

C.H.I.P. program still in effect

CONTACT

Since fall has officially arrived one can hear the buzz of saws, smell the aroma of preserves, and see the changing colours of our landscape.

With all these signals of autumn we know that the cold harsh winds and snow of winter are not all that far off and like the squirrels we are preparing ourselves for the long winter months.

Also now with the increased costs of energy, many people are carefully examining their homes to check if there is adequate insulation to keep the spiralling cost from ever going higher.

So when the threat of snow is in the air and the farmer's almanac predicts another cold winter, do-it-yourselfers start sizing up the job while others start searching for a qualified contractor. But as with any major expenditure, investigate before you invest.

The Canadian Home Insulation Program (C.H.I.P.) is still in effect and it certainly can help many homeowners with the cost of insulating their home but Buyer Beware....

CHIP office

It is your responsibility to ensure you

receive value for your money. The CHIP office will not arbitrate or become involved in any disagreements which you may have with your contractor.

Random inspections are undertaken by CHIP solely to ensure the effective use of public funds, and not for the protection of the consumer.

Always obtain at least three written estimates before signing any contract. Consult your neighbours when selecting a contractor. Make sure that the contractor you select is reputable.

You can call Contact and give the names of the contractors that have provided you with written estimates, and we will tell you if we have received any complaints concerning those companies.

This service is free.

Always obtain a copy of your contractor's standard form contract and read all the terms and conditions very carefully before you sign it.

Make sure that the contract sets out in detail the cost, the CMHC acceptance number, the quantity, the type, the quality of the insulation material to be used and the labour

cost for installation.

Make certain that the material to be used has a CMHC acceptance number, otherwise your application will be rejected.

Contract

Compare the cost of the material described in the contract with the same material sold at retail outlets. When more than one contractor is considered (all being of equal reputation) you should probably select the contractor with the lowest price.

Remember, you have contracted to pay the contractor and the CHIP grant is only to help defray your costs.

Remember you are legally bound by any contract you sign!

Ontario has consumer protection legislation which may provide a "cooling-off" period after signing.

During this brief period you can reconsider and cancel the contract. However, it is much safer to make certain that you are getting the material, the work and the price that you want before you sign. Never sign an incomplete contract or an incomplete CHIP application form.

If the contractor offers to complete a CHIP application form on your behalf, you should check for accuracy any information he provides.

Please check the work performed by the contractor to make sure he installs the agreed type and quantity of insulation. Do not be afraid to ask the contractor questions. A reputable contractor will gladly reply to your questions. He wants you to be a satisfied customer...and so do we!

Insulation

Also a thing to know is that all insulation work must be completed before you fill in your CHIP application form and apply for your grant.

Contact has CHIP forms and also other government insulation information so please feel free to call Contact at 526-9333 and we will send it out to you.

Happiness is helping people to help themselves.

Mary M. Gibson,
Administrator.

on the job in Elmvale

Elmvale OPP have in their possession, a little red box specially designed to let them know when you have had too much to drink. And better still, they can carry it around in the cruisers with them, should they decide to stop you for any reason whatsoever.

The box is called an ALERT (Alcohol level evaluation roadside tester) and on it are three lights, red, amber and green. Red is a failed test, amber tells the officer you are in the warning level and green is a pass.

A police officer has the right to stop your vehicle and ask you to submit to an ALERT test for any reason. Mere suspicion that a driver has been drinking is grounds to use the tester. The test is given on the spot and if a green or amber light is displayed, the driver is left to continue on or receives a verbal warning (amber).

However, if the test shows a red signal, the driver of the vehicle will be taken to the police station where he or she will undergo a breathalyzer test to determine the exact amount of alcohol in the bloodstream. Failure to comply with an officer's request to submit to a roadside test carries the same penalty under the criminal code as that of failure to submit to the breathalyzer. That is, suspension of the driver's licence and a fine.

According to Elmvale OPP Sergeant E. Graves, the machine is in use in every detachment in the district and charges have already

stemmed from the use of the ALERT box. Village officers will probably be using the machine on the 4-12 shift mainly, he said, but it will also be in use during

\$40,000 shot in the arm

Penetanguishene town council was made recipients of a provincial grant of \$40,000 recently according to a letter tabled at Monday night's regular meeting.

The letter from Claude F. Bennett, minister of housing, states an application made by council last May, under the Housing Development Act was approved and the money forwarded represents an advance.

The minister, in his letter, adds a caution

the day.

So the next time you decide to drink and drive, keep in mind the updated methods the police have of finding out, and take a taxi.

however, saying "... funds available to Ontario municipalities for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1981, are limited to \$20,000,000.... I would like to emphasize that this advance may represent the total funds that can be made available to your municipality..."

The grant will be distributed to selected applicants for home improvement. The municipality has now exceeded more than \$300,000 in loans under the provincial program.

Mrs. Bert Smith wins quilt

Mrs. Bert Smith of Smith's Camp, Midland will be able to keep warm this winter now that she has won the Dresden Plate quilt in the Little Lake Park Social Club quilt draw on Thursday at Midland Lawn Bowling Club.

The draw was held between games in the Pypher Trophy competition at the local club.

Second prize of place mats went to Jean Harvey of Victoria Harbour.

The quilt was sewn by the ladies of the Little Lake Social Club in-

volving many hours of hard work.

Receipts from the draw were split between the local lawn bowling club, of which the group is an affiliate, and the local chapter of the Cancer Society to be used for cancer research.

Snow removal

Midland's Public Works department has been repairing and readying its snow removal equipment since the snow melted last spring.

THE MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY IN CANADA. ONE OF A SERIES.

GASOLINE: YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO CONSERVE IT

The need to use oil carefully has become a fact of life. Since one of our major uses of oil is for the production of gasoline, one of the best ways we can conserve oil is with our automobiles.

Have you kicked all your bad driving habits?

If you're like most Canadians, you can boost your car's fuel economy by an average of 12-15%, just by the way you drive. For instance:

1. Speed is your biggest gas guzzler. At 110/km/h you use 20% more fuel than at 90/km/h.
2. Accelerate slowly and avoid jackrabbit starts and sudden braking.
3. Never use your brake pedal as a foot rest. It's costly and dangerous.
4. Turn off the engine when you're waiting. Cut warm up idling time to 30 seconds.
5. Avoid rush hours and traffic jams. Bunch up your errands into one smooth trip.
6. Set gas savings targets for yourself. Keep track of your progress.
7. Drive to minimize braking.

Can your car pass the fitness test?

Putting your car in top shape will not only make it last longer, but could stretch your gasoline dollars up to 10% too. A few tips:

1. Check your tire pressure regularly, and keep them at the highest recommended level.
2. Radial tires last longer and give better fuel efficiency.
3. Ensure wheels are properly aligned.
4. Have brakes checked regularly. Dragging or pulling brakes wastes gas.

And watch the little things like carrying extra weight in your trunk - that hurts too. Most importantly, find a good serviceman and treat him well. A complete tune-up twice a year is the best way to keep your car in good shape.

With new cars, "less is more".

If you're currently buying a car, you're in an ideal situation to control your driving costs.

Remember then, that smaller cars typically get better fuel economy. That a light car with well-matched transmission and engine is the most economical. That extras such as air conditioning, power brakes and steering will hit you in gasoline dollars. Buy according to your needs, but try to keep your car as compact, light and simple as possible.

Whatever your car, the real trick is to use it only when necessary. Alternatives such as public transit, ride-sharing, vanpools, trains, pedals and yes, feet, really do work.

Besides, once you've tried life with less gasoline, you might even start to enjoy the "less is more" habit.

When you help yourself, you help all of us.

Individual conservation of gasoline adds up to more than just "more gas". It also means we stretch our resources, reduce the likelihood of future shortages, and cut down our dependence on unreliable foreign oil supplies.

Energy security for Canada is a goal we can all share. And, using gasoline wisely is one of the ways each of us can contribute to making it happen.

This ad is one of a series sponsored by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada to make you aware of Canada's energy situation. New editions of "The Car Book" and "The Fuel Consumption Guide" will be available soon. To get a copy write to: "Car Information", P.O. Box 3500, Postal Station "C", Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4G1.

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