

Ninth Line trees felled by developer with town's blessing

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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A number of trees have been removed from the Ninth Line and Millard Avenue area as part of the Geranium Homes' development, but it was done in accordance with town regulations, professionals and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Unfortunately, were not in the best of health," said Mike Molinari, director of engineering and capital projects, for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Many of the area's hawthorns, buckthorns and apple trees will remain, he said.

Residents called The Sun-Tribune to complain, after seeing the trees come down.

'Some of the larger trees, unfortunately, were not in the best of health.'

As part of a developer's application process, they are required to submit environmental impact studies to assess the quality and

characteristics of the on-site vegetation and to identify any trees worth preserving, according to Mr. Molinari.

"It is the objective of the town to maintain and enhance existing woodlots, hedgerows and trees wherever possible," he said. "A tree conservation and planting plan (for developments outside the existing community area) is

typically required with the overall intent of restoring and enhancing these existing features."

The town does not have a formal requirement for developers to replace all removed trees.

"But tree replacements and environmental improvements are incorporated into development approvals," Mr. Molinari said.

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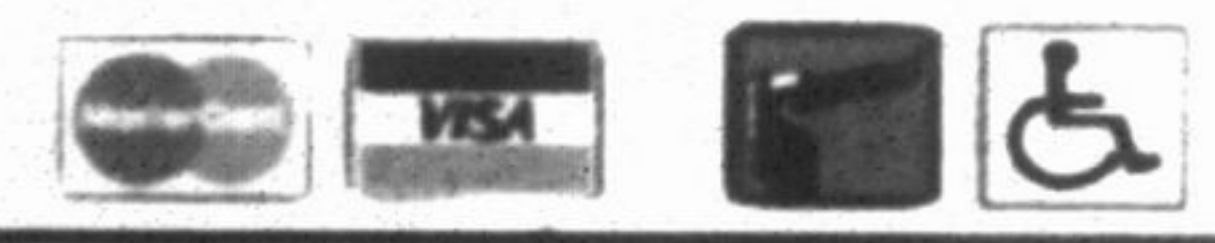
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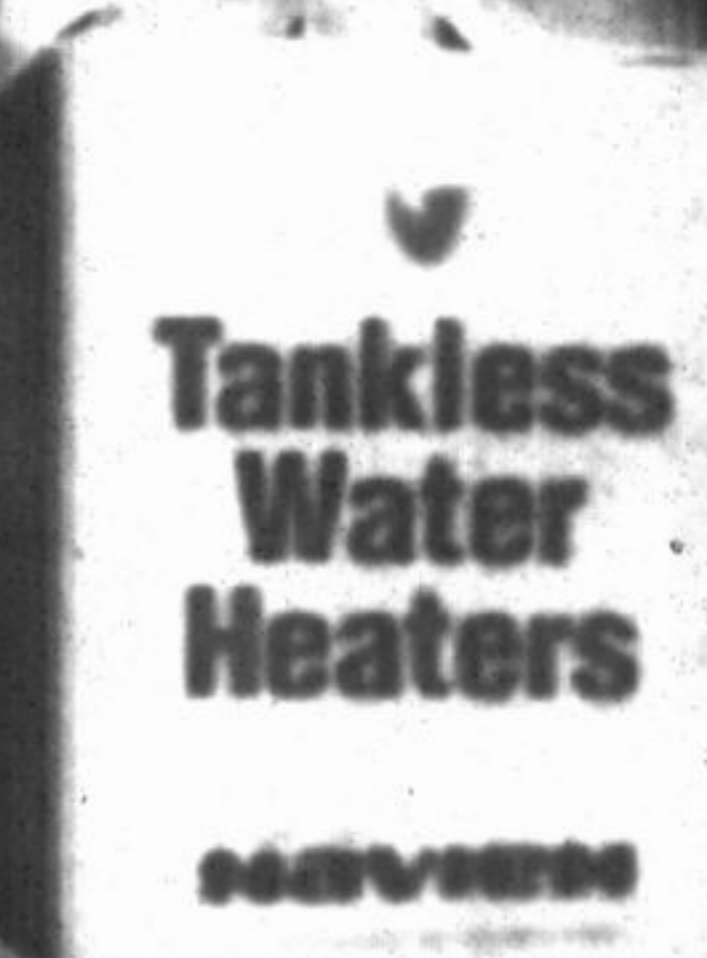
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