

Residents show eagerness to recycle

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Halton residents for embracing the new GreenCart program, and for setting out record volumes of organics, recyclables and yard waste.

During the first week of the new waste management program, approximately 2,000 tonnes of recycling and organics were collected, which is almost 50 per cent more than we anticipated and clearly shows that residents are eager to participate. Leaf and yard waste volumes were also very high with over 200 tonnes per day on average, representing about 2 per cent more volume than expected.

One of the goals of the new waste management programs was to divert approximately 60 per cent of waste away from the landfill, an increase of more than 17 per cent from our current rate of 43 per cent. In the first few weeks of implementation, residents were successful in diverting roughly 63 per cent of their waste away from the landfill. As a result of all your efforts we have reduced what goes into our landfill by 20 per cent.

These initial numbers are very encouraging and I hope that every resident will continue to reduce, reuse and recycle materials where possible.

To help divert even more material you can

Gary Carr



also do the following:

- Donate large items such as furniture and sports equipment to a local charity instead of placing it out for bulk collection.
- Take back items such as plastic bags, medications, light bulbs and batteries to participating local retailers. A listing can be found at www.halton.ca/takeitback.
- Take household hazardous waste such as paint, motor oil, bleach and batteries to the Household Hazardous Waste Depot located at the Halton Waste Management Site, 5400 Regional Road 25, Milton. Details can be found at www.halton.ca/ppw/waste/HHW.

To find out more information contact Halton Region at 905-825-6000, toll free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or visit www.halton.ca.

—Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region

Admission to Halton parks free this Sunday thanks to RBC

Visitors will be getting bargains at Conservation Halton's six parks Sunday (June 8).

Admission to Crawford Lake, Mountsberg, Kelso, Mount Nemo, Rattlesnake Point and Hilton Falls will be free on that date, as part of RBC's Gates Open Day.

Many conservation areas across the province will participate in the special day, held by RBC in partnership with Conservation Ontario.

The free offer covers gate admission and parking, but does not include water parks and

entrance fees at historic villages.

Fees will still apply for extra services, such as camping and rentals.

Gates Open Day is part of RBC's Community Week slated for June 6-13. To find out more about activities during the special week, visit www.rbc.com/communityweek.

For more information about Halton and Ontario conservation areas, visit www.conservationhalton.on.ca or www.ontarioconservationareas.ca.

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