

# Library card can help residents reduce their environmental footprint

With Earth Day having just passed and the new GreenCart program well under way, living a "greener" lifestyle is on a lot of people's minds. While, reducing your ecological footprint can seem like a daunting task, a new book by Eric Sorensen, *Seven Wonders for a Cool Planet*, suggests that seven very simple household items can be the keys to living a greener existence. And one of those seven is the humble library book.

Now when you think about it, a library is your ultimate book/magazine/newspaper recycler. Imagine

how much paper could be saved. If you were to add up your daily newspaper, your magazine subscriptions, books for the kids, recreational reading for yourself, it could potentially be as much as half-a-tree-worth of paper over a year.

The number of households in Halton Hills, according to the 2006 Census, is 19,265. If you assume there could be 1,000 trees per hectare, this would mean approximately 8.5 hectares of forest could be saved if everyone used their public library. And if you look at the figures

## Clare Hanman



for Ontario, it could be almost 2,500 hectares.

Granted this calculation does not account for how much of the paper is from recycled sources or for the fact that it isn't always practical to go to

the library for all your reading material, but you can see that even borrowing a portion from the public library could result in a significant amount of paper saved.

Your public library can also help you recycle books you have bought yourself. We happily accept donations of books in good condition (no textbooks or encyclopedias, please). Any that we can add to our library collections we will, making them available for others people to borrow. Any books that we cannot add to the library go to our book sales where

people can purchase them for a nominal charge. This helps raise money for the library and makes use of books that might otherwise be collecting dust, or worse, sitting in a landfill.

So next time you are contemplating a book purchase or cleaning out your book shelves, think of how your public library can help you share your love of reading and make the world a little greener at the same time.

*Clare Hanman is a circulation supervisor with the Halton Hills Public Library*



## The Regional Municipality of Halton

www.halton.ca

Important!  
3 item limit

### Bulk Waste Collection



Bulk waste is considered a large household item that will not fit into a garbage bag or container, not including metal items or appliances. **There is a 3 item limit per collection day.**

Bulk waste is now collected once every four weeks on the same day as garbage. There are a total of 7 bulk waste days in 2008. Please note there is no bulk collection in Halton Hills collection areas 1 and 2. Check your 2008 Waste Management Guide and Collection Calendar or visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca) and use the "Search by Address" tool to find your collection area and schedule!

#### ✓ Acceptable Materials

- Furniture (couches, chairs, tables, mattresses, etc.)
- Flooring (carpets, under padding and linoleum - bundled in 1.2 m (4 ft) lengths)
- Windows and Mirrors (to avoid glass shattering, place tape across in an "X" pattern)
- Wood (fencing, picnic tables, shelving, skids, doors, etc., dismantled and bundled in 1.2 m (4 ft) lengths)

#### ✗ Unacceptable Materials

- Metal and Appliances (Call-in Collection only, see adjacent advertisement)
- Automobile Parts\*
- Propane Tanks
- Tires
- Building and Demolition Debris
- Concrete and Bricks
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Cardboard Boxes
- Tree Branches
- Tree Stumps\*\*
- Soil and Rocks

These items may be disposed of at the Halton Waste Management Site (HWMS), 5400 Regional Road 25, Milton. The HWMS is open Monday to Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*Only small non-hazardous automobile parts can be accepted at the HWMS.

\*\*Only small tree stumps under 30 cm (1 ft) in diameter can be accepted at the HWMS.

#### Important Information

- Do not pile items on top of one another.
- Bundle loose materials such as wood and carpets, in lengths no longer than 1.2 m (4 ft) and not more than 23 kg (50 lbs) in weight (3 bundles maximum).
- Some items may be too large or heavy to be collected. If you are unsure, contact Halton Region at 905-825-6000, toll-free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or visit our website, [www.halton.ca/waste](http://www.halton.ca/waste).
- Put material out in a safe manner, for example, no broken glass or exposed nails.
- Do not put material out in cardboard boxes.

### Save water and money this summer

Water is a precious resource we enjoy in Halton that needs to be protected and conserved. During the warmer months of the year water use increases as many people water their lawns and gardens. In hot, dry spells, water use can almost double.

#### Halton Regional Meeting Schedule

- May 21** Planning & Public Works Committee 9:30 a.m.    **May 22** Health & Social Services 9:30 a.m.  
**May 21** Administration & Finance Committee 1:30 p.m.    **May 28** Regional Council 9:30 a.m.



### Metal and Appliance Call-in Collection

Metal and appliances are collected on a **call-in** basis only. This service is not offered in Halton Hills collection areas 1 and 2. There is no limit to the number of metal collections you can have in a year.

You must schedule metal and appliance pick up before placing material out for collection. Call Halton Region between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday at 905-825-6000 or 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or TTY 905-827-9833.

**Do not place metal and appliances at the curb on your scheduled garbage or bulk collection day.**

On your scheduled metal and appliance collection day, place items at the curb by 7 a.m. and no sooner than 5 p.m. the evening before.

For safety reasons, please remove all appliance doors and empty water from washing machines, dishwashers, etc. Put doors at the curb safely, so they don't become tripping hazards. Place tall appliances such as refrigerators, upright freezers and hot water tanks flat on the ground. Do not lean items against poles or trees.

#### Acceptable Materials

- Air conditioners
- Barbeques (no propane tanks)
- Metal bath tubs
- Bicycles (no tires)
- De-humidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Dismantled metal fences (maximum length 1.2m or 4 feet)
- Dismantled swing sets
- Dryers
- Freezers
- Furnaces
- Metal furniture
- Heat pumps
- Hot water tanks (empty)
- Microwaves
- Pool heaters
- Refrigerators
- Metal shower enclosures
- Metal sinks
- Stoves
- Washers
- Water softeners (empty)

## More Blue and Green for a Better Planet

Do you want to know how you can still enjoy a beautiful lawn and garden and spend less time watering this summer? Book a free visit from Halton's Landscape Advisor. Our trained advisor will visit your home and provide water efficiency tips and tools to assist you in being water wise.

To reserve your landscape assessment for summer 2008, please call us or e-mail, [accesshalton@halton.ca](mailto:accesshalton@halton.ca). For more on water efficiency, visit [www.halton.ca/waterconservation](http://www.halton.ca/waterconservation). Thanks for being Water Wise!



*Gary Carr*  
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Regional Chair