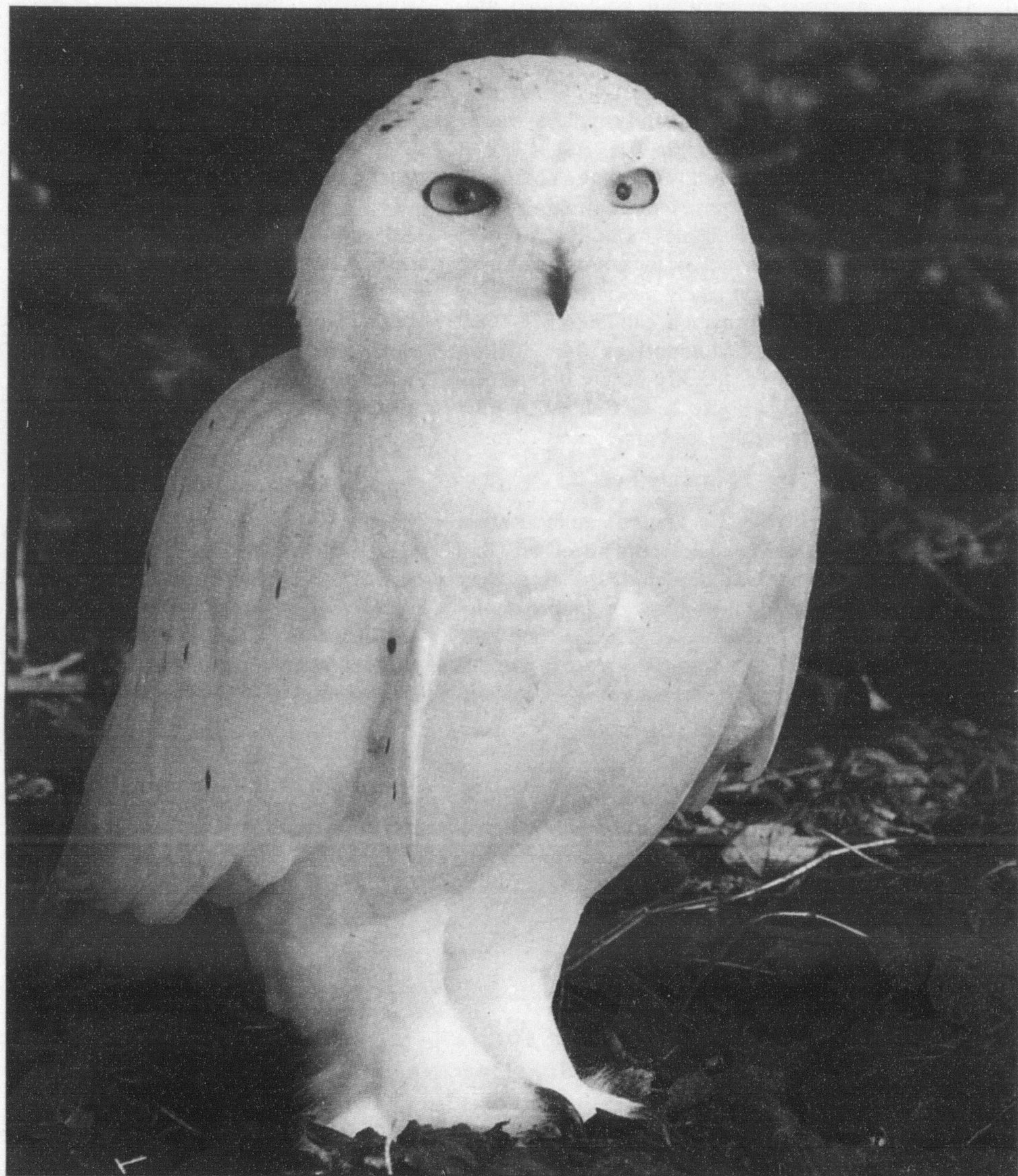


Champion Country

Covering Rural Halton & Wellington County



WEARING WINTER WHITE — Thanks to a green January, this snowy owl has a little bit of a problem blending into its environment. Champion photographer Barrie Erskine was visiting the raptor centre at Mountsberg Conservation Area Sunday and had no trouble spotting the snowy owl. The unique wetlands of Mountsberg — located on Milborough Line north of Campbellville Road — are a birdwatcher's paradise.

Some rural residents not too crazy about Region's GreenCart pilot project

While a recent survey the Region conducted may show most Halton residents taking part in the GreenCart pilot project are satisfied with it, a local councillor says some rural Milton residents aren't embracing the program.

Wards 1 and 3 Councillor Barry Lee reported at a recent planning and public works committee meeting that there's a "significant objection" to the GreenCart concept in the area he represents.

Burlington Councillor John Taylor concurred that rural residents don't appear to be embracing the concept like urban residents.

The survey, conducted by Ipsos Reid on behalf of the Region, said concerns residents expressed about the GreenCart include perceived inconvenience of the program, the cost of the paper bag liners and a concern over possible odour issues.

Mr. Lee suggested the wording used to obtain feedback on the project be re-phrased to allow residents to provide comments regarding their specific rural or urban area.

Commissioner of Planning and Public Works Peter Crockett told him the wording can be revisited for future surveys.

The one-year test run is happening throughout Halton and involves hundreds of Campbellville-area homes, which are having their food scraps picked up at the curb in a GreenCart — a container that's like a recycling box with a lid and handle for curbside

collection. A 'Kitchen Catcher', which is a small container to scrape kitchen scraps into, has also been provided.

Survey results

Ipsos Reid surveyed a total of 450 residents, 90 in each GreenCart demonstration area.

It found that 78 per cent of participants are satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the GreenCart, and 74 per cent are satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the Kitchen Catcher.

Almost 90 per cent of residents in the pilot areas said they've used the GreenCart.

When asked what they liked about the GreenCart, residents expressed they feel it is good for the environment, reduces waste sent to the landfill and it is easy to use, a report from Mr. Crockett explained.

Plastic bags approved

As part of the demonstration, regional council approved the use of compostable plastic bags in the two Burlington GreenCart pilot areas at its January 18 meeting. The Region will be supplying the homes with one box of large and one box of small plastic bags.

In addition, those in the Milton demonstration area will be provided with a sample of large paper bags to compare the impact that having the bags supplied by the Region has on bag use, Mr. Crockett's report noted.

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