



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK



Eazy Talk

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2017

EZT Christmas Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Friday December 22nd at 4:30pm and re-open Tuesday January 2nd at 8:30 am. This includes General Administration, Building Department, Roads Administration and Fire Administration. Emergency Services and Road Maintenance operations are not affected by this closure.

Real Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Yard Waste Depots in Hickson, Innerkip and Tavistock to be mulched. Please remove all decorations and plastic bags used to transport trees. Trees will not be picked up at curbside.

With the way the holidays fall this season, garbage and recycling for EZT residents will be unaffected. Collection times will remain the same with the regular schedule. For more information on your collection schedule please visit www.wasteline.ca

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 25 & 26th	CLOSED	Jan. 1st	CLOSED
Dec. 27th	1pm - 3pm	Jan. 2nd	1pm - 3pm
Dec. 28th	1pm - 3pm	Jan. 3rd	1pm - 3pm
Dec. 29th	1pm - 3pm	Jan. 5th	1pm - 3pm

New Options Available for Pre-Authorized Payment Plans

Pre-Authorized Payments – 12 month installment option available January 2018

As of January 2018 we will be offering a 12 month installment option for our pre-authorized payment plans. This option is being offering in addition to the installment due date plan, and the PAPI0 program that runs from January – October. The 12 month option will allow for tax payment withdrawals to be directly deducted from your bank account on the 15th of each month from January to December. To enroll in this plan please contact the office, or visit our website for the enrolment form.

Please also see the back page of this newsletter for important information about the new financial fees that will be effective as of January 1, 2018.

Note: Arrears letters are only sent out a few times a year, if you are unsure if you have paid your property taxes, or are unsure of the amounts owing please call or visit our office for up to date account balances. Phone: 519-462-2697

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WINTER PARKING REMINDER

There is “No Parking” on roadways within the villages from November 1st - April 15th from 1:30 am to 6:00 am. If required, this time is used for snow removal.

Concerned about the proposed High Speed Rail Project that will cut through East Zorra-Tavistock ?

For more information and to submit your comments go to: www.ontario.ca/page/high-speed-rail or email highspeedrail@ontario.ca

And be sure to also let the Township know your thoughts on this proposal

WHERE DO I PUT MY LEAVES ?

As the leaves start falling please remember that leaves are **NOT** to be placed at the street. There is NO street collection of leaves in the Township.

There are Yard Waste Depots where you can take your brush, leaf and yard waste.

- Innerkip** - Corner of George and Main Streets
- Hickson** - 158 Loveys St
- Tavistock** - 18 Hendershot St

Acceptable material

- Grass
- Leaves
- Halloween pumpkins
- House & garden plants
- Hedge & tree trimming
- (less than 7cm in diameter)

Acceptable Brush Waste

- Brush (Limbs/stumps longer than 6 foot/1.8m)
- Christmas trees

Also please be sure to keep the top of the storm drains clear. When they are covered with grass and leaves it prevents water from draining away. In order to help prevent a water build up on your property please remember to remove built up debris off the top.

Beat the Silent Killer

It is now the law in Ontario to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home if you have a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage.

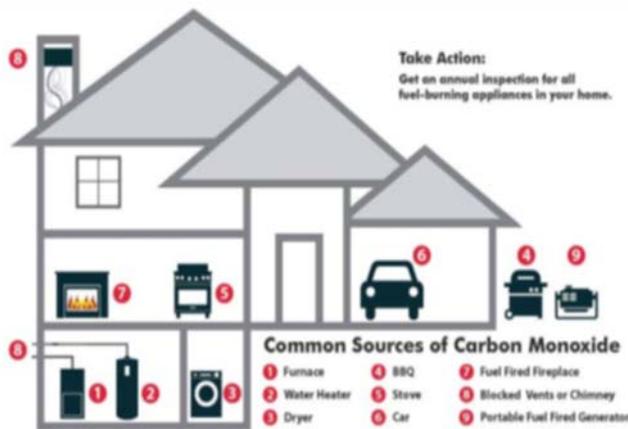
“If your home has a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, you must have a working CO alarm adjacent to each sleeping area of the home,” said EZT Fire Chief, Scott Alexander. “For added protection, install a carbon monoxide alarm on every storey of the home according to manufacturer’s instructions.” Fuel-burning appliances can include furnaces, hot water heaters, gas or wood fireplaces, portable fuel-burning heaters and generators, barbeques, stoves and vehicles.

Failure to comply with the CO alarm requirements could result in a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals or \$100,000 for corporations.

The Ontario Fire Code was amended October 15, 2014 to require CO alarms after the provincial government passed Bill 77 – the Hawkins Gignac Act, in December 2013. Bill 77 is named after OPP Constable Laurie Hawkins, who died, along with her husband and two children, in her Woodstock home from CO poisoning in 2008.

“In Ontario, more than 80% of injuries and deaths from CO occur in the home,” said Alexander. “We want to make sure everyone is safe from CO. Install CO alarms, and do everything you can to prevent CO in your home in the first place.”

Homeowners and landlords are responsible for ensuring their properties have working carbon monoxide alarms. The law requires landlords to test CO alarms in rental units annually and when the battery is replaced. Testing is also required if changes are made to the electrical circuit or a change in tenancy occurs. Tenants are required by law to notify the landlord if the CO alarm is inoperable and it is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm.



From the Office of the Fire Marshal & Technical Standards & Safety Authority (TSSA)

Message from the Mayor



We are a peculiar people. We want total personal freedom and autonomy. We especially resist any government interventions or restrictions that would limit our personal freedom. Yet, we want our governments at all levels to solve our societal problems. We want better

education, better health care, better wages and working conditions and the list goes on.

Not only do we want them but we want them now without infringing on our freedoms and without raising our taxes. Let us consider one area to illustrate just how peculiar we are. We are outraged with the number of fatalities on our highways. Why can the government not design safer roads? Why is there not more traffic enforcement? Why is there not more training and testing for truck drivers? Some will even go so far as to suggest bringing back photo radar. Now that is peculiar!

Governments are addressing all of these areas but it never seems to be soon enough and it always costs too much.

What if there were another solution?

Very soon technology will bring us self driving vehicles. These vehicles can be programed to obey all the traffic laws. They will be able to drive safely and adjust to various road conditions. There will be no more distracted driving, unsafe lane changes or rolling stops. Now the peculiar part. Will we welcome this technology or resist it? Will we punch in our destination and let the technology take us there safely? Or will we turn off the technology so we can drive a little faster, run the stop sign or take the short cut through a residential neighbourhood? Should the government take away the switch so we cannot turn it off? As I said, we are a peculiar people!

The Christmas season will soon be upon us and I do want to wish each one a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I encourage all of us to get out and enjoy the many community activities that will be taking place during the holiday season. Please drive safely.

Can Emergency Services Find You ?

Fire, Police and Emergency Services depend on you as the homeowner to ensure your "911" sign or house number is clearly visible. Visible house numbers/911 signs could mean the difference between life and death.

Most importantly, please ensure you actually have a 911 sign or house number. The Township's By-law No. 1995-49 states "*owners of property keep and maintain in good condition their civic number plate or civic numbers, whatever the case may be, and shall be responsible for the costs associated with such maintenance or replacement*".

Looking for an address is very difficult particularly at night, in the fog, snow or rain. It is important that these numbers are easily visible at all hours of the day and all types of weather. Valuable time is wasted if emergency services need to look for the location.

A Few Tips....

Ensure your 911 signs or house numbers are in good repair and legible. If your 911 sign is damaged or missing, please contact the Township Office so a new one can be ordered.

For rural properties, the civic number plate is to be placed on its own post, within 3 metres of the property line and within 3 metres of the edge of the driveway, unobscured by any objects, and perpendicular to the fronting road.

The plate must be a minimum of 1.5 metres above grade, and a maximum of 2 metre above grade.**

For urban properties with existing civic addresses and a posted speed of 60 km or less, the numbers must be a minimum of 7" in height, or if reflective, 5", and must be clearly visible from the travelled portion of the road.

If your 911 sign becomes buried due to heavy snowfalls or snow removal operations, please clear around the sign to always ensure visibility.

When landscaping or decorating your front porch, do not obscure your 911 sign or house number.

Remember..... Emergency Services can't help you if they can't find you!

* Adapted from the County of Oxford Civic Addressing Guidelines

Council

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Council meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public. Until further notice Council meetings are being temporarily held in the Council Chambers at the County of Oxford Administration Building, 21 Reeve St in Woodstock

New Financial Fees Effective Jan 1, 2018

Tax Confirmation requested by Bank or Trust Company	\$15 per property	If your bank is requesting a tax confirmation letter that taxes have been paid, a \$15 fee per property will apply.
Tax Confirmation Letters	\$15 per property	If you require a confirmation letter to be printed confirming that taxes have been paid, a \$15 fee per property will apply NOTE: if you have a copy of your tax bill and want it stamped paid you can bring your bill into our office to be stamped and no fee will apply for this service.
NSF Fee or Returned Cheque/ PAP	\$25	If a cheque is returned or PAP payment is returned for insufficient funds, a \$25 fee will be applied to your tax account.
Payment Redistribution Fee	\$10 per tax roll number	If you pay for multiple properties on the same tax roll number and the payment has to be redistributed, a fee of \$10 per tax roll number will apply. When paying for multiple properties please enter each payment separately when paying online, using the tax roll number for each property as the account number. If payment for multiple properties is submitted to one tax roll number, it will only be applied to the tax roll number indicated. If you are paying by cheque for multiple properties, the payment can be on one cheque, but please submit the tear off stubs for each property.
Tax Bill Reprint	\$5 per bill	If you require a reprint of your tax bill, a fee of \$5 per tax bill reprint will apply.

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

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: 519.539.1340

For Bookings: 519.469.3889

Stay Informed



Join "Keep Me Informed"