our environment. Halton is pleased to work in partnership with the Town of Halton Hills and the other Local Municipalities on these initiatives.

More Blue and Green for a Better Planet

Starting on April 7, 2008, Halton Region changed the way it provides waste management services to households:

- Weekly collection of GreenCart (collects kitchen scraps and compostable papers)
- Weekly collection of Blue Box (papers and containers can go in the same Blue Box)
- Collection of garbage every other week with a six bag/can limit (urban areas of Halton Hills only)

These changes will help protect the environment, extend the life of the landfill site, reduce greenhouse gas emissions improving air quality, and create useful recycling and compost products, for a better planet. To learn more, visit www.halton.ca. The first week of our new waste collection services has received outstanding support from our residents, thanks for your participation. Blue Box materials have increased by almost 30 per cent and approximately 75 per cent of residents are already participating in the GreenCart program. We want to thank you for your patience as we work out some of the delays residents may be experiencing through this transition period.



Take It Back! Halton

This program provides information on retailers that take back items for reuse, recycling or proper disposal. A list can be found at www.halton.ca/takeitback.

Save money and water with a high-efficiency toilet

Consider changing your old inefficient toilet to **save** money on your water bill! A limited number of rebates are available to residents of single family homes who purchase and install a Halton Approved water efficient toilet. For a list of acceptable toilets and the terms and conditions for a rebate, call us or visit www.halton.ca/toiletrebate.

Enjoy a beautiful garden with less water!

Halton's Landscape Advisor will visit your home and provide water efficiency tips and tools so you can still enjoy a beautiful garden and spend less time watering this summer. To book an appointment, call us or visit www.halton.ca/waterconservation.

Cycling safety on regional roads

We encourage motorists, pedestrians and cyclists to be alert when travelling throughout Halton Region and to "Share the Road". To obtain a copy of the Halton cycling map, call us or visit www.halton.ca/cycling.

Encouraging kids to walk to school

Halton and the Halton District School Board have organized an Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) pilot project. ASRTS encourages young students to walk, bike, or in-line skate to school. Centennial Public School, Georgetown are participating in the pilot. For more information visit www.halton.ca/health.

Halton Hills Earth Day – April 26, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Halton Region will be at the Town's Robert C. Austin Public Works Yard at 11620 Trafalgar Road on Saturday, April 26, giving away free compost from the yard waste program and collecting used electronics (e.g. computers, monitors, stereos, VCRs) and up to eight residential tires for recycling.



Halton Region
905-825-6000
Toll free: 1-866-442-5866
TTY: 905-827-9833
www.halton.ca



Rick Bonnette
Mayor of
Halton Hills

Halton Hills

Halton Hills recognizes the importance of making changes in our operations in order to help preserve and enhance our precious environment. We are always striving to improve and be more efficient.

The efforts of Halton Hills and Halton Region to improve our environment are a complementary and effective partnership. Below is a short list of some of our environmental initiatives that have reinforced our long-standing commitment to environmental protection and enhancement.

Corporate Initiatives

- Our new Strategic Plan provides direction on matters related to sustainable design and energy efficiency; establishing a greenspace network; protecting the quality and quantity of ground and surface water; air quality improvements; and energy conservation.
- In December 2007, Town of Halton Hills Council endorsed (in principle) a *Green Plan* developed by the Mayor's Green Plan Task Force to act as a guide in developing and implementing "green" strategies and actions. It focuses on actions that are "PAREE" or Practical, Affordable, Reasonable, Enforceable and Educational.

- Recognizing the need to "think globally and act locally" we participated in the global Earth Hour event. Non-essential lights were turned off at all Town facilities on Saturday March 29 without jeopardizing public safety and security, and without interrupting regular service. The Town, its residents, businesses and organizations collaborated to make Earth Hour a success as demonstrated by the 9.4% reduction in energy use.

Planning for a Healthy Environment

- The Town's new Official Plan establishes an 'environment-first' philosophy to protect our many significant environmental features and also includes comprehensive Environmental Management Policies.
- The Town is currently preparing Community Improvement Plan and Intensification Opportunities studies to make efficient use of infrastructure, and to establish healthy and vibrant communities.

Public Works Environmental Initiatives

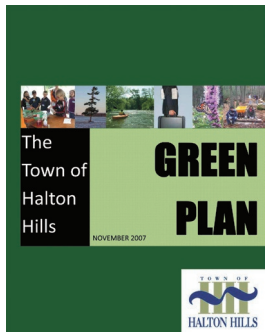
- Between 2006 and 2007, the Town has recycled approximately 13,000 tonnes of asphalt.
- Halton Hills continues to add stormwater treatment structures into its designs to reduce pollutants entering the Town's watercourses.
- Halton Hills has reduced energy use through the conversion of traffic signals to LED technology which uses 85 per cent less electricity compared to conventional signal bulbs.

Providing Green Library Services

- The Halton Hills Library Services computer system for its Internet workstations and computer catalogues has one computer running as many as ten workstations. In addition, the library has reduced its lighting use during longer daylight hours.

Celebrating Earth Week 2008

- Halton Hills will be focusing on the environment over two weekends, between April 18 and 26. For more information please contact the Public Works Dept. at 905-873-2601 ext. 2610.
- The 4th Annual Halton Hills 20 Minute Makeover is scheduled for Friday, April 18. Everyone is encouraged to participate by picking up litter in their immediate neighbourhoods.
- The 8th annual Community Wide Clean Up Day is on Saturday, April 19. Hundreds of volunteers will scour our parks, ravines and roadsides to collect litter. The rain date is Saturday, April 26.
- Earth Day Celebrations in Halton Hills will take place Saturday, April 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Town's Robert C. Austin Public Works Yard.



**The Corporation of the
Town of Halton Hills**
905-873-2601
General Fax: 905-873-2347
www.haltonhills.ca