



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

Eazy Talk

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2009

*Seasons Greetings
from the
Staff and Council of
East Zorra-Tavistock*

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There will be no change to garbage/recycling over the holidays. Please have your garbage and/or recycling out to the curb by 7:00 am. Remember that greeting cards, gift bags and wrapping paper are recyclable as long as it is not foil-coated.

Winter Parking & Snow Removal

Once again, it is that time of year when we remind all residents of East Zorra-Tavistock of some of our Winter Policies.

There is **No Parking** on any roadway in Innerkip and Tavistock from **November 15th through April 15th from 1:30 am to 6:00 am**. If required, this time is used for snow removal operations in these areas.

New! Sidewalk Snow Removal

The Township has hired a contractor to plow all Township sidewalks starting this winter. This will be done when snow accumulations warrant it. 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 residents after light snow falls or in between clearings. The Tavistock Business area (Woodstock Street from William to Jacob and Hope Street from William to Minerva) will continue to be governed by By-law #16-91, which requires the abutting property owners to clear snow

and ice. The street snow removal service will continue, as needed, in this area.

And finally, please **do not push snow or ice onto the road or sidewalk** when clearing your driveway. This applies everywhere; in town and in the rural areas. This practice endangers the safety of the motoring public, as well as snow removal equipment and its operators. Hazards created by pushing snow onto the road include:

- * frozen snow piles can cause extensive damage to snow removal equipment and injury to the operators
- * greatly increases the chance of an accident for the motoring public
- * people pushing snow onto the road could be involved in an accident
- * causes increased drifting in the area
- * snow piles cause drainage obstruction in the spring run-off.

We appreciate your co-operation in this matter. It will assist us greatly in providing a safe and reliable road system to our ratepayers.

Christmas Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Thursday December 24th at 12:00 noon and reopen Monday January 4, 2010 at 8:30 am. This closure includes General Administration, Building Department, Roads Administration and Fire Administration. Emergency Services and Road Maintenance operations are not affected by this closure.

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 21	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 23	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 25/26	Closed	
Dec. 28	1 pm - 3pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 30	1 pm - 3 pm	Zehr Automotive
Dec. 31	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Jan. 1	Closed	

For open ice time see: www.twp.ezt.on.ca/tdrc

Upcoming events and meetings can be viewed on the Township website at www.twp.ezt.on.ca

Roundabout Guidance

Oxford County's first roundabout has been constructed at the intersection of Oxford Road 59 and Oxford Road 17. The roundabout is a new experience for many of the residents in this area and has posed many questions.

The County of Oxford has provided some great information on their website with answers to many of the questions that you may have. For this information please visit: www.oxfordcounty.ca/roundabout



Olympic Torch Relay

On December 27, 2009, East Zorra-Tavistock will experience the **Olympic Torch Relay**. Volunteers are welcome to be a part of a committee to assist in planning the festivities to celebrate this commemorative event.

If this may be something of interest, you may contact Ken Wettlaufer at 519-655-2102 or email kwettlaufer@twp.ezt.on.ca. You may also obtain updated information on our website at www.twp.ezt.on.ca.



Mock Disaster Update

On Tuesday October 20, 2009 the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock held its first full scale mock exercise to test the Township Emergency Plan.

Under a beautiful autumn sky, emergency responders attended a scene at the Saputo Cheese plant in Tavistock in which an explosion and chemical release were simulated. A short time later a motor vehicle collision was also simulated, requiring additional emergency services. Due to the chemical release the workers from the plant were evacuated to the Innerkip Community Centre and the Emergency Operation Centre was activated at the Municipal Office in Hickson.

The exercise was an excellent training tool for our volunteer firefighters. It also served as an introduction for the OPP to our area, as it was only the second day of the police transition. Oxford County EMS crews, Red Cross workers as well as every member of municipal staff were involved in some way with the days events.

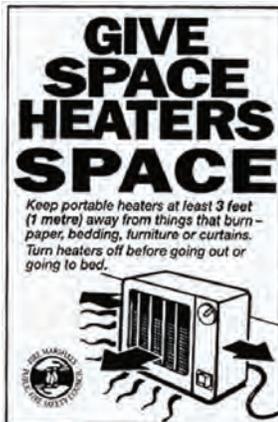
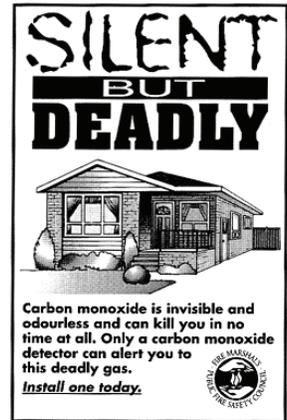
Thank you to all the residents and businesses of Tavistock for your patience and cooperation during the exercise. The lessons learned through this experience are invaluable and help us to identify the areas which need improvement in order to serve all Township residents to the best of our ability.



© Bill Gladding/Tavistock

Carbon Monoxide

There may be an intruder lurking in your home from which no burglar alarm can protect you. Carbon monoxide is invisible and odourless and it can kill you in no time. Your fire department urges you to have your chimney, furnace and gas-fired appliances checked annually by professional technicians. Remember, only a carbon monoxide detector can alert you to the presence of this deadly gas. Install one today and if it alarms - get out immediately.



Space Heaters

Portable space heaters can quickly warm up a cold room; however, they have also been the cause of many serious home fires. Your fire department urges you to keep portable heaters at least one metre away from all combustible materials, including paper, bedding, furniture and curtains. Do not use extension cords or power bars and never use your heater to dry clothing or shoes. Make sure you turn your heater off before leaving your home or going to bed.

Message from the Mayor



I trust we are all ready to forget the summer that never came and move on to an exciting winter ahead. I look forward to having more time to share a coffee with a friend or just sit and read a book. I was reviewing some of last winter's titles and got hooked on rereading Lyle Estill's "Small is Possible." It is more interesting this year because of our economic reality. It was nice to think about a small sustainable local economy when times were booming. It is now time to stop thinking and start to make it happen. We will not have a thriving community if we do not have jobs. Maybe new industry will come to replace the many companies closing down but perhaps not. I believe Lyle was ahead of his time when he wrote his book. He wrote it to promote a better quality of life for small communities. I believe it is fully applicable to small town survival in our current times. Every dollar we spend has the potential to enhance our local economy, and our local community.

Your small daily decisions give EZT great possibilities!

After reading his book I came to discover that Lyle Estill grew up in Oxford County. His mother, Anne, was the Minister at the Hickson/Hebron Pastoral Charge in the 1980's. While he makes his home in North Carolina he still visits friends in the area. This got me thinking about how many locals we have scattered all around the world. It would be great to bring them back and hear their stories and share their experiences.

It just so happens that the Olympic Torch Run will be coming through Tavistock at noon on Sunday, December 27th. What a chance for you to invite your family and friends home for the holidays. Come and see the Olympic Torch and join your community at the arena afterwards for refreshments and reuniting with old friends. A small gathering could lead to great possibilities!

Dog Tag Sales - New System for 2010

There will be a new method for dog owners to obtain their 2010 dog tags. In past years, tags were sold by a dog licensing officer who went door-to-door selling tags. For many good reasons, Council has chosen to offer dog tags for sale through various locations in the Township. Tags will be available for sale at a cost of \$20.00 per tag at the following locations:

- * Hickson: Township Office, 90 Loveys St. E.
- * Innerkip: Corner Farm Market, 206 Blandford St.
- * Tavistock: Yantzi's Feed & Seed, 65 Woodstock St. N.
Zehr's Home Hardware, 24 Woodstock St. S.

Tags will be available for sale January 2, 2010 and must be purchased by March 31, 2010. The proceeds from the purchase of dog tags help fund the cost of animal collection services, and the use of tags assists Township staff in contacting the owners of lost dogs.

EZT Photo Contest

Thanks to everyone who entered our first photo contest! The winning photo was submitted by Carolyn Jackson who will receive a gift certificate to be used at a business in the Township. To get the full effect of the beautiful scenery of our Township, please visit our website and follow the link to the winner, and all the other photos that were submitted. We know you will be impressed by the talent in our community and are sure you will agree that it was very difficult to choose just one photo out of all the entries.

The Olympic Torch will be carried through Tavistock on December 27th; it is anticipated it will be around the noon hour. Watch for more details as they develop. For our next contest, we thought it would be appropriate to ask our photographers to capture some "Olympic Moments in EZT". Photos will be accepted until February 1, 2010. Entries can be uploaded in a .jpg format to ezt@twp.ezt.on.ca or drop off a 5 x 7 print at the Township Office, Hickson.



Photo submitted by: Carolyn Jackson

Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

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Councillor - Ward 1

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Jeremy Smith

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Councillor - Ward 3

Betty Yeoman

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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.

Police Changes in EZT

At 7:01 am on October 19, 2009, policing for the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock transitioned from the Oxford Community Police Service to Ontario Provincial Police Service. Officers will be reporting to a satellite office at the fire hall in Tavistock.

The Township Office has been receiving phone inquiries regarding Police Checks that individuals in the community may require for various reasons ie. employment, volunteering. The Township is offering this service to EZT residents and we have listed some guidelines for this procedure.

- * Must live in or be volunteering in Oxford OPP Territory and have a letter from the organization for a free volunteer/education check.
 - * All paid positions (including umpiring and refereeing) are \$25 for a criminal record check which includes Vulnerable Screening and Pardoned Sex Offender checks, if applicable.
- 3 Types of checks:**
- * Criminal Record Check - Regular ie. Employment purposes
 - * Vulnerable Screening - People dealing with children, vulnerable people, seniors, disabled people. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
 - * Pardoned Sex Offenders - This is done for anyone volunteering or working with children, vulnerable people, seniors, or disabled people, groups or organizations. Applicant must have a

OPP Contact Information

Emergencies 9-1-1
 OPP Communications 1-888-310-1122
 Cell Phone users *OPP (star 677-toll free)

- letter from the organization to do this and must be 18 years of age or older.
- * Anyone under 16 years of age must have a parent sign the application and submit 2 pieces of parent/guardian ID along with the young person if they have any. When the parent signs the application they must indicate their relationship to the applicant.
- * There is no fee for High School students if they need them for school purposes or if applying for co-op positions as long as they live in Oxford OPP territory or the school is in the territory.

Applications can be filled out at the Township Office in Hickson, 90 Loveys St. They are sent on to the Tillsonburg detachment for processing. Once the applications are processed and returned to the office, you will be contacted; only the applicant will be able to pick up his/her record check.

Two pieces of identification must be provided to verify the identity of the applicant; one piece must be photo identification. If you have questions regarding acceptable identification (photo and non-photo) you may contact the office at 519-462-2697. Please note that your Social Insurance Number or Health Card are not acceptable pieces of ID.

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
 Website: www.twp.ezt.on.ca
 Office Hours: Mon - Fri
 8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800
 Website: www.county.oxford.on.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: 519.469.3449