

IMPORTANT NOTICE

CLEAR BAGS FOR GARBAGE

Happy New Year!

As of 2018, the Municipality of Magnetawan started the Clear/Transparent Garbage Bag Program. This soft launch phase will be from **January 1st 2018 to May 14th 2018**, where users will be encouraged to utilize clear/transparent garbage bags when putting their waste out for curbside pick-up as well as bringing waste to the landfills. Disposal bags may be coloured as long as all contents are visible to landfill and curbside collection staff. The staff will help to educate users on what recyclable materials are and the clear bag program. Reminder flyers, stickers and information will come throughout this phase.

On **May 15th 2018**, clear/transparent garbage bags will be **mandatory** for all those with curbside pick-up as well as those taking their waste to the landfill sites. The dump card will still be required to leave waste at either of the landfill sites. The Municipality of Magnetawan is trying to extend the life of the landfills, and over the last few years have adopted new programs to do this, in addition to protecting the environment. Recycling materials, batteries, electronics, metal etc. have designated areas at one or both landfills. The Clear/Transparent Garbage Bag Program makes recycling mandatory, increasing our rate of recycling and increasing the life of the landfill sites.

Clear/Transparent Garbage Bag Program – Frequently Asked Questions

Question: *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.

Question: *Does everyone have to use clear bags?*

Yes, at home and at work, for curbside collection and at the landfills. Everyone must use clear/transparent garbage bags.

Question: *What about personal/private items?*

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 be no bigger than 20"x22", about the size of a grocery bag. Residents receiving curbside collection may also place the clear bag inside a garbage can or container at the curb.

Question: *What happens if I don't follow the rules?*

If you don't use clear/transparent bags or have recyclable/hazardous waste in your clear bag, your garbage will be left at the curb and/or turned away at the landfill site. The Landfill Attendants will be required to enforce the rules, but they do not make them.

Please contact the Municipal Office for more information regarding this new program.

Let's work together to keep extending the life of our landfills