

Exterminators blocked from Christie Pits

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Forget about doctor's orders.

Despite a plea from the city's top doc to allow spraying, CUPE strikers have once again blocked the city's contract bug and vermin killers from spraying the growing garbage pile at Christie Pits park.

Picketers and angry residents have blocked Orkin, the private pest-control company contracted by the city, from accessing the site several times since Monday.

The latest blockage came this morning a day after Dr. David McKeown, Toronto's chief medical officer of health, appealed for residents and strikers to allow exterminators into the pits.

Inspectors found evidence of an active insect infestation, McKeown said. Because of the infestation, McKeown said he will be issuing an order to implement effective insect control at the site.

City officials announced the pits dumpsite will stop taking garbage Sunday because it is nearing capacity. The closed site will continue to hold garbage and will be patrolled by security.



A Toronto city supervisor clears effluent in the hockey rink at Christie Pits. (MICHAEL PEAKE/SUN MEDIA)