



**TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK**

Tax Instalment

Just a friendly reminder that the 1st instalment of interim taxes is due on February 28th. If you do not have your tax bill that was mailed at the end of January, please contact the Township Office.

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New Waste Management Calendars will be mailed soon. This very helpful tool contains a lot of information. Of particular importance are holiday schedule changes. Each resident must know if there will be any changes due to a holiday. If you do not receive a calendar, please contact the County of Oxford or our office.

EaZy Talk

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2014

2014 Municipal Election

2014 is a Municipal Election year and Monday October 27th, 2014 is Voting Day.

Nominations are now being accepted for:

- * Mayor
- * Deputy Mayor
- * 2 Councillors for Ward 1 (Tavistock)
- * 1 Councillor for Ward 2 (north of the Braemar Sideroad)
- * 2 Councillors for Ward 3 (south of the Braemar Sideroad)

School Board Trustees for:

- * Thames Valley District School Board
- * London District School Board
- * French Public School Board (Conseil Scolaire Public du District Centre-Sud-Ouest)
- * French Catholic School Board (Conseil Scolaire de District des Ecoles Catholique du Sud-Ouest)



Visit our **Elections** page on our website www.ezt.ca/election and find information including a ward map, "Candidates Guide", "School Board Trustee Guide", Nomination form, as well as up-to-date information on nominated Candidates.

If you are interested in serving on Council, please contact the Township Office for a nomination form and additional details such as meeting frequency, responsibilities and expectations for the position. The filing fee is \$100 for Councillor or Deputy Mayor and \$200 for Mayor. The deadline for nominations is Friday September 12, 2014 at 2:00 pm.

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Canine Licensing & Animal Control

NEW FOR 2014.....

At the end of 2013, residents of EZT were asked to respond to a survey about the Canine Licensing and Animal Control Program offered by the Township. Council had been reviewing the program, but they wanted the opinion of the residents before making a final decision. Once the results were tallied, it was very clear that most people did not see the need for a dog licensing program. At the February 5, 2014 meeting, Council voted to discontinue the licensing component of the program.



Under a revised Animal Control By-law, dog owners must still tag their dogs, but don't need to buy or use a Township tag to do so.

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Another EZT Retirement

The Public Works Department has seen another staff member retire! After working for the Public Works Department for 33 years, **Don Munroe** retired in December! A smile on his face and ready to start a day's work, this dedicated member of the 'EZT family' will be missed! Don's new role has him at home spending lots of time with his family and taking on some new projects around the house. If you see him out and about, please congratulate and thank him for his years of excellent service looking after our Township!

The newest member of the Public Works crew taking Don's place is Sean Bowker. He is a Hickson resident and in light of the winter we have been having, he has certainly had lots of on-the-job training his first winter working for EZT. We welcome Sean to the 'team' and wish him well in his new duties.

Did You Know?

The Township receives many types of questions on a daily basis. In many cases, these answers can be found on our website. We have a page of 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQ). This page has answers to questions you may have about your property taxes, drainage, building, waste management and other general items such as "How do I Get a Police Check" or "Who do I Speak to about a Dog Complaint". Many of our 'Forms' are also available on our website, perhaps saving you repeated trips to the Office.

Up-to-date Budget information and any important Township updates are posted. An abundance of information is available at your fingertips!

Join the



And say. . .

"I am PREPARED"

Build an Emergency Preparedness kit with us beginning February 24 for a chance to win a portable generator during Emergency Preparedness Week May 4 - 10.

Each week beginning Monday, February 24, we will feature a new item to be included in your emergency kit. Check our website, subscribe to Keep Me Informed or Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to receive your weekly item and learn more about being prepared.

The Red Cross recommends that you keep a disaster preparedness kit in your home with enough supplies to meet your family's needs for at least 72 hours. A kit can help you prepare for short-term power outages or major disasters.

Types of Kits

- Basic Emergency Preparedness Kit
- Farm Disaster Kit
- Car Emergency Kit

You can start building your kit anytime. Visit the Township's website or www.GetPrepared.ca for a full list of items to include. Collect all the items and then send us a picture of your kit to be entered to win the prize.

Don't wait for a disaster to get a kit!

2014 Municipal Election...Cont'd from page 1

Vote By Mail (VBM)

For the 2014 Election, East Zorra-Tavistock electors will be voting from the convenience of their own homes. We experienced an increase in voter turnout by utilizing VBM for the 2010 election - one of the goals of switching from the traditional vote. It is evident that by having the voter's kits delivered to residents' homes, busy voters found the system more convenient and less time consuming.

Further information about VBM will be included in future newsletters, including the dates that the kits will be mailed and ballots must be returned.



Message from the Mayor



The year is just beginning and already people are talking about losses. After a good year on the Stock Market in 2013, this year has seen significant losses. Retailers are talking about losses from bad weather days. Farmers are talking losses from low commodity prices. To top it off the Canadian dollar is down and going lower just when you want to head south to warm up. How do you survive the losses? How do you ensure 2014 is a good year for you and your family?

While at a conference in January, I noticed a poster with this quote, "A generous person will prosper". Did I read this correctly? Someone is telling me to be generous as a strategy to personal prosperity. Don't buy, don't spend, and don't borrow but give. Don't save, don't invest but give. Wow!

This is Proverbs 11:24 and 25, "One person gives freely yet prospers even more; another withholds unduly and comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper and whoever refreshes others will be refreshed".

This caused me to reflect and look around our community. I noticed that the people I respect the most are indeed the most generous. Does it really matter the order? I believe it does and I would challenge you to keep score. Give and give generously and count the results as gain or loss. Generosity is much more than just giving money. It is about giving time and investing in other people. Prosperity is also more than increasing monetary wealth. It is about increasing the love and security of friends and family.

So how will you handle losses in 2014? Try giving them away!

Canine Licensing & Animal Control

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At the very least, the owner's name and phone number needs to be on a tag, on their dog. While Microchips are great, they are only readable by people with chip readers, not your neighbour or someone that finds your dog. As the Township will no longer maintain a database of dog tags and ownership, the ID tag with your information becomes a crucial factor in getting a lost dog returned to its rightful owner. Pet ID tags can be purchased at a variety of retail outlets, pet stores and online. ID tags should also be used on any animal that could leave your property. Fines for not affixing identification will be set out in the By-law.

Hillside Kennels will continue to pick up stray dogs when they are contained. If the dog has no identification and the owner is found, the fine for not affixing ID will be included in the retrieval and boarding fees.

The Township will continue to sell Kennel Licences to owners of purebred dog breeding operations in the Township. No tags will be issued with the licence, but it is necessary for the Township to maintain knowledge of the number of kennels operating in the municipality and to ensure they meet zoning by-law guidelines. Licences can be obtained at the Township Office in Hickson for a fee of \$60.00.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Upon authorization by the Township, Hillside Kennels will continue to pick up animals that pose an immediate health and safety risk to residents ie. rabid skunk or raccoon, unsafe animal in a park, etc. Animals that are simply a nuisance and do not pose a safety threat will not be collected.

An updated Animal Control By-law will be presented to Council at the February 19th meeting. It will be available for viewing on our website as part of the agenda posted on Friday, February 14th, or in the By-law Register at the following link when it is updated after the meeting:
<http://ezt.ca/Township-Office/Council/By-law-Register>

TIPS to keep nuisance animals away....

- * Do not leave pet food or scraps outside and ensure outdoor garbage bins are secure.
- * Keep BBQ grills clean or store the grills in a garage or shed.
- * If you have a vegetable garden, a motion light may discourage snacking.
- * Lock pet doors at night and hang birdfeeders where wildlife can't reach them.
- * Seal any entries into crawlspaces (ensure there aren't any 'pests' in there at the time).
- * Trim tree branches that overhang your house or garage.



Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

519.532.2500

dmckay@ezt.ca

Deputy Mayor

Maureen Ralph

519.462.2955

mralph@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Linda Fulton

519.635.7140

lfulton@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Clive Lawry

519.655.3102 or 519.655.3490

clawry@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

Don MacDonald

519.462.2672

dmacdonald@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Don Lazenby

519.537.3758

dlazenby@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

519.536.6363

jsmith@ezt.ca

Council meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Innerkip Lots For Sale

For Sale by the Township - Two Residential Building Lots in Innerkip

The Township has two surplus residential building lots for sale in Innerkip. These lots were created when Day St. between Queen St. and James St. was closed and declared surplus. The lots are serviced, zoned for single family residential development and are ready for building permits.

Lot 1 - 641 Queen Street

15.088 x 57.89 m

Zoned RI-21 (Special Provisions - 12 m minimum Front Yard Setback, 40% lot coverage)

Lot 2 - 40 James Street

15.088 x 39.65 m

Zoned RI-18 (Special Provisions - 7 m minimum Front Yard Setback, 40% lot coverage)

For more information about these lots contact:

Jeff Carswell, CAO

519-462-2697

jcarswell@ezt.ca

Load Restrictions

Load Restrictions on Township roadways take effect March 1st and run until the end of April. In accordance with By-Law #2005-46, during this time most vehicles are restricted to 5 tonnes for each axle. Fuel and feed trucks are limited to 7.5 tonnes per axle and milk trucks are exempt. The reason for the load restriction is to minimize the deterioration of the road during the spring thaw. Equipment exceeding the weight restriction causes extensive damage to the roads, resulting in very high maintenance costs and increased liability. Although farm equipment is not included in this by-law, we request local farmers to consider spring thaw conditions when scheduling movement of commodities, machinery, etc. This will help preserve your Township roads.



Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

90 Loveys Street

Box 100

Hickson ON N0J 1L0

Phone: 519.462.2697

Fax: 519.462.2961

Email: ezt@ezt.ca

Website: www.ezt.ca

Office Hours: Mon - Fri

8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800

Website: www.oxfordcounty.ca

Tavistock & District Recreation Centre

Phone: 519.655.2102

Fax: 519.655.3560

Tavistock & District Memorial Hall

Phone: 519.655.9992

For Bookings: 519.655.2102

Innerkip Community Centre

Phone: 519.469.3889

For Bookings: 519.539.1340

Stay Informed



Join "Keep Me Informed"