

Mayor, Dave Burton Municipality of Highlands East P.O. Box 295 2249 Loop Road Wilberforce, Ontario, Canada K0L 3C0 705-448-2981

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Media Release COVID-19 Update: Landfill Sites in Highlands East

Wilberforce, ON- The Declaration of Emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* by the Ontario government continues to be in effect for the province of Ontario. These actions are based on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and because of this, Highlands East is implementing some additional operational changes at our landfill facilities. Staff serve a high volume of residents each day, which can create exposure risks to them and for those they come into contact with. We have seen a steady increase in the amount of site traffic into the landfill sites. Residents are attending waste sites in higher volumes than is typical for this time of year. Highlands East urges residents to attend the landfill sites, only when necessary. We hope to continue slowing the spread of the virus, practice the appropriate physical distancing and to keep our community safe. It is unclear at this time when the emergency orders will be lifted but the changes to be in effect are outlined below.

## **Landfill Sites to Remain on Winter Hours**

All landfill sites within Highlands East (Bicroft, Hwy. 28, Mumford Road, Tory Hill and the Glamorgan Transfer Station) will continue to operate on winter hours, until further notice. The landfill sites that were scheduled to begin operating summer hours the Friday or Saturday prior to Victoria Day will not be changing over to the summer hour schedule. For further information pertaining to the landfill site operating hours, please visit the municipal website at <a href="https://www.highlandseast.ca">www.highlandseast.ca</a>

## **Bulk Material Limit**

Effective Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the municipality will be implementing a limit on the amount of bulk material items residents can dispose of at all landfill sites, per visit. The items included and their current limits are provided below:

- Tires- 4 per visit
- Appliances (incl. fridges, freezers, washers/dryers, dishwashers, etc.)- 1, per visit
- Furniture (Couches, Chairs, Tables, etc.)- 1, per visit
- Mattresses and/or Box Springs- 1 each

## Household Hazardous Waste Event Cancellation- Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Faraday Public Works Yard

The joint household hazardous waste event that was scheduled for Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Faraday Public Works yard has been cancelled. The next scheduled event for Highlands East residents is Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Tory Hill Landfill site location. If there are changes to this event, the municipality will provide a status update in a timely manner.

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The municipality would also like to remind all residents to please comply with the following guidelines when attending all waste disposal sites throughout Highlands East:

- Do not approach landfill attendants for assistance with depositing of your waste items;
- Do not bring passengers unless absolutely necessary;
- Do not enter landfill attendants shelter or restroom facility;
- Exit your vehicle to unload waste at the appropriate location only;
- All communication regarding disposal of waste with landfill attendant(s) must be done through the window of your vehicle;
- When you are outside your vehicle please be mindful of all other visitors and practice physical distancing (minimum 2 metres).

Please remember that these are temporary measures put in place to address concerns relating to COVID-19. We will return to normal operations when it is safe to do so. Highlands East trusts we can ensure the full cooperation of the public in response to this.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, you are to contact the Environmental Department at 613-339-2442 or visit the Highlands East website at <a href="https://www.highlandseast.ca">www.highlandseast.ca</a>.

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## **Contact Information**

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