

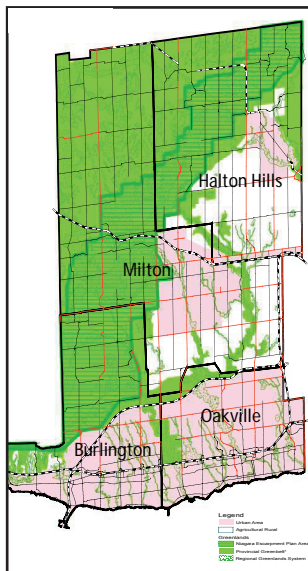
# Politicians, public plan for future of Halton

By Frances Niblock

Halton Hills politicians and taxpayers need a plan to withstand the pressures of growth as Halton follows Provincial edicts to double this Region's population by 2031.

Halton's answer to determining where and how that growth will occur is the Halton Durable Plan, a blueprint for the Region's look and function in the future, developed in conjunction with the Province's Places to Grow legislation and Greenbelt Plan and municipal Official Plans.

The province's intensification plans, allowing growth yet controlling urban sprawl, raise high-stakes issues including the role of agricultural, improving health and



Halton Region

quality of life, protection of natural heritage, the look of intensified communities, and

how and when urban boundaries should be expanded.

At the June 13 council meeting, Regional Ward 3/4 Councillor Jane Fogal asked Planning Director Bruce MacLean if they should be doing more to protect what they value, and not let "Halton run the show."

"We've got a small town, we've got a rural area to protect. Isn't there something that we should be doing as a municipality to also have input from our community and try to influence how this process is going to unfold?" Fogal said.

MacLean agreed the time is right for councillors and the public to "start thinking about what Halton Hills is going to be in the future."

As background, MacLean

said the Province has a target population of 11-million people in the GTA by 2031. Halton's "share" of the increase is 780,000 people, up from a planned population of 650,000 in 2021.

He said deciding where and how the additional population is to be distributed involves a two-step approach, first looking within municipalities for capability to intensify land use, and then looking at expanding urban boundaries, known as Greenfield development.

Halton's Official Plan includes a map with a white area of approximately 30,000 hectares of land – currently designated agricultural/rural – that MacLean said is under examination for growth in the Halton Durable Plan.

Regional Ward 1/2 Councillor Clark Somerville said the Durable Plan is a huge issue that will shape the future of this area over the next 25 years and beyond, and suggested the Town hold its own public information meeting.

Somerville said Halton can't only focus on the white area on the map where "the vultures are already circulating", pointing to Acton that is completely surrounded by the new provincial greenbelt, and must have plans for areas like Acton that can't expand its urban boundary, but needs intensification.

Georgetown Councillor Bob Inglis called the Durable Plan a "big deal" bigger than some realize, and doesn't like being a target for growth.

"With just with the amount of greenfield we have here, and that's what scares me," Inglis said, suggesting that Burlington and Oakville are "somewhat built out."

MacLean said that is not entirely so, as there is room for development in Oakville, Burlington and Milton, both with intensification and greenfield development.

"We view ourselves as a small rural/urban municipality that is constantly faced with growth pressures," he said.

Halton hosted three open houses on the Durable Plan this week, including Halton Hills on Tuesday, and the final open house is June 29 in Burlington.

Halton has scheduled a workshop for councillors on June 28.



## The Regional Municipality of Halton



### Halton Waste Management Site

The Halton Waste Management Site (HWMS) is Halton Region's one stop solution for the 3 Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), yard waste composting, safe disposal of household hazardous waste and of course, garbage disposal.

Use of the HWMS carries a nominal charge of \$5.00/vehicle for up to 50 kg, \$10/vehicle between 51 - 150 kg and 9.8 cents for every kg thereafter starting from "0" kg. For a complete list of fees please contact Halton Region or visit our website at [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).

Please secure all open loads.



#### Container Station

In addition to garbage disposal, the following materials are collected and diverted from our landfill:

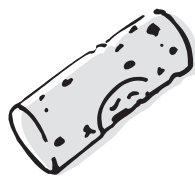


- Appliances
- Blue Box recyclables (free of charge for residential loads only, all commercial loads are subject to a charge)
- Cellphones, eye glasses and printer cartridges (free of charge)
- Drywall
- Electronics (computer hard drives, stereos, VCR, etc.)
- Foam (cushions, under padding)
- Scrap metal
- Tires
- Wood
- Yard waste

#### New

Halton Region is supporting the Girl Guides "Bag-a-Cork" program at the HWMS. Halton residents now have the opportunity to recycle their natural wine and champagne corks, free of charge, by bringing them to the HWMS.

Unfortunately, synthetic plastic corks cannot be accepted. For additional drop off locations visit the Region's website at [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).



#### Salvation Army Reuse Depot

Drop off unwanted, reusable items and help the community at the same time. Acceptable items: clothing, linens, paired shoes, kitchenware, toys and undamaged furniture.



#### Blue Boxes & Composters

Blue Boxes and composters are available at the scalehouse. Blue Boxes: first one is free of charge, \$5 per additional box (3 max.). Composters: \$15 each (2 max.).

#### Household Hazardous Waste Depot

Each year the Household Hazardous Waste Depot receives, properly disposes of or recycles over 700,000 litres of residential hazardous waste. Visit the Depot for safe, free of charge disposal of household hazardous waste items.

##### Accepted Free of Charge:

- Automobile batteries
- Fluorescent bulbs (8 max.)
- Full aerosol cans
- Household batteries
- Household and garden chemicals
- Oil
- Paint
- Propane tanks
- Solvents

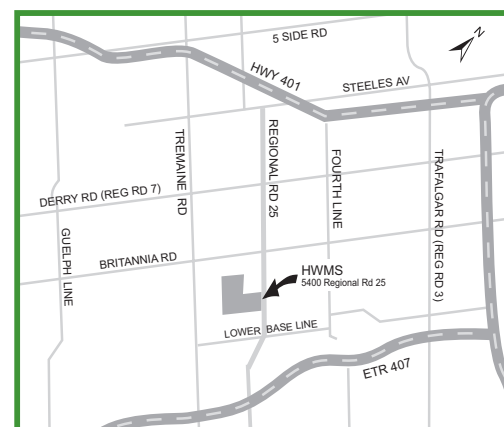


There is a 20 litre maximum per visit and no commercial hazardous waste can be accepted.

Empty paint cans (dry with lids removed) and other empty containers (with no liquid or powder residue) can be disposed of with regular garbage.

#### Paint ReUse Shed

Drop off or pick up usable paint and stain at the ReUse Shed free of charge. Conveniently located beside the Household Hazardous Waste Depot. Open from spring to fall.



#### HWMS

5400 Regional Rd. 25, Milton  
Open: Monday - Saturday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed every Sunday and the following Holidays:  
New Year's Day  
Good Friday  
Easter  
Victoria Day  
Canada Day (July 1)  
Civic Holiday  
Labour Day  
Thanksgiving  
Christmas Day