OTTAWA CONSTRUCTION BINS

Driveways & Placement

Bins on driveways, where City land may start, the temporary consideration parking permit, condos and driveway damage

5 Expert Answers from Bin IQ

ottawaconstructionbins.ca/construction-brain

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Q1

Can an Ottawa bin go on my lawn instead of the driveway?

A bin on your lawn sits on private property, and we found no City of Ottawa page that requires a permit for a bin entirely on private land. That said, there are a few practical things worth sorting out before the drop-off date.

The edge of your lawn near the street may not be private property. The City's right-of-way can include a boulevard strip between the sidewalk and the property line, and the area around a driveway access can also be City land. If any part of the bin ends up on that strip, the City's TCE permit applies. You can check the approximate property line on geoOttawa, or ask the City's ROW Permit Office to confirm where your property ends.

Bin companies ask for a level spot clear of overhead wires and branches. A lawn is worth measuring against the bin's outside dimensions before you commit, because those dimensions vary by company. Ask for the exact length, width and height of the bin in writing, then walk the spot to confirm it fits and that the ground is level enough to hold it safely.

Two things to raise with the bin company directly:

- Whether it puts boards or planks under the bin, and who is responsible if the ground is damaged, since we found no City or provincial rule on that; it is a contract term.
- Whether the placement keeps the bin entirely off the boulevard and sidewalk, or whether a TCE permit will be needed anyway.

The form on this page sends your request to local bin rental companies listed in the Ottawa Construction Network directory, and they reply by email.
Before the drop-off date, confirm in writing the exact spot where the bin will land and whether any part of it will sit on City land.

Q2

Where can a construction bin go at a Kanata condo townhouse?

On a condo lot, start with the condominium corporation or property manager. We did not check condominium rules, so whether a bin may sit on your parking pad, a visitor space or a common area is their call, and the answer to ask for is a written one.

If the spot you are offered is on private property, the bin company has its own placement questions. Bin companies ask for a level spot clear of overhead wires and branches. Ask the company, in writing, whether it puts boards or

planks under the bin and who pays if the surface is damaged; we found no City or provincial rule on that.

If the only workable spot is on the road, boulevard, sidewalk or a public laneway in front of the complex, that is City land, and the City's Temporary Construction-related Encroachment (TCE) permit applies under the Road Activity By-law 2003-445. The City's right-of-way also includes the accesses to driveways and the boulevard beside private property, so a spot near the entrance can be City land too. geoOttawa shows the approximate line.

A road inside the complex may be private rather than City-owned. Ask the condominium corporation which roads are private and whether a bin may sit on one.

Kanata condo or not, the questions come in the same order:

- What does the condominium corporation allow, and where?
- Is the spot on City land?
- What are the bin's outside dimensions, and do they fit the spot?

Get the condominium corporation's answer in writing before you book the drop-off date.

Q3

Is the end of my Ottawa driveway City land for a bin?

It can be. The City's right-of-way is wider than the road: the City describes it as "the City-owned portion of land that includes the roadway, shoulder, sidewalk, vehicular and pedestrian accesses (accesses to driveways and walkways) and the boulevard beside private property." So the part of a driveway nearest the street can be City land, and where your property ends is a question for the map, not for the paving.

If a bin sits even partly on City land, the City's Temporary Construction-related Encroachment (TCE) permit applies. The Road Activity By-law 2003-445 says no person shall construct, erect or alter a temporary construction-related encroachment without first obtaining a permit, and the City needs at least 10 business days to process one.

To check your own lot, start with geoOttawa. The City says it "shows the approximate location of the City's ROW and the property lines", and that for exact property lines you contact a licensed surveyor. For a question about a bin, ask the City's ROW Permit Office.

Before you book:

- Measure the spot where the bin will sit and get the bin's outside dimensions from the company in writing, so you know whether it stays on your side of the line.

- Ask whether the company puts boards or planks under the bin and who pays for damage, in writing.
- Bin companies ask for a level spot clear of overhead wires and branches.

We found no City page saying a bin entirely on private property does or does not need a permit, so the line on the map is the thing to settle first.
Pick the exact spot with the company before the drop-off date, then check it against geoOttawa.

Q4

Who pays if a roll-off bin cracks my interlock driveway in Kanata?

That is a contract question. We found no City of Ottawa by-law or Ontario rule that assigns responsibility when a bin cracks or chips a driveway, so who pays depends on what your agreement with the bin company says before the bin arrives.

Ask the company two things, and get both answers in writing:

- Does it put boards or planks under the bin where it touches the driveway?
- Who pays if the driveway is damaged, and is that written into the agreement?

If the company will not put its answer in writing, that is worth knowing before you book.
A few placement details belong in the same conversation. Bin companies ask for a level spot clear of overhead wires and branches. Measure the space and ask for the bin's outside dimensions in writing. And if the bin will sit partly on the boulevard or the road, that part is on City land and the City's Temporary Construction-related Encroachment (TCE) permit applies.

The written agreement is also where Ontario's Consumer Protection Act, 2002 comes in. A booking made online is an internet agreement, and the supplier has to deliver a copy in writing. A booking for a later drop-off is a future performance agreement, and over $50 it must be in writing (s.22). Read the damage and liability terms in that copy before you confirm.

If the driveway is interlock in Kanata or anywhere else, the question to ask is the same: what goes under the bin, and who pays if a paver cracks.

Get the damage terms in writing before the drop-off date, not after the bin is down.

Q5

Bin taking my parking space in Ottawa: which parking permit applies?

The City of Ottawa's temporary consideration parking permit is the one for this. The City issues it "when off-street parking spaces are displaced temporarily, such as during off-street construction activities or when a garbage dumpster may occupy a property's parking space."

What the City's page says about it:

- The applicant must be the property owner or an authorized property manager.
- The approval process could take up to 8 business days, so apply well before the drop-off date.
- In 2026 it costs $37.00 plus HST per month (per vehicle) from April to November, and $172 plus HST per month (per vehicle) from December to March. The City notes that permits are generally issued for up to two weeks per permit, with the fee adjusted at the time of purchase, and that refunds are not available for this permit.
- Contractors' vehicles are not eligible; they use the City's Temporary Construction-related Encroachment (TCE) process instead.

That permit is about your car, not the bin. A bin that sits on the road, boulevard, sidewalk or a public laneway needs the City's TCE permit, a separate application.
On the driveway itself, the end near the street can be City land, because the City's right-of-way includes the accesses to driveways and the boulevard beside your property. geoOttawa shows the approximate line.

Where the bin sits decides which of the two permits applies, and it can be both: the parking permit for the displaced car and the TCE permit for a bin on City land.

Ask the bin company exactly where it will place the bin, then line up the matching permit before the drop-off date.

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Ottawa Construction Bins. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified contractors and your local building authority (the City of Ottawa) before placing a bin. A bin on the road, boulevard, sidewalk or a public laneway needs the City's Temporary Construction-related Encroachment (TCE) permit, and asbestos never goes in an ordinary bin. Information is current as of November 15, 2026 and may change. Visit **ottawaconstructionbins.ca** for the latest answers.