

TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

Eazy Talk

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

MAY 2010

Tax Instalment

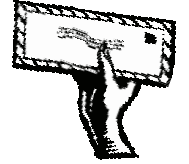
Just a friendly reminder that the 2nd instalment of interim taxes is due on May 31st. If you do not have your tax bill that was mailed at the end of January, please contact the Township Office.

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****Reminder****
Effective May 1st,
bag tag prices have
increased to
\$1.50 / tag.

Vote by Mail Guidelines



Vote By Mail

For the 2010 election, East Zorra-Tavistock electors will be voting from the convenience of their own homes. Voters kits will be mailed to your homes the week of September 28th, and will include a sheet of voting instructions; a Declaration Form to be signed by the elector; a ballot with a secrecy envelope; and a return envelope into which the sealed secrecy envelope and signed Declaration Form are to be placed. Instructions are very easy to follow, with a final check list on the outside of the return envelope.

Questions about the vote by mail system? Please feel free to contact the office. Information as well as several FAQ's, have been posted on our website, and a video demonstration will be available in the coming months. If requested, we will gladly do a presentation to demonstrate the proper method of handling your voters kit.

Enumeration

Enumeration notices for the 2010 municipal election have been mailed to households where MPAC has out-of-date or incomplete information on its database. If you receive a notice, please complete the information requested, and return it before the

June 1st, 2010 deadline so that the Voters List can be prepared accurately.

Even if you do not receive an enumeration form, you are encouraged to check out the enumeration page on the MPAC website. It contains valuable information, as well as a contact number if you have any questions about the eligible voters at your residence. Go to www.mpac.ca and click on the 'Municipal Enumeration' link.

Eligible Voters at Your Residence

Staff has been working with a very preliminary voters list, and have found that in many cases, children who are no longer living at home are still listed as eligible voters in East Zorra-Tavistock. (If the children are students, they are eligible to vote at home as well as where they go to school).

Since we are doing vote by mail for this election, it is imperative that our voters list be as accurate as it possibly can be. If you haven't already been contacted, it would be appreciated if you would call the Township Office at 519-462-2697 to confirm the eligible voters at your residence.

Nominations for the 2010 Election

Monday October 25th, 2010 is Voting Day. Nominations are now being accepted for Mayor, Deputy Mayor, two Councillors from Ward 1 (Tavistock), one Councillor from Ward 2 (north of the Braemar Sideroad) and two Councillors for Ward 3 (south of Braemar Sideroad).

If you are interested in serving on Council, you may contact the Township Office for a nomination form and additional details, such as meeting frequency, responsibilities and expectations for the position. The filing fee is \$100 for Councillor or Deputy Mayor, and \$200 for Mayor. The deadline for nominations is Friday September 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. You can stay updated by visiting our website @ www.twp.ezt.on.ca/election/2010/general_information.asp

Fireworks Safety

Backyard fireworks displays can be extremely hazardous. To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury, the fire departments recommend attending public fireworks displays hosted by responsible organizations in your area. If you choose to have family fireworks or an informal display, follow these safety tips:



- Read and follow the label directions on fireworks packaging.
- Always keep a water hose or pail of water close by when discharging fireworks.
- Discharge fireworks well away from combustible materials such as buildings, trees and dry grass.
- Keep onlookers a safe distance away and upwind
- Light one firework at a time - never light a firework in your hand or re-light 'dud' fireworks
- Discharge fireworks only if wind conditions do not create a safety hazard

Please note, the Township Noise By-law allows fireworks on Victoria Day and Canada Day between 8:00 pm and Midnight. In the event that weather conditions such as rain, fog or wind on these days make it impractical and/or unsafe to set off the fireworks, the day preceding of these holidays shall be the designated day.

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

Severe Spring/Summer Storms

Everyone needs to remember that the spring and summer seasons can often produce severe storms in the form of tornadoes, which can cause damage to property and threaten lives.

The tornado "season" in Ontario is from April 1st - September 30th, with the greatest likelihood during May, June, July and August. Tornadoes are produced during intense thunderstorm activity, and are most likely to occur during the warmest part of the day... between 1 pm and 7 pm. During the season, there will be approximately one tornado every ten days somewhere in the province.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Issued as an alert that severe thunderstorms are imminent in the warning area. Storms could be in progress or are expected to occur within two hours.

Tornado Warning

Issued as an alert that a tornado is occurring and will strike within the warning area. Watch the weather closely. You may have to seek shelter immediately.

Hail

While hail may or may not precede a tornado, it often appears near tornado formation areas. Once large hail starts to fall, assume a tornado is nearby and seek a sturdy shelter immediately. Once sheltered, remain protected until well after the hail has stopped and the storm has passed.

We experience an average of 25 tornadoes a year, over 50% of all those reported in Canada. The majority occurs in the southwestern part of the province, but tornadoes have been reported throughout Ontario. Fortunately, 90% of Ontario's tornadoes are considered "weak". Even so, a disastrous tornado is expected somewhere in the province, about every four years.

Tornado damage is produced by the combined effects of incredibly high wind speeds and very low pressures within the tornado "vortex" (spiral). Beyond the immediate damage produced by the high winds, considerable damage is caused by debris "missiles" hurled by the wind. Please see the following for emergency measures to take with regards to your location during a tornado:

In homes: A basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture if possible. In homes without basements, take cover in the centre of the house on the lowest floor in a small room such as closet or bathroom or under sturdy furniture away from outside doors and windows.

Mobile homes: These structures are not safe in severe weather. During warnings, go to a pre-arranged substantial structure.

Automobile: Get out of the vehicle and into a basement, ditch or ravine - away from the vehicle.

Welcome the Township's New CBO

April 30, 2010 marked the last day of employment for Chief Building Official and Drainage Superintendent, Jim Harmer. Family, friends and staff marked the occasion with an afternoon 'Open House' and an evening gathering. Jim worked with the Township for 35 years and now embarks on his new journey of "retirement". We wish Jim all the best and thank him for his many years of service.

Staff and Council would like to welcome Barbara Rusan-Cronmiller to the Township as our new Chief Building Official and Drainage Superintendent. Barbara brings with her several years of experience. She was a Building Inspector with the Town of Lakeshore for the past 6 years and has a total of 14 years experience working in the municipal setting as well as the private sector. If you get the chance, welcome Barbara to our Municipality and wish her well in her new position.

Message from the Mayor



It has been over six months now since East Zorra-Tavistock has been policed by the OPP. I appreciate the community engagement and Council's thorough review of all the options to provide adequate and effective policing. The general feedback I am receiving from the public has been very positive. They report regular visibility, engaged interaction at community events and active enforcement with some individuals having the personalized, autographed ticket as proof.

We now have our own East Zorra-Tavistock Police Service Board. I have the privilege to sit on this Board along with Todd Smythe, (Provincial Appointment) and our chairman Robert Rudy (Community Representative). The Board reviews the monthly reports and statistics, monitors the contract and directs attention to community related policing matters.

The Township's cost for policing in 2008 was \$1,365,914 and the contract cost with the OPP for 2010 is \$1,091,000.

Sir Anthony Burke is quoted as saying, ***"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing."***

March 2010 was a month with no reported mischiefs! Wow, what a great accomplishment! Before we jump to conclusions we should remember it may only be weather related - perhaps the vandals do not like the cold, wet, muddy, miserable conditions. I think it is also quite likely that the mischief was simply not reported. We need your help. The Police encourage everyone to report all incidents. While it may not be an emergency, it may help deter other incidents or provide evidence needed to track down the culprits. It is not sufficient to report mischiefs and vandalism at the coffee shop. Please take the time and call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Your community and your police need your active involvement.

2010 Infrastructure Projects

2010 will be a very busy year for infrastructure projects in the Township. Last year, the Township was successful in securing 2/3 funding from the BCF, ISF and RInC Programs. Some of these projects started last year, however, 2010 will see the majority of these projects completed. Following is a summary of the major work planned for this year.

Innerkip Sanitary Sewers and Street Reconstruction - This project started last year and will continue into 2011. It involves installation of the Sanitary Sewer Collection System by the County of Oxford, road reconstruction, storm sewers, curb, gutter and sidewalk by the Township. Phase 1 should be completed by the end of May, with the exception of surface asphalt in Innerkip Estates Subdivision. Work will proceed along Blandford Street this spring and summer, requiring road closure from Oxford Road 33 to Oxford Road 5. Work on Main and George Street should begin mid-summer. Depending on weather conditions, additional streets east of Blandford Street may be started. (Road Reconstruction Only \$3,500,000 – partially funded by BCF, Sanitary Sewer Costs funded through the County)

Rudy Subdivision Reconstruction - Includes water main & sanitary sewer replacement, storm sewers, curb, gutter, sidewalks and road reconstruction. (\$638,000 - ISF)

Maplewood Sideroad, 14th Line & 15th Line - This project started in 2008 and has expanded to include reconstruction and hard-topping of the Maplewood Sideroad from Highway 59 to the 16th Line, plus the 14th and 15th Lines from the Maplewood Sideroad north. This project will be completed in 2010. (\$1,500,000 – BCF)

10th Line, Lots 6 – 10 Hard Surfacing - This project will commence at the beginning of June and should last three weeks. The work will require daily road closures and will be followed in late summer with a hard surface. (\$525,000 - ISF)

16th Line Resurfacing & Bridge Maintenance - Continuing from the work in 2009, the 16th Line from Cassel to Braemar will be resurfaced, along with major maintenance to 3 bridges on the 16th Line. This work will require a road closure from Cassel sideroad to Oxford Road 8 from the end of June for three weeks and from Oxford Road 8 to the Braemar Sideroad for the two weeks following. (\$1,900,000 – ISF)

Innerkip Park Improvements - Improvements to the park started last fall and will be completed this summer. Projects include new lights, clay ball diamond surface, irrigation, booth improvements and fencing improvements. (\$451,000 – RInC & Trillium)

Hickson Park Improvements – Improvements to the park include new lights, booth renovation, fencing improvements, grading & general park improvements. (\$220,000 – RInC).

Con't on page 4

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

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Councillor - Ward 1

Dave Oliphant

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Councillor - Ward 2

Don MacDonald

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dmacdonald@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

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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.

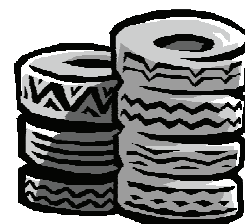
Ontario Tire Stewardship Program

Whether piled up at the local service station, abandoned along a road or neatly tucked into a corner of your garage, used tires are all around Ontario. Some find their way to a recycler who will make new green products such as playground surfaces or patio tiles, but many others end up in the landfill, or are sent to be burned for fuel in a cement kiln or power plant. The Ontario Used Tires Program will change all of this for the better.

With the launch of the Used Tires Stewardship Program in September of 2009, scrap tires in Ontario will be directed for recycling first, supporting Ontario's 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle) efforts and helping to grow the Ontario-based tire recycling industry, thus driving investment in green industries and markets for these products.

The Township has recently become a "Collector" for this program. Used tires may be dropped off at the Public Works Shed in Hickson (located in the NW corner of the yard). There is no charge for this service and tires of all kinds may be dropped off as long as they are off the rim. Due to the great response to this program and limitations to our storage capabilities, we have asked that residents limit their number of tires to 10 per truckload. If residents have larger volumes of tires to be recycled, you do have the option to take them to the Salford landfill at no cost as this is another location taking part in the Ontario Tire Stewardship Program.

Once the township has collected a certain number of tires, a registered "Hauler" will pick up these tires and ensure delivery to the highest available recycling purpose. For more information about this program, visit their website at www.ontariots.ca.



Infrastructure Projects

...Cont'd from page 3

During the last 3 years, about 20 km of Township gravel roads have been converted to hard surface. During this time, total gravel and calcium application has remained steady, resulting in a higher application rate. By the end of 2011, all areas in Tavistock and Innerkip will be constructed to an Urban Cross Section. For more information about the Township's Budget and Infrastructure Projects, check our website at www.twp.ezt.on.ca/information/budget/2010/default.asp.

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