



Halton **Environmental** Network

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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HEN NEWS

- HHEAT (Hamilton Halton Energy Awareness Team) begins a **series of free workshops on community power** next week. Expert speakers will address various aspects of the renewable energy co-op business model. The same workshops are being held in Hamilton. Contact here.anujar@gmail.com or 647-880-4656, visit <http://hheathub.blogspot.com> for more information, or read <http://www.insidehalton.com/community/environment/article/1281503--green-energy-workshop-series-coming-to-halton>.
 - **Tues. Jan. 24**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Oakville Town Hall, 1225 Trafalgar Rd.
 - Overview of the renewable energy co-op model, technology and site selection
 - **Tues. Feb. 21**, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Burlington Library, 2331 New St.
 - Financing mechanisms and business plan formation for the renewable energy co-op
 - **Tues. Mar. 20**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Milton Sports Centre, 605 Santa Maria Blvd.
 - Principles of co-op promotion and maintenance
- The **2012 Halton Enviro Guide** is available on our website and in hard copy at town halls, libraries, and schools throughout Halton. See <http://haltonenvironment.com/halton-enviro-guide>. If you would like copies, please email hen.admin@gmail.com or call 905-299-2327.
- We are currently experiencing some growing pains on our website. We hope to have it back to full functionality soon and apologize for any inconvenience.

ENVIRO TIP

- When you treat your icy steps, walk, or driveway with salt-based de-icers, the chemicals they contain flow into waterways, diminishing water quality and harming trees, plants and fish. Here are some tips on more environmentally friendly ways to deal with icy patches this winter.
 - **Shovel first.** To minimize ice build-up, shovel often and clean off as much snow as possible before using a de-icer.
 - **Salt sparingly.** If you must salt, use as little as needed and watch out for sensitive plants and grasses — and dispose of any excess de-icer once the weather dries.
 - **Find green alternatives.** There are several de-icers available — such as sand, EcoTraction, or Safe Paw™ — that are safer for the environment than salt-based de-icers.
[source: TD Friends of the Environment Foundation]

ACTION ALERTS

- **Conservation Halton has its own YouTube channel.** See videos from Glen Eden plus **conservation minutes** on various topics at <http://www.youtube.com/user/conservationhalton>.
- Vote for Conservation Halton's **Songbird Meadows** project in Shell Canada's Fuelling Change contest. The project at the new Glenorchy Conservation Area is currently in 3rd place and could win \$50,000. <http://www.fuellingchange.com/main/project/233/>
- Grant Linney, a Canadian climate change speaker who trained with Al Gore's Climate Reality Project and has spoken in Halton a couple of times in the past year, has started a climate change blog. <http://climategrant.com/>
- The Ontario Clean Air Alliance has produced a new pamphlet, **Don't let nuclear projects blow our electricity bills through the roof!** <http://www.cleanairalliance.org/node/1063>
- SolarShare is a Toronto-based non-profit organization offering **\$1,000 solar bonds at 5% interest with a 5-year term.** SolarShare is associated with the Toronto Renewable Energy Co-op (TREC) and owns a number of solar PV facilities operating under Ontario's FIT (feed-in tariff) program. <http://www.solarbonds.ca>
- **Municipal budget process:**
 - **Oakville:** public open houses January 18, 24, 26; public delegations Feb. 2, 7 <http://www.oakville.ca/townhall/annual-budgets.html>
 - **Burlington:** community meeting February 2 <http://www.burlington.ca/budget2012>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

- Volunteer Halton is looking for a **Coordinator for Change the World – Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge 2012.** This is a 5 month part-time position. Application deadline is Monday, January 23. <http://volunteerhalton.ca/vh-news/community-spotlight/344-jobs>
- Waterlution is hosting a residential weekend training session in **The Art of Hosting Water Dialogues**, in Toronto April 20-22. Application deadline is Friday, January 23. <http://www.waterlution.org/aohwd>
- Earth Day Canada is hosting free **Ecomentor training** in Burlington on Saturday, January 28. Application deadline is Thursday, January 26. <http://www.ecomentors.ca>
- **Internships** available with Backyard Bounty in Guelph for the **summer growing season.** <http://www.backyardbounty.ca/participate/internships>
- Graduating high school students can win one of 20 \$5,000 scholarships from the **Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Program.** Deadline is January 31. <http://www.earthday.ca/scholarship/about.php>

OTHER NEWS

- **Are you a radical?** Federal Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver suggested last week that everyone opposing the **Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline** in B.C. is a radical. Read David Suzuki's letter at <http://www.straight.com/article-585371/vancouver/david-suzuki-whats-so-radical-about-caring-earth-opposing-enbridge-northern-gateway-pipeline-project>.
- A study of two nearly identical condominium towers in Toronto has proven the **value of energy-efficiency upgrades**, prodding the developer, Tridel, to consider even further upgrades in future. <http://www.thestar.com/article/1111088>
- A U.S. news aggregator has tallied **mention of climate change and global warming** in the media and found that it **has been decreasing since 2007** in Canada as well as the U.S. This despite the wacky recent weather. <http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/article/1115493>

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- **Farm Forward** is a U.S. nonprofit advocacy and consulting group working on innovative strategies to promote conscientious food choices, reduce farm animal suffering, and advance sustainable agriculture. <http://www.farmforward.com/>

SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

- Mountsberg Conservation Area is offering **horse-drawn wagon or sleigh rides** weekends until Family Day, Feb. 20. Rides are at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. and cost \$3/adult, \$2/child in addition to park admission. <http://www.conservationhalton.ca/events.cfm?itemid=10482>
- Crawford Lake Conservation Area is offering **guided moonlight snowshoe hikes** every Friday and Saturday evening 6:30-8:30 in January and February. Cost is \$15/adult, \$10/senior or child (8-15). <http://www.conservationhalton.ca/events.cfm?itemid=3732>
- **Glen Eden Ski and Snowboard Centre** in Milton is open daily 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. <http://gleneden.on.ca/> or 905-878-5011 <http://www.gleneden.on.ca>.
- Bronte Creek Provincial Park's **ice rink** is open daily 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. until the end of February. Park admission charges apply. Call for conditions at 905-827-6911. <http://www.brontecreek.org/bronte-creek-ice-rink.htm>

EVENTS (N=new entry, U=updated entry, F=family activity, V=volunteer activity)

Disclaimer: HEN does not take a position on the issues presented at these events. They are listed as events that are potentially of interest to our readership.

	WHEN	WHO	WHAT	WHERE	LINK/PHONE
	Thur. Jan. 19 7:00 p.m.	Halton Green Screens	"The Light Bulb Conspiracy"	Encore Cinema, 171 Speers Rd., Oakville	www.haltongreenscreens.ca Free
F	Sat. Jan. 21 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Credit Valley Conservation	Bird Feeder Workshop	Terra Cotta Conservation Area, 14452 Winston Churchill	www.creditvalleyca.ca 905-670-1615 ext. 221 \$16/adult; \$10/child, senior
	Sat. Jan. 21 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Royal Botanical Gardens	Snowshoeing/ Winter Walk at the Gardens	RBG Nature Centre, 16 Old Guelph Rd., Dundas	www.rbg.ca 1-800-694-4769 \$15/person
N	Sun. Jan. 22 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Royal Botanical Gardens	Get Back to Nature Hike – Cootes South Shore	Meet at Aviary parking lot, Oak Knoll Dr., Hamilton	www.rbg.ca 905-527-1158 ext. 270 Free
N	Sun. Jan. 22 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Giant's Rib	How was the Niagara Escarpment formed?	Discovery Centre, 57 Discovery Drive, Hamilton	www.giantsrib.ca 905-3492 \$3
N	Sun. Jan. 22 7:30 p.m.	Burlington Baptist Church Sunday Evening Forum	Bees, Food Security, and You: Dr. Laurence Packer	2225 New St., Burlington	www.burlingtonbaptist.com 905-335-5537 \$5 at the door
N	Mon. Jan. 23 7:00 p.m.	Ontario Clean Air Alliance	Stop New Nuclear in Ontario	Metro Hall, Rm. 310, 55 John St., Toronto	www.cleanairalliance.org
	Tues. Jan. 24 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Hamilton Halton Energy Awareness Team	Community Power workshop – co-ops & site selection	Oakville Town Hall, 1225 Trafalgar Rd., Committee Rm. 1	http://hheathub.blogspot.com 647-880-4656

Halton Environmental Network

	WHEN	WHO	WHAT	WHERE	LINK/PHONE
N	Wed. Jan. 25 2:30 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.	Bay Area Restoration Council	Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan	Discovery Centre, 57 Discovery Dr., Hamilton	www.hamiltonharbour.ca 905-336-6279 Pre-registration requested
N	Wed. Jan. 25 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Hamilton Halton Energy Awareness Team	Community Power workshop – co-ops & site selection	Laidlaw United Church, 155 Ottawa St. N., Hamilton	http://hheathub.blogspot.com 905-549-0900
N	Wed. Jan. 25 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	GreenTrans	Forum on transportation issues in Halton	Oakville Town Hall, 1225 Trafalgar Rd., Committee Rm. 1	http://greentrans.blogspot.com 905-844-5021
	Jan. 26-29		Guelph Organic Conference	University of Guelph	www.guelphorganicconf.ca
N	Thur. Jan. 26 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	UN University Institute for Wat- er, Environment and Health	Seminar series: Managing coasts in a changing world	McMaster Innova- tion Centre, 175 Longwood Rd. S., Hamilton	www.inweh.unu.edu 905-667-5511
	Thur. Jan. 26 6:30 pm AGM 7:30 pm film	Oakvillegreen	AGM & “Your Environmental Road Trip”	Oakville Town Hall, 1225 Trafalgar Rd.	www.oakvillegreen.org
N	Fri. Jan. 27 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Conservation Halton	Owl Prowl – adult night	Mountsberg Conservation Area, Campbellville	www.conservation.ca 905-854-2276 \$15/adult; \$10/senior
N F	Sat. Jan. 28 10:00-12:00 or 2:00-4:00	Credit Valley Conservation	Snowshoeing I & Hot Chocolate	Terra Cotta Conser- vation Area, 14452 Winston Churchill	www.creditvalleyca.ca 905-670-1615 ext. 221 \$8/adult; \$5/child, senior
N F	Sat. Jan. 28 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Conservation Halton	Owl Prowl – family night	Mountsberg Conservation Area, Campbellville	www.conservation.ca 905-854-2276 \$15/adult; \$10/senior, child
N F	Sun. Jan. 29 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	City of Burlington	Lowville Winter Games	Lowville Park, Guelph Line, Lowville	www.burlington.ca/lowville 905-335-7659 Free shuttle bus available.
N	Sun. Jan. 29 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Royal Botanical Gardens	Get Back to Nature Hike – Rock Chapel	Meet at Rock Chapel parking lot	www.rbg.ca 905-527-1158 ext. 270 Free
N	Tues. Jan. 31 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	FutureWatch	Greening the Settlement Sector	10 Carden Street, Guelph	www.futurewatch.net 416-926-1985 RSVP by Jan. 24
N	Tues. Jan. 31 9:30 a.m.	Halton Region	Public delegations on Water Fluoridation	Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville	www.halton.ca 905-825-6000 or 311
N	Tues. Jan. 31 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Town of Oakville	Living with Coyotes informa- tion evening	St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre, 1280 Dundas St. W.	www.oakville.ca 905-845-6601
N	Wed. Feb. 1 7:00 p.m.	National Film Board	“Urban Roots” screening	NFB Mediatheque, 150 John St., Toronto	
N	Sat. Feb. 4 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Toronto Vegetarian Association	Totally Fabulous Vegan Bake-Off	918 Bathurst St., Toronto	www.veg.ca Register by Jan. 27 to compete