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City managers clear illegal trash piles

By DON PEAT, SUN MEDIA

Last Updated: 23rd June 2009, 11:15am

Have you been set back by the strike? If so, we want to hear from you. Contact the *Toronto Sun* City Desk at 416-947-2211 or by e-mail at torsun.citydesk@sunmedia.ca

Mounds of trash that had started to grow in Christie Pits park are now gone.

City of Toronto managers descended on the park just after 9 a.m. to clear away trash leftover from a weekend festival and illegal dumping that started after city workers walked off the job early Monday.

The growing piles sparked protest by local residents just hours into the strike and has led to a growing petition urging the city not to use parks as temporary garbage dump sites as the labour disruption continues.

Himy Syed, a concerned resident who started the petition, said he received an e-mail from local city Coun. Joe Pantalone promising the church group that left the bulk of the garbage after their event Sunday would be fined for not meeting their obligations.

City officials cleaning up the garbage said they couldn't clear the trash until bylaw officers went through it to find any evidence of who dumped it illegally.