

Garbage cans overflowing in the downtown core



Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

Trash overflows from a can near the corner of Main and James streets Monday — a sight that's become the source of frustration for some downtown business people and residents. The problem, which the Region is monitoring and working to get under control, comes from a combination of cans filling up rapidly between pick-ups and collection staff having difficulties lifting the overflowing bins. Some people are also calling for the Region to increase the number of times it collects trash downtown from two to three times a week.

By MELANIE HENNESSEY
The Champion

Overflowing public garbage cans in the downtown have some who work and live there calling for the Region to make more frequent waste pick-ups on Main Street.

The receptacles have been filling up quickly in certain spots between garbage collection days and spilling over onto the sidewalk, creating an unpleasant odour and leading some people like downtown resident Don Robertson to put out a can of his own to accommodate the extra waste.

"The black (Town) containers are far too small, so I brought a container out and it usually gets filled up too," he said.

A problem that he and several downtown business owners pointed out is the extra garbage that's created when the downtown hosts the Milton Farmers' Market each Saturday.

Cypress co-owner Betty Sriver said there've been many times when the garbage can located in front of her store is overflowing, particularly after the market.

"I think it (garbage pick-up) should be three times a week," she said.

Halton Supervisor of Waste Management Operations David Miles said garbage is picked up downtown on Saturday when there's a statutory holiday.

He said for staff to look into it further,

the Region would prefer to start with an official request from Milton council, since the Town determines the level of service it wants and pays the Region for waste collection out of its budget.

After that, he said staff would investigate the price of the extra collection day and go back to Town council with its findings.

Besides the garbage cans filling up quickly between the Tuesday and Friday collection days, Mr. Miles explained collection staff has been experiencing difficulties grasping the containers properly to empty them when they're overflowing.

"We don't expect anybody to put their
• see RESIDENTIAL on page A17

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