

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Brent Larmer](#)
Cc: [Adam Bureau](#); [Lucas Cleveland](#); [Nicole Beatty](#); [Brian Darling](#); [Aaron Burchat](#); [Miriam Mutton](#); [Randy Barber](#)
Subject: (EXTERNAL SOURCE) Town of Cobourg Standing Water nuisance bylaw
Date: April 5, 2023 3:28:26 PM

Hi Mr Larmer

I am requesting that council discuss a simple common sense public health measure that is deficient in the current Town of Cobourg property standards bylaws.

Standing stagnant water is a health hazard. West Nile Virus is now endemic in Southern Ontario. Quality of life from May through August is significantly impacted by excess mosquito and blackfly activity. Standing water presents further additional health risks to our pets including giardia and cryptosporidium.

For 5 years we have dealt with excessive mosquito activity due to standing water next to our property. An extensive landscaping project was undertaken that disrupted the natural drainage of the adjacent property.

Every major municipality in Southern Ontario addresses this issue in their property standards bylaws:

Oshawa - section 4.3.6 <https://www.oshawa.ca/en/Document-Feeds/General-By-Laws/PropertyStandardsBy-law1-2002.pdf>

Guelph - <https://guelph.ca/wp-content/uploads/StandingWaterBylaw.pdf>

Toronto

- <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2003/agendas/council/cc030624/wks5rpt//cl003.pdf>

Georgina - <https://www.georgina.ca/living-here/municipal-law-enforcement/standing-water>

Chatham / Kent - <https://ckphu.com/2019/06/west-nile-virus-and-the-standing-water-by-law-in-c-k/>

Hamilton - <https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2012/08/24/bylaw-officers-crack-down-on-standing-water-amid-west-nile-concerns.html>

Most of these bylaws have been on the books for over 20 years. Peel even has a public health reporting line for their residents. <https://www.peelregion.ca/health/vbd/rep-stwater.htm>

It is time for the new council to step up and take an evidence based approach to a serious public health issue.

Sincerely

Dr Matthew M Vaughan

Matthew M Vaughan MBChB, MSc, FRCR, DABR. Investigating Coroner,
Northumberland County, Attending Radiologist, Northumberland Hills Hospital 1000
DePalma Drive, Cobourg, Ontario, Canada.