

PUBLIC SAFETY: Cooking top cause of home fires

Watch pots during fire prevention week

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

Stand by your pan.

Cooking is the No. 1 cause of residential fires and the leading source of fire-related injuries within Ontario, according to Jennifer Cooper, fire prevention/public education officer for the Whitchurch-Stouffville fire department.

Between 2007 and 2011, there were 1,410 cooking related fires in the province, according to the Fire Marshal's office. For 2011 and 2012, there were eight cooking related incidents within Whitchurch-Stouffville, but no related injuries or deaths, according to fire chief Rob McKenzie.

"It hasn't been an issue. Not to say it won't be an issue tomorrow, next year," he said.

The major cause of these fires is unattended food being cooked in grease.

This year's Fire Prevention Week - Oct. 6 to 12 - focuses on kitchen fires.

The major cause of these fires is unattended food being cooked in grease.

Unlike a pot of boiling water that will evaporate and cause your pasta to stick to the pot's bottom,

when oil hits a certain temperature, it ignites.

"The flame is a foot or foot-and-a-half high, it will get into the cupboards and progress," Mr. McKenzie said.

If you do see flames start to shoot out of the pot, put the lid on it immediately then turn the burner off. Do not move the pot because you could burn yourself and let in oxygen, which will re-ignite the flames.

Once the pot is cooled, you can dispose of it normally.

Never try to put out a grease fire with water.

"It's like an explosion. You just have a huge fire and oil all over yourself," Ms Cooper said.

Town CAO's retirement announced by mayor

Whitchurch-Stouffville CAO David Cash has retired after eight years with the municipality.

"Members of council wish Mr. Cash good health and all the best in the future," said Mayor Wayne Emmerson in a media release from the town sent late yesterday.

Officials were unavailable to comment.

PLANNER IS ACTING CAO

Mr. Cash was appointed CAO in 2006. He had arrived from the Town of Oakville where he had been a commissioner.

"I have enjoyed my time with Whitchurch-Stouffville, serving the community and working with the great staff at the town," Mr. Cash stated in the town's media release. "I would like to wish everyone continued success in the future."

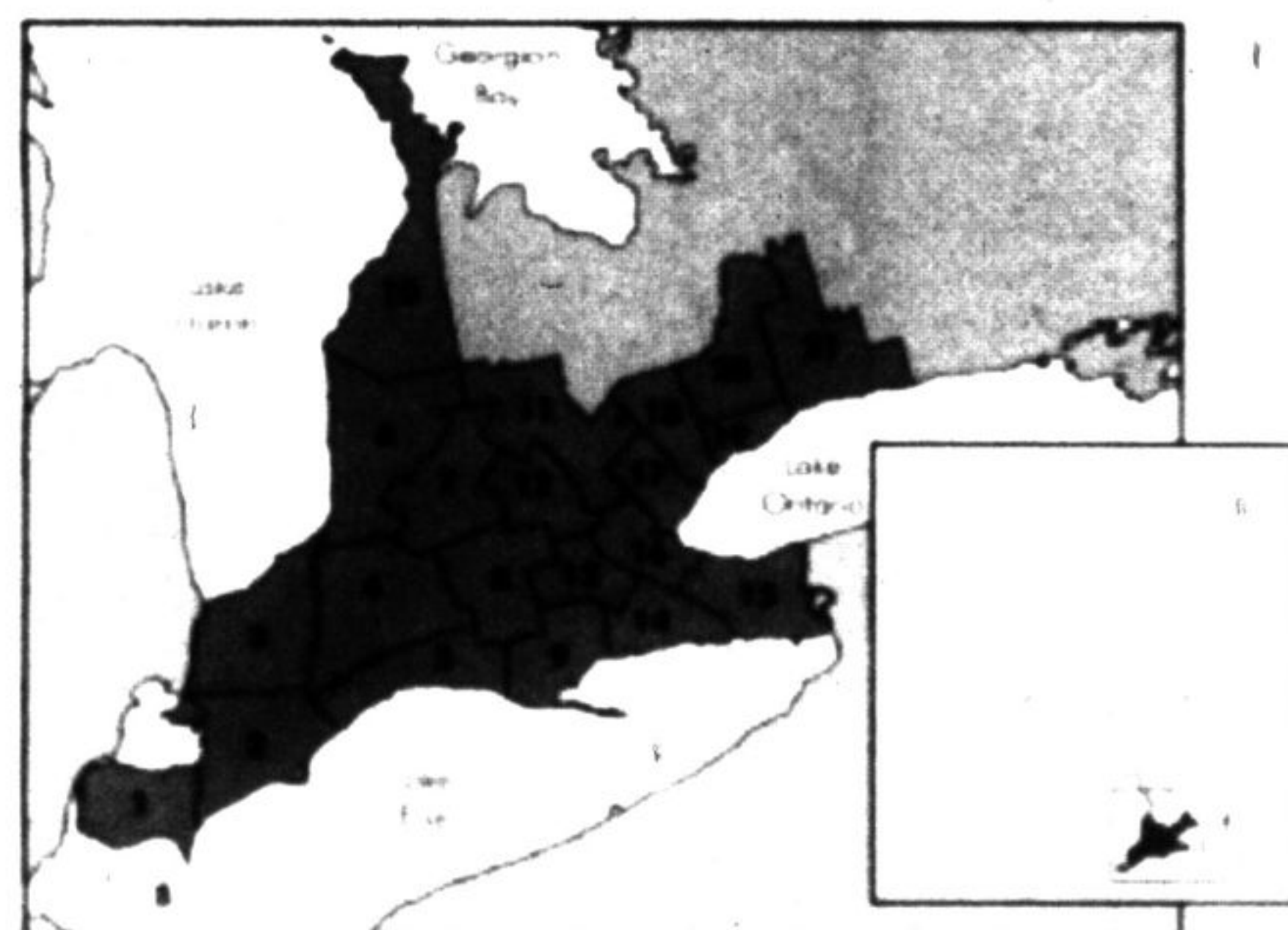
Andrew McNeely, the municipality's director of planning and building services, has been appointed acting CAO.

- Sandra Bolan

THE EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) is killing ash trees throughout Ontario. Help protect our trees!

EAB has been detected in southern Ontario. The following counties are in the regulated area: Essex (1), Chatham-Kent (2), Lambton (3), Middlesex (4), Elgin (5), Huron (6), Perth (7), Oxford (8), Norfolk (9), Bruce (10), Wellington (11), Waterloo (12), Brant (13), Haldimand (14), Niagara (15), Hamilton (16), Halton (17), Peel (18), Toronto (19), York (20), and Durham (21).

EAB regulated area in southern Ontario



EAB is a destructive insect that spreads to new areas when infested wood is moved.

By federal regulation, anyone moving ash tree materials or firewood out of this 21-county regulated area without written permission from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency may be fined or prosecuted.

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD

For more information, visit
www.inspection.gc.ca/pests
or call 1-866-463-6017

Bouclair HOME

THROWS 29⁹⁹
Size 50" x 60" each

home fashion. smart value.

Available in teal, gray, red and white. Selection may vary by store.



Available in ivory, dusty mauve, brick, gray, lime and teal.



Available in off white, chocolate, taupe, black, plum, gray and teal.



f b t p

York Region



- 1 PLAN TOGETHER
- 2 SHOP TOGETHER
- 3 COOK TOGETHER
- 4 EAT TOGETHER

Kids who plan, shop, cook and eat with their family enjoy benefits that go beyond nutrition.

COOK UP some FUN! with your family

For info, tips and a chance to win a \$200 grocery store gift card, visit www.york.ca/nutrition

1-800-361-5653

TTY: for those with hearing impairments

1-866-252-9933

York Region Health Services

Community and Health Services

Public Health

www.york.ca