



Illegal Dumpsites

CAPE BRETON ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

What is an Illegal Dumpsite?

- ▶ It is defined as the disposal/abandonment of materials in an unauthorized area
- ▶ Illegal dumpsites can vary in size and contain a combination of waste materials
- ▶ Examples of materials typically found: construction and demolition debris (wood, shingles), furniture (sofa, chairs), appliances, household waste and recyclables, and vehicles/vehicle parts

Demolition materials












- 
- ▶ It is apparent that we have a major issue here in Cape Breton with Illegal dumping and littering in general
 - ▶ These dumpsites are no longer just an issue on back roads, they are starting to make their way into more urbanized areas
 - ▶ In last year we have come across a Staggering number of individual dumpsites and those are the sites we are able to find
 - ▶ Black bags seem to be the biggest item we are coming across, our guess is that people are not following rules put in place by CBRM waste management and their bags are being tagged
 - ▶ Instead of properly sorting materials, the bags end up in our forests, watersheds or the back alleys of our community



Man in green jacket and blue jeans sitting on the guardrail.

Man in light blue hoodie and khaki pants sitting on the guardrail.

Woman in black hoodie with 'CAPE BARTON LIFESTYLE' logo sitting on the guardrail.

Man in dark jacket and black pants sitting on the guardrail.


CAPE BARTON LIFESTYLE

Excuses for illegal dumping

- ▶ To avoid fees at the local landfill
- ▶ Abandoned or undeveloped land
- ▶ Paid someone to remove garbage (but has no receipt)
- ▶ The Landfill is too far away
- ▶ Didn't realise the impacts of illegal dumping
- ▶ The landfill won't accept my items
- ▶ Adding to existing site (everyone else dumps there)
- ▶ Bag gets tagged at curbside, don't want or have the time to properly sort materials

What are the impacts?

- ▶ public health and safety
- ▶ decrease property values
- ▶ increase property taxes
- ▶ impact economic development
- ▶ quality of life
- ▶ Birds and wildlife
- ▶ Aquatic ecosystems
- ▶ Plants

- 
- ▶ Many birds and small animals die after ingesting or becoming entangled in debris
 - ▶ Fish and other aquatic species are often killed when decomposing litter and food wastes in streams deplete oxygen supplies in water
 - ▶ Debris in streams can also clog fish spawning areas
 - ▶ Toxic run off from improper disposal of toxic substances such as household cleaners and motor oil can contaminate lakes, streams, and our drinking water supplies
 - ▶ When plastic and other waste materials reach the ocean, they have lasting effects on marine life. turtles often mistake plastic bags for jelly fish and ingest the plastic and die
 - ▶ Plastic bags and plastic wrap can asphyxiate marine animals and fish, and birds can easily entangle themselves in plastic six-pack rings and strings
 - ▶ It is estimated that nearly 80% of plastics in the ocean come from land based sources

Morrison Lake, Birch Grove, NS.



**Waterway blockage and possible
contamination due to illegal dumping**



THIS SITE IS BEING MONITORED FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING
IF YOU SEE ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS PLEASE
PHONE 503-325-1323





Double-Crested Cormorant



Double-crested cormorants migrate to Nova Scotia in mid-April to late May and leave between mid-September and late October.





Heavily polluted stream



Disposal of toxic chemicals

- ▶ Not only negatively impacts humans but can also impact birds, wildlife and aquatic ecosystems
- ▶ Affects watersheds, Chemicals leach into streams, lakes and ground water
- ▶ Affecting drinking water supplies and altering aquatic ecosystems
- ▶ Common contaminants we find are motor oil, batteries, tar, paint, paint thinner, antifreeze, human waste, hospital supplies, cooking oil





Used Syringes,
human health
hazard

- ▶ A family out for a walk in memory of a loved one who used to frequent this stretch of rural road
- ▶ Devastated at the illegal dumping activity going on in the area
- ▶ Area is a source of comfort for family, but recently their thanksgiving walk has been overshadowed by high amount of garbage along the roadside







88 BAGS OF
GARBAGE!

Location	Bags collect	Other items	Date
1. Tower Road, Glace bay	29	2x tires, Diapers, Steel work table, car parts, Black bags.	2017-05-13
2. Sand Lake Road, Glace Bay	26	Diapers, black bags, recyclables.	2017-06-25
3. One B road, Glace Bay	25	Shingles, lobster traps, ropes, buckets of driveway sealant, large plastic sheets, medical supplies, motor oil, and recyclables.	2017-09-23
4. Sand Lake Road, Glace Bay	88	1km stretch, Paint cans, car battery, Television, Motor oil, car parts, antifreeze. Multiple deer carcasses wrapped in plastic. Household black bags.	2017-10-15
5. Bayplex, Glace Bay	18	Household black bags, Tim's cups, high amount of plastics, grocery bags etc.	2017-11-4
6. Fisherman's Park	12	High amount of Tim Horton's cups, Hospital supplies.	2017-11-4
7. Old Airport Road, Sydney	90	10x tires kitchen sink, television, needles, carpet, gyprock, other house hold appliances, Recyclables	2017-11-18
8. Bottom of ling street, Glace Bay	24	1x tire, computer monitor. Polar pop cups, plastic drinking cups.	2017-11-22
9. Downtown Sydney	11	1x tire, High amount of cigarette butts and packaging.	2017-11-25
10. Commercial Street, Glace Bay	8	High amount of cigarette butts, Tim Horton's cups.	2017-11-28
11. Morrison Lake, Birch Grove	14	Household dumping site, mainly full black bags, plastic children's picnic table, plastic buckets. Several large black bags obstructing natural flow of waterway, possible stream contamination.	2017-12-18
Total	345 bags		





ALL THESE WAYS TO MONITOR FOR ILLEGAL DUMPING



Ten tires, various car parts, motor oils



90 BAGS OF GARBAGE!



Mattresses



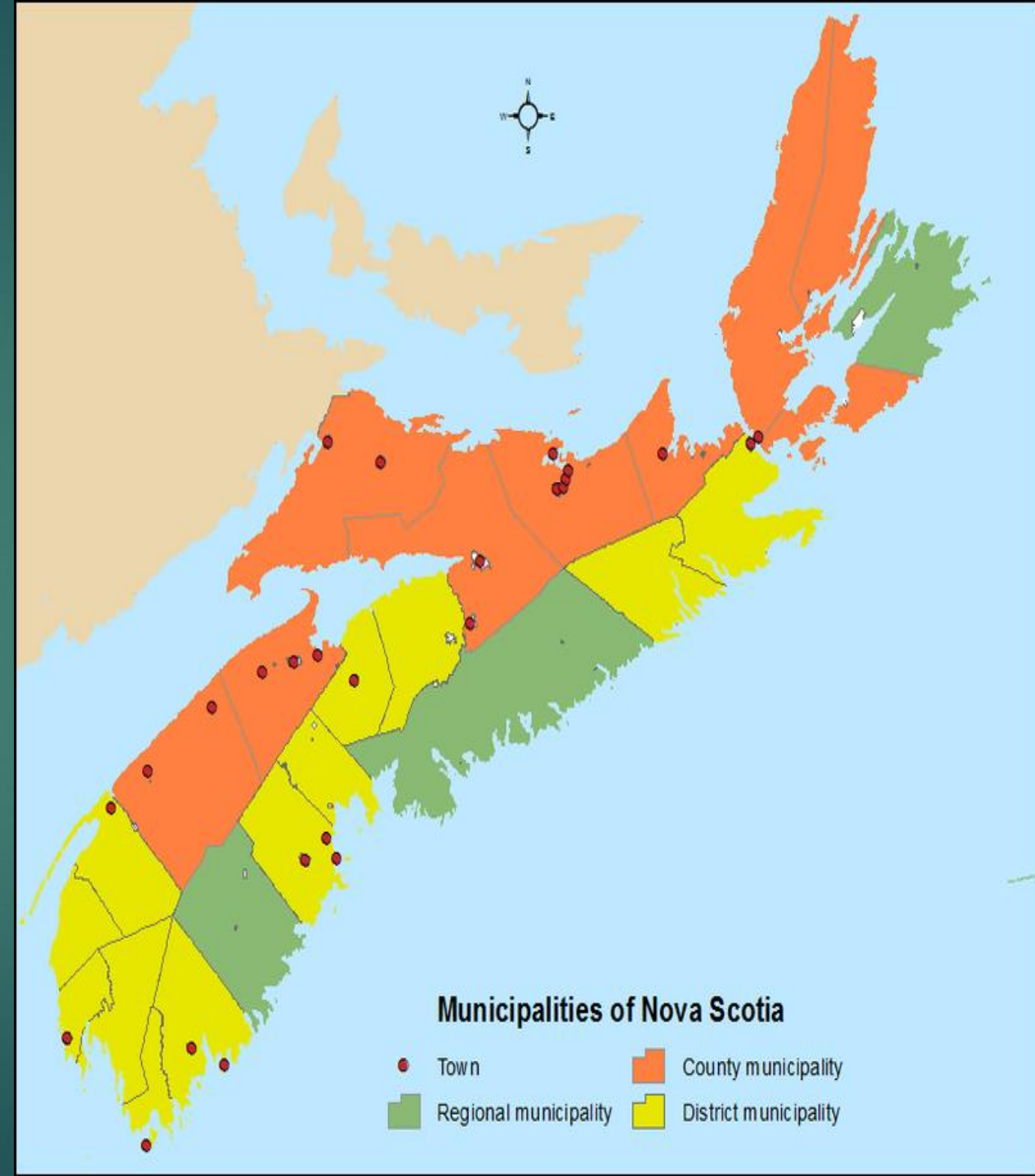








- ▶ Each municipality has its own bylaws in regards to illegal dumping
- ▶ Cape Breton Regional Municipality has recently put forward a new set of bylaws in regards to illegal dumping and solid waste which have passed second reading, some of these bylaws are as follows
- ▶ New illegal dumping fine 697.00\$ after administration costs, summary offence similar to a traffic ticket.
- ▶ Excuses no longer valid, must have receipt from those you paid to remove garbage from your premises
- ▶ Establishments which have drive-thru services must have proper garbage disposal



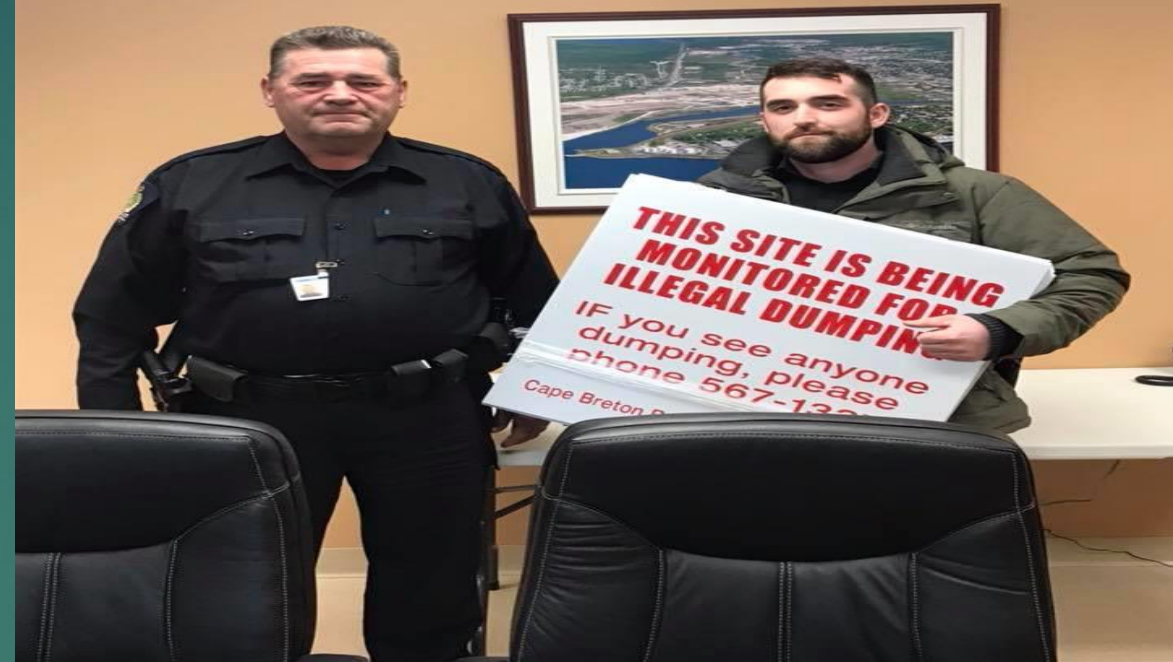
What can you do?

- ▶ If you find a dumpsite or witness someone dumping illegally please report it!

Why report it?

- ▶ Accumulation of rotten, decaying garbage attracts rats and other disease-carrying creatures. Dumping hazardous waste puts people's health at risk and can harm the environment. Illegal dumping can be associated with other forms of illegal activity. If tolerated, it sends a message to violators that it is acceptable to dump garbage in your neighborhood or community!

- ▶ Be part of the solution not the problem, Don't illegally dump or litter, think before you act!
- ▶ Put pressure on your local government to take a harder stance on illegal dumpsites, voice your concerns!
- ▶ Spread awareness, tell your friends, family! Get the word out, illegal dumping has consequences!
- ▶ Coordinate community cleanups, change starts with you!
- ▶ Don't fall for miss information, landfills will accept all your items or lead you to facility that does!



WHY ARE YOU LITTERING?

- I am a Jerk
- I don't care about natural areas
- Mommy still cleans up after me
- All of the above



Supported by:

The logo for Duke Energy, consisting of a stylized blue and green circular icon to the left of the text "DUKE ENERGY®".