

Letter to the Editor

At source Industrial Wind Turbines (IWT) are a source of noise - about 104-5 dB. This is equivalent to a pneumatic drill or a rock band. Decades of research have shown adverse health effects from noise. IWT are clearly a noise source of significance. Peer review European research has shown an impact of stress, psychological distress, and sleep disturbance from IWT. The work done in Holland was with smaller wind farms and turbines and affected 25% of people within 2.5 km. The Dutch hosts had the option of turning the turbines off if they were disturbed or their neighbours were.

It is little wonder that there are over 100 victims in Ontario and more appearing each week. The dismissive attitude portrayed by many is hard to understand. Little wonder that the matter is before the courts. It is the only place where the truth has a chance in the midst of the pervasive lobbying and marketing.

If possible it would be helpful if you could publish the following letter from a victim.

"I am angry, helpless, and disappointed our government would let something like this happen. I am appalled at their ignorance and lack of compassion. It saddens me to watch my family and friends suffer from the same [health] effects of the turbines.

I spend as much time as I can away from my home, away from my son who is also sleep deprived. We are exhausted and miserable. I often seek refuge with friends, often falling asleep minutes after I arrive.

I feel like a gypsy.

What was once a beautiful place to live has been destroyed.

Tracy Whitworth, schoolteacher
(Clear Creek, Ontario), 11/5/09"

PS The government of Japan is now conducting an investigation into what has been termed "Wind Turbine Disease".

PPS Two books have recently been published "The Wind Farm Scam" by Dr. John Etherington and "Wind Turbine Syndrome" by Dr. Nina Pierpont. Perhaps The South Marysburgh Mirror would consider reviewing them?

- Robert McMurtry

A New Approach – A great winter read!

Cradle to Cradle

William McDonough & Michael Braungart
North Point Press

This book is deeply thought provoking and raised my consciousness to a new level on how much we take everything in our life for granted, use it and then toss it out. We are all great "tossers". Just pay full attention when driving down your street on garbage day, look at your own output you take to the curb. Granted, we recycle a great deal now, and it makes us feel good, but what about all the items that end up at the dump or are incinerated?

Old furniture, old cars, TV's, computers, fridges, stoves, the list goes on. Out of sight, out of mind. But what if a new way of thinking would be implemented, for industry to create items with a built-in plan that would allow most of the material to be recycled without the use of toxic chemicals, or impossible to retrieve as for instance copper from car wrecks, and so on.

From the back-jacket of this book:

"Reduce, reuse, recycle", urge environmentalists; in other words, do more with less in order to minimize damage. But as Architect William McDonough and chemist Michael Braungart point out in this provocative, visionary book, such an approach only perpetuates the one-way, "cradle to grave" manufacturing model, dating to the industrial Revolution, that creates such fantastic amounts of waste and pollution in the first place.

Why not challenge the belief that human industry must damage the natural world? In fact, why not take nature itself as our model for making things? A tree Produces thousands of blossoms in order to create another tree, yet we consider its abundance not wasteful but safe, beautiful, and highly effective.