

Julie Slack/Torstar

Steve Hawks (grey shirt) and First Line Training Centre owner Joe Stutzman lead Phil's Son, into the pool where he swims to help build endurance.

FORGET THE DOG PADDLE. AT FIRST LINE TRAINING CENTRE IT'S THE HORSE PADDLE

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Phil's Son wowed the crowd at First Line Training Centre in Milton yesterday during Halton Region's 38th annual Halton Farm and Food Tour. The annual tour, organized by Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee, showcases local farm operations, and helps to raise awareness of some of the challenges facing the agricultural sector.

Standardbred horse, three-year-old Phil's Son went for a swim in the Centre's indoor pool while some 40 tour participants watched in amazement.

"Does he like it? Is he scared? How long can he swim?" were among the comments.

Here's 10 facts you likely didn't know about First Line Training Centre

1. Joe and Ruth Stutzman purchased the standardbred training centre in 2008 and have made significant investments in the latest equipment for its elite equine athletes

2. Joe Stutzman, after training winners of almost \$35 million, announced he



was quitting in 2010; his successful plan was to focus all his energy to the training centre

3. It's one of the top standardbred training centres in Canada

4. Phil's Son, who survived a barn fire at First Line last December, can swim (tread water) for 10 to 12 minutes at a time and does so as part of his training schedule (except on race days, or the day following the race)

5. A pacer, Phil's Son suffered a bone bruise early in life; his trainer said it's more difficult to heal than a break. He weighs 900 pounds and he's a stud. (He's also a favourite of groomer Steve Hawks, who says Phil's Son has a

huge heart)

6. First Line offers two tracks - a 5/8 mile fast track and a 1/2 mile, indoor pool, a one-mile jogging trail, covered exerciser, more than 245 stalls, with 35 grass paddocks and 22 barn entrances

7. The tracks are open year round and can handle up to 25 at a time

8. Joe Stutzman personally keeps the track surfaces the best anywhere, sometimes working them every two or three hours in the heart of winter to keep them in great shape for the horses. It costs some \$25,000/year in gravel alone. I like quarries, he joked.

9. Standardbred horses that stay at First Line harness race predominantly at Woodbine Mohawk Park, as well as Grand River in Elora, and Flamboro Downs.

10. The Centre is located at 13730 First Line Nassagaweya, a mere 10 minutes from state-of-the-art Equine Guelph research station and west of the Ontario Veterinarian College at the University of Guelph.

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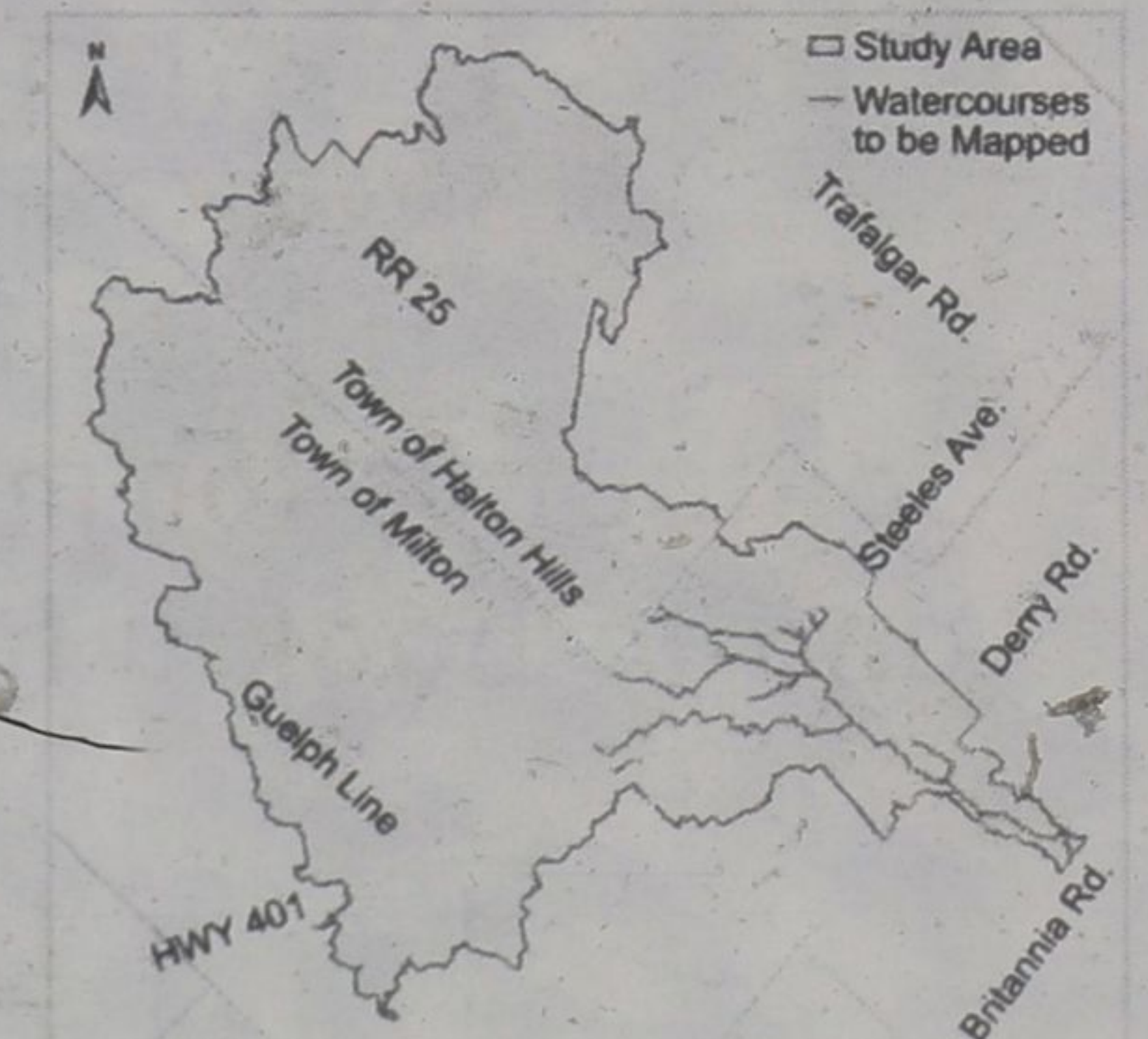
JOIN US for a Public Information Centre Urban Milton Flood Hazard Mapping



Conservation Halton has retained Greck and Associates Ltd. to generate flood hazard mapping for tributaries of 16 Mile Creek (West Branch) in Urban Milton.

New models and updated mapping generated through this project may be used by Conservation Halton, and municipal partners, for many purposes including:

- flood forecasting and warning,
- emergency planning and response,
- prioritizing future flood mitigation works,
- community planning and land use decision making,
- infrastructure renewal, and
- restoration works.



Public Consultation Conservation Halton will seek community feedback through two Public Information Centres (PICs). The first PIC will summarize the project scope. The second PIC will be held in March 2020, and will present draft study findings. Please drop by the PIC to find out more:

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 | 6:30-8:30pm
Conservation Halton Administrative Office
2596 Britannia Rd. W., Burlington

To share your feedback, request additional information, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

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Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.