

# IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

## Clear Bags for Garbage!

As of **March 1, 2009**, all users of the Mid Huron Landfill Site will be required to place their garbage in clear/transparent waste disposal bags, this includes the Town of Goderich. **Disposal bags may be coloured as long as all contents are visible to landfill staff and curbside collection employees.**

It is anticipated that in 2011, the Mid Huron Landfill will be full and the municipalities using the site will have to ship their waste to another landfill site. The Mid Huron Landfill Site Board has been trying to extend the life of the landfill site and over the last few years has adopted a few new programs to do this, as well as help to protect the environment. Two of the programs are recycling/composting of yard, wood, and demolition waste and the recycling of electronic waste i.e. hard drives, monitors, TVs, etc. The clear bag program is another such program.



The Clear Waste Disposal Bag Program makes recycling mandatory, increasing our rate of recycling and increasing the life of the landfill site.

## Clear Waste Disposal Bags - Frequently Asked Questions

### Why clear bags for garbage?

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

### Where can I purchase clear bags? Do clear bags cost more than black bags?

Local stores will carry clear bags (some already do) and larger retail stores have them in a variety of sizes. Certain brands are more expensive than others. The maximum waste disposal bag size for Goderich is 26" x 36", which is stated on your bag tag.

### I currently use grocery bags or white kitchen catcher type bags for garbage? What will I do after March 1, 2009?

You may continue to use grocery bags and white bags; however these smaller non-clear bags should be emptied and placed loose into the clear bag. Garbage in opaque or solid colour bags defeats the purpose of this initiative. You are permitted to use one 'privacy bag' (see below) in your larger clear bag. You may choose to use clear kitchen bags (available at some stores) that can be thrown right into the larger clear bag.

### What is a 'privacy bag'?

Out of consideration for people's privacy, one opaque or solid coloured 'privacy bag' full of garbage is allowed to be placed inside the larger clear bag. The privacy bag can no bigger then 20"x22", about the size of a grocery bag.

### Does everyone have to use clear bags?

Yes, at home and at work, for curbside collection and dumpster collection. Everyone must use clear garbage bags.

### What do I do with all the black/green bags I have now?

Save them for use during moves or for taking items to the second-hand store.

## Frequently Asked Questions - Continues

### Can I still use clear bags for recyclables?

Yes, but it is recommended you put your recyclables in a clear blue bag and use a clear bag or clear coloured (green, red, yellow, etc.) for your garbage. Remember that the contents of the bag must be visible to curbside collection and landfill staff.

**To help curbside collection run at its best, clearly separate your recycling bin/bag and your garbage bag and have your garbage tag facing out towards the road.** Wrapping the tag around the neck of the bag with both ends showing is always best.

### 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 and/or turned away at landfill site.

### What about kitty litter, dog feces or pet feces with wood shavings?

Place it loose within the clear garbage bag. If it is contained within a bag from a walk, etc. throw the baggy with contents into the large clear bag.

### How do you dispose of wet/soiled paper products, milk containers, styrofoam food containers/dishes and packing material, full vacuum cleaner bags or waxed cardboard products?

They are all garbage and should be put in your clear garbage bag.

### What do you do with things such as used motor oil, leftover paint, pesticides and batteries?

These items are all hazardous waste. The County provides 3 hazardous waste collection days each year. All hazardous waste should be properly stored until it can be disposed of on one of the County collection days. Empty dry paint cans & lids can be put in the recycling bin. Lids must be removed.

### What items are banned from Goderich curbside collection?

Recyclables items collected by Bluewater Recycling, tires, yard waste, hazardous waste, medical waste (includes sharps), animal carcasses, live animals, demolition/construction material, automobile parts, combustible material/items, electronic waste, any material banned from landfilling or recycled at the Mid Huron Landfill

### What items are banned from the Mid-Huron Landfill?

Hazardous waste, medical waste (includes sharps), animal carcass, live animals, recycling, electronic waste, combustible material/items, tires

### What items are recycled at the Mid-Huron Landfill

Electronic waste, propane tanks, metal and "white goods", demolition material, yard waste, cardboard, tires

### Where do I find information on what goes in my recycling bin?

Recycling information can be found on the back of your waste collection calendar, at [www.goderich.ca/waste](http://www.goderich.ca/waste) or [www.bra.org](http://www.bra.org) the Bluewater Recycling Association webpage.

Please follow the guidelines for placing your collected recycling material in your bluebox as described on the back of your waste collection calendar.