

Friday June 3, 2022

Dear Alex and the Jack Lake Executive,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Jack Lake Association members. One of the many reasons an emergency was declared for North Kawartha is because of the wide spread destruction that occurred in many areas of our Township from Stoney Lake to Jack Lake and the northeastern part of North Kawartha including Lasswade. And we are just one of many communities across the Province in the same situation, which is putting a great strain on available resources and recovery support. I am meeting regularly with my Municipal Emergency Control Group as we continue our efforts to restore, repair and clean up across the municipality.

Please note that we continue to focus on municipal property and roads, along with municipal services like fire and waste management which serve all residents. All our resources are responding to these priorities and making sure that we can continue to provide these services safely and effectively. We do recognize the incredible challenges faced by residents in clearing their own properties and private roads. We have coordinated with our waste collection provider and Peterborough County to offer a number of options for residents needing to dispose of storm debris.

Trees and Tree Limbs (no loose leaves):

- Trees ( 8” in diameter or less) and Tree Limbs may be taken to the following Transfer Stations free of charge:
  - o Anstruther Transfer Station at 400 Anstruther Lake Road, Apsley ON, K0L 1A0
  - o Haultain Transfer Station at 6879 Highway 28, Woodview ON K0L 3E0

Stumps cannot be accepted:

- It is suggested that a stump grinder, tree and/or property maintenance company be contacted for stump removal.

Loose Leaf and Yard Waste:

- During the storm recovery period only, all ‘loose leaves’ must be in paper yard waste bags.

- Trailers and Trucks full of ‘loose leaves’ cannot be accepted ‘during’ the storm recovery period but will be accepted ‘after’ the storm recovery period.

Residential Brush and Tree Limbs:

- May also be taken to Peterborough County Public Works Yards free of charge:
  - Douro Depot - 713 County Rd. 4
  - Havelock Depot – 649 County Rd 46
  - Buckhorn Depot - 2467 County Rd. 36
  - Centreline Depot – 1275 County Rd. 24
  - Millbrook Depot – 1111 County Rd. 10

Trees, Tree Limbs and Brush may also be taken to:

- Waste Connection Site at 348 County Road 6, Douro Dummer, ON, K0L 2H0 705-652-3505. No bagged yard-waste or loose leaves at this site. Tipping fees will apply.
- Bensfort Rd. Landfill Site at 1260 Bensfort Road, Peterborough, ON, K9J 1C5. 705-742-7777 ext. 2150. Tipping fees may apply.

Unfortunately we cannot accept storm debris at other locations such as the NKCC as these areas are being utilized for other municipal services and events and as support for Hydro One crews. Crown Lands are not a part of municipal jurisdiction and we cannot authorize the dumping of private property storm debris onto public lands nor would we recommend it. The Township doesn’t have access to bins to place at the end of private roads. Both ‘alternate disposal locations’ and bins would require personnel to monitor to ensure proper use, disposal and safety, and we do not have this capability. We do not recommend placing any debris at the end of roads, either private or public as many already have significant debris piles and/or this could create safety/visibility hazards.

We are aware of a number of residents throughout North Kawartha that are undertaking their own efforts to clear their properties and make repairs after the storm. Private road associations are coordinating with their regular road maintenance providers and using their contingency funds to complete clean-up efforts on their roads. Neighbours, family and friends are using local electricians, property maintenance service providers, disposal services, builders, arborists and other local contractors to assist in their clean up needs.

Please understand that North Kawartha is doing the best that we can to manage this natural disaster and public works crisis, in addition to providing our residents with the added support measures and debris management plan as identified above. So many residents affected are currently using the extra resources being provided and are providing assistance and support to each other. It is also important to note that Council and Staff have also been greatly impacted personally by the storm and some are still without power and/or have suffered significant personal property damage. So we do completely understand the incredible challenges and the enormity of the cleanup efforts that all residents are facing.

Since large areas of crown lands lie within our municipal boundaries, we are very aware of the risks the storm has created. We have reached out to our MNDMNRF contacts to express our concerns about the large amounts of tree debris that are scattered throughout the public lands. We are willing to assist and support the efforts of our provincial partners however we can, when it comes to clean up and forest fire risk mitigation. Please be reminded that 'Day Burning' is not permitted, as per our Municipal by-law, and because North Kawartha is under jurisdiction of the MNDMNRF fire district regulations which prohibits day-burning during this time of year.

Council fully intends to follow up with the Province and the Federal government to address the lack of any wide spread emergency alert to notify people of the impending storm. We have all received emergency alerts in the past for various issues, however for reasons unknown at this point, so many people along the storm's path received no notice whatsoever including myself. Considering the damage the storm caused in Michigan the previous day, we are very concerned that local and regional forecasts did not include any alerts as to the potential for this storm.

This past Tuesday I toured the entire municipality with Township and Provincial ministry staff to survey the damage and the incredible efforts being made by Hydro One workers. I saw extensive and widespread damage everywhere despite a week of cleanup efforts. I witnessed first-hand the devastation along the sides of Jack Lake Road. My husband was in a boat on Jack Lake when the storm hit and by the grace of God survived. Then he and his staff worked alongside so many Jack Lakers to clear a 3km long path out Jack Lake Road to where our Roads Crews and Fire Fighters were working their way in. I completely understand what Jack Lakers and hundreds of other North Kawarthans are feeling and struggling

with and I wish that there was more that our municipality could offer in support at this time. As I said before, we are doing the best we can.

I want you all to know that I spoke to our re-elected MPP Dave Smith this morning to provide him with an update on our situation. Both he and the re-elected Minister of Municipal Affairs Steve Clark are very aware of the storm's impact right across Ontario and will be working closely with all affected municipalities to ensure we can access the support we need. I reiterated my request that the Minister activate the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) Program to help residents recover costs after a natural disaster. I would like to remind everyone to connect with your insurance provider, take photos, document and keep all receipts related to your storm costs.

I hope this answers your questions and allays any concerns that we aren't doing all that we can to help our community recover from the devastating storm impacts. Our situation is fluid and continues to change and we will keep all residents updated via [www.northkawartha.ca](http://www.northkawartha.ca) where we publish our storm related press releases and other important information and resources. Please check it regularly.

I want to thank everyone for your continued patience and understanding. The efforts you have made and continue to make to help yourselves and each other is incredible and will help us all eventually put this terrible experience of nature's power and wrath behind us.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Amyotte  
Mayor, North Kawartha Township