



**TOWNSHIP OF  
EAST ZORRA-  
TAVISTOCK**

**Tax Instalment**

Just a friendly reminder that the 1st instalment of final taxes is due on August 31st. If you do not have your tax bill that was mailed in July, please contact the Township Office.

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**Collection Events**

Just a reminder to check your Waste and Recycling calendars for upcoming dates for collection of Household Hazardous Waste, Scrap Metal and White Goods. This information is also posted on our website and the calendars are always available at the Township Office.

# Eazy Talk

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3

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## LED Street Light Conversion

Residents may have noticed CRU Solutions, a subsidiary of ERTH Corporation, changing street lights in your neighborhood over the summer. The Township has converted 463 street lights in the Township to new, energy efficient LED street lights. The Township worked with ERTH Corporation, of which the Township is a shareholder, on this project.

The conversion to LED street lights cost \$460,000 and will be financed over 10 years. The financing costs will be primarily paid for by the reduced energy consumption and maintenance costs associated with the new street lights. LED street lights have a life expectancy of 20+ years with some parts such as the photocell being warranted for 20 years. Most of the streetlights being replaced were well over 20 years old. LED street lights provide many benefits, in addition to reduced energy consumption and cost:

- Reduced energy consumption (106,775 KWs vs. 243,323 KWs per year)
- Reduced maintenance costs since all lights are new and fewer parts to break
- Increased service level as LED streetlights are made of many elements and rarely burn out
- Better quality light
- The Township must demonstrate energy conservation and reduction to the Province

While the Township does complete periodic inspections of street lights, residents are encouraged to call in outages or unusual activities such as flickering, cycling on/off, on during the day, etc. The Township has also added pole numbers (white with red numbers) to all street lights to assist with reporting problems and record keeping.

## Facts from the OPP



**Fines - Did you Know.....**

- Failure to wear a seatbelt - \$240 and 2 demerit points
- Driving with a Handheld Communication Device (phone or texting) - \$155
- Driving a Motor Vehicle - Failing to display 2 plates - \$110
- No slow moving vehicle sign - \$110
- Failure to use lower beam (oncoming or following) - \$110
- Unlawfully driving Offroad Vehicle (ATV) on highway - \$110
- Failure to stop for school bus - \$490 and 6 demerit points
- Fail to stop at school crossing stop sign - \$180 and 3 demerit points
- Operator Motor Vehicle with Catalytic Converter bypassed/not repaired or replaced/not functioning or incapacitated - \$365
- Speeding
  - 16 Km over limit - \$55 and 3 demerit points
  - 30 Km over limit - \$220 and 4 demerit points
  - 40 Km over limit - \$295 and 4 demerit points
  - 50+ Km over limit - No set fine; vehicle is impounded

Members of the Oxford OPP are reminding drivers to be safe, be alert and courteous.

**To Contact the Oxford OPP, Call 1-888-310-1122**

**In an Emergency, Call 911.**

## Portable Generators

More and more people are purchasing portable generators as a back-up power source. While these appliances can provide alternative energy during power outages, portable generators can create electrical hazards if not properly installed, operated and maintained. A few safety tips are listed below:

- ◆ Purchase generators with recognized approval labels. Make sure the unit has proper connection receptacles and circuit breakers.
- ◆ Purchase approved transfer devices if the generator is to be hooked up to the household electrical system.
- ◆ Hire a knowledgeable and licensed contractor to install the unit.
- ◆ Standby generator installations should be inspected by the Electrical Safety Authority prior to use.
- ◆ Make sure that generators are installed as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ Portable generators should only be used outdoors and carefully located to ensure that exhaust fumes do not enter the home.
- ◆ Allow the generator to cool before refueling. Refuel the generator outside, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ Store fuel for the generator in approved containers, outside the home.

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

# Safety During Power Outages

The recent Tavistock power outage emphasized the need for extra care in our homes during times of emergencies. We want to remind the public that electrically connected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms will not work when the power is out unless they have a battery backup. As a battery operated device, the battery must be replaced regularly. During the power outage, we responded to a series of false alarms in homes because the batteries in CO alarms were dead. Homeowners should ensure they have battery-operated smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms to provide early warning of fire and carbon monoxide dangers. During a power outage, people should make sure electric stove elements and small appliances are OFF or unplugged to prevent fires from starting when the electricity is restored.

### **If your detector sounds an alarm and you have an obvious source of CO such as a kerosene heater:**

- ◆ Evacuate the house, including pets and do a head count
- ◆ If anyone is suffering from flu-like symptoms, call 911
- ◆ Remove or turn off the source; ventilate the house
- ◆ Reset the alarm; do not re-occupy the house until the alarm ceases
- ◆ Take steps to avoid this situation in the future

### **If your CO detector is sounding an alarm and there is no obvious source of CO:**

- ◆ Evacuate the house, including pets and do a head count
- ◆ If anyone has flu-like symptoms, call 911; if there are no health problems, call your local gas utility, or heating contractor to have your house tested
- ◆ If you live in a single-family home, do not ventilate your home, turn off fuel burning appliance or reset your CO detector prior to someone testing your home. Many CO alarm calls have been classified as "false alarms" because the homeowner had ventilated the home and turned off the equipment before firefighters or technicians could measure the CO levels and find the source
- ◆ If you live in a duplex, row house, apartment or otherwise attached house, do ventilate the house and turn off fuel-burning appliances. In this case, the safety of your neighbours is more important than trying to find the CO source
- ◆ Have a qualified service technician inspect and repair all fuel-burning appliances if they are identified as being the CO source
- ◆ Do not re-occupy the house unless those who tested the house inform you that the danger is over

### **Additional fire safety tips during a power outage include the following:**

- ◆ Use flashlights or battery-operated lanterns instead of candles or hurricane lamps. If using candles, place them in a secure holder and cover them with a glass chimney
- ◆ During the power outage, conduct regular safety checks of each room.
- ◆ Everyone should know how to get out immediately if there is a fire - practice your home fire escape plan.
- ◆ Cordless phones will not work when the power is out, so it is recommended to have at least one phone that does not require electricity to operate
- ◆ Propane and charcoal barbecues are for outdoor use only.
- ◆ Only use portable space heaters that have been designed for indoor use and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Provide adequate ventilation by opening a window slightly while the heater is in use. Before refuelling, turn off the heater, wait for it to cool and take the heater outside to refuel.



## Message from the Mayor



Having trouble sleeping? May I recommend a good book that has helped me fall asleep many nights over the last few weeks, 'Thinking, Fast and Slow' by Daniel Kahneman. His purpose is to help improve the quality of judgments and decisions that are made by people and organizations. Curiosity has kept me coming back to read each chapter in order to better understand our thinking and decision making processes. He asks two rather simple math questions to illustrate an interesting concept. The first question is to calculate  $17 \times 23$ ? Secondly, if a bat and ball together cost \$1.10 and the bat costs \$1.00 more than the ball, what is the cost of the ball? Most of us require a pencil and paper to answer the first question but instantly answer \$.10 to the second question. Even after we calculate the first answer to be 391 we would hesitate to bet \$20 with certainty fearing we may have made a mistake. Yet we would have no second thoughts about betting \$100 on our answer to the second question. Kahneman suggests we have two distinct thinking processes, one fast and one slow. When asked a difficult multiplication question we use our slow thinking to work through the process and come up with the answer. However, the fast thinking loves the simple obvious questions. The problem, however, is the fast brain is not always

right! But it is fast, confident, arrogant and leaves no room for doubt. Please go back to the second question and read it again. Most of us still answer \$.10 but a simple check would reveal that if the ball cost \$.10, the bat would cost \$1.10 making the total \$1.20! The answer is actually \$.05 for the ball, \$1.05 for the bat making the total \$1.10.

This is not about how smart we are but rather how careful we are to not trust our fast brain for all decisions. If you are walking in the woods and confronted by a bear your fast brain will suggest that you start running! Good idea! Run! Run fast and think about it later. However, when faced with many daily decisions we should be careful to take the time to double check. My youngest daughter has just completed her Drivers Training course and now she is attempting to correct my many bad driving habits. She tells me to stop at all stop signs and wait for three seconds before proceeding. It occurred to me that this is exactly what Kahneman is teaching us to do. Do not trust your fast thinking when it comes to rolling stops and distracted driving. You will not be wrong by five cents, you could be wrong by an accident. With life moving so fast, please allow our slow thinking to keep us safe. School will be starting very soon and we all need to give our full attention to keep our children safe.

## New Website for East Zorra-Tavistock

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock's website is completely new and redesigned to deliver information effectively in a format that meets today's design expectations. Visit [www.ezt.ca](http://www.ezt.ca) and bookmark it, or make it your home page!

### What has changed from the previous website?

The home page is now loaded with information relevant to you! Community events and township announcements are now prominently displayed at the top of the page. In the **Recent Updates** column, you will find announcements about road construction/closures and more about what the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock is doing for you! We have also included a section that displays the temperature, as well as a link to a website that will show you long-term forecasts. You can find the page you are looking for much faster by scanning the **Popular Pages** first! Popular pages that are frequently visited such as the Garbage & Recycling, Maps, Minutes & Agendas, and Forms pages are showcased at the bottom of the home page for quick access.

Communication is an important part of providing service to township residents, property owners and businesses. We have added a convenient online way to contact the staff members on the **Contact Us** page. We have also created a **Newsroom** where all website and township updates gather. In addition, if you have an e-mail account, you can choose to subscribe to e-mail notifications regarding Announcements, Bids & Tenders, Employment, and/or Minutes & Agendas.

### What can I find on [www.ezt.ca](http://www.ezt.ca)?

- ◆ Who to call before you dig
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions
- ◆ Agendas, Minutes
- ◆ Pool, fencing, noise and other by-laws
- ◆ Community centres, ice, arena and recreational facility rentals
- ◆ Contact information for your Mayor, Councillors, Committee Members, and Board Members
- ◆ Forms for building permits; applications for zone changes, minor variances
- ◆ The Official Plan, Development applications, and building inspections
- ◆ Financial information such as tax rates, budget, and financial reports

### Community Input and Feedback

Did you want to add or modify your organization's contact information? Add something to the Calendar of Events? Or do you have a comment? Call us at the township office or send us a message at the **Contact Us** page on [www.ezt.ca](http://www.ezt.ca).

# Council

Mayor & County Councillor

**Don McKay**

519.532.2500

dmckay@ezt.ca

Deputy Mayor

**Maureen Ralph**

519.462.2955

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Councillor - Ward 1

**Linda Fulton**

519.655.3004

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Councillor - Ward 1

**Clive Lawry**

519.655.3102 or 519.655.3490

clawry@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

**Don MacDonald**

519.462.2672

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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 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.

# ATV Safety

All Terrain Vehicles are a very popular year-round utility and recreational vehicle. Many risks are associated with riding an ATV if laws aren't respected and safety precautions are ignored.

## Be Prepared

- ♦ Wear an approved motorcycle helmet that is securely fastened under the chin with a chin strap; proper eye protection; protective clothing such as a long sleeved shirt or jacket, long pants, leather gloves, and appropriate footwear.
- ♦ Always be prepared for the unexpected. Carry a tool kit, first aid supplies, tow rope, flashlight, tire repair kit, high-energy food and cell phone. Also carry a map, compass or GPS unit, and know how to use them.

## Be a Safe and Responsible Rider

- ♦ Take an ATV safety course and learn how to ride from an expert.
- ♦ Know your ATV and read your operator's manual before riding.
- ♦ Do a pre-ride inspection and check oil, gas and other fluid levels, lights, brakes and tire air pressures.
- ♦ Stay in control. Never ride beyond your skill level or abilities.
- ♦ Always ride according to trail, road and weather conditions.
- ♦ Use extreme caution when turning, crossing, climbing and descending hills, and always cross obstacles using the proper technique.
- ♦ Drive sober - it is against the law to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs. It will also affect your judgement and slow your reaction time.
- ♦ Ride with others and always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- ♦ Be responsible, courteous, and respect others on the trail. Ride in designated areas only. Preserve the environment and keep noise levels low.

Ontario Ministry of Transportation

Listed below are details regarding an East Zorra-Tavistock Community Safety Committee. At this event, you will learn more about ATV safety, rules and regulations.

**Date** ..... **Wednesday September 26, 2012**

**Time** ..... **6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Place** ..... **Innerkip Community Centre**

There will be Guest Speakers including OPP Constable Mark Foster from the Haldimand Detachment. Displays and information will also be available.

being hosted by the



## 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: 519.469.3449