



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

EaZy Talk

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NOVEMBER 2012



*Council and Staff
wish you a joyous
Holiday Season
and a prosperous,
healthy New Year*

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OPP - Ready for the Holiday Season

Impaired driving is a public safety problem year round but sadly the threat only worsens during the holidays. Oxford County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) will be participating in the Festive RIDE program (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) as well as RIDE grant programs within East Zorra-Tavistock. All of these stops will be highly visible throughout the holiday season. The OPP feel the most effective tool in the reduction of senseless deaths due to alcohol related collisions is prevention. The Festive RIDE initiative has proven to be an effective deterrent and an important tool in educating the driving public about the dangers of driving while impaired.

Impaired driving continues to be the leading cause of criminal death in Canada. Even one alcohol related death is one too many and motorists need to be more proactive in eliminating these preventable fatalities altogether. Oxford OPP Officers are continuously updating their training and knowledge on alcohol related driving offences.

Thinking of refusing a breath test? Think again. Motorists who refuse a breath test will be charged with a criminal code offence and immediately have their driver's license suspended for 90 days.

Think you can have a few drinks and be sure you'll blow under the legal limit? Think again. Drivers who blow in the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) "warn range" of .05 to .08 pose a danger to themselves and other road users. If caught driving in the warn range, you will receive an immediate 3 day driver's license suspension at the roadside and the suspension period increases with subsequent offences to 7 then 30 days.

Think your family and friends won't report a loved one or other driver who takes to the wheel while impaired? Think again. The last thing people want to deal with over the holidays is the devastation of losing a loved one to an impaired driver. The OPP is asking Ontarians to help them crack down on impaired drivers this holiday season. If you suspect an impaired driver, call 9-1-1.

"Drinking and driving is a serious threat to public safety. The tragic loss of life in these situations touches every one of us. If you are drinking, come up with a plan that involves NOT driving. Take a cab, a bus or have a designated driver. Don't drink and drive, don't allow those who are drinking to drive and report those who do," states Oxford County OPP Inspector Tim Clark.

Oxford County OPP hopes for a safe and happy holiday season on our local roadways. Remember to think, choose wisely and have a plan for when your festivities are over.



Facts about “Holiday Safety”

- ♦ Many fire deaths are caused by people attempting to cook or smoke while under the influence of alcohol. There’s more to responsible drinking than taking a cab. Don’t put yourself or your family at risk of fire.
- ♦ Buy a fresh tree and keep the base of the trunk in water at all times. Lit candles should never be placed on or even close to a tree.
- ♦ Check all sets of lights before putting them on the tree. Discard any sets that are damaged or old.
- ♦ When large amounts of needles begin to fall off, it’s time to get rid of the tree.
- ♦ Stay in the kitchen while cooking. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of kitchen fires.
- ♦ Keep candles in a sturdy holder away from children, pets and combustible materials. Blow them out before leaving the room.
- ♦ Encourage smokers to smoke outside. Check for cigarette butts between sofa and chair cushions before going to bed.
- ♦ Install smoke alarms on every storey and outside sleeping areas. For added protection, install a smoke alarm in each bedroom. Test smoke alarms monthly and change the batteries at least once per year.
- ♦ There’s nothing more appealing than a blazing fireplace however, open flame can be an invitation to disaster. Never leave the fire unattended, don’t burn Christmas wrapping paper or ribbons and always use your fireplace screen.

*From the Fire Marshal’s
Public Fire Safety Council*

“Guns-N-Hoses” Hockey Game

Mark your calendars for **Saturday January 26, 2013** as the East Zorra-Tavistock Fire Department invites all residents to come out and cheer on our local Firefighters as they compete against the Oxford County OPP in the first ever “Guns-N-Hoses” hockey game. All proceeds from this event will be donated to Muscular Dystrophy Canada.

The game will be part of a public education event that will include information booths, a display of fire and police emergency vehicles, a visit from Sparky and a barbeque. The event will take place at the Tavistock Arena and begin at 4:30 pm with the face-off for the big game at 7:30 pm.



Further information will be available on our Township website as well as posted throughout the Township during the month of December.



This Holiday Season, Give a Gift to Save a Life!

Looking for that special gift for family and friends? What better way to show you care than to give a smoke alarm, carbon monoxide detector or fire extinguisher. Firefighters know that battery-operated smoke alarms carbon monoxide detectors are life-savers.



A multi-purpose dry chemical type is a wise choice. Make sure the fire extinguisher is kept in an accessible place and individuals know how to use it properly. To learn more visit www.fireextinguishertraining.com. Every home, shop, boat, camper and trailer should have a fire extinguisher.



Winter Control 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.

Contractors hired by the Township will plow all Township sidewalks. 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 residence after light snow falls or between clearings. The Tavistock Business area will continue to be governed by By-law #16-91, which requires the abutting property owners to clear snow and ice. For further details, visit our website and refer to the “By-laws & Policies” under “Popular Pages”. The street snow removal service will continue, as needed, in this area.

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 and is in contravention of the Highway Traffic Act. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. It will assist us greatly in providing a safe and reliable road system to our ratepayers.

Message from the Mayor



November 14, 2012 was celebrated as Taiwan Day in Oxford County. There were over fifty Taiwanese people living in the Toronto area that came to join the celebration. It was a great opportunity to look back at our history, to appreciate our current opportunities and to learn a new cultural norm. The special relationship between the County of Oxford and Taiwan goes back 140 years to the missionary Dr. George Leslie Mackay. Born and raised in East Zorra, he attended school and church in Embro. The Taiwanese view Dr. Mackay as a national hero for his work in establishing the foundations for education and health care in addition to his church planting mission. We have a rich history that needs further study and celebration.

In the afternoon we took a bus tour throughout the County to showcase the many opportunities in Oxford. The Taiwanese were amazed to see the diversity of economic opportunities and the quality of life we so often take for granted. The large and small industrial manufacturing, the mix of commercial and retail, the range of residential accommodations in addition to

our wide open beautiful countryside were a pleasant change from their GTA experiences. I believe this tour will be followed up by many return trips for them to further explore economic possibilities and take in our festivals and tourism attractions.

No visit with our Taiwanese friends is complete without a gift exchange. It is part of their culture. It is part of who they are as a people. It is something I believe we could learn to adopt into our culture as Canadians. What if each day I bought a coffee and gave it to you and you bought a coffee and gave it to me? Would this simple gift exchange make any difference? The economist would suggest a waste of time and no tangible gain. It is true that no more money was spent and no one got more than the coffee they would have purchased for themselves. But to experience the pleasure of giving and to receive a gift that lets you know someone appreciates you, that is a great gain!

Sometimes I think that as Canadians we focus too much on the practical, just 'git-r-done' and miss the Taiwanese cultural norm of a simple gift exchange.

EZT Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Friday December 21st at 4:30 pm and re-open Wednesday January 2nd 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.

With the way the holidays fall this season, there will be changes to the recycling and garbage collection as indicated below. Also, don't forget to recycle those gift boxes and gift wrap, however, metallic or glitter gift wrap are not recyclable.

Bring your real Christmas trees to one of the yard waste depots in Tavistock, Innerkip or Hickson - trees will not be picked up at curbside. Please remove all decorations and bags.

Garbage & Recycling over the Holiday Season

- * Dec. 25th: collection changed to Dec. 22nd (garbage only)
- * Dec. 26th: collection unchanged
- * Jan. 1st: collection changed to Dec. 29th (garbage & recycling)

Tavistock Arena will be closed as follows:

Dec. 24th at 4:00 pm
Dec. 25th and 26th all day
Dec. 31st at 4:00 pm
Jan. 1st all day

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 24th	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 28th	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 31st	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Jan. 2nd	1 pm - 3 pm	Zehr Automotive
Jan. 4th	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons

For open ice time see: www.ezt.ca



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

Council

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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.

Social Planning Council Oxford Launches Website

The Social Planning Council Oxford (SPCO) is pleased to announce the launch of its website on November 1, 2012. The online resource will serve agencies and community members, will deliver current project and event information, and information on social issues provided in the context of Oxford County. The SPCO's first published fact sheet on Suicide in Oxford County can be found at <http://www.spcoxford.ca>.

The SPCO strives to improve the well-being of all residents of Oxford County through community development, community mobilization, research and advocacy. The SPCO is funded by a grant of \$113,200 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The website will assist the SPCO in creating a communication network to support and strengthen the resources available to the community.

Ashley Farrar, Social Planning Coordinator quotes "I am excited to launch our online resource centre, on time, as was envisioned by our community. Oxford County is rich in program and professional resources. Communities that are committed to planning in a social context demonstrate the ability to communicate across traditional service boundaries. Our mandate as a Social Planning Council includes the challenge of bridging historic and geographical communication gaps". For more information please contact Ashley Farrar at 519-539-1111 Ext 227 or ashley.farrar@spcoxford.ca.

EZT's Next Photo Contest

To all you "shutterbugs"....don't go into hibernation yet!

The Township is having another Photo Contest and asking all EZT residents to get out there and take some incredible "Winter" shots of EZT. Keep in mind when taking your photos that the newsletter is printed in black and white however; we also have them showcased at the front counter in the office via our digital photo frame and on our website in full colour. It is amazing how many individuals come in to the office and comment on some of the photos taken by Township residents in previous contests.

Entries can be emailed to ezt@ezt.ca in .jpg format or you may stop by the Office in Hickson and drop off a 5x7 print by January 31, 2013. The winning entry will be published in the February Newsletter and will appear on our website. Good Luck and we look forward to seeing EZT's talent.

Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

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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