

Huron East Newsletter



Municipality of Huron East
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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

What a difference a year makes. I reviewed our Spring 2020 newsletter, which was issued the first week of March with our tax bills, and there is no mention of COVID-19.

As we enter March of 2021, COVID-19 has now been with us for 12 months and we can be encouraged by declining numbers and the knowledge that vaccines are now starting to arrive and our Federal and Provincial governments are assuring us that distribution will increase in the coming weeks. As a Municipality that owns both the Huron East Health Centre and the Brussels Medical Dental Centre along with community centres in Seaforth, Brussels and Vanara, we are making all our facilities and staff available to assist with vaccination programs if requested.

From a construction perspective, the Municipality is going to experience another busy year. In 2020, COVID-19 caused a delay in the commencement of the reconstruction of the Seaforth Main Street and this project will be finalized early this Spring. The Municipality has received MTO connecting link funding and has tendered the reconstruction of Highway 8 in Seaforth from County Road 12 to the easterly edge of Seaforth. This project will likely commence in April. Other major projects include a bridge replacement at the intersection of Front Road/Kippen Line and a new filtration/UV treatment building at the Brussels sewage treatment plant.

While we see positive signs in declining infections and the arrival of vaccines, now is not the time to let our guard down. Please continue to wear a mask, wash your hands and physically distance to stop the spread of COVID-19. Our community has been resilient and I would like to express Council's appreciation to all service clubs, charitable organizations and minor sports organizations for finding innovative means of providing services and programs. I am sure that 2021 will end on a higher note than it began.



Best Regards,
Mayor Bernie MacLellan

2021 Budget

Council has commenced the 2021 budget process. Council will be reviewing different components of the budget during their regular meetings and members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. A notice of the final budget meeting, anticipated on March 16th will be placed in local newspapers and a brief synopsis of the budget will be placed on the website prior to this meeting.

Property Taxation & Assessment

Tax notices are sent out twice a year; the interim bill in early March and the final bill in early September. Each bill contains two installment dates. The 2021 installment dates are as follows: March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and November 30th.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure payment is received at the municipal office on or before these due dates to avoid penalty. If making payments by telephone or electronically, please allow for processing time as payments must be received in the municipal office on/or before the due date to avoid penalty charges.

Purchasing a Farm

When a farm is sold it will become 100% residential tax class. This can mean the difference of thousands of dollars on a tax notice. Please call AGRICORP at 1-888-247-4999 or email contact@agricorp.com, as soon as possible after the purchase of a farm, in order to get the property in the correct tax class.

Assessment Value Appeals

For all property assessment concerns, please contact MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) at 1-866-296-6722 or go to your property at www.aboutmyproperty.ca. Have your property roll number available to assist with your inquiry. If you wish to appeal your 2021 property assessment the deadline is 90 days after the date of MPAC's Assessment Notice. Request for Reconsideration forms are available at the Municipal office in Seaforth, at www.huroneast.com or www.mpac.ca.

Mailing Address

Please notify the tax department if your mailing address is incorrect or has changed. **Failure to receive a tax notice does not exempt you from penalty.**

E-Billing

If you would like to receive your Water/Sewer, Tax or Account Receivable bills from Huron East via email, please download the application form from www.huroneast.com, come into the municipal office or contact the property tax clerk, utility clerk or accounts payable clerk at 519-527-0160 for assistance.

Pre-Authorized Payment Plans

One of the easiest ways to pay your property taxes and utility bills is through a pre-authorized payment plan. Both taxes and utilities can be set up to be deducted from your bank account on the due dates. Property taxes can also be set up as a monthly deduction.

To enrol in a pre-authorized program your account(s) must be current. Please download the application form from www.huroneast.com; come into the municipal office or contact the property tax clerk (ext. 22) or utility clerk (ext. 23) at 519-527-0160.

After Hours Drop Box

The Municipality has installed an after hours drop box at the front door of Town Hall for ratepayers' convenience.

WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING

REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE!

Recycling & Garbage Collection has changed in Huron East. Please refer to the website for calendars, contacts, and details.

There are several large recycling depots in Huron East for those occasions when you have additional cardboard or when you've missed your regular pick up day. These bins are for recyclable materials only. If garbage is placed in them, the bins will be permanently removed.

Landfill/Transfer Stations

Residents that require a landfill must use the landfill/transfer station that their particular ward is assigned to:

Seaforth/Tuckersmith

- Mid-Huron Transfer Station
37506A Huron Road (Highway 8)
Tuesday to Saturday (8 am to 1 pm)

Grey/McKillop

- Walton Landfill Site - 42966 Walton Road
Alternating Saturdays
(same week as Bluewater Recycling Collection (9 am to 4:30 pm))

Brussels

- Morris Landfill Site - 85047 Clyde Line
Wednesdays (10 am to 3 pm)
Saturdays (9 am to 5 pm)

Mid-Huron Recycling Centre

The household hazardous waste depot is located at the Mid-Huron Recycling Centre for proper disposal of paints, oils, medications, cleaners, etc, at no charge.

The Mid-Huron Recycling Centre located at Holmesville, 37506A Huron Road (Highway 8) is open Tuesday to Saturday from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

It is a transfer site for waste materials, recyclables and recoverable materials that can be unloaded manually.

Call for details 519-482-7668.

Compost Sites

Disposal of yard & garden waste located at:

- 79522 Hannah Line, Harpurhey
- 108 Turnberry Street, Brussels

VANASTRA EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTRE

Under the direction of the Huron Perth Health Unit, Ministry of Education and the Municipality of Huron East, extra precautions are being taken to support the health and safety of children, families and staff. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, families and staff will be screened, the cleaning and disinfecting of toys, equipment and highly touched surfaces will be increased as per Health Unit guidelines.

- Quality child care with trained professional RECE staff
- Open 6:30 am to 6:00 pm
- Children 16 months - 12 years
- Emergent Curriculum, Learning Through Play
- Fee Assistance to Qualifying Families
- Register your child with Huron County Childcare Wait List at www.onehnsn.com

At this time there will be no Centre tours. Call 519-482-7634 for more information.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

If you are not sure if you need a building permit, call the Building Department at 519-527-1710.

Call before you dig - Always get locates!

Call Ontario One Call 1-800-400-2255 to get all utilities (gas, hydro, water, sewer, cable, telephone lines) located before you start digging.

Septic & Plumbing Permits

As of January 1, 2020, Huron East is the approval authority for septic and plumbing permits and inspections.

PUBLIC WORKS

Municipal Road Safety

For safety and to ensure proper drainage, municipal road allowances are not to be planted with crops. Every property should have a defined legal entrance. The grass ditch area between the fence line and road should not be used as headlands.

A permit is required for new field entrances, laneways or driveways. The application and information is on our website.

The average rural road allowance is 66 feet.

Watering Restrictions (By-Law 34-2006)

Outdoor watering - even numbered houses on even days and odd numbered houses on odd days from 7:00-9:00 morning/evening.

Grass Mowing

Do not blow grass onto the roadway.

In urban areas, it collects in catch basins and leads to possible flooding. It creates a hazard for bike and motorcycle operators and is an offence (Section 180 Highway Traffic Act).

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT BREAKFAST

Brussels - June 20 Grey - June 27

Seaforth July 1, 2021

Brucefield - June 5 and Sept. 11, 2021

Breakfast events are tentative depending on COVID-19 Regulations

Open Air Burning

As per the 2015 Ontario Fire Code, Section 2.4.4.4. (1) Open air burning shall not take place unless

- It has been **approved**, or
- The open air burning consists of a small, confined fire that is
 - Used to cook food on a grill, barbecue or spit,
 - Commensurate with the type and quantity of food being cooked, and
 - Supervised at all times.

For approval to burn in rural areas of Huron East please complete our Burn Permit Application Form online at www.huroneast.com or call 519-527-0160.

RECREATION

Our recreation centres are in various stages of reopening under the Provincial guidelines.

The Vanastra Recreation Centre is open with limited programming - see additional information in the newsletter.

Our two arenas are currently working with Huron Perth Public Health to open and operate these facilities in a safe and functional manner.

Please follow us on Facebook, the Huron East website or call the facilities for updates.

BRUSSELS MORRIS & GREY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Zumba

Thursday 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Pickle Ball

Monday & Tuesday 6:45 to 8:45 pm

Karate

Anticipate starting in March, Wednesday nights and Saturday afternoons.

For more information and to register for programs call the BMGCC office at 519-887-6621 or check the Community Guide or email bmgcc@ezlink.com

SEAFORTH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRES

Shuffleboard - every Wed. 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Walk for Wellness

Monday to Thursday 8:00 - 10:00 am

Pickle Ball

Monday and Thursdays 10:00 - 11:30 am / 1:00-2:30 pm and 6:30-9:30 pm

For more information and to register for programs call the SDCC office 519-527-1272 or check the Community Guide or email c4tharena@huroneast.com

VANASTRA RECREATION CENTRE

The pool is open and we are happy to welcome you back. In order to ensure your safety when visiting our facility all programs and admissions will follow the COVID-19 measures provided by the Ontario Government and Huron Perth Public Health. Please go to our website www.huroneast.com for the most current protocols.

Private swimming lessons, water exercise classes and public swims will all be available during the COVID-19 colour zones. Check the website for details and scheduled swim times.

Spring Break (April 12-16)

In order to ensure everyone gets an opportunity to get out for a fun swim we will be scheduling 2 - 1 hour public swims

1:30 - 2:30 pm and 2:30 - 3:30 pm.

To avoid disappointment due to capacity restrictions be sure to call and book your spot.

Standard First Aid and CPR C

Course coming up April 24, 2021. This is a blended online and in class course. Complete the online course portion at your convenience prior to the in class session April 24. Course fee \$148 + HST. Get started on your online portion now.

Basic Life Support is also available, call to inquire.

To schedule a swim time or register for a program call 519-482-3455 or email vrcc@huroneast.com

Rain Barrel Fundraiser

We are doing it again!! Vanastra Recreation Centre is going to be taking part in the Rain Barrel fundraising campaign. Conserve water by getting your own Rain Barrel. Your plants and garden will thank you. See the savings on your next water bill. Purchase your rain barrel today at rainbarrel.ca and enter your pick up location, Brussels, Seaforth, or Vanastra in the search bar.