The holiday season is fast approaching. December is a period of short days, cold nights, and cloudy skies. For most, Christmas is a time of joy with friends and loved ones. For some though, it is a reminder of what they don't have, of how hard life can be. This is a time of year that I ask that you remember to donate to organizations that serve our community, such as Food Banks, Salvation Army kettles, and Sharing Trees, to name a few. What's often lost in the statistics is the number of children who are in need as their families struggle to make ends meet. Many of those needing assistance are working people like you. As the holidays approach, be in good cheer and help others to be in equally happy spirits.

Speaking of Christmas, there have been a lot of stories in the news about the many Canadians crossing borders to do their shopping. With the high cost of gas, long line-ups at the border and the cashiers, one has to wonder if it is really worth it. For my money, the best shopping is right here in Town. Our local merchants are the ones who sponsor little league sports, upcoming events, etc.



If you haven't done it already, book your Christmas lunches or dinners throughout Halton Hills as we offer a wide variety of excellent restaurants.

A huge thank you to the Legions for organizing the Remembrance Day services in Acton and Georgetown, and to the Georgetown Lions Club and the Acton FireFighters' Association for organizing the Santa Claus parades.

Milestones

Congratulations to the Acton I.O.D.E. on its 90th anniversary and to Achilles Motors on 30 years in business. On behalf of

Council, I am pleased to welcome a new business, BellaTan, to Georgetown.

The Mayor's Showcase is displaying watercolours by local artist Allan Scully. Allan's work is also on display at the Artisans Attic. His unique and colourful style depicts local scenes and architecture.

Heroes

Citizens of the Year – Acton – Diane and Bill Spielvogel, Georgetown – Louise Brown, Glen Williams – Sheridan Nurseries.

Kirkland Kilbride, who recently passed away. Volunteers. Employees of the Georgetown Hospital Lauren Boyce, Organizing committee of the 2007 Georgetown Homecoming.

On behalf of myself and Members of Council, I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, and a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!

Keeping it real! I can be reached by telephone at 905-873-2601 ext 2342 or by email at mayor@haltonhills.ca



The Regional Municipality of Halton www.halton.ca

Help Preserve Our Woodlands

Halton Region recognises the important role that private owners serve as stewards of our woodlands as much of the forested land in southern Ontario is in private ownership.



Did You Know

The **Halton Tree By-law**, based on Good Forestry Practices, was passed by Regional Council and became effective January 1, 2006. The By-law regulates Woodlands 0.5 hectares (1.2 acres) and larger as well as Regional Greenlands as determined by the Halton Region Official Plan. Halton Region has a Regional Forester who is available to assist any landowner to determine whether a treed area on his/her property is regulated by the By-law (see contact information below).

Did You Know

The Halton Tree By-law is complemented by a Woodlands Stewardship Program to assist landowners with management of their forested properties.

The Woodlands Stewardship Program has three components:

Tree marking services for private woodland owners:

 marking of selective trees by Regional staff, for removal of products that will be utilized by the owner, this is a no-fee service

Financial assistance for private landowners:

- to establish a forest plantation
- for the development of a Forest Management Plan for existing woodlands

Forest Management Workshops:

- these Workshops are presented annually for private woodland owners who have an interest and wish to gain more knowledge of our forest resources
- if you would like to be notified of future Workshop presentations, please contact the Regional Forester (see below)

For more information on the Halton Tree By-law or the Woodlands Stewardship Program please contact:

Ron Reinholt R.P.F. Regional Forester 905-825-6000, ext. 7279 1-866-4HALTON (1-866 442-5866) ron.reinholt@halton.ca

Wasteless Gift Ideas



Remember that metallic wrapping paper and gift basket wrap (cellophane) don't go in the Blue Box. Consider giving gifts where the wrapping can be reused or recycled. Place gifts in reusable bags or make your own wrapping paper by decorating brown craft paper.

You may also want to give gifts that require no wrapping at all, such as donations to local charities or tickets to the performing arts.

Christmas & New Year's Waste Collection Notice

Please Note Collection Day Changes

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 23	24	25 Christmas	26 collection		28	29
30	31	Jan 1 colled mov				

Due to Christmas and New Year's Day holidays, waste collection services the week of December 25 and January 1 will take place the day after your regular collection day. There is no change to Monday collection.

Due to high collection volumes, please place your waste at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.

Please check your 2007 "Curb Appeal" Waste Management Calendar for details in your area or the Region's Waste Management website at **www.halton.ca/waste.**

Halton Waste Management Site

will be closed Tuesday, December 25, 2007 and Tuesday, January 1, 2008

Regular Operating Hours

Open Monday to Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

5400 Regional Road 25, Milton

Please check your 2007 "Curb Appeal" Waste Management Calendar for details in your area or the Region's Waste Management website at **www.halton.ca/waste.**