



The advice is free

Huronia Do-It-Yourself and Garage co-owner Lorne Hammond says business on the weekends is good, and

that he sees quite a few regulars. Still the full-time mechanics do more of the work than the amateurs.

Any questions?

The sign above the order desk in the do-it-yourself garage is self-explanatory. Co-owner Lorne Hammond says when people are told

the labour rate is \$18 an hour, and given the alternative of renting space and hand tools for \$3 an hour, some opt for the alternative.

A unique experience

Tools cheap, advice free at do-it-yourself garage

by Murray Moore

Do you dread those all too frequent trips taking the family car to the neighbourhood garage for repair or maintenance?

Do the bills give you either a headache or an upset stomach? Ever wish there was some way to get around the high cost of garage expertise and tools?

The Huronia Do-It-Yourself and Garage may be the answer if you have a mechanical aptitude and don't mind getting dirty.

Garage

You can take your vehicle to the garage on the Golf Link Road by the Midland Golf and Country Club and rent space and have your choice of hand tools for \$3 an hour.

The do-it-yourself part of the business has been operating for more than a year. Co-owner Lorne Hammond says the idea was shared between himself and his partner, Wally Baker. It's the first of its kind in this area, he said. The two men decided a do-it-yourself garage was something Midland and area needed.

Hammond describes it as a place where a person can work on their car

without the work costing him an arm or a leg.

The impression shouldn't be left that all the garage's customers are male. Hammond could remember having a couple of women bring in their cars. One woman fixed her floor. "She rented a rivet gun and an electric drill and at it she went," he said with a smile.

Power tools are available at an extra fee. You can rent a paint booth, spray gun and compressor and leave your car to dry overnight for \$30. The paint you provide yourself, or you can probably buy it there.

If you don't know how to do what you want to do, you can find out. The garage is an agent for automatic transmissions, and ball joints and tie rod ends. The garage rebuilds motors. And "anything with a grease fitting, we can do it."

The do-it-yourself section is open Monday through Saturdays until 10 p.m.

Hammond was asked if the garage sprayed oil on the bottoms of cars.

Their labour rate, he responded, is \$18 an hour.

And the advice is free. People often decide to try doing their job themselves when given a choice, he said.



Money available for Home and Residential Rental Unit Repairs

Applications are now being accepted for home owners and landlords wishing to apply for financial assistance for home and rental residential unit repairs under the R.R.A.P. (Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program) which is a Federal sponsored program, and O.H.R.P. (Ontario Home Renewal Program) which is a Provincial sponsored program.

All home owners and landlords in

Penetanguishene, with the exception of those units in the Town's new subdivision, Rolling Sands Estates and Brule Heights Subdivision are eligible to receive R.R.A.P. and O.H.R.P. funds for residential unit repairs. Home owner loans are geared to income. The interest rate, which ranges from 1 per cent to 12 per cent depending on which program is used, is again geared to income. The programs provide loans with forgiveness portions as follows:

O.H.R.P. HOUSING:
Adjusted Family Income
\$6,000.00 or less

Maximum Grant
\$4,000.00

Maximum Loan
\$7,500.00

Note: \$15,500.00 A.F.I. is the maximum income where a grant or loan is available. Interest rate ranges from 0 per cent to 8 per cent depending on income.

R.R.A.P. HOUSING:
Adjusted Family Income
\$9,000.00 or less

Maximum Grant
\$3,750.00

Maximum Loan
\$10,000.00

Note: \$16,450.00 A.F.I. is the maximum income where a grant or loan is available. Income above that is eligible for a loan only. Present interest rate if 12 per cent.

R.R.A.P. RENTAL:

Note: Not geared to income but to construction cost of repairs.

Maximum Grant

50 per cent of construction cost, to a maximum of \$2,500.00. Providing landlord comes up with the other 50 per cent of funds.

Applicants wishing to apply for a loan should contact the Town Office, at 10 Robert St. W., and ask for Eric Buchholz, Chief Building

Official and Property Standards Officer, or phone 549-7453 for further information.