

Question:	<p>We are reaching out to you today to request some feedback and your expertise if you could spare a few moments.</p> <p>Cobourg Marina has seen an influx of Anglers over the last few seasons. Last season we struggled with the waste generated from fish cleaning being done within the marina grounds, on docks and lawns and to that end would be very interested in what you have done or have seen at other facilities to accommodate the need?</p> <p>Information on any rules you have changed or put in place or amenities you have added would be very much appreciated.</p>
Fish Cleaning Survey	
Frenchmans Bay Marina	We had a similar issue in that people would clean fish in the lawns and leave the entrails there. We now insist fish be cleaned on the boats. Here in the Bay, we have no problem allowing them to drop the guts into the lake. We have enough underwater wildlife, it gets removed quite quickly. As you're no doubt aware, many people simply feel they can do what they want and would ignore requirements. We've reached the point, anyone either not taking the fish home to clean or cleaning them on their boat, they no longer are allowed to fish out of this facility.
Bluffers park Marina	We have handled this issue by telling anglers that under no circumstances are they allowed to gut / clean their fish in our marina water or grounds. They can clean them out on the water\outside of harbour.
Bowmanville Marina	No fish cleaning at our marina, boaters take them home or do it out in lake. We are not set up for fish cleaning, our homeowners wouldn't be happy with that.
Port of Newcastle	We do not allow fish cleaning at our Marina, they clean them on the lake or bag the fish and take them home.
Municipality of Brighton	<p>We thankfully have not experienced this at our marina and boat launches yet. Any time fish are cleaned they make it to the garbage receptacles. Doesn't make it the smell any more pleasant but it is better than the alternative.</p> <p>You have a much bigger area and property than we do to maintain. We do have no fishing signage posted in our docking areas. Fish are by nature compostable not sure if taking this kind of angle would help you.</p> <p>Good luck with this.</p>
St. Catharines Marina	In the past we've tried a separate dumpster (with regular emptying), grinders that pumped the scrap into the sewer, burying the guts and or eliminating the cleaning station all together. All these solutions have many pros and cons. Today we utilize 2 freezers and ask the anglers to place the scraps into heavy duty garbage bags into the freezer. The day the skip gets emptied we throw the frozen scraps into the garbage skip. It's not ideal but it eliminates the smell. Many of our anglers clean the fish on the way back to the marina and simply toss the scraps back into the water.
Bridgeview Marina	We have never had this issue, the Anglers must clean their fish elsewhere.
Brighton Marina	Any time fish are cleaned they make it to the garbage receptacles. Doesn't make it the smell any more pleasant but it is better than the alternative.
Ontario Place Marina	<p>Our marina operation doesn't bring in many anglers, we are mostly larger vessels with people who are focussed on different aspects of pleasure boating. Since this has happened to you over the last few seasons, why don't you create a dedicated space for fish cleaning, put in "green" bins (such as those used by municipalities for composting) for the waste, and then gently enforce a rule (make sure you have a rule in your Rules and Regulations about where it is appropriate to clean your fish) and take action where needed.</p> <p>Positive signage about where the fish cleaning station is located (use wayfinding for anglers – make it fun with fish images being the arrows) and let them know that it is important to have a clean marina to keep down the less desirable animal population (raccoons, rats (yuck), foxes, coyotes) and to reduce unwanted smells for the rest of us. You could also indicate that it is a health and safety issue as people slip on the fish remains when it is "hidden" or not as obvious in the grass.</p> <p>If the signage is keep "fun" (but underlying serious), then perhaps some of them will cooperate.</p>

Port Whitby Marina	We have quite a number of anglers here as well and we find that most of our are fishing based on catch/release. It appears that the majority of anglers who are retaining and cleaning fish are doing this at home/away from the marina or possibly out on the lake. We do not currently allow fish cleaning on the docks or grounds, however we have had some issues with this in past as well as issues related to fish/fish waste being dumped in our garbage bins.
Martin St. Louis Cobourg Fishing Charter	This is not an easy task, very hard to manage. Port Weller in St-Catherine have freezers at the facility. I heard city animal rescue come to pick it up. Not sure what is the best practice I don't my self use it often.
Roger Magnan Cobourg Angler	<p>As per the presentation I had done, the quantity of anglers will continue to increase. In the Quebec sport magazines and on FB, there is a lot of promotion for free fishing in Cobourg. In Québec the free fishing is disappearing due to increased cost of controlled launching. Fishing vessels are kicked out of certain nearby ports on lake Ontario, hence migrating to Cobourg. Do note in the parking lot, the quantity of out of province licenses on trailers is often higher than Ontario plates. The overnight campers in your parking lot are usually out of province plates. Out of province offenders are not fined or towed, which encourages a lot of "cheap folks" to abuse your system, which spoils everything for us paying regulars. The present cleaning facility is not attractive to users. It is very small, located in the direct sunlight, surrounded by walls, no wind, and a lot of bees. Because only one person can use it at a time, the wait can be sufficient to cause anglers to find other places, or solutions. There is no waste disposal system, hence the less scrupulous use the garbage bins or the campground bins.</p> <p>For suggestions on how to improve we are unable to offer much.</p> <p>We have spent time in Port Hope. The fish cleaning station there seems to satisfy all of the issues mentioned above.</p> <p>On the secured marina grounds, there is no fish cleaning allowed, and the authorities do a lot of policing, with expulsion of offenders. Most of the fishing boats have a cleaning table and do the cleaning offshore. The fishing community has tournaments and a better organisation for info sharing.</p> <p>For Cobourg</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase the cleaning capacity for at least 4 fishermen at the same time. b) Improve the shelter against sun, rain, and at least screen the shelter for bees. c) Increase the quantity of bilingual warning signs, with increased policing and fines or expulsions for offenders and unregistered guides. d) Increase the presence of game wardens, A lot of fishermen go way beyond the catch limits, including alcohol while fishing. e) Check the freezers in the campground. <p>or</p> <p>Do like Whitby, mentioned above.</p> <p>P.S. (your Cobourg registered professional guides E dock have a good method).</p> <p>I, for one, would not mind paying as a fisherman, an extra \$50 or so per season, towards a better facility. Please note that I am not criticising the marina personnel. It seems they do not have the mandate or authority to implement restrictions or to enforce those in place.</p> <p>I have offered the mayor a fishing trip on the weekend of Canada day, to expose him to our problem. The offer still stands.</p>