

# Cash for trash, if there's enough to burn

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles on the proposed solid waste management plan for Oakland County. The writer is a Farmington Hills resident, well-known environmentalist, and a member of the Act 641 Committee, which will review the solid waste plan.

Though keenly aware of atrocious prices at the gasoline pump, few residents of Oakland County sense the link between energy costs and the growing mountains of garbage they produce each day.

Yet the tax drain from hauling trash and dumping it in landfills can be eased. The magic word is incineration.

Facilities that burn and reduce the total amount of waste could also sell the energy and materials that are recovered. In other words, we can get cash from our trash.

**SOUND, LONG-TERM** solid waste management at the county level would coordinate garbage collections from each community, said County Executive Dan Murphy.

Murphy introduced the Oakland County Solid Waste Management Plan at a recent public hearing in Pontiac. He stressed the urgency of the problem, saying only four landfills remain in Oakland. Two will close this year.

Studies indicate that by the year 2000, the 4,071 tons per day of refuse now produced by homes, businesses and industries in the county will grow to 5,000 tons per day.

Incineration is one way to reduce the amount of trash that even now poses periodic health hazards.

The 20-year plan, required by state law (PA 641 of 1978), appears to emphasize resource recovery. However, to make recoverable practical, each community must guarantee a minimum amount of refuse. Thus, a "deficit" in the amount of burnable waste would force a city or township to throw away recyclable paper.

Moreover, Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM), the county's technical consultants, recommend the processing facilities recover only ferrous metals and energy. Paper, and glass recycling would be left to volunteers.

PERHAPS A more valuable resource has been underestimated.

Mark Day, of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, foresees a dramatic growth in Michigan's used paper market. Great Lakes Paper Co. is building a plant in the Ohio Valley and will buy "all the paper Michigan can send," he said.

More energy is saved by recycling paper many times than by just burning it, Day said.

The incinerators should be smaller than the average amount of refuse to be burned, CDM believes.

This assures maximum use of equipment and capital, but sends an occasional overflow to the landfill. Therefore, suitable sites for county-operated landfills are an essential element of the plan.

THE COUNTY would provide only for disposal of solid waste.

Collection remains the responsibility of individual municipalities and businesses. Haulers hired privately or by the community would transport trash to one of three destinations:

- a transfer station (a relatively small enclosed building)
- a processing facility
- a landfill.

Transfer stations that eliminate long hauls by collection crews are vital to a cost-effective program, Murphy said.

The three incinerator units selected by CDM include one large cogeneration-type facility (1,000-1,500 tons per day capacity), at the County Center in Pontiac, and two smaller combustion units (150-500 tons per day). One of the smaller units would be in Avon Township, the other in Wixom.

The large unit would produce steam for the County Service Center. Some of



Nancy Kourtjian

the excess steam would be used to generate electricity, allowing the county to sell both steam and electricity.

The Ford plant in Wixom and the Parke-Davis plant near Rochester will buy steam from the two smaller units.

ACT 641 provides for public participation.

It requires a 13-person Solid Waste Planning Committee to advise and assist the county staff and the executive in preparation of the plan.

The committee was appointed by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and represents the solid waste disposal industry, governmental bodies and public interest groups, Oakland's plan must be completed by July 1982, according to Act 641.

**WE WILL BUY...**  
Your fine jewelry and precious gems. Immediate payment. Fully insured consignment arrangement available. By Appointment 2-250

**GREENSTONE'S Jewelers**  
1221 N. Zeeb Rd. #100, Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
Tel: 483-1001

**27% off ALL WALLPAPER**  
Call in any pattern from any book.  
NO FREIGHT CHARGE  
NO DELIVERY CHARGE • PAY WHEN DELIVERED

BLOOMFIELD 851-7110 ANN ARBOR 652-1140 FLINT 787-3050  
GROSSE PTE. 886-4050 FARMINGTON 474-1780 ROYAL OAK 544-3800  
TROY 524-2200 LIVONIA 522-7500 OTHER AREAS 800-482-2488

**Post Wallcovering Distributors, Inc.**  
50 Cents Per Roll Added To All Orders Less Than Full Case (24 Rolls)  
(This May Reduce The Effective Discount Rate)  
No Returns On Unopened Wallpaper

HOURS MON.-FRI. 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, March 6, 1981 109A

**Spring Sale 20% OFF!**

**Special English Ironstone Sale!**  
Brown Quail and Blue Quail

Furnivals, Ltd. of Stoke-on-Trent, England, have faithfully duplicated the elegance and serenity of the Georgian period. The Quail are depicted in natural surroundings in rustic but strong underglaze browns and blues which clearly show the beauty & contrast on white background.  
Dishwasher safe! A favorite for over 200 years.

20 piece Set...SALE \$105.  
ALL OPEN STOCK PIECES...SALE 20% OFF!

PHONE ORDERS 645-5390  
SPECIAL ORDERS  
MAIL ORDERS

UPS SERVICE  
VISA CARD, MASTER CARD, WIGGS PLAN 25

open Mon., Thurs. & Fri. until 9:00 P.M.

TELEGRAPH AT LONG LAKE  
Bloomfield Hills

**HOUSE OF DENTURES**  
Licensed Dentist

28350 Grand River  
Farmington Hills  
2 1/2 Blocks West of 8 Mile Rd.

**FREE**  
Consultation and Exam

**• Relines & Repairs Same Day**  
**• Quality, Personalized Service**  
**• Partials**

Insurance Accepted

For Appointment  
Call 478-1495

**STAINED GLASS SUPPLIES**  
Michigan's Best Selection

CLASSES  
DAY & EVENING  
CALL NOW

QUANTITY DISCOUNTS

TROY 1073-1111  
LONG LAKE 526-1057  
WESTLAND 526-8188  
LANSING 526-8188

22241 Woodward Ave.  
Westland Plaza  
Lansing Center  
Tel: 332-4957

Mon-Fri: 10-6, Sat: 10-5, Sun: 1-5

**DELPHI**

**Wiggs Winter Sale**  
LAST 3 DAYS!

Hurry, hurry! Our Great Winter Sale ends Saturday! Don't miss this opportunity to choose fine traditional furniture and accessories at exceptional savings. Our collection of super comfortable Reciners offers size, price and style for everyone! Choose from Barcelonaers, Bradington-Young, La-Z-Boy and Ethos Allen. ALL AT SALE SAVINGS!

**Wiggs Great Winter Sale... Furniture & Accessories**

- TRADITIONAL & EARLY AMERICAN FURNITURE
- CARPETING AND AREA RUGS
- FURNITURE FOR EVERY ROOM: BEDROOM, DINING ROOM, LIVING ROOM & FAMILY ROOM
- BY NOTED MAKERS: HENREDON, ETHAN ALLEN, CENTURY, SIMMONS, STATION, HEKMAN, HARDEN, WOODMARK, HICKORY, HITCHCOCK, SLIGH, ETC. (LOTS MORE)
- LAMPS, PICTURES, ACCESSORIES AND WALL DECOR

4080 TELEGRAPH AT LONG LAKE  
(18 MILE) BLOOMFIELD HILLS • 644-7370

**D.O.C. INTRODUCES CONTACT LENSES FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T WEAR CONTACT LENSES.**

Forget everything you know about contact lenses — because now everything's changed. In the last year, new developments in contact lens technology have made contact lenses possible for people who could never wear them before. And healthier and more comfortable for people who already wear them.

**INTRODUCING THE EXTENDED WEAR LENS SO COMFORTABLE IT CAN BE WORN CONTINUOUSLY FOR TWO WEEKS.**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

The revolutionary Hydrocurve II-55 is so soft, it can be worn day and night until it's removed for cleaning... two weeks later. Because it's so thin and so liquid — 55% water — it's comfortable enough to sleep in.

**INTRODUCING THE NEW SOFT LENS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE ASTIGMATISM.**

Softer both distorted by astigmatic vision

Corrected by new soft lens

This new soft lens is shaped more like a drop than a disc. Because of this unique shape, it can correct astigmatism... even though it feels and looks just like a conventional soft lens.

**INTRODUCING THE SEMI-SOFT LENS FOR NEW WEARERS OR FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T GET USED TO HARD LENSES.**

The new Polycor lens is semi-soft with particularly thin edges. So your eyelid glides over the lens easily. Plus the Polycor lens is porous so your eye receives the oxygen it needs for maximum comfort.

**NO ONE LENS IS RIGHT FOR EVERYONE. THAT'S WHY WE OFFER YOU A CHOICE.**

D.O.C. carries almost every possible kind of lens for almost every possible kind of eye problem. So, if you're serious about contact lenses, come to the place that gives you a choice. Somewhere at D.O.C. is a lens that was made just for your eyes.

**D.O.C.**  
WHEN YOU NEED A CHOICE OF CONTACTS, THERE'S NO CHOICE BUT D.O.C.

For more information call any one of the 41 conveniently located D.O.C.'s