

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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9 Teens take art to streets, exhibits with gallery's after-school program

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SISTER-KISSERS



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Sisters Margaret Ivancic, Tina Ivancic and Diana Ivancic-Skinner all get wet kisses from their pooches, Teddi, Sydney and Daisy, during a walk in Stouffville Memorial Park.

Charlie, centre, was more interested in a nearby fire hydrant. The weather forecast looks sunny, and great for a walk in Whitchurch-Stouffville this week.

Contamination of recycling containers costing region about \$118K annually

Blue box cop will catch recycle cheats

BY PATRICK MANGION
Staff Writer

If you are putting banned recyclables in your blue box, be prepared to have it left behind.

A recycle sleuth is on the way as part of tough new measures expected to be approved today by the region.

The amount of banned material dumped in blue boxes by residents is on the rise which

compromises the quality of recyclable material and decreases its value, York's manager of waste disposal, Alec Scott, said.

Contamination, such as shredded paper, has more than doubled in the past three years and could threaten the region's ambitious plan to divert 65 per cent of all household waste from landfills by 2010, he added.

Blue box contamination costs the region about \$118,000 a year, Mr. Scott said.

With that in mind, the region will pay a

bylaw officer \$77,000 a year to check and ensure household recyclable loads picked up by the collection contractor are contaminate-free.

The move should buffer a crackdown already in place for residential offenders.

This is how it will work:
If you're caught filling your blue box with banned material, such as foam egg cartons, wax paper, drinking glasses, lightbulbs, plastic toys and potato chip bags, collection crews

will tag the entire box and leave its contents behind.

If they don't leave it behind, collectors could be fined up to \$500 and have their loads turned away from York's two waste transfer stations or be put on probation.

The region, however, is optimistic a heavy-handed approach won't be needed.

See **WARNING**, page 10.

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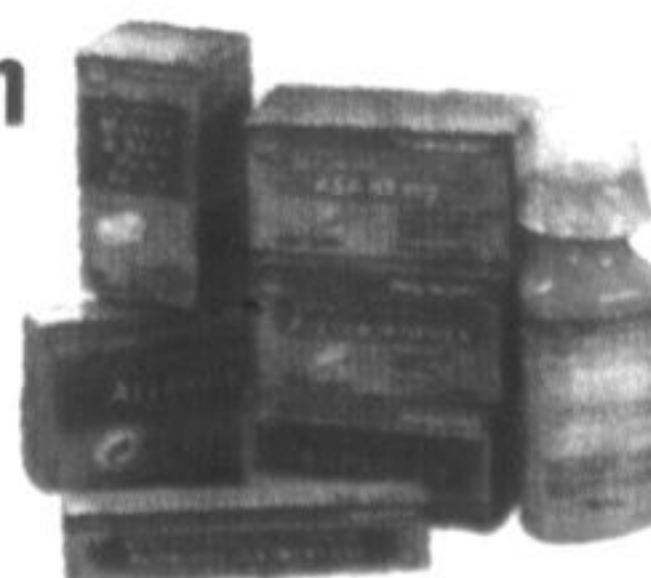
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