



INSIDE THIS

Public Works	
Projects 2015	

2

Did You Empty Your Lint Trap?

Message from the 3 Mayor

Winter is Coming	3
Whether We	
Like it or Not	

Report Crime to 4 OPP Online

Welcome our New 4 Treasurer

Office and Facility 4 Contacts

Want to know what is going on in the community this Holiday Season, take a look at the **Calendar of Events** on our website. If you have a community event to add please email **ezt@ezt.ca**.

To keep up to date on everything going on in EZT sign up for **Keep Me Informed** and we will send you emails when we post to our newsroom.

EaZy Talk

VOLUME II. ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2015

EZT Christmas Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Thursday December 24th at 12:00 pm and re-open Monday January 4th 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 <u>not</u> be picked up at curbside.

With the way the holidays fall this season, there will be changes to the recycling and garbage collection as indicated below. Also, don't forget to recycle those gift boxes and gift wrap; however, metallic or glitter gift wrap is not recyclable.

Garbage & Recycling over the Holiday Season

Friday December 25th collection moves to Saturday December 26th

(garbage & recycling)

Friday January 1st collection moves to Saturday January 2nd

(garbage & recycling)

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 21st	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 23rd	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 28th	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 30th	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Zehr Automotive
Dec. 31st	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Tim Hortons

Tavistock Arena will be closed as follows:

Dec. 25th and 26th all day

Jan. 1st all day

Regular public skating rates:

8	0	
Pre School		Free
Public School		\$2
Students & Adults		\$3
Family Pass		\$9

For open ice time see www.ezt.ca



Public Works 2015 Projects

During 2015 a number of public works projects were completed including the following;

Bridge # 3 Replacement

Complete removal of existing structure and construction of new bridge, as well as improved guard rails.



Road Resurfacing of 15th Line between Oxford Road 17 and Oxford Road 33

Road Reconstruction 13th Line (North End)

Added additional granular base to strengthen the road and resurfaced with asphalt.



Road Reconstruction Victoria St and Homewood Ave. 460m of road reconstruction, 232m of new storm sewers and 358m of new sidewalk.



Did You Empty Your Lint Trap?

A leading cause of dryer fires in homes is the lack of dryer maintenance. These appliances are often taken for granted by many consumers. During our long winters, over-use of our dryers is common in most households and maintaining a lint-free unit is critical.

Heavier woolen and fleece clothes Canadians love to wear in winter may be cozy, but the large amounts of lint they shed while being machine dried tend to pack tightly into dryer crevices and cavities, cling to exhaust hoses and pipes, and generally increase the risk of fire.

CLOTHES DRYER SAFETY TIPS

A leading cause of dryer fires in homes is the lack of dryer maintenance. Homeowners are reminded to take the following precautions:



Here are a few clothes dryer safety tips from Ontario Fire Marshall's Office:

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- If you are installing your own dryer, follow the manufacturer's instructions before installing the dryer vent. Determine the straightest and most direct venting path to the outdoors to reduce the likelihood of lint accumulation in bends or elbows.
- Use rigid or flexible metal ducting for venting to the outdoors. Plastic or metal foil
 ducts are more prone to kinking, sagging and crushing, which leads to lint build-up.
 Plastic ducting is also more prone to ignition and melting.
- Clothes dryers located in closet-type spaces or totally enclosed rooms (e.g. in apartments) should have sufficient incoming air for proper operation (see manufacturer's instructions).
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding the safe use of the dryer.
- Inspect and clean the lint screen after each load of laundry. The build-up of lint can lead to a fire. Regularly remove lint from metal ducts and exhaust vents. The inside of the dryer cabinet should be cleaned as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Regularly inspect the air exhaust to ensure it is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap opens when the dryer is operating.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.
- Keep the area around the dryer clear of items that can burn.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm in your home if using a natural gas or propane dryer.
- Ensure there are working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas.

DO NOT:

- Overload the dryer.
- Exhaust the dryer indoors.
- Dry materials or fabrics that have been saturated by chemicals, oils or gasoline (e.g. mops and towels and cloths saturated with wax, flammable solvents or vegetable oils).
- Even after washing, these substances can start a fire during the drying cycle.
- Dry natural or synthetic rubber, rubber-coated sneakers, galoshes, foam pillows or any garment with foam padding (e.g. blouses with shoulder pads, bras, bicycle shorts).
- Dry garments that have been cleaned with dry-cleaning fluid.
- Use a dryer without a lint filter, or with a lint filter that is loose, damaged or clogged.

Message from the Mayor



As I write this message I am in the lovely Fraser Valley outside Vancouver. I am travelling with a group of Ontario Farm Marketers looking to learn new ideas for rural economic development for our local businesses and communities. Travelling on the bus each day between stops I am faced with relentless complaining about the rules, the

by-laws, the red tape and the endless delays caused by local governments. On our stops I hear the same thing from BC businesses as they try to grow and prosper. They are faced with Agriculture Reserve Land (ARL) policies as well as agricultural land prices of \$100,000 per acre. While it seemed so obvious to me that we have far less rules and lower costs it was of no consolation. This reminded me of the simple rhyme I learned in school one day as I sat sad and lonely without a friend,. A voice came to me from out of the blue saying,

"Cheer up, things could be worse,"
So I cheered up, and sure enough, things got worse!
I do not give into this philosophy. I believe that together East Zorra-Tavistock businesses and government can work to make business opportunities better. May I suggest three things:

- 1. Talk! Our staff and Councillors want to hear your concerns.
- **2.** Ask! Please do not make assumptions, just because you heard it at the coffee shop does not make it true. A timely question can save a mountain of frustration.
- 3. Encourage! Give your ideas, thoughts and suggestions a chance to make tomorrow better for all of us. While most of you are turning your thoughts to family, friends, and the fun of Christmas, your Council is turning its thoughts to next year's budget. There are many pressures on the budget to do more with less. Economic Development can bring in much needed new taxes so please help us help you by Talking, Asking and Encouraging. Merry Christmas—Mayor Don McKay

Winter is Coming... Whether We Like it or Not

The Township is responsible for the maintenance of 210 km of roads and work very hard to ensure they are safe for all the motoring public. At times, residents call in very frustrated with the winter control activities of our Public Works Department. Our Road Patrollers are out at 3:00 am and if the weather warrants, the equipment operators are called in to begin their day at 5:00 am. With a typical snowfall, it takes our operators with 3 plows and a grader approximately 4-5 hours to get over all the roads once. Many times they start all over right away just to keep ahead of the hazardous white stuff. High priority roads are completed first being the 16th Line, the Braemar Sideroad west of the 13th Line, the Maplewood Sideroad and the Tavistock Streets. Also, keep in mind that the County roads including Blandford St. in Innerkip, Loveys St. in Hickson and Woodstock and Hope St. in Tavistock are maintained by the County of Oxford.

Residents need to keep in mind that snow removal times depend greatly on the conditions. Heavier wet snow, treacherous blowing snow, or freezing rain ,obviously slow down the process while our staff work in a safe manner for themselves as well as others out on the roads. Also, despite meticulous maintenance of the equipment, breakdowns do occur and every effort is made to get the plow or grader back on the road as soon as possible. Please be patient and try to understand the challenges faced by our Public Works Department.

Also a reminder to everyone that there is "No Parking" on roadways within the villages from December 1st to March 31st from 1:30 am - 6:00 am. If required, this time is used for snow removal operations in these areas.

A contractor hired by the Township will plow Township sidewalks. The level of service will be one clearing per day (or per storm event). The Township is asking residents to supplement this activity by continuing to clear the sidewalk in front of their residence after light snow falls or in between clearings. The Tavistock Business Area will continue to be governed by By-law #16-91, which requires the abutting property owners to clear snow and ice on sidewalks.



Do not push snow or ice onto the road or sidewalk when clearing your driveway. This applies in both the urban and rural areas. This practice endangers the safety of the motoring public, as well as our snow removal equipment and operators (as it is in contravention of the Highway Traffic Act). We appreciate your co-operation in this matter, it will assist us greatly in providing a safe and reliable road system to our residents.

Council

Mayor & County Councillor **Don McKay** 519.532.2500 dmckay@ezt.ca

Deputy Mayor

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Councillor - Ward 3
Jeremy Smith
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Council meetings are held on the Ist 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.

Report Crime to OPP Online

www.opp.ca/reporting

Navigate to the above link then select your language preference, then click on the "Start Report" button. Using the Citizen Self Reporting system, specific incidents can be reported online at your convenience without attending a detachment or waiting for an officer. Do NOT use if there is an EMERGENCY.

Use this online reporting system to report:

- Theft Under \$5,000
- Mischief/Damage to Property Under \$5,000
- Mischief/Damage to Vehicle Under \$5,000
- Theft From Vehicle
- Lost/Missing Property
- Stolen Licence Plates
- Driving Complaint (after the fact)

All submissions will be reviewed by an officer, and you may be contacted to provide more information. You must have a valid e-mail address in order to submit a report. This system IS now compatible with mobile handheld devices such as phones or tablets.

Welcome our New Treasurer

On October 19th, Staff and Council welcomed **Nandini Syed**, stepping into the role of Treasurer. Nandini brings with her 11 plus years of financial management experience of which 7 years were in Municipal Government, and a record success in getting initiatives off the ground and flourishing. Nandini holds a Bachelor Degree in Business from York University, along with her CPA, CMA accounting designations. We welcome Nandini to EZT!



Office and Facility Contacts

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90 Loveys Street

Box 100

Hickson ON N0J IL0 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"