Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Addressing an UGLY Eye Sore One Site at a Time.



Cape Breton Regional Municipality





- Located on beautiful Cape Breton Island, CBRM is the second largest municipality in Nova Scotia.
- Our community is known for it's welcoming hospitality, generosity and beautiful scenery.
- A place that people love to visit and hate to leave.







Cape Breton Regional Municipality





 Along with our beautiful coastlines, landscapes and people, We are also faced with an UGLY problem called Illegal Dumping!

• People have the nerve to trash our beautiful municipality with garbage. They are too lazy to dispose of their trash properly.





CBRM's Illegal Dumping Program

• Until this program was developed, CBRM had no program in place to deal with the illegal dumping.

 Complaints were passed from one department to another with out any resolution. Just growing frustration.





CBRM's Illegal Dumping Program

• Staff were frustrated because we were aware of the growing problem. But, our hands were tied.

 Residents were upset their complaints did not get dealt with or resolved.

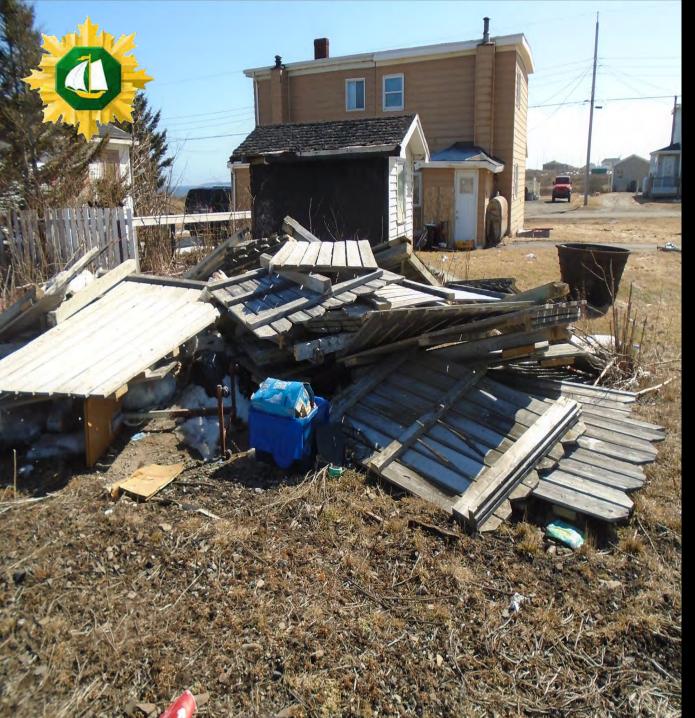


CBRM's Illegal Dumping Program



 Councillors were irritated because like the department, they received the calls about these ugly sites.

No community was exempted which meant all councillors were receiving these calls.



CBRM's Illegal Dumping Program

 We had to confront this problem head on if we wanted to address this serious dumping issue.



Cape Breton Regional Municipality

- Tired of ignoring illegal dumping, we developed a strategy to address this problem.
- In 2010, the department established a partnership with the Cape Breton Regional Police Services to achieve this.





CBRM Illegal Dumping Program

 The assigned constable works in our office and responds to and investigates ALL dumping complaints that are reported to the department.

 Because we have an actual police officer, responding to illegal dumping issues, it has added credibility to our program, residents take it seriously and has allowed us to develop a proactive, aggressive strategy.

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

 It's a unique program, first of it's kind in Nova Scotia, and possibly across Canada.

• We are very proud of the program and the things we have accomplished.







Reducing Illegal Dumping

 In 2018, the department made amendments to the Solid Waste Resource Management By-Law to include a section on Illegal Dumping.

 We introduced these measures to encourage compliance and created stricter penalties for alleged dumpers who are caught illegally dumping.



Strict Penalties

 We hoped the increased fine would encourage compliance, discourage this illegal activity and become a preventative measure for dumping illegally.

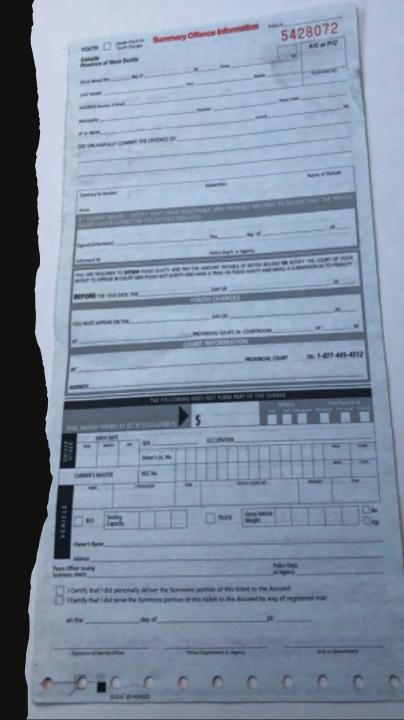
 We also wanted "potential dumpers" to know illegal dumping is a crime that comes with tough consequences.



Strict Penalties

• CBRM's fine (\$697.95) was also higher than those imposed by the province, which was what the constable had to use when issuing a SOT. (Range for provincial fines was \$275 to \$475)

• Stiffer fines were imposed to discourage dumping and to send a strong message that dumping is not tolerated in our community.





Dumping Trends

Reports of garbage & debris getting dumped in visible, populated locations in residential neighborhoods is a widespread problem.

Location trends in urban include:

Vacant lots	Business properties	Street Corners
School grounds	Curbsides/front lawns/private property	Sport fields
Public parks		

The constable responded to 99 dumping complaints located in urban areas.



Dumping Trends

Reports of garbage & debris getting dumped in rural locations also remains a problem.

Location trends in rural areas include:

Beaches	Fields	Walking/ATV trails
Wooded areas	Swamps	Roadside ditches/trains
Lake fronts	Streams & brooks	Dirt roads

The constable responded to 65 dumping complaints located in rural areas.



Curbside Non-Compliance: Residential Properties

The constable saw an increase in the number of residential and multi family unit structures not following curbside collection requirements.

He responded to approximately 39 calls involving curbside non-compliance at residential properties.

Tenants & residents living in these properties were placing out large, bulky materials, provincially banned items (Tires, microwaves, tv's roadside) and non-compliant bags.



Curbside Non-Compliance: Residential properties

Material was not getting removed from the curb following collection day or after getting rejected by collectors. It was left there.

This created unsightly and an unpleasant environment for neighbors in these neighborhoods.



Curbside Non-Compliance: Residential Properties

Another common issue this reporting period was loose needles and syringes mixed in with curbside materials.

Of the 39 curbside non-compliance issues responded to, 19 of the issues involved the presence of loose needles and/or drug paraphernalia.



Common Materials located at Dump sites

Some of the common materials removed from dump sites between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2023 include:

Common Materials located in the dump sites					
Household furniture (sofas, chairs, tables)	Needles (capped and uncapped), syringes, drug paraphernalia, etc	Small appliances (Bread maker, toasters, coffee makers, table lamps, etc.)	Televisions, microwaves, computers, printers, etc		
Tires & rusted rims (on and off the rim)	Loose litter and debris	Vehicle parts	Paint cans (empty and still containing paint)		
Construction and demolition debris including fencing, siding shingles, window frames, damaged doors)	Fast food packaging, coffee cups, cold drink cups, lids and straws	Medical waste including tubing, used bandages, gauze and bags, Adult and child size diapers	Leaves, brush, trees, shrubs and bags of leaves		
Propane tanks, cylinders (I inch and 10 pounds)	Garbage and blue bags (Dark, clear and ripped)	Large appliances (fridge, stove, dehumidifiers, dishwashers)	Aerosol and oil containers		





























Tent Encampments



Tent Encampments











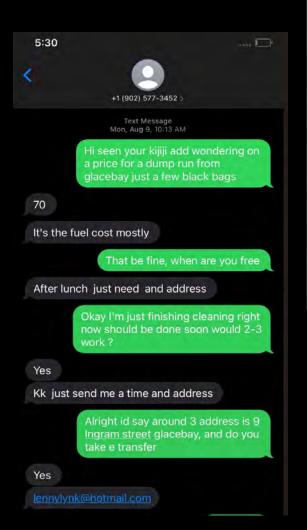


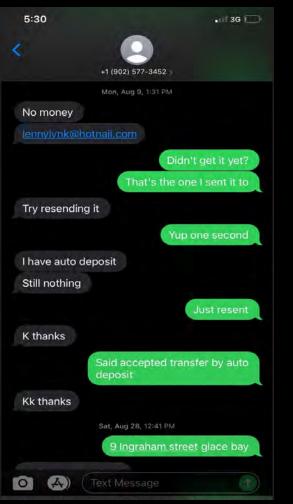


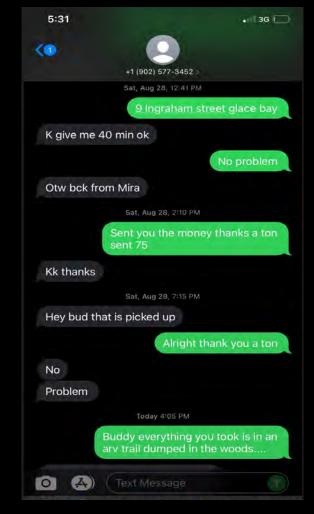


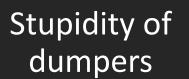


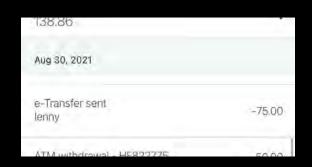


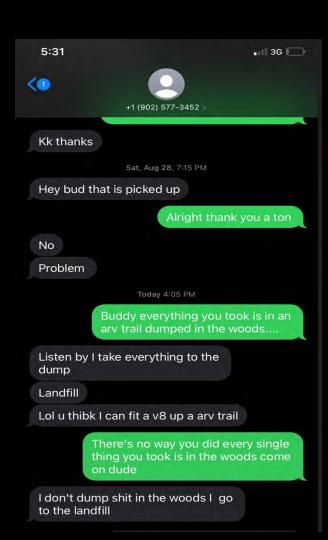


















CBRM's Illegal Dumping Program September 2010-March 2023

Enforcement Program	Year	Number of Calls Investigated each year
2010-2011	September 2010 - March 31, 2011	70
2011-2012	April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012	290
2012-2013	April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013	322
2013-2014	April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014	298
2014-2015	April 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015	321
2015-2016	April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016	271
2016-2017	April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017	232
2017-2018	April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018	219
2018-2019	April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019	194
2019-2020	April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020	214
2020-2021	April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021	235
2021-2022	April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022	175
2022-2023	April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023	186
Total number of Cases Investigated since September 2010 to March 31, 2023.		3027 cases were investigated since Illegal Dumping program started in CBRM in the Fall of 2010.





CBRM continues to use innovative strategies as we try to eliminate illegal dumping in CBRM.

We believe our program is progressive and it's making a difference





THANK YOU

