



TOWNSHIP OF  
EAST ZORRA-  
TAVISTOCK

**Fire Information for  
Student Accommodation**

Parents have many issues to consider when seeking suitable accommodation for a young adult attending college or university. The Township has an informative guide to help determine if a potential accommodation makes the grade when it comes to fire safety. For more information visit [www.twp.ezt.on.ca](http://www.twp.ezt.on.ca) or contact the Township Office.

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

**Safe Play Areas** 2

**Your Volunteer Firefighters** 2

**Back to School Safety** 2

**Mayor's Message** 3

**Summer Student Update Cont'd** 3

**Yard Waste Depots** 3

**Important Dates** 4

**Property Taxes** 4

**Facility Contacts** 4

# EaZy Talk

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2007

## Summer Student Update

Over the past few years, the Township has been very fortunate to have the assistance of summer students working in various capacities. This offers invaluable opportunities to a student, as well as providing great value to the Township. From the standpoint of the Township, it allows the time to move forward on very significant and important projects. At times these individuals help to cover vacations and in many ways help to keep costs down and avoid the hiring of consultants. The expertise they bring with them can be very valuable. From the standpoint of these students, it provides real work experiences and helps provide the funds required for their continuing education.

**What do Our Students have to Say?**

**Matthew Binkle, Information Technology**  
As the IT summer student, my job seems to start with someone saying, "this darn thing!" and ends when we've found a satisfactory solution. From maintaining the Township's website, to un-jamming the photocopier, handling a broad range of problems makes every day different, interesting and challenging. Aside from day-to-day issues that crop up, I've made some changes to the way the website works behind the scenes, making it easier to add new items. I also replaced several aging computer systems with new ones as well as streamlining the system for backing up the Township's computer systems making things much more resistant to failure. A lot of what I do may not be very visible outside the office; however, I think that I've allowed people in the office to focus on getting things done and spending less time worrying about whether or not their systems can keep up.  
*Matt is entering his 3rd year at the University of Waterloo in the Legal Studies Program.*

**Nic Yungblut, Public Works Operations**  
Most University students would cringe at the idea of waking up every morning at 6:00 am during their four month summer holiday. During the

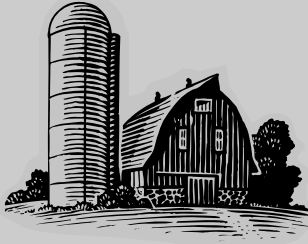
interview process I was asked the classic question, "What would you say your weakest point is?" My response was "I'm not really a morning person". This being said, I have not found it difficult to get up for work at all. I look forward to another day with the guys in the Public Works Department. My favourite part of working here has been the friendly and easy to get along with staff. Whether it's joking around with the guys in Public Works or the pleasant smiling faces of the employees in the office, I am always in contact with great people. Throughout the summer, I have had a variety of small tasks to complete as well as a few large ones. My biggest responsibility is mowing the grass and weeds in the ditches across the township. I have also had the opportunity to work on major construction projects such as the Braemar and Maplewood Sideroad projects. I complete many weekly maintenance tasks to help keep our Township clean. My experience at the Township has been a very positive one and I hope I will have the opportunity to work with such a great group of people next summer.

*Nic is entering his 2nd year at McMaster University in the Business Program.*

**Adam Brooks, Public Works Asset Management**

Sometimes a summer job is more than just a place to work for the months between school years. After spending several summers working various jobs that spanned over numerous factories, I can finally say that I have found not only a job that I truly love to do, but one that I feel will provide me with meaningful experience to assist in the development of my career. Many people have seen me in my bright orange t-shirt or vest on the side of the road and wondered what I was doing standing in the ditch near a catch basin or at the end of your laneway standing over a culvert. This was all a part of the completion of the Asset Management program that has been underway in the Township. As I am writing this article, the rural infrastructure

continued on Page 3



### Safe Play Areas on Farms Grant Program 2007

In Ontario, many farms function uniquely as both a workplace and a home, however, for children, the entire farm may be seen as their place to explore and play. It takes time and guidance for them to recognize and understand the risks that surround them. It is not always possible to provide close supervision on the farm. One solution to this challenge is to provide a designated and well-designed *Safe Play Area*.

A *Safe Play Area* physically limits the child's exposure to hazards on the farm. Under adult supervision the child can safely experience the stimulation that play provides for growth within a safer environment.

The Farm Safety Association has always stressed child safety and awareness in their activities. The association works in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs. The *Safe Play Area Grant Program* is part of the 2007 child safety campaign.

Funding to cover expenses up to the first \$500 is available to help farm owners build a *Safe Play Area* on their farm property. There will be up to 100 grants provided in 2007. Certain conditions do apply.

For more information, you can visit [www.farmsafety.ca](http://www.farmsafety.ca) or contact the Farm Safety Association at 1.800.361.8855.

# Your Volunteer Firefighters

As we endeavour to find people to use as role models in our day to day lives, we occasionally overlook the obvious individuals we have embedded in our communities. This Township is fortunate to have 57 volunteer firefighters that selflessly give their time and efforts to keep us safe. Each and every one of them could tell you about the birthday, anniversary or Christmas morning that they have missed while coming to the assistance of someone in need. As they responded to a call, they have undoubtedly experienced the look of concern and disappointment in their family and friends faces. The only thing in those moments that eases that pain of leaving is that someone else needs them even more. When you start to look at the bigger picture, you can see that the dedication to serve as a volunteer firefighter really starts to become a family commitment. We have all seen the flashing red lights at barn and shed fires, or passed firefighters as they try frantically to remove a person from a



horrific car accident. What we don't see is everything else they do. Our firefighters will respond to emergency medical calls. They are present at house, chimney and grass fires. They respond to chemical & gas leaks as well as deal with farm emergencies. Our firefighters attend 26 practice nights a year, and occasionally give up a Saturday for extended training. Those that can, will attend additional specialized training on weekends. There is equipment to maintain, trucks to look after and halls to clean. Often, when your children come home from school, fall fairs or other community events with plastic red helmets, your firefighters have spent some time teaching them about fire safety that day. Our firefighters willingly give their time and energy for these activities. We need to continue to appreciate the commitment of our local firefighters and recognize their families and friends for their support behind the scenes.

## Back to School Safety

Just call me Gus, I'm a yellow school bus.  
I get to school safely, I'm the one to trust.  
Knowing the rules, is how I keep cool,  
When taking my friends to and from school.  
But before we go, and start our safety show,  
There's a few rhymes, my kids need to know.  
So dig my jive, if you want to stay alive,  
Stay quiet in your seat, and enjoy the drive!

When waiting for the bus, Gus,  
You need to make a plan, Stan,  
No need to discuss much,  
Get there 5 minutes early.

Get at the right place, Grace  
5 giant steps from the curb, Herb,  
Bright clothes on your back, Zack,  
You'll be inside happily.

Behind the bus is the Danger Zone, Joan,  
Where the driver can't see you, Lou,  
When you're riding off to school, Jewel,  
Please listen to me.

Stay put in your seat, Pete,  
Don't make no noise, boys,  
Quiet near train tracks, Max,  
So the driver can stop, listen and see.

Careful getting off the bus, Russ,  
So nothing snags on the door, Lenore,  
Tell the driver if you drop books, Brook,  
She'll help you get them back, Jack,  
Just like she used to help me.

She'll tell you when to cross, Ross,  
5 big steps before you do, Sue,  
Look both ways twice, Brice,  
Cross the road when it's clear, Shabbir,  
And you're halfway home to safety.

Now you're walking on your own, Simone,  
Here's a few things to get you home.  
Watch for cars backing out of lots, Scott,  
In the middle of the block? Not!  
Don't cross if you hear a siren, Brian,  
It's so easy, can't you see?

Stay on the sidewalk when you can, Jan  
Grow-ups help with the rules, Jules,  
Show you how to do it right, tonight,  
And every day you will be,  
Home safe with your family.



# Message From The Mayor



The Tavistock Master Storm System Drainage Plan has been finalized by RJ Burnside Engineering and received by Council. There will be a Public Meeting October 2nd to present the report to the public and provide opportunity for questions and feedback on the recommendations. Let me try to summarize the key points from my perspective.

Several policy changes are recommended which will ensure new development will be safe from flooding and improve the overall drainage situation in the village of Tavistock. There are clear suggestions for individual lot owners to protect their homes and collectively the whole village. One recommendation that I want to emphasize is to disconnect all gravity PDC's (private drain connections). The report goes on to suggest improvements to the storm sewers and overland flow routes to better convey the water through the village. Construction of storm water management facilities are also suggested to control the peak flows from external areas.

There has been a lot of work done in Tavistock which has all been consistent with this report. The new Tavistock Drain provides much better conveyance of the storm water both underground and by way of an overland flow route. It also has a storm water retention pond to the north of the village. New swales have been constructed behind Janelle Drive and Westwood Avenue to better convey storm water. Many individual home owners have already disconnected their PDC. The new subdivision is being built to a new standard with no gravity PDC's.

I want to thank everyone who has helped bring us this far. It has required a lot of work, patience, cooperation and money. We still have much more work to be done. I encourage everyone to come to the meeting Tuesday October 2nd, 7:30 at the Memorial Hall in Tavistock. This affects everyone in the Township and we will need everyone's support to commit to the dollars required and to a time frame in which the work gets completed.

Let us keep things moving so that no dust collects on this Report.

## Summer Student Update

Locations have been captured and the information has been processed. Currently, I am working towards building the databases for these assets. I feel fortunate to have this job as it provides me with experience collecting and processing data, as well as the opportunity to work on a project with real-world implications from the ground up. I would like to thank the Township Staff for all the help that they have given me, particularly the Public Works Department for all their assistance

.....continued from Page 1

and support.

*Adam is entering the post-graduate program at Niagara College in Geographic Information Systems-Geospatial Management.*

**From the Staff to all the students, thank you. We would not be where we are without your hard work and willingness to contribute.**

## Yard Waste Depots

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock is very fortunate to have 3 Yard Waste Depots. Unfortunately, at times, these depots are not used for their intended purpose. Things such as pavestones, tires, old BBQ's, garbage and many other unacceptable items have been dropped off.

**The following is a list of what items are acceptable:**

- Brush (keep separate from other materials)
- Garden, hedge and tree trimmings
- House & garden plants
- Leaves
- Fruit and vegetables from the garden
- Halloween pumpkins
- Christmas Trees
- Grass



**Yard waste in plastic bags must be emptied on site.**

**The following are examples of unacceptable items:**

- Tree branches or brush larger than 6 inches diameter or longer than 3 feet
- Tree stumps and root balls
- Driveway and road sweepings
- Kitchen and food waste
- Animal droppings
- Rocks and stones
- Dirt and topsoil
- Bags and boxes used to transport Yard Waste (garbage cans are provided - please use them!)

**If these depots continue to be used incorrectly, the service will no longer be available to the public. Please consider the benefit these depots have to the environment in our community and use them wisely!!**

# Council

Mayor & County Councillor

**Don McKay**

519.532.2500

dmckay@twp.ezt.on.ca

Deputy Mayor

**Maureen Ralph**

519.462.2955

mralph@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

**Clive Lawry**

519.655.3102

clawry@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

**Dave Oliphant**

519.655.2295

doliphant@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

**Don MacDonald**

519.462.2672

dmacdonald@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

**Jeremy Smith**

519.469.8287

jsmith@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

**Betty Yeoman**

519.462.2364

byeoman@twp.ezt.on.ca

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

# Important Dates



<b>August 31</b>	Taxes Due
<b>September 15</b>	Household Hazardous Waste Collection GM Parking Lot at 1401 Parkinson Road Woodstock, 9 am - 2 pm
<b>September 22</b>	Scrap Metal Collection Innerkip Community Centre, 8 am - 1 pm
<b>September 29</b>	White Goods Collection 944 James St. Woodstock, 9 am - 1 pm
<b>October 2</b>	Tavistock Community Drainage Meeting Tavistock Memorial Hall - Open House 6-7 pm, Presentation 7:30 pm
<b>October 7-13</b>	Fire Prevention Week
<b>October 31</b>	Taxes Due
<b>November</b>	Flu Clinics Begin

Upcoming events and meetings can be viewed on the Township website at [www.twp.ezt.on.ca/events](http://www.twp.ezt.on.ca/events)

# Property Taxes



## Late Payment Penalty:

Tax bills were mailed July 12th. The first final instalment, due August 31, includes arrears and penalty as of August 1, 2007. Partial payments are applied first toward the outstanding penalty, then to the outstanding taxes. Penalty of 1.25% for late payment is added the first day of default, and the first day of each month thereafter. The tax collector has no authority to cancel penalty for any reason.

## Change of Ownership or Mailing Address:

Our office is not always made aware of ownership changes. If you receive a tax bill for a property you no longer own, please send the bill to the new owner, or return it to our office, indicating who the property has been sold to. Also, please advise us of any address changes. Failure to receive a tax bill does not take away the obligation to pay.

If you have any questions concerning your tax bill or if you have not received your bill please contact the Township Office at 519.462.2697.

# 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@twp.ezt.on.ca](mailto:ezt@twp.ezt.on.ca)  
Website: [www.twp.ezt.on.ca](http://www.twp.ezt.on.ca)  
Office Hours: Mon - Fri  
8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

## Tavistock & District Recreation Centre

Phone: 519.655.2102  
Fax: 519.655.3560

## Innerkip Community Centre

Phone: 519.469.3449

## County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800  
Website: [www.county.oxford.on.ca](http://www.county.oxford.on.ca)