

# New hazardous waste depot to open at landfill site

Halton Region will officially open its permanent household hazardous waste depot tomorrow (Thursday) at the regional landfill site on Highway 25 and Britannia Road in Milton.

The current \$5 charge at the landfill site will not apply to the new depot, according to regional public works spokesperson Lynn Johns.

The depot, established after a pilot project in Oakville underscored its viability, is the first publically owned, permanent depot of its kind in Ontario, designed, built and operated under a long-term contract with a private sector company.

The depot is open six days per week and replaces temporary sites at Steeles Avenue in Milton and at Ironside Drive in Burlington, which were open part time. Located centrally, it services 100,000 households in Halton.

Several officials will be on hand for the opening including: Regional Chair Peter Pomeroy, MPP Irene Mathysen, who is assistant to Minister of the

Environment Bud Wildman, Halton North MPP Noel Duignan, and James Bullock, president of Laidlaw Inc., the private contractor involved.

According to company literature, Laidlaw Environmental is the second largest manager of hazardous waste in North America, with more than 50 operating locations.

Household hazardous waste includes solvents, paints, pharmaceuticals, gas and propane cylinders, pool chemicals, cleaners, fertilizers and automobile oil and fluids.

As an expansion of current programs, this project will likely increase the 31 per cent of all waste that is currently diverted from the landfill. In addition, the hazardous wastes can be disposed of safely.

In 1992, more than 194,000 litres of household hazardous waste and almost 4,800 pressurized gas cylinders were treated for safe disposal or recycled through previous programs. The program has been used by 9,600 households in Halton.

## Call volunteers 'saving grace'

# After 21 years, ex-prisoner reforms to earn college degree

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

Serge Leclerc admits openly that he has an attitude. Only now he makes sure it doesn't get him in trouble.

The former prisoner turned profes-

## Testing on wells to begin this week

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said such puddles were plowed so the material could be turned into the soil. The sludge is injected into the ground during application.

Halton Region will test wells in the area this week and continue to monitor the wells for any signs of contamination, to calm the fears of residents, according to Mr. Morton. He added the region requested the concerns of local residents in writing, so they could be properly addressed. He expected another meeting with residents would take place in a few weeks.

Mr. Pelz said the region is testing his well for bacteria but he was negotiating for a more wide-ranging sampling, including nitrates. Bacteria is often an indication of sewage contamination, while nitrate levels can indicate fertilizers or faulty septic systems might be contaminating the water, according to a Department of Health report on the issue, released last week.

sional speaker had something to say to 171 volunteers who were honoured at Maplehurst Correctional Centre Thursday night.

"God bless you. You change lives. Mine was changed."

It was a jail volunteer who set him on the right path in life, Mr. Leclerc told the audience.

Volunteers work in the Milton institution's correctional and detention centres, lending support to inmates in several ways.

Some lead self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, anger management and drug programs. Others tutor inmates or lead Bible study, and meet with prisoners for one-on-one visiting.

The ex-con served 21 years for crimes from armed robbery to drug trafficking. His criminal record is long and nasty.

He's critical of the Canadian criminal justice system, the operation of prisons, and the Young Offenders Act.

The holder of an honours BA in social work at the University of Waterloo brings his message to community groups, schools, church groups and anyone who wants to listen.

Thursday night, Maplehurst volunteers were listening. Mr. Leclerc called them the "saving grace of the (jail) system."

"There's not much else great I can say about the system."

He told the audience about his miserable childhood, during which he lived in poverty. He grew up in a world of abuse and was in trouble with the law as a teenager.

Prison didn't serve as a deterrent and he continued his life of crime. He was called brain damaged, a psychopath.

Volunteers, though, had faith in him and helped him find the inner strength to set himself straight.

"The man who was beyond reach was reached by volunteers," he told the crowd.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

### MILTON DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND MONITORING REPORT

As part of the Region of Halton's ongoing monitoring of servicing capacity and development approvals, Region Planning and Public Works Staff, in cooperation with the Town of Milton Planning Staff, have recently completed a review of the current water supply and wastewater treatment capacity for the Milton Urban Area.

Regional Planning and Public Works Staff will present findings on the water supply and wastewater treatment capacity at a Public Information Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 24, 1994, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, Bishop Reding High School, 1600 Main Street East, Town of Milton.

For further information, please call the Planning and Development Department and ask for Doug Corbett at the following phone numbers:

From Milton, Oakville, Burlington 825-6161  
From Aldershot 639-4540  
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