

# Clear Bags and Bag Tag Reductions



## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

At its meeting of June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, Tay Valley Township Council approved the following resolution:

“**THAT**, effective January 2016, Tay Valley Township implement clear bags for the disposal of household garbage and reduce the annual distribution of free bag tags from 40 per household to 30; and then in 2017 reduce the annual distribution of free bag tags from 30 per household to 20.”

## WHAT

Starting **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** Tay Valley Township will be implementing the use of **clear garbage bags for household garbage**. Additionally, the allotted number of **bag tags** will decrease from **40 to 30** for **2016** and **30 to 20** for **2017**.

## WHY

Tay Valley Township is joining numerous other municipalities in the switch to Clear Bags in order to **maximize recycling efforts** and **minimize the disposal of recyclable and hazardous materials** into the Township’s waste sites. Increasing diversion leads to less cost and increased funding from Waste Diversion Ontario.

The change to clear bags was recommended by the Waste Management Working Group to follow the Township’s Strategic Plan and was adopted by Tay Valley Township Council to **increase waste diversion**. Waste diversion means **less cost for residents** as our **waste sites remain viable for longer periods**.

Currently local Municipalities such as Rideau Lakes, North Frontenac, Central Frontenac and Tweed use clear bags for household garbage disposal and have seen **significant reductions in the amount of waste disposed into their waste sites** each year.

Waste Site Attendants will be able to efficiently capture materials like cans, plastics, used paint, newspapers, etc., **reducing the amount of waste being placed into the waste sites.**

### **PRIVACY**

**Personal items** such as bathroom waste and health related items may be **placed in one small opaque (non-clear) bag**. Every clear household garbage bag may contain one small, no larger than 16 x 16" or 42 x 42 cm (i.e. grocery bag) for disposal of personal items.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Clear garbage bags can be found at **local retail stores** and are sold in a **variety of sizes**. Contact Tay Valley Township Public Works for more information at 613-267-5353 ext. 132.

The **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** effective date allows residents time to use up non-clear garbage bags. Opaque garbage bags can also be given to local charities, used for clothing donations or given to family and friends in other areas that still accept opaque bags.

**NOTE:** The one for one exchange policy allowing **1 free standard bag** of household waste **for 1 full standard size blue bin of recyclables** will remain in place.