

Liquid industrial wastes threat to environment, says top Ont. Grits

Some dumps and landfill sites are receiving increasing volumes of liquid industrial wastes which are threatening the environment, according to Ontario Liberals.

Illegal and improper disposal of wastes is going on without action from the Ministry of the Environment, Liberal Environment Critic Murray Elston said.

"Toxic wastes are leaching into ground-water supplies and posing threats to the health of residents in the area of poorly regulated dumps," Mr. Elston said.

Opposition Leader David Peterson cited three examples where the Ontario government has failed to properly police dumping practices -- the Perkinsfield dump near Midland, the Upper Ottawa Street dump in Hamilton, and Fighting Island in the Detroit River south of Windsor.

"These three sites are testimony to the bankruptcy of the government's waste disposal policy," the Liberal Leader said.

In each case, toxic wastes have been dumped in large volumes and damaged the surrounding environments.

The Liberals' attack followed the release by Environment Minister Keith Norton of a blueprint for waste management calling for the vigorous application of the "Four R's" -- reduction, reuse, recovery and recycling.

Mr. Elston dismissed the blueprint as "another act of public relations destined to add yet more waste paper to the piles of Ontario's garbage."

"Time and time again, we hear the same tired sermons," the Environment Critic said. "we were first lectured on the 'Four R's' back in 1974 by then Environment Minister William Newman. It's time that the Ministry reduce its rhetoric and begin to use the mechanisms it has in place to properly manage the flow of waste in Ontario.

In pressing for immediate chemical waste cleanup, Mr. Peterson said it would be folly to wait until the new Ontario Waste Management Corpor-

ation establishes a major dump site for chemical wastes.

"That could be years down the road," he said. "Meanwhile, wastes are despoiling the environment. Enforcement of existing laws must be strengthened and penalties toughened."

Mr. Peterson's comments followed tours of the Pauze Landfill site at Perkinsfield, near Midland, and the Hamilton Upper Ottawa Street dump. The Perkinsfield dump has received more than 1,000,000 gallons of chemical wastes in recent years, including chlorinated solvents, plastics, resins, paints and printing adhesives, organic solvents, oils, phosphates and sludges. Leaching has occurred. Wells of residents in the area have been contaminated and cottagers at nearby Balm Beach fear it is only a matter of time before their water supplies are poisoned.

In case of the Hamilton dump, estimates of chemical disposal run as high as 10 million gallons, with groundwater contamination confirmed and moving east toward the face of the Niagara

Escarpment, a mile away.

Potentially dangerous chemicals found at the site include polychlorinated biphenols (PCB's), benzenes, toluenes and xylenes.

Mr. Elston cited Fighting Island as another example of the government's failure to properly regulate waste disposal in Ontario. The Detroit River Island, between Windsor and Amherstberg, was used for 40 years as a repository for chemical wastes from the U.S. company BASF Wyandotte.

The government is now considering the endorsement of an island reclamation project involving the dumping of sewage sludge from the City of Detroit, but scientist have detected other contaminants in the sludge, including mercury, lead, cadmium and arsenic.

The Liberals said Mr. Norton should concentrate his attention on cleaning up the existing mess.

"Instead," Mr. Elston said, "he is adding to the debris by producing such throwaway items as his timeworn blueprint for waste management."



Le Caron graduates

Graduates of 1982-83 from Ecole Secondaire Le Caron are, TOP PHOTO, front row from left, Carole Desroches, Darlene Dubeau, Barbara Carriere, Elzire Marion, Patricia Laurin, Brenda Dorion. Middle from left, Catherine Lesperance, Lisa Robitaille, Veronique Belcourt, Sylvie Lamoureux, Madeleine McNamara, Exilda Robitaille, Louise Cadeau. Back from left, Lise Charlebois, Michelle Maurice, Louise Marchildon,

Cathy King, Danielle DesRochers, Lise Gagne, Rochelle Robitaille, Monique Maurice. BOTTOM PHOTO, front from left, Andre Marchand, Michel Ladouceur, Claude Marchand, Michael Dupuis, Raymond Grondin, Gilles Marchildon. Middle from left, Raymond Desrochers, James Grozelle, David Bellehumeur, Ron LeCamp, Victor Leblanc. Back from left, Charles Robitaille, Andre Beausoleil, Michel Desroches, John Currie.

MFD wants its radio

Midland Fire Department is missing a \$1,200 two-way radio and would like it back.

According to Fire Chief Hal Belfry, it is believed the radio was taken during a recent Warden's Picnic in Penetanguishene.

The radio was with an emergency van being

used to demonstrate auto extrications when the radio went missing.

It is believed the person who found the radio may have been responsible for "Keying" its microphone several times over the weekend.

In any event, the fire department would like the radio back.

Sister town marks 125th anniversary

It's not every day that a town turns 125, and this summer during Homecoming Weeks, July 1-16, there will be no doubt that Collingwood has a lot to celebrate.

Hundreds of Collingwood citizens have been working behind the scenes for many months, organizing special activities that will be sure to get residents and visitors alike in the festive mood.

Although many exciting anniversary events have already taken place, the party will really get rolling June 30.

That's the night Collingwood's main street will come alive with music, and citizens and guests will kick up their heels at an old-fashioned street dance to kick off Homecoming Weeks.

Things will still be hopping on Canada Day July 1 with a picnic in

the park, fireworks, an old-fashioned fashion show, and non stop entertainment.

Everybody loves a parade and on July 2, people of Collingwood will stage an anniversary parade to remember, beginning at 10 a.m.

That evening, grandmother's finery will make a reappearance at the Anniversary Ball at the

Collingwood arena when many guests dressed in period costume, will lend old-fashioned elegance to the occasion.

Other anniversary events you won't want to miss include: July 3: Combined youth choirs leading a Hymn Sing at Sunset Point 7 p.m.

Dedication of Japanese gardens in honor of Collingwood's Sister City, Katano,

Japan.

July 6: Old fashioned afternoon tea, All Saints Parish Hall 2-4 p.m.

July 7, 8 & 9: "Vaudeville Varieties" - flamboyant musical revue presented by Pas Productions of Toronto in co-operation with the Blue Mountain Foundation for the Arts, Blue Mountain Base Lodge, 8 p.m.

July 9: Henry VIII Night, cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Collingwood

Curling Club.

July 14: Ship Launch, Collingwood Shipyards, 11:30 a.m.

July 14, 15 & 16: "Pack Up Your Troubles" - a musical wartime revue, Blue Mountain Base Lodge, 8 p.m.

For more details on these and other anniversary events, see the Schedule of Events or contact the Collingwood Chamber of Commerce, 445-0221.

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