

TOWNSHIP OF THE ARCHIPELAGO

Ward 1 & 3 Pointe au Baril

Waste Management – May 2009

Attached are a number of Township “**Waste Disposal Pass**” cards for your use at manned Township waste transfer sites this summer. As we noted in our last newsletter, the Ministry of the Environment will require all transfer sites to be manned over a relatively short period of time. This summer the Pointe au Baril wharf and Site 9 will be manned. Please have these cards with you when you drop off waste at either site.

If you should lose these or require additional cards, please contact the Township office at (705)746-4243. If you rent your cottage and need additional cards, please contact the Township. We would only ask that you try to keep track of the cards you may provide to renters. Although these cards have now been in use for a couple of years at other sites in the south half of the Township, there will, no doubt be some hic-ups. Please let us know how we might manage these cards more effectively.

As you know, there have been some very significant changes regarding how the Township manages waste in Pointe au Baril. Since all island-based garbage must now flow through the Pointe au Baril wharf site, volumes will be significantly higher than in the past. No doubt there will be challenges in the transition, but it is important to keep in mind that these changes were not necessitated by any one party or circumstance.

One might ask why the Township hasn't acted sooner. Indeed, the Township has been actively engaged in developing a long-term strategy that meets today's very stringent waste management regulations for several years. To be fair, if the solutions were simple, they would have been implemented. But times are changing. Regulations have become more complex and are more consistently enforced. The time for change is now!

Regrettably, not everything can be put in place immediately. Finding and getting necessary approvals for an effective long term solution will take some time. The solution must be able to be sustained well into the future. The tax burden associated with these considerations demands a rational approach that considers costs. If new transfer sites are to be chosen, the land must be acquired and the MOE's and other governmental requirements met.

We ask for your patience and understanding as the Township works through these very complicated issues. Garbage service will continue to be provided at the Pointe au Baril wharf transfer site this coming summer although some new operations and rules will be in place. **Look for reserved garbage drop off sections at the Township dock (adjacent to the lighthouse).**

And if this wasn't enough, there is ongoing construction of the road and dock which will complicate matters this summer. We will be working closely with the contractor to ensure access is maintained and the site kept as clean as possible.

As the summer approaches, please watch for further updates and be prepared for the changes. The Township has also established a file on our web site in which detailed information can be found. Please look for the “Waste Management” folder under the “News” page.

Ken Williams – Ward 3 Councillor
Gary French – Ward 3 Councillor

Terry Desmasdon – Ward 1 Councillor
John Cochrane – Ward 1 Councillor