

Volunteers sought for rural roadside clean-up

By **ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER**

Special to *The Champion*

The seventh annual Nassagaweya Roadside Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 24 at 8 a.m. and efforts are underway to encourage increased community involvement. Flyers are being distributed throughout Nassagaweya and hopes are high for the best clean-up to date.

"The first year we started very small and did an area south of the (Hwy.) 401 from Guelph Line to Appleby," said Jean Woods, an organizer of the event.

"It was mostly our committee that year. From then on we have expanded and we try to cover as much of Nassagaweya as possible. We would like to see (the area from) No. 30 Sideroad to Derry Road done and from one town line to

another."

The amount of garbage and debris collected on Roadside Clean-up day is astounding. Items ranging from the very small, such as coffee cups and water bottles, to the very large, like appliances and furniture, are gathered by the volunteers.

"It is just amazing what we have taken away," exclaimed Ms Woods. "We have taken toilets from Guelph Line, sofas out of the swamp that are very heavy when laden with water. You name it, we find it."

One of the most popular items is discarded tires. Last year alone, more than 300 tires were collected, and besides the disposal expense, may be an environmental risk to the community, as the tires tend to be a breeding ground for mos-

quitoes and West Nile Virus.

"There seems to be two types of litterbugs," said Ms Woods.

"There are the people who throw whatever they are finished with out the car window and then there are the ones that sneak out with major items like stoves, fridges, and couches. I always wonder about people who go for a nice ride in the country to see the scenery and leave their garbage behind them. Don't they realize they are destroying the very scene they have enjoyed?"

It's estimated that approximately 100 people joined in the clean-up last year and organizers are hoping for more this year to make Nassagaweya beautiful and litter-free.

Volunteers with pick-up trucks are always in demand for removal of the larger items found.

Gloves and vests can be borrowed from the committee and garbage bags will be provided for the volunteers.

Anyone interested in joining the Roadside Clean-up can meet at the car park on Guelph Line (beside the tennis club) at 8 a.m. April 24 or can call Ms Woods to have a location assigned.

"If everybody in the neighborhood came out, there would still be enough garbage for everyone," said Ms Woods.

"If people cannot manage to get out on Saturday and can put in an hour or so through the week, that is an option, too."

For more information on the Nassagaweya Roadside Clean-Up, contact Jean Woods at (905) 854-2107.



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◆ Animals have two parts to their immune system; the ability to produce protective antibodies (immunoglobulins) and cell mediated immunity, composed of leukocytes circulating in the blood engulfing foreign material in a "packman" manner.

◆ Foals are born immunocompetent (able to produce protective immunoglobulins in response to antigens) but immunologically naive (born without protective immunoglobulins). This is due to the inability of immunoglobulins to transfer across the placenta from mare to foal. **Passive immunity** (protective immunoglobulins absorbed from the mare's colostrum) provides virtually all of the foal's antibody protection for the first 9-12 weeks of age. Foals begin to produce protective immunoglobulins (**active immunity**) immediately after birth when they are first exposed to antigens. However, a protective concentration of these immunoglobulins (active immunity) may not be reached until the foal is 2 months of age. To maximize the foal's protection to the common pathogens, mares should be vaccinated 4-6 weeks prior to foaling. Vaccination of the foal usually should not start until 6 months of age. Foal vaccination is delayed until 6 months of age when maternal antibody concentrations are waning and less likely to interfere with the foal's ability to produce active immunity to vaccines. For tetanus (tetanus toxoid), Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile virus (WNV);

- Foals from non-vaccinated mares should receive their first vaccination between 3 and 4 months of age; the second between 4 and 5 months of age; a third between 5 and 6 months of age.
- Foals from vaccinated mares should receive their first vaccination at 6 months of age, followed by boosters at 4 to 6-week intervals, e.g., booster vaccinations at 7 and 8 to 9 months of age.

All foals should be vaccinated annually thereafter.
(AAEP Guidelines for Vaccination of Horses)

For further information contact Dr. Bob Wright (519) 846-3412 or visit our website:

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