

**Request for Decision      United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council**

<b>Type of Decision</b>									
<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Thursday, August 22, 2013</b>				<b>Report Date</b>	<b>Tuesday, August 20, 2013</b>			
<b>Decision Required</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>High</b>		<b>Low</b>
<b>Direction</b>		<b>Information Only</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>Type of Meeting</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Open</b>		<b>Closed</b>
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>									
<b>Amnesty Day Report #22/08/13/1202</b>									

**Subject:** Garbage Amnesty Days

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council approve the following resolution continuing with Amnesty Days as initiated, reinstating large item recycling collection but limiting the amount of materials to be collected in any additional Amnesty period.

**WHEREAS** Council has received a formal request for the consideration of "Amnesty Days" for waste materials which do not fit in the household bags normally collected;

**AND WHEREAS** the By-Law implemented in 2012 was specifically created to address these issues;

**AND WHEREAS** large item recycling days have not occurred in a number of years;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to re-establish a large item recyclable collection to be held this fall;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Amnesty Days for waste be limited to household waste or to other limits as set by Council;

**BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** The Municipal Waste Management By-law provides for Amnesty Days for "household" garbage as declared by Council. In 2013 we held such a period immediately after Christmas when households normally have additional waste due to visitors and Christmas packaging.

There currently exists a means to dispose of waste that does not fit within a garbage bag or is not recyclable; that is what the remainder of the Waste Disposal By-law addresses. Materials may be self-hauled to the disposal sites and appropriate tipping slips paid. Upon establishment of the By-Law a fee schedule was created for items outside of normal household garbage to encourage people to recycle and re-use their products and to think about the life cycle of products prior to their purchase. It is staff belief that offering a wide open collection will completely nullify the by-law. People will simply save up their materials to bring during the annual amnesty period.

Aside from the Christmas Amnesty date, to date we have not considered other days. Prior to the implementation of our By-Law in 2012 we did hold recycling "large item" collections. These have not been continued due to low participation. At the request of a ratepayer, perhaps now is a good time to re-establish these pick-ups but with restrictions.

Mr. Balla-Boudreau in his letter mentions "Deep River" and its spring collection. As a former resident of Deep River I can tell you that this annual spring collection is a contentious issue as many take advantage of it and its continuation is questionable. Laurentian Hills has requested a copy of our Waste Management By-Law to amend to its own use. The wide open collection days are thought by some to contribute to the "disposable" society that many of us live in. Staff would caution against such a wide open collection. Collection would not be viable as we do not have the staffing or equipment to attempt such a venture. An option could be to allow self-hauling to the disposal sites. Again, with limits.

**Options/Discussion:** The options are many and are at Council's discretion.

If Council feels that providing amnesty from paying tipping slips is a service it would like to provide to its residents, staff caution applying limits. What these limits may be are open to suggestion. If Council so chooses, staff can meet and come up with some recommendations for a subsequent meeting. Of course suggestions from Council and members of the public are always welcome.

**Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:** Depends on the options chosen by Council.

**Policy Impact:** Contrary to the Waste management By-law, defeats its purpose.

**Others Consulted:** Noella LeBreton, Treasurer; David Balla-Boudreau via his letter.

**Approved and Recommended by the Clerk**

Melinda Reith,  
Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*

38692 Highway 17, W.  
Mackey, Ontario  
K0J 2B0  
2013 July 28th

Council and Staff  
United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Rd  
Stonecliffe, Ontario  
K0J 2K0

RECEIVED  
JUL 29 2013

Dear Council and Staff

I am requesting Council to consider having an annual garbage amnesty day\week.

As evidenced in our neighboring communities e.g. Deep River there is a program whereby the community is allowed to put unusual garbage at the roadside for a specific period of time (typically coincides with spring or fall clean up) and there is no penalty for this unusual garbage.

To date HCM Township residents have done a very good job of reducing the amount of garbage that goes into the landfill, however not every piece of garbage fits into the once a week bag, nor is recyclable so there needs to be some means to get rid of it without resorting to the unwanted practice of trying to hide it in with the regular garbage.

I want to thank you for taking the time to consider this request, and I am willing to discuss this matter with Council or HCM Township personnel if that is required.

Sincerely



David Balla-Boudreau

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