

## Required Pump Out of Your Septic System

Council for the Municipality of Callander has adopted By-Law 2015-1479, which requires septic tanks adjacent to Lake Nipissing and Callander Bay and its inflowing watercourses to be pumped out at least once every three (3) years for permanent residences and once every five (5) years for seasonal residences (used less than twelve weeks per year). Proof of Pump Out must be provided no more than 30 days after pump out and before December 31<sup>st</sup> of every third (3) year or every fifth (5) year if it is deemed a seasonal property. A copy of the By-law is enclosed for your information.

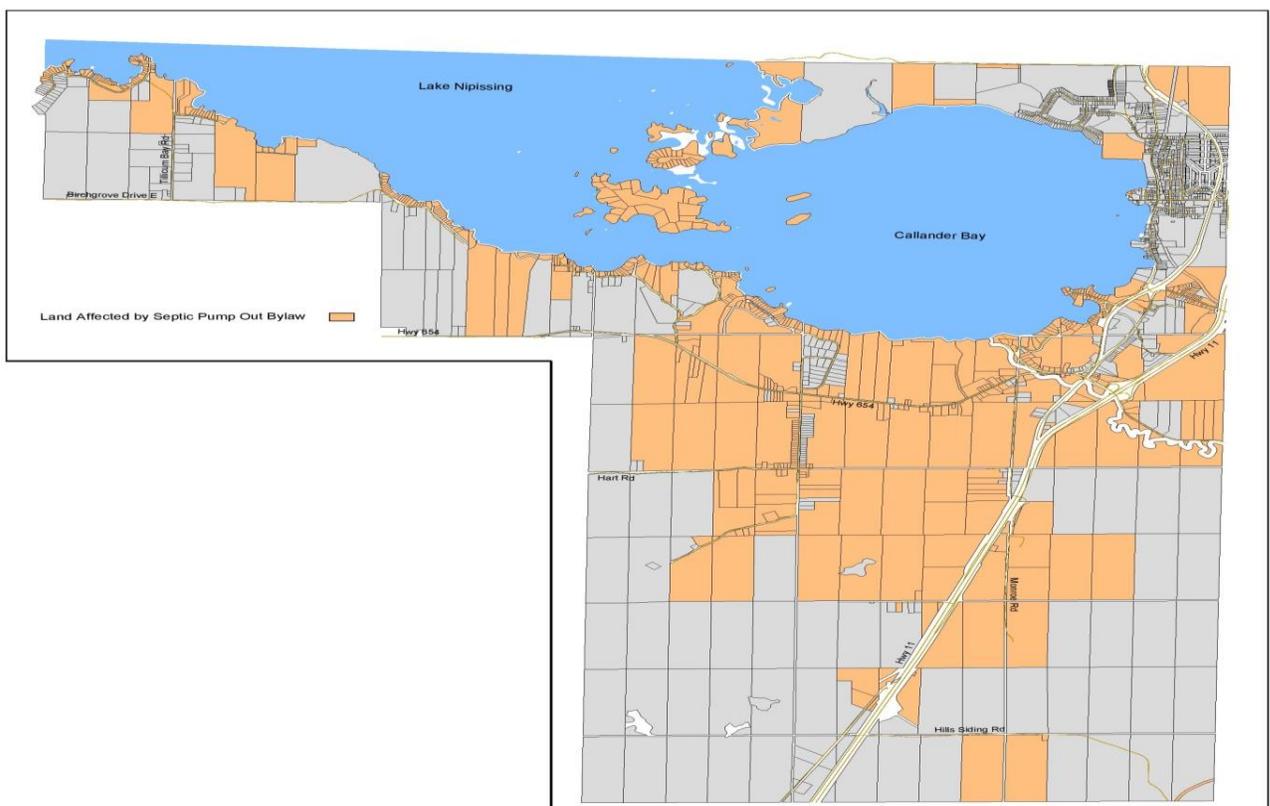
### ***Why Is the Pump-Out Required?***

Callander Bay is an important resource of the Municipality of Callander. The bay is the sole source of drinking water for the Municipality of Callander's municipal water distribution system and the source of drinking water for the private water systems of hundreds of homes located in our community. The Municipality of Callander deems it necessary to protect the health of the bay from any impacts from septic systems located adjacent to Callander Bay or its tributaries.

Best practices suggested by the Ministry of the Environment of Ontario and by the operating and maintenance guidelines of most suppliers of septic systems, suggest that the system's septic tanks be pumped out every three (3) to five (5) years depending on their use for optimum performance of the septic system.

In general, this timeline has been set due to the fact that septic systems typically need to be emptied in this time period to prevent them from exceeding their holding capacity. If a septic tank is not emptied frequently enough, the holding cell for solids may reach its capacity and overflow, leading to the seepage of sewage into nearby watercourses. These situations could have detrimental effects on the quality of the Municipality of Callander's drinking water and the health of the bay.

***The map indicates subject area of the By-law.***



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***How Do I Provide the Required Verification?***

In order to confirm that your property is in compliance, you must submit the receipt from the company that completed your pump out and complete the enclosed Proof of Septic Tank Pump Out Form.

To submit proof of septic tank pump out form and receipt from the pumping company, either mail or drop off the documents to:

The Municipality of Callander  
280 Main Street, North  
Box 100  
Callander, ON P0H 1H0

### ***How do I Obtain a Certificate of Compliance for Property Sales?***

If you require of a certificate of compliance to prove that your septic tank is in compliance with this By-law, please contact the Planning Administrator at 705-752-2608 ext. 22

### ***Who Is Responsible for Operating and Maintaining my Septic System?***

Septic systems are privately owned and are not connected to municipal sewer lines. Therefore, the owner of a septic system is responsible for the care or maintenance of their system as well ensuring that it is in compliance with all rules and regulations. By taking proper care of your septic system, you will ensure that it remains effective and efficient for the life of the system while optimizing its longevity.

The following sites provide some helpful hints for operating and maintaining your septic system.

- [North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority](#)
- [Ministry of Environment - SepticSmart! Understanding Your Home's Septic System](#)

### ***Who Can I Contact for Inspections and Permits***

For inspections and permits, the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority was designated under the Ontario Building Code (OBC-1997) to conduct inspections and issue sewage system permits across the Nipissing District and defined areas within the Parry Sound District. This includes the area surrounding Callander Bay.

In addition, building permits may be required from the Municipality of Callander's Building Department. To determine if you require a building permit contact the Chief Building Official at 705-752-2608 ext. 24.

### ***Municipal Contact***

For additional information or should you have any questions regarding the Septic Pump Out By-law No. 2015-1478 please contact the Planning Administrator at 705-752-2608 ext. 22.