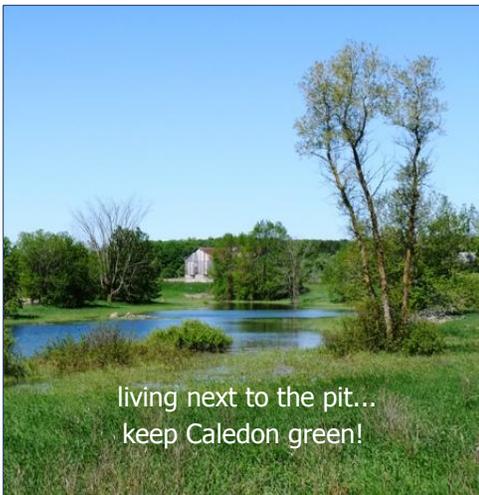


## Bulletin 14, May 2013

*In 2010 Blueland Farms applied for a licence to mine gravel at the McCormick Farm on Heart Lake Road. Two years went by without the company pursuing the process and the Ministry of Natural Resources terminated the application in March 2012 sending back their documents and requiring them to remove the notification sign from their property. Now they're back, applying for Town of Caledon Official Plan amendments.*



### **Below-the-watertable proposal unacceptable**

During the 2010-12 MNR licence application, many agencies, MNR, Peel Region, the Town of Caledon and the Niagara Escarpment Commission [NEC] among them - opposed the proposal for Class A below the water extraction based on flawed procedure. In the current OPA proposal the company persists in proposing mining below the watertable.

### **Blueland Farms documents available online**

After a number of false starts, in July 2012 Blueland Farms met with Town Planners and took the first step in pursuing amendments to the Town's Official Plan [OPA]. MNR requires these before reviewing a licence application from the proponent. You will find all the proponent's documents [online at the Town site](#). The Planning department has put

them into a pdf format for easy access. It's a hefty proposal to be digested over time.

### **What should I be looking for? ...check the small print!**

We urge you to look over the fine print carefully - you'll find some of the most illuminating points there! And *don't give the Site Plan a miss*: MNR advised REDC that the Site Plan is a most important document as it contains the legally binding conditions of the licence if it is granted.

The REDC Strategy and Research Committee is carefully reviewing the data and have noticed that there's a lot of ambiguous and open ended language. There are also some differences between the technical documents and the Site Plan.

For example one researcher noted that truck traffic remains much as in the earlier documents sent to MNR: 40 trucks in and 40 trucks out per hour, spring, summer and early fall, 7am to 7pm week days with early shut off on Saturdays at 3pm. Site Plan small print [300% magnification required] however suggests a 6am start.

The truck route will run north up Heart Lake Road along with our children's schoolbuses, past an apiary and an art studio with a children's program, past Oliver House one of the province's largest group homes for people with mental illness, past cyclists and hikers enjoying the UNESCO World Biosphere site - [that's what the sign says!]; 50% will travel east to Airport Road and south through the Caledon East business district, 50% will travel west through Caledon Village past the school and on to Hwy 10. There they will join all the other trucks passing through our communities 25% turning south and 25% continuing west towards Erin/Guelph.

### **How does this OPA proposal differ from the 2010 MNR licence application?**

There are at least 2 significant differences:

The area of the property to be mined under this proposal is now 51 acres, 26 acres less than in 2010.

Why the difference? In 2009 Blueland environmental experts were able to declare that the 3 wetlands on the property were of no great significance and did not pose much of an impediment to the proposed mining operation. However more recently MNR has designated the largest of these as a provincially significant wetland.

The application now contains asphalt and concrete recycling plants. This is land that is subject to the NEP [NEC's Plan]. Officials have offered the opinion that an asphalt recycling plan may be allowable under the Plan.

### **Is this the final version of this proposal?**

The proposal is in flux. As objections come in the proponent has access to objectors' letters and critiques and can amend the proposal in response, restructuring and adding to the documents in order to prepare a better case. *This is what the Town's proposal process is about.*

### **What next?**

At some point in the future Town Planners will call a PIM [Public Information Meeting]. Those residents who have written letters about the OPA will get three weeks prior notice. If you wish notification and have not written, call or [e-mail Senior Planner Mary Nordstrom](mailto:Senior Planner Mary Nordstrom) and ask to be put on the notification list.

After the PIM, be prepared to write another letter based on what you have seen and heard: The proposal should now be more buttoned down. This will be followed by a Town hearing. This is where you can ask to speak and what you say will be minuted and will be entered as a record of the proceedings.

### **Letter writing help**

While we anticipate that residents are busy informing themselves, some folks have expressed a desire to have help in formulating their letters. We have set aside the evening of June 20 for a "soup'n letters" workshop if there is interest. Contact [info@peopleforcaledon.com](mailto:info@peopleforcaledon.com) to sign up.

### **Caledon's appointment to the NEC**

For a number of months Caledon did not have a representative on NEC. Councillor Paterak was returned for his 12th year of service in December 2012.

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### **May Garage Sale & BBQ**

The REDC Garage Sale exceeded our expectations. We owe our success to the generosity of our donors, our volunteers and the weather angel that sent us a magnificent sunny spring day on which to hold our event.

Thanks to Caledon Hills Honey for hosting, to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Orangeville Ward, for lending us their tables to exhibit the many items donated by residents, to our not so anonymous donor from Terra Cotta who supplied the BBQ, and to residents who came forward with cash donations. And thank you to our volunteer busy bees including the little bee helpers!

Winners for the two draws were Sabrina from Alton for the REDC label coffee supplied for us by Barocco Coffee and blended by their Roast Master especially for REDC & Elliot from Caledon East for the jar of Caledon Hills Honey. Silent Auction Winner, Toni, a recent newcomer from Toronto, won the gorgeous Mikasa china service for 12.

**To contribute financially, as a volunteer, or by donating services:**

Contact REDC at [info@peopleforcaledon.com](mailto:info@peopleforcaledon.com)

Please address cheques to REDC Inc.

Mail to REDC Inc. Attn: Treasurer, 17895 Heart Lake Road, Caledon Ontario L7K 2A3

Please be assured your e-mail information or mailing information will not be shared and will be used solely to update you on REDC activities. Thank you for your support of our common interest in our natural heritage and opposition to the McCormick Pit. If you wish to have your name removed from the update list please send your request to [admin@peopleforcaledon.com](mailto:admin@peopleforcaledon.com)