



TOWNSHIP OF  
EAST ZORRA-  
TAVISTOCK

# Eazy Talk

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

AUGUST 2005

## TAKE NOTE:

- Tax Instalments  
August 31st  
October 31st

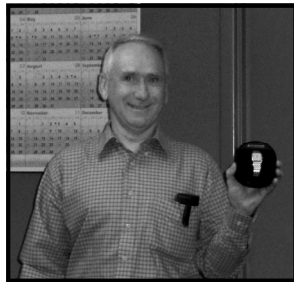


- October 30th -  
Move your clocks  
back one hour AND  
change your fire  
alarm batteries.
- Yard Waste Depots  
will be open until  
November 30th

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Traffic By-law	2
New Traffic Fines	2
Chemical Emergency	2
Message from the Mayor	3
Summer School	3
Where is this?	3
Contacts	4
Calendar	4
FAQ	4

## Celebrating 25 years



In recent years, it has become increasingly rare for an employer to have the opportunity to present "long service awards". Over the past year, East Zorra-Tavistock Council has had the honour of presenting three employees with a gold watch symbolizing 25 years of service to the municipality.

Jeff Rudy, Lead Hand with the Public Works Department, received his watch on November 3, 2004. Judy Zehr, Secretary at the Hickson

Office completed 25 years of service December 31st 2004. Don Munroe, an Equipment Operator in the Public Works Department was honoured on April 6, 2005. The Mayor, on behalf of Council and staff, recognized each person for their dedication to the people of the Township East Zorra-Tavistock. Congratulations one and all!  
*Photos: (left to right) Don Munroe, Mayor McKay and Jeff Rudy, Judy Zehr*

## Back to School Safety

The Oxford Community Police Service would like to remind everyone that September is exciting! It is back to School Time! Following are some reminders to ensure this is a safe and fun time of year:

- Take the time to show your youngster how to cross the street safely.
- Drop off children at schoolyards only during the times when they are supervised.
- Never leave children unsupervised in the schoolyard. Some predators wait for this opportunity.
- Can your son or daughter tell the difference between a good stranger and a bad stranger? If their answer is yes, they are probably wrong.
- Get acquainted with your child's bus driver.

- Don't assume drivers can see you. Make sure they can.
- Do not pass the school bus when the lights are flashing.
- Riding the bus is a privilege – take every opportunity to reinforce bus safety rules with your child.
- School is in. Drive with caution. Guilt is a life sentence!
- Remind yourself that stopping for a school bus, crossing guard, young pedestrian and cyclist does not make you late. It keeps them safe.
- Get the details! Get license plate numbers!
- If you are ever approached by someone and you feel afraid, call 911.

**Interested in being a Crossing Guard? Call the Township Office for more information or to indicate your interest should there be an opening.**

# New Traffic Regulation By-law



Recently, a new comprehensive road and traffic regulation by-law was passed by Council. This by-law has some exciting new features that allows the Township to take a firm stance against dangerous, disrespectful behaviour on our roads. New provisions in the by-law deal with issues such as littering on the road, parking in a disabled person parking space and parking in a Fire Route. Not only does this by-law address present day safety concerns, it also creates the foundation for the Township to address future roads needs, including crosswalks,

community safety zones and on-street disabled person parking. Some people may be surprised by the increase in set fines; however, this increase was necessary to reflect modern rates. Since 1989, the fines in the Township have remained at \$8.00 for most offences. The increase in set fines will send a clear message to those who would forsake the laws of this Township. Through deterrence and action it can be demonstrated that the Township and its citizens are committed to the promotion of safe roads.

## Highlights of New Fines:

- Parking in a Fire Route...\$300
- Parking over the time limit .....\$50
- Littering.....\$50
- Stopping in a "No Stopping" Area.....\$50
- Illegally parked or stopped in a designated disabled person parking area.....\$300
- Parked illegally in a Snow Route.....\$50
- Parking where prohibited by a sign .....\$50
- Driving across a road ditch .....\$50
- Pushing snow or ice on or across a highway.....\$50
- Unauthorized removal, cutting or injury of a tree on a highway .....\$50

The complete by-law and fine schedule is available on the Township website or from the Township Office.

# Chemical Emergency

A chemical emergency can happen anywhere – on a highway, in a factory, on a farm or at some other location in our community.

You may be asked to evacuate. Listen for instructions from your local emergency response officials.

You may be asked to "Shelter in Place". This means to go or remain indoors during the release of an airborne hazardous material, as opposed to evacuating the area. Remember the term "Shelter in Place". It may reduce your chances of long term health problems.

### IF YOU ARE OUTDOORS

- Move out of the path of smoke or fumes to seek shelter indoors. DO NOT attempt to go through smoke or fumes.
- Seek shelter in a house or building and remain indoors. If an automobile is your only shelter, use it. Sheltering in place can reduce your exposure to that of outdoors.
- Do not get in your car and attempt to evacuate unless instructed to do so by the municipal authority. In the short term, staying indoors with the house closed up is the most effective action you can take.

### WHEN YOU ARE INDOORS (Shelter in Place)

- Close all doors and windows.
- Stay calm and assemble all people and pets at the agreed upon meeting place in your home. Avoid going to the basement in a chemical incident.
- Do not get in your car and attempt to

evacuate unless instructed to do so by the municipal authority. In the short term, staying indoors with the house closed up is the most effective action you can take.

- Turn your radio on to one of the local radio stations and monitor it.

**CJCS 1240 AM**  
**HAWK 103.9 FM**  
**CHYM 96.7 FM**  
**BX 93 92.7 FM**  
**CKOT 101.3 FM**

- Set thermostats so air conditioners, furnaces and hot water heaters will not come on.
- Wet several towels and place them at the base of doors leading to the outside.
- Moisten more towels and use them over your nose and mouth to help filter some of the air you breathe.
- Close fireplace dampers.
- If your children are in school or daycare, do not attempt to bring them home. School children and officials should shelter in place unless told to do otherwise.
- Stay away from the emergency area. If you see or hear of a chemical accident, avoid the area as you may hinder emergency rescue and recovery efforts, at the same time putting yourself into harms way.
- Avoid calling 9-1-1 unless it is to report an emergency. To get information about the incident tune in to your local radio/television stations.

# Message From The Mayor



Wow, the summer is almost over! The pace of life continues to accelerate and we need to stop and reflect on some significant events. June 4, 2005 we hosted the seventh annual World Crokinole Championship in Tavistock. There are not many communities that can boast to hosting a World Championship and

we all need to be proud. Our thanks go out to the committee and the many volunteers that made it all happen. Check it out for yourself at [www.crokinole.com/wcc.asp](http://www.crokinole.com/wcc.asp). This game can be enjoyed by all, so why not make it part of your next family get together or enjoy a game on the new crokinole board in the arena lobby.

June 30, 2005 we got word of the official announcement of the new Toyota plant coming to Oxford. This is great news as it will bring tremendous opportunities for employment and other related businesses. It will also bring many challenges to our community, our roads and our infrastructure. The pressure is already being felt in the

housing market and rural land speculation. This is great if you are selling but beware of the new assessment values due out this fall. We all need to work together to ensure that East-Zorra Tavistock benefits from this economic boom and does not just pay for others' gain.

July 16, 2005 we experienced a significant rain storm. While this was much needed precipitation for the farmers to save their crops from a very dry spell, it was more than enough to cause another flood in many Tavistock homes. We appreciate the patience of those affected, their participation in the public meeting and their practical suggestions for improvements. We are committed to working toward solutions and encourage you to read the FAQ on page 4 and check the Township website for any developments.

I trust your summer had some special events in it and I would encourage you to take time to reflect on them and share them with a friend. I hope to see many of you at a Tavistock Braves game this fall, and maybe we can share a game of crokinole in the lobby.

## Summer School

My favorite part of the work week is my commute to work. This daily commute allows me to appreciate the beauty of this Township and enjoy the fields that sparkle under the sun of a new day. Unlike some of my classmates who have to worry about vehicular traffic, subway schedules, and pedestrian mobs; I have to worry about paying attention to the road as I contemplate the possible uses of the farm machine that I happen to get behind that day.

To those of you whom I may have passed on the 16<sup>th</sup> Line, seen at the Seniors Picnic and all the people of the Township, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Sou Xaysy and I am a student in the Law Clerk program at Fanshawe College. For the past few of months I have been

working at the Township office as a summer co-op student. During my term with the Township I have learned a great deal from the projects that I worked on. I have also learned a lot from the people who work at the office. Their dedication to serving the people of this community has taught me about professionalism, hard work and commitment. I would be remiss not to thank the staff for their patience and kindness. A special thank you to Jennifer who is an exceptional mentor. I know now that after graduating I would like to pursue a career in Municipal law. I also know that wherever the road of life takes me I will never forget the road through the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock and the faces of the people who lined it.

## Where Is This?

The photo in the last edition of EaZy Talk was of Oxford Agropuro taken from the south east. The haze partially obscured the buildings, leaving the elevator as the main distinguishing feature.

In this edition of EaZy Talk, the photo displays one of many well maintained roadsides in the Township. Where possible, residents will often maintain the roadside along their property. This activity is greatly appreciated by the Township. Maintaining the roadside helps reduce spraying and maintenance costs and keeps the Township looking beautiful. Part of the Township's road program is to improve roadsides to permit easier maintenance activities by the Township and property owners. While the Township greatly appreciates this assistance, please exercise caution when working along a roadside.



A larger, colour photo is available on the Township's website.

# Contacts

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

**Brenda Smythe**

519.655.2779

bsmythe@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

**Don MacDonald**

519.462.2672

dmacdonald@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

**Betty Yeoman**

519.462.2364

byeoman@twp.ezt.on.ca

Council meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

## 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

# Township Calendar

Date	Event
August 31	Taxes Due
September 5	Labour Day - Township Office Closed
September 6	School Starts
September 9-11	Tavistock Agricultural Society Fall Fair
September 10-11	Doors Open Oxford
September 13-15	Canada's Outdoor Farm Show
September 17-18	Birtch Farms Estate & Winery - Annual Apple Festival
October 10	Thanksgiving - Township Office Closed
October 30	Daylight Savings Time Ends - Change Your Fire Alarm Batteries!
October 31	Taxes Due and Halloween
November 8	Year of the Veteran Celebration - 2 pm - Tavistock Memorial Hall
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 26	Tavistock Santa Claus Parade

Links to these and other events are available at <http://www.cooloxford.ca/calendar/>

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Q. What is being done about the July 16th flood in Tavistock?

A. The Township and County have engaged RJ Burnside Engineering from Stratford to investigate what happened during the July 16th storm in Tavistock. The first phase of this investigation involves gathering as much information as possible and reviewing the data available from past storm events in Tavistock. On July 29, 2005 an Open House was held at the Tavistock Memorial Hall. Representatives from the Township, County and RJ Burnside were present to listen to residents' individual questions and concerns. This Open House also facilitated the submission of questionnaires about the storm. If you have information about the storm event, irregardless if there was damage to your property, you are encouraged to submit a questionnaire. The questionnaire is available on the Township's website or a copy can be obtained by calling the Township office. Sewer connections can be complicated and depending on your unique circumstances, it may be best to obtain professional advice about the best course of action for your property. The County and Township are currently investigating options to provide assistance to residents in this regard.

## Q. Is there a Township Landfill?

A. No, the Township does not operate its own landfill. Residents may use the Oxford County Landfill located east of the village of Salford on Salford Road (County Road 46). For current hours of operation, fees or other inquiries, you may contact the Landfill at 519-485-1516 or visit the County's Website at:

<http://www.county.oxford.on.ca/publicworks/waste/landfill.asp>

## Q. When is the deadline for Innerkip Water Hook Ups?

A. The deadline is July 1st, 2006; however, it is prudent to complete water service connections sooner rather than later.

## Q. Who is responsible for maintaining the civic address sign at my property?

A. The civic address sign (911 Number) is to be maintained by the property owner. Replacement signs and parts can be purchased from the Township if required.