

Memorandum to the Council of Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Subject: Waste Disposal Compliance - Cassels Lake

Memo No: 2025-M-114

Date: May 8, 2025

Attachment: None

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Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Memo 2025-M-114 as presented.

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1. Executive Summary

This report provides an update on actions taken to address unauthorized waste disposal at commercial docking locations. Formal notices were issued to Cassels Marine & Powersports and CampMart advising them of regulatory requirements under Ontario Regulation 347.

Communication was also sent to seasonal residents through CALA to ensure awareness of proper disposal sites. These steps support compliance with Ministry regulations and protect the Municipality from potential enforcement issues.

2. Background

The Municipality has recently taken action in response to reports of seasonal residents using Cassels Marine & Powersports and CampMart as informal waste drop-off sites. While the efforts of these businesses to support seasonal users are recognized, these practices fall under the definition of a waste transfer station under Ontario Regulation 347 and cannot operate legally without an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

3. Legal and Regulatory Context

Under Ontario Regulation 347 of the Environmental Protection Act:

- A waste transfer station is defined as a location where waste is temporarily stored or consolidated before being transported to another disposal site.
- To legally operate such a site, an ECA must be obtained from the MECP.
- The Municipality is not authorized to approve or endorse any such site without Ministry approval.
- Failure to comply can result in significant penalties.

4. Actions Taken

- Formal Notices Issued
 - Cassels Marine & Powersports (April 29, 2025): Advised that they cannot place a waste bin or accept waste without an ECA.
 - CampMart (April 30, 2025): Informed that accepting waste from seasonal residents is not permitted under MECP regulations.
 - Both businesses were reminded that they are only eligible for curbside pickup for business-related waste.
- Communication to Residents
 - A letter was sent to the Cassels and Adjoining Lakes Association (CALA) on April 30, 2025, outlining the regulatory requirements and informing residents that waste can no longer be deposited at Cassels Marine & Powersports.
 - The President of CALA has distributed the letter to all members and seasonal residents.
 - This ensures that affected cottagers are informed and redirected to the appropriate municipal disposal locations.

5. Approved Disposal Sites

- Strathy Landfill (300 Milne-Sherman Road): For Cassels Lake and nearby seasonal users. Includes a recycling bin for non-commercial use.
- Welcome Centre (7 Lakeshore Drive): For seasonal residents from the North East Arm of Lake Temagami.
- Curbside Collection: Only available to eligible permanent residents and registered businesses.

6. Conclusion

The Municipality has taken appropriate steps to address unauthorized waste disposal and ensure compliance with MECP regulations. Businesses and residents have been formally notified, and designated disposal sites remain available to support seasonal users within regulatory requirements.