

Traffic Considerations for Haliburton Community Organic Farm

Haliburton Lane Parking - we expect to put approximately 6- 8 parking stalls in place along the Haliburton Lane entrance just in front of the main farm gate. These parking stalls will help to alleviate parking concerns for nearby residential areas, and will be adequate to handle the Farm traffic during most times of the year, with the exception of Community Events and Gardening Workshops as discussed below.

Farmers – we envision that there will be a maximum of 3 organic farmers (and possibly one apprentice per farmer) farming the Haliburton land. The farmers will be working the land generally from Mid-February to Mid-November. Farm work parties (approximately 6-15 people) may take place 1-2 times per month during the key planting months of April- June and the harvest months of August-October.

Organic Gardening Workshops – we are planning to hold a maximum of 1-2 per month with approximately 13-15 people attending. In order to help minimize traffic for these workshops we will be offering the workshops at times which make it easy to bus/bike to the event (i.e. the times will likely be on weekday evenings and/or Saturday corresponding with the local bus schedules and during the prime spring-summer biking months).

Educational School Tours – Supervised tours will likely take place weekdays during school hours 9:30am – 3: 00pm. These educational tours will therefore take place during the lowest traffic times and should not place an additional burden on local traffic and parking. We plan to host approximately 1-2 school groups per month maximum from March to June and from September to October, with a maximum of 25-30 children/youth attending at one time.

Market Stand - We have decided not to set up a regular year-long weekend produce stand at the Farm in consideration of the large potential volume of in/out traffic which would occur in the area during those weekend market days. Instead, we have decided to market the produce by operating a weekly produce box program for local residents which will be likely delivered to their door to further alleviate traffic volumes. We may however decide to have 1 or 2 “special harvest markets” at the Farm in September or October to showcase and share the tasty organic produce with local residents, and also give everyone a chance to meet the farmers.

Community Events – will be limited to 2 to 3 per year (such as a Spring Start-up Event and Fall Harvest Festival). At these events it is estimated that there will be approximately 50-75 local residents, farmers and community supporters attending. We are planning to arrange for car pooling, busing, bike lock-up and park & ride options if necessary to help alleviate any traffic congestion which may occur during those specific times.

Seasonal Nature of Farm Activities – The Farm will generally be most active during the key March to November farming months. The December to February “off

season” months will be relatively quiet with possibly a few workshops and planning meetings taking place. Traffic volumes should therefore be at a minimum (almost unnoticeable) during the “off season”.

Encourage Transport Alternatives (Including bus, bike and foot) – We are conscious of, and also concerned about, any increased automobile traffic on Haliburton Road as it will also affect the health and well being of the farm land, the farmers and the tasty organic vegetables/fruits we plan to produce. We will continue to seek ways to reduce automobile traffic and its associated noise on Haliburton Road. We will always encourage bike, bus and foot transport and will offer information about these alternative transport methods in our newsletters and promotional literature.