



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

Eazy Talk

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2016



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Where Do I Put My Leaves** 2
- EZT is All Smoke Free** 2
- Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment** 2
- Can We Find You?** 2
- Message from the Mayor** 3
- Where is my Boundary Line?** 3
- Winter Driving Tips to Keep You Safe** 3
- Vulnerable Sector Checks - What You Need To Bring With You** 4

Keep Me Informed
Want to keep up to date on road closures in your area, community events, and important Township news? Sign up for **Keep Me Informed** on our website and receive email updates.

EZT Christmas Holiday Information

Township Council will be holding its **December 7th, 2016** regular meeting in Tavistock, at the Upper Hall of the Tavistock & District Recreation Centre – Arena. The meeting will be commencing at 9:00 am with a closed to the public session, followed by the regular open to the public session commencing at 10:00 am.

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Friday December 23rd at 4:30pm and re-open Tuesday January 3rd at 8:30 am. This includes General Administration, Building Department, Roads Administration and Fire Administration. Emergency Services and Road Maintenance operations are not affected by this closure.

Real Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Yard Waste Depots in Hickson, Innerkip and Tavistock to be mulched. Please remove all decorations and plastic bags used to transport trees. Trees will not be picked up at curbside.

With the way the holidays fall this season, garbage and recycling for EZT residents will be unaffected. Collection times will remain the same with the regular schedule. For more information on your collection schedule please visit www.wasteline.ca

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 25 & 26	CLOSED	Jan. 1	CLOSED
Dec. 28	1pm - 3pm Zehr Automotive	Jan. 2	1pm - 3pm Tim Hortons
Dec. 29	1pm - 3pm South Easthope Mutual Insurance	Jan. 4	1pm - 3pm Tim Hortons
Dec. 30	1pm - 3pm Tim Hortons	Jan. 6	1pm - 3pm Tim Hortons

For open ice time see www.ezt.ca

Don't Know Where to Turn - Call 211

211 is an award winning telephone helpline and website that connects people to the right information and services. 211 has information on health services, newcomer and immigrant services, food banks and meal programs, housing centers and utility help, seniors services and homecare, government social assistance, parenting and family programs, disability support programs, volunteer organizations and much more. 211 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 100 languages.

When you don't know where to turn, turn to 211.

For more information visit www.211ontario.ca or call 211 to find resources and help in your area

WHERE DO I PUT MY LEAVES

As the leaves start falling please remember that leaves are **NOT** to be placed at the street. There is NO street collection of leaves in the Township.

There are Yard Waste Depots where you can take your brush, leaf and yard waste.

Innerkip - Corner of George and Main Streets
Hickson - 158 Loveys St
Tavistock - 18 Hendershot St

Acceptable material

- Grass
- Leaves
- Halloween pumpkins
- House & garden plants
- Hedge & tree trimmings (less than 7cm in diameter)

Acceptable Brush Waste

- Brush (Limbs/stumps longer than 6 foot/1.8m)
- Christmas trees

Also please be sure to keep the top of the storm drains clear. When they are covered with grass and leaves it prevents water from draining away. In order to help prevent a water build up on your property please remember to remove built up debris off the top.

EZT IS ALL SMOKE FREE!

As of January 1, 2016, all EZT properties are smoke free!



Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment

Did you ever ask yourself what would happen if there was an emergency and nobody came?

At a recent Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs event one of the issues that many fire departments seem to have in common is the struggle to find good new recruits. Our communities are changing and working and living in the same area is becoming something of the past. Traditionally we had many businesses in our small communities that employed local people, so firefighters were imbedded in the community almost daily. Now, many of our residents travel well away from the homes throughout the day. The question now becomes, how do we motivate available people to become volunteer firefighters?

What do we offer? When you become a volunteer firefighter, you are standing up to tell the public that you value your community and can be depended on to assist it in a crisis situation. You become a point of respect in the community and it can provide you with knowledge, experience and leadership opportunities. You get the opportunity to build new friendships and become part of a historically respected profession. You have the ability to make a difference in many lives and there is also compensation when called to service and for attending training. Where else would you be able to be paid to receive an education?

The costs to the individual can be summed up by commitment. Volunteer firefighters have to practice and train as well as attend incidents. On average, East Zorra-Tavistock firefighters attend 15-20 hours of training, incidents and meetings every month. Every volunteer firefighter at some point in their career will be faced with having to leave or even miss a family event, ranging from birthdays to holiday celebrations. We understand that our firefighters can't respond 100% of the time, but they are asked that they carry a pager and respond at a moments notice whenever possible. We encourage and support commitment to family and friends, but there are occasions that someone is experiencing a traumatic event and needs their assistance even more.

What are we looking for? We need conscientious and dependable individuals that can commit to the service of others. We need the commitment not only to the residents of East Zorra-Tavistock, but also to their fellow firefighters. There will be personal reward, excitement and a sense of camaraderie.

Studies have shown that strong support from families, friends and employers are important factors in convincing people to join local fire departments. Other factors that influence people to join are the desire to help people and their communities, knowing other volunteers or even having received the assistance of the fire department. Many firefighters also wish to continue the family tradition and serve in the footsteps of a relative. Studies have also shown that a personal request from a station officer is one of the strongest influences in swaying people to join.

November is typically the month that we look for new recruits and we currently have openings in all of our stations for volunteers that live in or near our villages and can respond throughout the day. If you are interested in considering our fire department, please look to <http://ezt.ca/Newsroom/Employment>.

By Scott Alexander - Fire Chief

CAN WE FIND YOU?

When was the last time you checked your 911 sign or your house number? The 911 program has been in place since 1995 and property signs, like everything else need some maintenance. Take a few minutes to ensure the blade is securely fastened to the post, that the post is at the entrance to the laneway where emergency vehicles can easily see them. For homeowners in villages, the numbers used must be a minimum of 7 inches in height, or if made of reflective material, 5 inches in height, and the numbers used must be clearly visible. We can't help you if we can't find you!

Message from the Mayor



As I grow older I love to discover things that make my life easier and more enjoyable. TED Talks is one of those recent discoveries. They are informative, short lectures that can be listened to anytime and anywhere and they are free! I can now repurpose most of my book budget and give my memory a break by not having to remember where I left my reading glasses. Steve Keil's lecture, 'A Manifesto for Play' gave me cause to rethink the Christmas season. Our society is all hype on the joy of the season and the promised satisfaction of finding the perfect gift. In contrast many individuals face increased anxiety and financial stress. Keil advocates a revolution to revitalize our economy, our education system and our society. I believe it can also help us here in East Zorra-Tavistock. He suggests the revolution will be fueled by individuals who are

skilled in adaptability, creativity and innovation. How do we develop these skills? Rediscover the lost art of play! He explains the science of play and how it stimulates our brain development leading to emotional maturity and improved decision making. He also warns that the opposite of play is depression. I am thankful that as I look around our community I see so many people actively playing and enjoying their family and friends. I also see many people that are lonely or depressed and in need of someone to reach out and share some measure of play. So as we approach the Christmas season, I encourage all of us to plan in more play. It does not have to cost money but it will take time. Consider inviting a neighbour, a co-worker, a senior or anyone because we can all benefit from a little more play.

I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a play filled New Year!

Where is my Boundary Line?

Where is my property boundary? A boundary is the line that marks the end of your property and beginning of the next one. Only a survey plan prepared by a licensed land surveyor can show exactly where the property line is.

Does the Township Keep Surveys on File? No, the Township does not keep surveys on file for properties. You can check with the Land Registry Office - 480 Peel St, Woodstock, ON - 519-537-6287 to see if they have a copy on file.

What do I do if my neighbor and I disagree on the Boundary Line? If you and your neighbor are disagreeing over the property line, start by showing a survey plan, or getting a surveyor to stake the property. If problems persist you can consult a lawyer on how to proceed. Please be aware that local municipalities do not get involved in boundary disputes, as they are considered civil matters.

How far from my property boundaries am I required to build a structure? For questions regarding building on your property and setbacks, please call the office to speak with the building department 519-462-2697.

Winter Driving Tips to Keep You Safe

With winter fast approaching here are some helpful tips on how to keep safe on the roads this winter.

- **Create a Survival Kit** - Example: gloves, booster cables, small shovel, windshield wiper fluid, first aid kit, torch, snow brush, candles, safety vest, water bottles and non-perishable foods.
- **Check Weather and Road Conditions Often**
- **Keep a Safe Distance Behind Snow Plows**
- **Get Winter Tires** - Winter tires provide better traction and shorten braking distance.
- **Slow Down** - When the conditions are bad, take your time and allow for extra time to reach your destination
- **Clear Snow and Ice from Your Vehicle**
- **Wear Comfortable Clothes** - Bulky layers can make it harder for you to react while driving

- **Keep a Full Tank of Gas**
- **Keep OPP numbers handy and Keep Phone Charged** - Non-emergency OPP number is 1-888-310-1122 for highway conditions go to www.ontario.ca/511 or call 511
- **Avoid Using Cruise Control** - In bad weather it makes it easier to lose control if using cruise control
- **Figure out the best way to recover from a skid** Learn how your anti-lock braking system (ABS) works in your car, so if you start to skid you know what to do

Also a reminder to everyone that there is **"No Parking"** on roadways within the villages from December 1st to March 31st from 1:30 am - 6:00 am. If required, this time is used for snow removal operations in these areas.

Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

519.532.2500

dmckay@ezt.ca

Deputy Mayor

Maureen Ralph

519.462.2955

mralph@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Linda Fulton

519.635.7140

lfulton@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Shirley McCall-Hanlon

519.655.2471

shanlon@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

Mike Campbell

519.533.7422

mcampbell@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Mike Routly

519.469.8516

mroutly@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

519.536.6363

jsmith@ezt.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.

VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECKS

What You Need To Bring With You

The Oxford County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding all residents that they need to bring specific items in order to have a vulnerable sector check completed.

For a Vulnerable Criminal Record Check to be completed, everyone **MUST** have a letter from the organization requesting the check. It must be on letterhead and have a signature on the bottom. It will not be accepted if it only has a check list, or email. It must be a letter that contains what kind of record check is required, and if it is for volunteer or for employment.



If it is for employment there is a \$25 dollar fee. If it is a volunteer check, there is no fee, but it does require a letter stating that it is for volunteering. If you are a college or university student requiring a check for school or placement there is a \$25 fee for them even though the letter may indicate that it is an unpaid position.

All residents need to provide two (2) pieces of identification - one needs to be photo ID. A drivers licence and birth certificate are preferred however other pieces most commonly used are passport, outdoor card, Firearms Acquisition Certificate and blood donor card. Residents can also use a Canadian citizenship card, Residency Card, status card, baptismal certificate, immigration documents or Ontario photo identification card.

After providing a letter along with payment and identification, residents are informed that there is a two (2) to four (4) week waiting period before they can return to pick up their completed check.

Following the above guidelines will ensure that your request is processed in a timely manner.

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

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: 519.539.1340

For Bookings: 519.469.3889

Stay Informed



Find us on
Facebook



@EASTZORRATAV

Join "Keep Me Informed"