



TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!
CLEAR BAGS FOR GARBAGE**

As of September 2, 2015, all users of the Township of Nairn and Hyman Landfill Site **and** residents who have curbside garbage pickup will be required to place their garbage in clear transparent plastic bags. All contents must be visible to landfill staff and curbside collection people.

The municipality is trying to extend the lifespan of your landfill site and help protect the environment by adopting a new policy to accomplish this. We will be implementing a “Clear Bag Policy” effective **September 2, 2015**.

The municipality has engaged the services of an engineering consultant to prepare a landfill expansion design plan. The anticipated service life of the proposed expansion design at our landfill using soil cover is approximately 5 to 10 years. The consultant estimates that the closing costs for our site would be between \$150,000 and \$200,000 once we reach capacity and are required to close it properly. Our costs to dispose of garbage at another site would increase substantially since we would have to ship it elsewhere. Please help us to extend the lifespan of your landfill site by reducing the amount of garbage being disposed of and increase the amount of recyclables being diverted.



The 2013 diversion rate in the Township of Nairn and Hyman was only 8.3% (amount of waste being diverted from our landfill and sent for recycling). In 2013, the overall residential waste diversion rate for all of Ontario was 47.3%. The Township of Nairn and Hyman rate is well below the total Ontario average.

The benefits of the clear bag program are the protection of the environment, worker safety and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The environment is protected through the prevention of hazardous waste entering the landfill contaminating soil and groundwater. Recycling also saves natural resources such as wood, water, etc. Worker safety is improved because both collection and landfill employees can see what they are picking up preventing injury and cuts from sharp objects. Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced because it takes more energy to create products from new material than to use recycled material.

Clear Transparent Plastic Bags – Frequently Asked Questions

Why clear bags for garbage?

We have switched to clear bags to increase the amount of recyclables and hazardous waste from ending up in the landfill. People are still not participating in our recycling programs, even though they pay for the service through property taxes.

I currently use grocery bags or white kitchen catcher type bags for garbage, what will I do after September 2, 2015?

You may continue to use grocery bags and white bags as a 'privacy bag' in your larger clear bag.

What is a 'privacy bag'?

Out of consideration for people's privacy, **three opaque or solid coloured 'privacy bags'** full of garbage is allowed per week to be placed inside the larger clear bag. The privacy bag can be no bigger than 20" by 22", about the size of a grocery bag.



Does everyone have to use clear bags?

Yes, at home and at work, for curbside collection and disposal at the landfill. Everyone must use clear transparent plastic bags. Clear garbage bags are readily available at most stores in the area.

What happens if I don't follow the rules?

If you don't use clear bags or have recyclable/hazardous waste in your clear bag, your garbage will be left at the curb or turned away from the landfill site.

Is there still a weekly bag limit?

Yes, the weekly bag limit is three (3) per household or three (3) per multi-unit apartment. If you require to dispose of bagged waste in excess of the weekly three (3) bag limit, you can purchase permission stickers to be placed on the excess bags. All bags must be clear plastic.

Will the landfill site be open on Sundays during the summer months?

Due to the lack of usage on Sundays during the summer months, the landfill site will no longer be open Sundays. Landfill site hours are: Wednesdays, 8 am to 12 noon and Saturdays, 8 am to 12 noon. You require a landfill pass to enter the site.

