



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

EaZy Talk

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AUGUST 2008

Property Taxes

Next instalment is due
August 29th.

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Check the Township
website for Upcoming
Events:
www.twp.ezt.on.ca

Too Close for Comfort

On Wednesday July 30, 2008 at approximately 7:00 pm, a funnel cloud was spotted in the village of Hickson as well as near the village of Innerkip.

Environment Canada issued a statement the next day that confirmed that an F-0 tornado did touch down briefly in the village as well as at farm outside of Hickson. As luck would have it, only minimal damage occurred.

The Township, along with Environment Canada would like to remind everyone that although this tornado was on the lower end of the scale, it could have easily been more severe with much worse consequences. The tornado that crossed our paths in August, 1979 was an F-4 rating that left behind a large swath of devastation.

In the event of any type of severe weather we urge residents to seek shelter immediately. Have your 72 hour emergency survival kit packed and easily accessible. Although pictures and videos are interesting to see, the safety of our residents is foremost and you could be seriously injured or killed if standing outside or near a window or door when a tornado strikes.

This summer has been marked by an unusual number of severe storms and we recommend that people tune into local radio stations and weather channels to stay updated on the weather conditions when storms are forecasted.



The following websites are a good resource of information related to severe weather:
www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/canada
http://getprepared.ca/risks/tornadoes_e.asp

Also, remember to check the Township’s website for information on all types of emergencies:
www.twp.ezt.on.ca/emergency/

Stop...Stoop...Scoop

Be a good citizen and respect your neighbours

Dogs may be “man’s best friend,” but we also have to make sure they are friends of our community and environment! When your dog defecates on a lawn or sidewalk, it creates a nuisance for everyone else. Not only does it make an unsightly mess, it can also create environmental and health concerns. When out walking with your dog, make sure it is leashed, and always carry a plastic bag to pick up after your animal.



“Get Out & Stay Out”
The facts about Escape Plans

- ◆ Install smoke alarms on every storey and outside sleeping areas. It’s the law.
- ◆ Develop a home fire escape plan and practice it with the entire family.
- ◆ Make sure everyone knows two ways out of each room, if possible.
- ◆ Check that all exits are unobstructed and easy to use.
- ◆ Determine who will be responsible for helping young children, older adults or anyone else that may need assistance.
- ◆ Choose a meeting place outside, such as a tree or a lamp post, where everyone can be accounted for.
- ◆ If caught in smoke, get low and go under the smoke to the nearest safe exit.
- ◆ Call “911” from outside the home, from a cell phone or neighbour’s home.
- ◆ Once out, stay out. Never re-enter a burning building.



Fire Prevention/Training Officers

The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock has welcomed 2 firefighters to the officer staff. Firefighter Tom Bickle brings 15 years of experience with the Hickson Station to the new role of Township Fire Prevention Officer. While continuing on as a Hickson firefighter, he will also be looking after fire prevention and inspections programs within the Township. Tom will also be working closely with each station fire prevention officer to help address the growing requests for our fire prevention and education programs.

Innerkip firefighter Mike Routly has over 10 years experience with the Innerkip Station and Bright Station in Blandford

Blenheim Township. He has become the Township’s first Training Officer as well as staying on with Innerkip as a firefighter. Mike will be assessing our current level of training, and exploring new ways to improve, standardize, and maximize our training within our three departments.

We are fortunate to have the ability to draw from within our own ranks to obtain high quality individuals for these positions. Our firefighters have always strived to provide top quality fire services, and with the efforts of Mike & Tom, we can work towards both preventing fires and fighting them safely if the situation should arise.

“Learn not to Burn” Presentation

On Tuesday October 21, 2008, the Township Fire Prevention Officers will be holding a presentation at the Tavistock Public School gymnasium beginning at 7:00 pm. This will be open to all members of the community.

This awareness evening entitled “Learn not to Burn” will cover the topic of Burns and Prevention. It will feature speakers that are burn survivors, burn unit medical staff, and fire prevention officers. Local resident Mark Roth will be sharing the

story of his burn injury and the impact of the accident.

This evening is being sponsored by the East Zorra-Tavistock Fire Prevention Committee and all proceeds from this charitable event will be going directly towards the J. Gordon Thompson Burn Unit at the London Health Sciences Centre. Should you wish to donate towards this worthy cause, receipts will be available, along with donation boxes.

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Testing of the Tavistock Air Siren

As part of the Township Emergency Management Plan, the Tavistock Fire Department will begin monthly testing of the air siren on Saturday October 4, 2008.

The siren will be activated on the first Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon.

The air siren needs to be tested on a regular basis in order to ensure that it is in proper working condition when needed.

The siren will be activated in the event of either a chemical airborne release or impending severe weather that is directly headed for the village.



The public is strongly encouraged to tune into local radio stations and/or weather networks when severe weather is approaching. Be sure to get regular updates and stay tuned-in until the severe weather passes.

Message from the Mayor



With summer reading programs in full swing, I found myself a good book and a few relaxing moments to enjoy it. What Happy Companies Know by Dan Baker, contains this quote, “When a person consciously makes the choice to practice appreciation, to focus on what is right, to lead from strengths, and to look for possibilities that can be transformed into reality, the change in signals along the heart-brain circuitry leads to optimal performance and creativity”.

Wow! Start with appreciation and good things happen in your heart and brain, your health and well being. Take the challenge. What are five things that have happened this summer that you appreciate? I appreciate the volunteers making the 10th World Crokinole Championships a reality, the Tavistock Horticultural Society’s beautiful work beside the post office, all the work in

the newly renovated Queens Park, the Hickson Lions Daze, the Innerkip Lions weekend and the very successful Gord Marshall Memorial Fastball Tournament. I appreciate our Township staff, their commitment and loyalty and the extra effort to improve the landscaping at our office. I appreciate each one of you that takes the time to contribute to our community and offer positive suggestions for improvement.

Baker’s point in his book about Happy Companies is simply that they commit to positive thinking and open communication. East Zorra-Tavistock can be a happy community if each of us starts with simple appreciation, don’t just think about it, talk about it! It will change your brain waves! It will change your heart beat!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

“Learn not to Burn” Presentation Cont’d from page 2

Please be advised that this evening is directed towards a mature audience and is not intended for ages 14 and under. Our local Fire Prevention Officers will be attending area schools with some of the speakers throughout the day and will be addressing the Grade 7 & 8 students with a similar presentation.

With the record number of house fires in Ontario this year, it is felt that this is a very timely presentation. It is our hope that by attending this event, everyone will leave with information that will help to prevent or lessen the impact of what could be a devastating accident.

Mark the Date
Tuesday, October 21, 2008
7 pm Tavistock Public School

Waste Management Update

Garbage/Recycling

The beginning of July marked the start of a new garbage and recycling contract. Halton Contracting, which previously did the recycling collection was awarded the contract once again. As of July 1st they have also taken on garbage collection. Recently there have been some issues brought to our attention in regards to both recycling and garbage collection. As a reminder, here are a few tips that the County of Oxford would like to highlight to ensure efficient collection as well as safety for residents and Halton employees.

- ◆ Garbage and Recycling should be placed on the same side of the road (the recycling side)
- ◆ Garbage and Recycling must be out by 7:00 am.
- ◆ Recycling cannot go into plastic bags.
- ◆ Recycling and Garbage must weigh under 45 lbs.

Yard Waste

Reminder...Please do not dump your brush and yard waste in the areas along the Maplewood Sideroad.

All yard waste must be taken to one of the 3 depots throughout the Township.

Tavistock	18 Hendershot St.
Innerkip	104 Blandford St.
Hickson	158 Loveys St.

Once again, refer to your Waste and Recycling Calendar for what are acceptable and unacceptable items for this program.

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 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.

2008 Construction Projects

It has been another very busy summer for the Public Works Department. The following are projects that have been completed or will be in the near future:

- ◆ The 13th Line and Maplewood Sideroad from the 13th to Oxford Rd 59 have been paved and the Maplewood from the 13th Line to the 14th Line will have base improvements completed in late August.
- ◆ The base improvements on the 15th Line from Oxford Rd 33 to Oxford Rd 17 have been completed with surface treatment to be completed in 2009.
- ◆ The bridge work on the 16th Line between the Cassel Sideroad and Oxford Rd 8 will be complete on August 15th as scheduled.
- ◆ Some asphalt repairs on the Braemar Sideroad and the 16th Line as well as some shoulder widening on these roads have been completed.
- ◆ Detailed design work on the sanitary sewers and road improvements for the Village of Innerkip have begun and will continue through the winter with construction slated for late 2009.
- ◆ Detailed design for the Tavistock lagoon expansion is under way with construction to begin in 2009.
- ◆ The gravel roads are beginning to show the results of the wet summer and we

have been having issues with potholes and some dusting. We have been addressing the pothole issue as weather (when moisture is present) permits. The 10th Line from Oxford Rd 2 to Oxford Rd 17 has been re-graded and a second application of dust suppressant has been applied in large part due to the detour around the bridge replacement on Oxford Rd 17.

- ◆ With the wet weather we have encountered this summer, grass cutting along our roads has been an ongoing concern and we are doing our best to keep up.

We realize that due to construction projects, some residents have been inconvenienced and we would like to extend our appreciation for your patience.

With the busy months ahead, we would also like to remind the rural population not to drive through the ditches. They are not intended for field access as this can lead to drainage problems. Under the Township's Driveway Permit Policy, all accesses must be installed by the Public Works Department. Any unapproved installations will be removed at the property owners' expense.

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