



# Background

- The City of Cambridge is proposing the permanent closure of the RV / trailer dumping station that has been in active service at Churchill Park since the 1970s
- No additional information has been provided about where residents with RVs and trailers can empty their black and grey tanks or if a new site is even available.
- If residents don't have a convenient and clearly marked location to empty their tanks, this could result in sewage being dumped into catchbasins and storm sewers
- Approx 400 people signed a petition in support of keeping it open



Region of Waterloo

Translate (+)

What are you looking for?



I Want To...

Living Here



Exploring the Region



Doing Business



Health and Wellness



Regional Government

Drinking Water Locations

Drinking Water Safety

Protecting Water



Source Water Protection

Reports, plans and data

Report a Spill

Salt Management



Small Drinking Water Systems

## Protecting our sources of drinking water

Imagine a day without clean drinking water. Keeping it clean starts at the source. Source water is the raw water in rivers, streams or underground that eventually flows through our taps. In Waterloo Region, some of the drinking water starts at the Grand River but most is **groundwater**.

The **Source Protection Plan (SPP)** protects municipal wells and surface water intakes from **specific activities that may pose a threat** to drinking water. The Ontario government passed the **Clean Water Act** in 2006 to protect drinking water as a result of the **Walkerton E. coli outbreak tragedy** in May 2000. The Clean Water Act established a process for developing local, watershed-based Source Protection Plans. The **Grand River Source Protection Plan includes the polices for the Region of Waterloo**.

A number of **policy tools** are available to protect sources of drinking water under the Clean Water Act. The Region of Waterloo is responsible for reviewing development applications and building permits for source protection concerns, enforcing prohibitions in the most vulnerable areas for high risk activities, negotiating risk management plans to outline best practices to manage threats, and creating education and incentive programs.



## What is a source protection plan?

What are threats?

What are vulnerable areas?

Policy toolbox

Am I affected?

Implementing the plans

Municipal websites

Publications and resources

The Clean Water Act

Policy Mapping Tool

# What are threats?

Home / How It Works / What is a source protection plan? / What are threats?

The goal of source protection is to manage or eliminate existing activities that are, or could be, significant threats to a water supply.

The Clean Water Act, 2006 lists 20 human activities that are a threat to water quality and two that are threats to water supplies.

### What are significant threats?

There are many potential threats to drinking water, but the level of risk they pose depends on the nature of the activity and its location.

The threats that pose the greatest risk to a drinking water supply are called "significant threats."

A significant threat:

- is located in the more vulnerable areas near a well or intake.
- has a high hazard rating based on the nature of the material, how it is stored, how it is used, etc.

### Drinking water threats

#### Quality

- Waste disposal sites
- Sewage systems, including septic systems
- Storage, management and application of agricultural source material (e.g. manure)

E-Coli pathogen contamination

E-Coli pathogen contamination, like at Walkerton

**Subscribe to this page...**

#### Quick Links

Municipal contacts

Policy Mapping Tool

#### Contact(s)

General inquiry  
Phone: 519-621-2763 x2318  
Email: General inquiry

# RV dump station directory



# What other communities are doing...



Typically a free dump station via security guard at sewage treatment plants

Pickering  
Whitby  
Courtice  
Bowmanville  
Darlington

## Map Legend:

-  - Free
-  - For Registered Guests Only
-  - Mixed Prices
-  - Unknown User Fee

**Note:** Only location with GPS coordinates are shown!

Listing Filter:

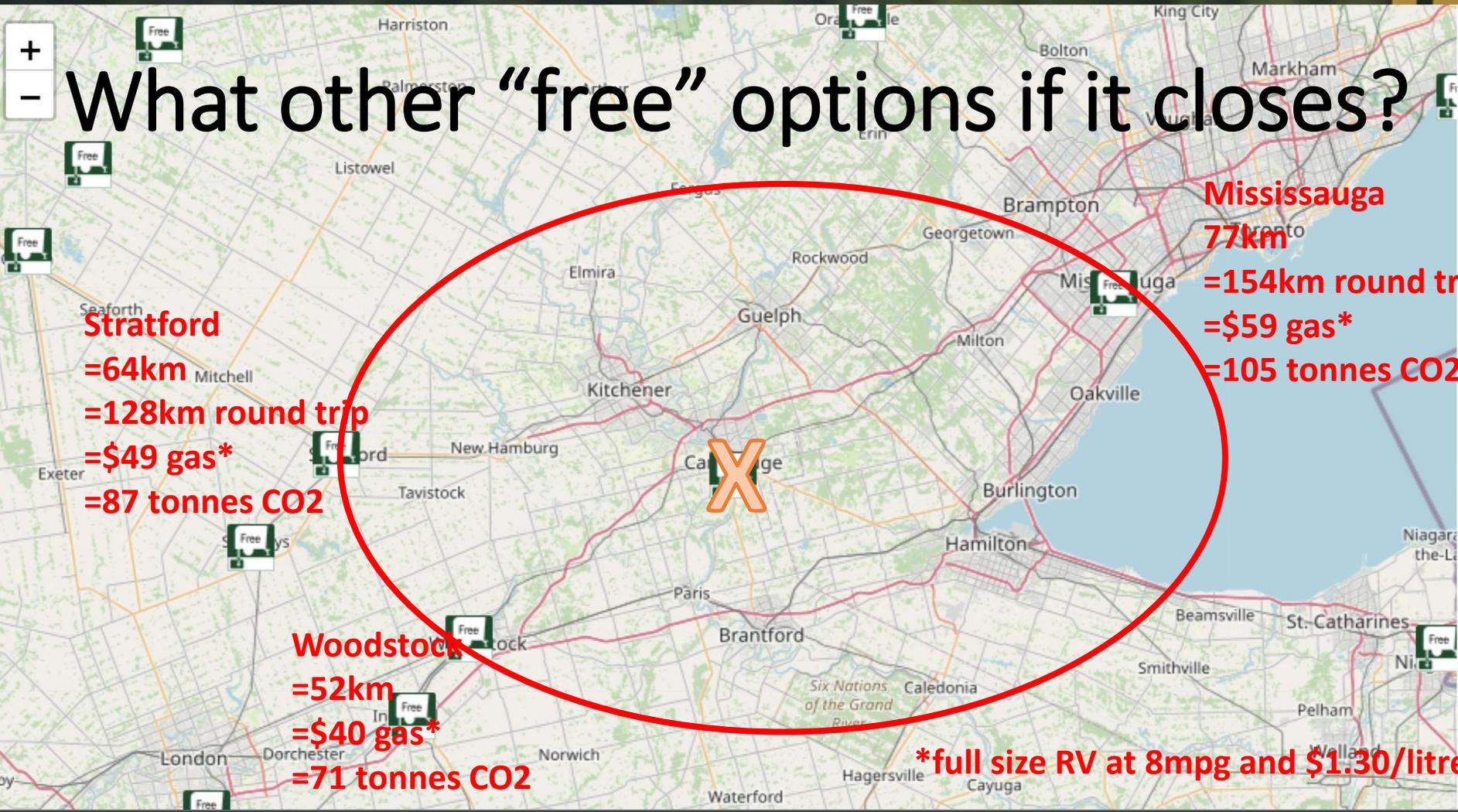
--- Select ---

Submit

\*\* Locations listed are Free Locations Only \*\*

# Sanidumps.com

RV dump station directory



## Map Legend:

- Free
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**Note:** Only location with GPS coordinates are shown!

Listing Filter:  
--- Select ---

Submit

\*\* Locations listed are Free Locations Only \*\*

Or... just save your money...



# CAMBRIDGE TIMES

\$2.00 | CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY | CAMBRIDGETIMES.CA



**CONCERN  
BUBBLES  
AS CITY  
CONSIDERS  
DUMPING  
RV STATION**



Jason Alexander, Cambridge Wastewater Manager in Cambridge Times article:

"The costs to maintain this service and wastewater treatment is covered through water user rates"

# But wait... we already paid for wastewater



### WATER/WASTEWATER BILL

Account Number:  
 Customer Name: RUSSELL SHANE  
 Service Address:  
 Meter Size: <19 MM  
 Water Meter Number:  
 Current Read Type: **FINAL READ**

Bill Issue Date  
 Billing Period:   
 Number of Days: 51  
 Previous Read: 2445  
 Current Read: 2457

Current Water/Wastewater Charges	Consumption (m3)	Rate (per m3)	No of Months	Rate per Month	Charge
Water Fixed Charge - 19MM			2	0009.24	\$15.71
Water Consumption Charge	12	02.28720			\$27.45
Wastewater Usage Charge	12	02.36610			\$28.39
Wastewater Fixed Charge -19MM			2	0006.78	\$11.53
Infrastructure Debt Charge			2	0000.79	\$1.34
Final Read Fee				0000.00	\$30.00
<b>Total Charges</b>					<b>\$114.42</b>

**Summary of Account**

Previous Balance	\$94.11
Payment Received	\$-94.11
Adjustments/Other Charges	\$ .00
<b>Balance Forward</b>	<b>\$ .00</b>
Current Water/Wastewater Charges	\$114.42

**Previous Consumption History**

Read Type	Reading Date	Reading	Consumption	No. of Days
ACTUAL	2019/10/08	2445	13	60
ACTUAL	2019/08/15	2432	13	60
ACTUAL	2019/06/17	2419	14	60
ACTUAL	2019/04/12	2405	16	60
ACTUAL	2019/02/12	2389	16	60

Wastewater 35% of bill  
 RV usage @ 39 gal = 0.15m3  
 Compared to 12m3 at home  
**Why are we talking about this?**

Blackwater ~\$0.35  
 Greywater ~\$0.35

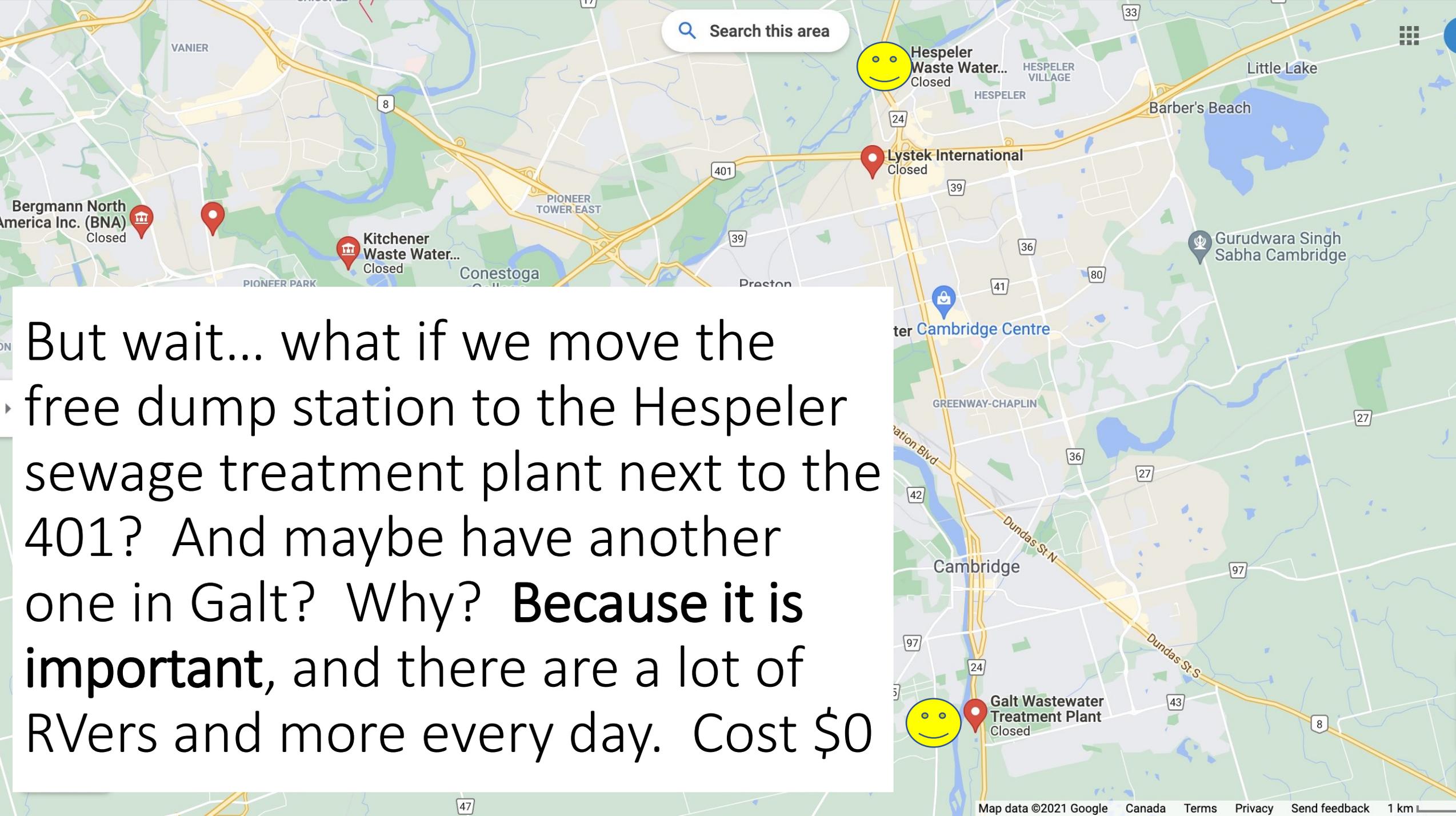
Let's say a generous \$1.00  
**What will it cost to change from status quo???**



This RV Sewage Station is proposed to be closed as of October 15, 2021



- Cost of a reflective sign: \$250
- Cost of 3 City workers to install sign \$750
- Cost to **invent** a high tech pool spray resistant pay-per-use system \$25,000? \$250,000?
- Cost when sewage accidentally ends up in our drinking water: Priceless



Search this area

But wait... what if we move the free dump station to the Hespeler sewage treatment plant next to the 401? And maybe have another one in Galt? Why? **Because it is important**, and there are a lot of RVers and more every day. Cost \$0

- *But what about all those non-Cambridge residents who use the Churchill Park RV dumping station? They don't pay for wastewater in Cambridge so why should they get to dump for free? Need to stop the poo freeloaders.*
- Regional tourism - non-residents who use the dumping station contribute to the local economy by spending money at gas stations, grocery stores and in restaurants, to name a few.
- This in turn generates tax revenues for the City of Cambridge
- As well as creating jobs and improving infrastructure

# What people are saying...

***Terry Ross, Kitchener***

I am a trailer owner and the convenience of using this site is great. I live in Cambridge, own a home and pay for water now. It is just an extension.

***Lisa Chippindale, Cambridge***

It will create a lot of illegal dumping if this is closed!

***Dianne Hilker, Cambridge***

We have a truck camper and there are no other places to dump our tanks. We have used it several times and see no reason for it to be closed. It is a safe way for campers to empty tanks.

***Jeff McLaren, Cambridge***

I don't want to see any illegal dumping. Keep it open for the taxpayers who use it.

***Brian Davidson, Cambridge***

It's a needed service to the community.

# What people are saying...

***Lesley Daufenbach, Guelph***

There are times where I need a place to dump my waste water. Churchill Park has been a godsend for us!

***Salena Mather, Waterloo***

It saves the campers from dumping in random places all over the city. This allows a designated spot for safe dumping.

***Linda Macdonald, Port Rowan***

I'm signing this because with the increase in people who are new to camping with RV's, trailers etc. there needs to be places like this for them to dump their waste or they will mistakenly dispose of said waste in inappropriate places. I believe there should be more of these places to make it easy and convenient for people to be responsible for legal waste dumping.

***Steven Bradford, Caledon***

I don't think they should close the dumping station when the RV industry is in a huge surge. Places like this are needed now more than ever!

# What people are saying...

## *John Hickey, Cambridge*

Every time I use this dumping station there is a line up. It's used and needed. Keep it free to help keep sewage out of the nearest catchbasin.

## *Lindsay Warner, Cambridge*

Our family has used this dumping station a few times and love that Cambridge offers this service. If this station closes, it is a long drive to another one. More and more people are camping, so let's keep a great service for our residents!

## *Tom Hutchinson, Cambridge*

It's been there so long, it's convenient, and there is a lot of room to work with. Otherwise, you have to haul for miles and pay administrative and user fees.

## *Sean Hargreaves, Cambridge*

These are essential services and should be kept in place.

# What people are saying...

*Steven Staveley, Cambridge*

Another typical government cutback! Do you not realize how many people, including myself, use this dump station? Yes, we do pay for sewage when we fill our fresh water tanks from home, which I always do. Please keep this dump station open, as we don't have any options if the place we leave doesn't have their own, like many of the racetracks I attend. It seems that all we do is pay more taxes every year and get less for it.

*Darcy Chelchowski, Cambridge*

I do not want this going into our storm sewers, which is what will happen.

*Linda Kuenzig, Cambridge*

Please don't close the dumping station at Churchill Park. My husband and I have lived in Cambridge our whole lives and have been regular users of the Churchill Park dump station for the last 11 years. We enjoy the convenience of having a dumping station so close to home. We believe that many people utilize this dumping station as almost every time we use it there are other people there either ahead of us, waiting for us to finish or both. We are concerned that, if this station is closed, people may take to dumping their grey and black water in inappropriate places. While we would never resort to such measures there are people that do what's most convenient for themselves. Please keep this dumping station open.