

Focus on turning sunlight into energy at Solar Fair Sat.

With the end of winter in sight, Halton residents are looking forward to seeing more hours of sunlight. This Saturday, March 7, the Halton Environmental Network (HEN) will host a Solar Fair at Halton Regional Centre on Bronte Road in Oakville focused on turning more sunlight into energy with fewer green-house gas emissions.

The Solar Fair is being presented as part of the Halton Residential Solar Project. HEN recently received funding for the project from Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program.

For homeowners interested in solar ener-

gy technology, the fair will be like a one stop shop for essential information and an opportunity to meet qualified installers of solar energy systems.

Starting at 9am, speakers will give an overview of solar energy applications and discuss the costs and benefits of harnessing solar energy. Among the speakers will be a financial advisor who will talk about financial strategies and incentives that are associated with installing solar energy systems. From 10 am to 12 pm, vendors of solar energy equipment will be available to answer technical questions and will display

a variety of solar energy technologies.

"Two photovoltaic systems were installed in Halton in December – one in north Milton and the other in Oakville. Both homeowners credited our Solar Fair in October with giving them the information they needed to make the decision," says Lisa Seiler, the project coordinator. "We are looking forward to seeing more solar panels on homes around Halton once the weather warms up."

In the afternoon following the Solar Fair, a representative from Ontario Sustainable Energy Association will give a presenta-

tion on the Green Energy Act and how the policy will affect the future of the province. With respect to the future of the Halton Region, there will be a speaker from the Halton Region Health Department to give a presentation on air, climate change, and the built environment as they relate to the Regional Official Plan. The day will conclude with HEN's Annual General Meeting.

All events on March 7 are open to the public and free to attend. For more information, call 905-901-3501 or visit <http://halton.ourpower.ca>.



The Regional Municipality of Halton www.halton.ca

TAKE IT BACK! HALTON

www.halton.ca/takeitback

Many local businesses take back household materials they produce or sell, ensuring these materials are reused, recycled or disposed of properly.

Items currently accepted by **Take It Back! Halton** partners include:



Automotive



Batteries (rechargeable and disposable)



Cell phones



Cork



Eye glasses



Ink cartridges



Light bulbs



Medications



Paint



Plastic shopping bags



Refrigerators & freezers



Sharps (needles, syringes, lancets)

Conditions may apply.

For a complete list of **Take It Back! Halton** partners, please visit

www.halton.ca/takeitback or call Halton Region between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday by dialing 311 or 905-825-6000 or 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or TTY 905-827-9833.

Take It Back! Halton will assist Halton Region in reaching a 60 per cent diversion of residential waste away from the landfill. This initiative is part of the 2006-2010 Solid Waste Management Strategy to promote product stewardship.

If your business is interested in becoming a **Take It Back! Halton** partner, please visit www.halton.ca/takeitback for more information.

Blue Box Tips

Blue Box materials remain the responsibility of the homeowner until the materials are collected. Help reduce litter by following these tips to keep your neighbourhood clean.



Squish It!

Before putting containers in your Blue Box—give them a squish!

Squish your aluminum pop cans, plastic pop and water bottles, beverage cartons and Tetra Paks.

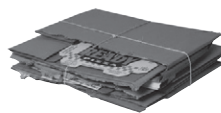
Not only will squishing save space in your Blue Box for more items, but it will help collection because space will be used effectively inside the truck.



Flatten It!

Before putting boxboard in your Blue Box—flatten it!

By flattening boxboard, you help prevent litter, save space in your Blue Box for more materials, and save space inside the collection truck.



Tie It!

Before putting corrugated cardboard in your Blue Box—tie it up!

Tie corrugated cardboard in bundles no larger than 90 cm x 90 cm x 30 cm (3 ft x 3 ft x 1 ft) and place beside your Blue Box.

Not only will tying corrugated cardboard prevent litter, but it will help speed up collection because collectors can more easily pick up the tied cardboard.



Stack It!

When putting your Blue Boxes at the curb—stack it!

Stack your Blue Boxes and place heavier items such as phone books and magazines on top of loose containers.