



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

EaZy Talk

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2012

Tax Instalment

Just a friendly reminder that the 1st instalment of interim taxes is due on February 29th. 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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Oxford County Waste Management Calendars 2012-2013

The new calendars will be delivered via Canada Post to all County households the middle of March. These calendars provide very important information; do not discard them. Refer to them for information, special events, dates, contacts etc.

Innerkip Sewer Connections

This is a friendly reminder to the residents of Innerkip. The connection to the new public sanitary sewer system and the decommissioning of septic systems is to be completed (tentatively) by late fall 2012.

A building permit is required for this type of construction. There is no fee for the building permit.

Each resident in Innerkip should have received documents from the County of Oxford in September of 2011. This included some very important information and forms as well as contact information for any inquiries. Those residents requiring grinder pumps should have received additional information. A Building Permit application and the Innerkip Waste Water Service form must be submitted to the Township Office a **minimum** of 24 hours prior to the beginning of construction. The application must include a site diagram,

contractor information, an estimated cost provided by your contractor as well as the County of Oxford Acknowledgment form signed by owners of the property.

Applications can be submitted by one of the following methods:

- ◆ Email the complete application to ezt@ezt.ca
- ◆ Fax the complete application to 519.462.2961
- ◆ Drop off the completed application to the Township Office in Hickson

The application will be reviewed and approved by the Chief Building Official and a permit will be issued. Notice of inspection shall be given prior to 3 pm the day before construction via email, fax or phone. Any questions, please contact Jason or John at the Township Office at 519.462.2697.

Changes for the Sale of Dog Tags

Township Council has elected to return to the use of a door-to-door Dog Licencing Officer beginning in 2012. For that purpose, Council has engaged the services of Raymond Schwartzenruber as Dog Licencing Officer. Raymond will be a familiar face for many residents as he performed these duties for the Township in the past. Raymond will be visiting every residence in the Township regardless of whether a tag was purchased last year. Doing so will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date record of dogs in the Township should we need to locate the owner of a lost dog.

In addition to door-to-door sales, tags will continue to be available for sale at the following locations:

- ◆ Corner Farm Market, 206 Blandford St., Innerkip
- ◆ Yantzi's feed & Seed, 65 Woodstock St. N., Tavistock
- ◆ Zehr's Home Hardware, 24 Woodstock St. S., Tavistock
- ◆ Township Office, 90 Loveys St. E., Hickson



The cost of the tags remains \$20 per dog with revenue being used to fund the cost of animal collection services in the Township.

Break-ins and Thefts

Be Vigilant and Report Suspicious Behaviour

The Oxford County OPP is investigating a series of break-ins, thefts and damage to property occurring both day and night in East Zorra-Tavistock Township.

Over the past month, area businesses and vacant properties seem to have been the target. There have been five reported thefts from rural businesses in the area, along with damage to property including a stolen vehicle which was recovered after it had been set fire in a remote area.

The Oxford County OPP is asking residents to be vigilant for suspicious vehicles that may be sitting in a neighbour's driveway when they are not home or vehicles travelling aimlessly up and down roads. The public should try to get descriptions, license plate numbers and direction of travel and report this immediately to their local police service. Since the suspects may still be in the area, it is important for this information to get to police as soon as possible.

When In Doubt - Call and Have the Police Check it Out!

Anyone having information on this or any other incident can contact the Oxford County OPP or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-222-TIPS (8477).



News Release from the Oxford County OPP February 2, 2012.

Emergency Responder Safety

Motorists need to drive safe and respect roadside emergency personnel.

On any given day, members of our fire departments will need to attend motor vehicle accidents providing emergency roadside assistance. These trained individuals are called upon to work under extremely stressful situations which can become even more dangerous due to the actions of curious or distracted drivers. It is paramount for passing motorists to take caution when approaching an accident scene. Slow down and obey instructions being provided by attending emergency personnel.

The scene becomes even more critical when there are adverse weather conditions present. More and more we hear the tragic story of emergency vehicles (firetrucks, police cars, ambulances) or workers being struck by another vehicle coming upon the scene. If the roads are icy or the visibility is compromised, please **slow down**. Firefighters on the scene are working with life-saving equipment (jaws of life), getting equipment from the trucks or attending to injured people. These situations are stressful enough for personnel without having to worry about the **possibility** of being injured themselves by passing traffic. Be safe and alert to keep everyone safe in an already bad situation.

Profiling our OPP Officers

Inspector Tim Clark is the newly appointed Oxford County OPP Detachment Commander. Tim oversees the entire detachment consisting of over 100 employees.

Tim was born and raised in Oxford County, attending Glendale High School in Tillsonburg. He then went on to study Law and Security at Conestoga College. Tim worked with the Tillsonburg OPP Auxiliary Police for two years before being hired in 1986. His first posting was at Newcastle, east of Toronto before being transferred to Central Patricia, now known as the Pickle Lake Detachment in Northwestern Ontario.

In 1991, Tim transferred back to the old Tillsonburg OPP Detachment and when the OPP reorganized its detachments, he was assigned to the Elgin County OPP detachment. From there, Tim moved on to the Western Region Crime Support Unit where he worked on Project Snow White, an extensive drug investigation involving the Hell's Angels.

In 2003, Tim was promoted to Detective Sergeant and was assigned to the First Nations Policing Bureau working with the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Services, flying in to remote reserves in Northern Ontario to

assist with criminal investigations.

In 2005, he took over the OPP Rural and Agriculture Crime Team based in the Western Region. The following year he was promoted to Staff Sergeant serving at the Norfolk OPP and the OPP West Region Drug Enforcement Section before returning to Oxford County in July 2008.

Tim has worked in many locations in the Province gaining valuable work experience and knowledge which now proves to be an important asset to our community. He has however, always been drawn back "home" and has always maintained a close relationship with his roots here in Oxford County. Tim feels very fortunate to be promoted to Detachment Commander and to be "home" serving his community.

Tim's predecessor, retired Inspector Jack Goodlett, has left the Oxford County OPP in fine form and Tim looks forward to continuing to run his detachment similarly.



Message from the Mayor



Last year saw the completion of wastewater services in Innerkip. This was accomplished with great effort and significant cost which will be paid for by Innerkip residents - present and future - when they connect to the system.

The Township as a whole paid for a portion of the road reconstruction costs. Tavistock also experienced its share of construction last year with the addition of a new pumping station and upgrades to the sanitary collection system. The treatment facility was also expanded with the addition of a 4th cell and a sand filter. Again, the users of the wastewater system pay for the upgrades and the Township helps pay for the road reconstruction costs. This investment gives East Zorra-Tavistock 2 fully serviced communities and thus 2 opportunities for residential growth.

We are extremely fortunate to have developers in both communities ready to expand and build new homes. These new homes will bring new students for our rural schools, new

customers for our local retailers and much needed new assessment to help pay for our municipal services. I trust that we are all ready to roll out the welcome mat and embrace this growth opportunity.

Recently, I attended a Leadership Table discussion group with the topic being 'An Oxford Immigration Portal'. It is very obvious we need to develop this web based portal to keep pace with our neighbouring communities to ensure Oxford is open to welcome new immigrants. It may be less obvious but actually more important, the role you and I will play in making Oxford a welcoming place for all. New families will be looking for places to learn, to work and to play. Our community has a rich heritage with many of us having parents or grandparents that were welcomed here as new immigrants themselves. East Zorra-Tavistock is competing with many surrounding communities for residential growth. The warm welcome you and I can give will determine how fast we grow and realize our potential for a better tomorrow.

Tavistock 5-Corner Intersection Changes

Tavistock's five-corner intersection, the only one of its kind in Oxford County, will be home to the County's first pedestrian-only traffic signal as changes to the intersection take place to improve safety and traffic flow at the town's main junction.

The County of Oxford's Public Works department has installed a new traffic signal cabinet and controller at the Woodstock Street (County Road 59), Hope Street (County Road 24), and Maria Street intersection, and changing traffic timings to allow for a pedestrian-only crossing. Sometimes referred to as a "Barnes dance" after the traffic engineer who endorsed the design, this kind of crossing stops vehicular traffic from all directions while pedestrians move straight across and diagonally from all corners of the intersection at the same time.

Vehicular traffic approaching the five-corner intersection from the north, south, east and west will each have a turn at a protected green-light signal to turn left, turn right, or drive straight through. Vehicles will no longer be permitted to turn right on a red light at the intersection.

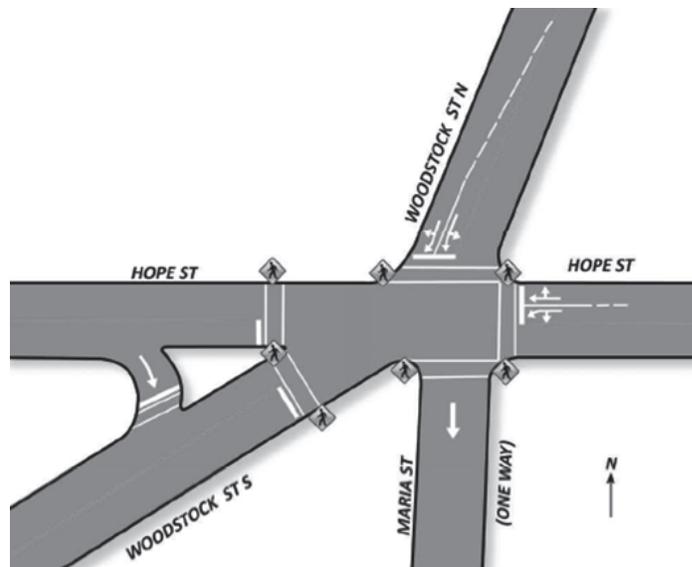
The Township of East Zorra-Tavistock held community consultations on how to improve pedestrian safety and traffic flow at the intersection in October 2011. The new traffic signal timing plan was one of a series of improvements from that meeting, along with improved pavement markings and new directional signage to be placed in early 2012.

Visit www.ezt.ca or www.oxfordcounty.ca for more information.

Here is What You Need to Know

The traffic signal operation at the intersection of Woodstock (County Rd 59), Hope St. (County Rd 24) and Maria St. is being changed to improve traffic flow and safety in downtown Tavistock.

- ♦ Traffic from each direction will get its own advanced green light to turn left, turn right, or drive through.
- ♦ It is no longer legal for vehicles to turn right on a red light
- ♦ There will be a special traffic signal for **pedestrians only** to cross the intersection, in all directions at the same time, both straight across the street and diagonally.



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

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Councillor - Ward 1

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Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

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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.

Public Works Reminders

Tire Recycling Depot

The "used tire" depot located at the Hickson Road Shop, 158 Loveys Street, was established approximately one year ago to enable ratepayers to bring used tires to a central location for easy recycling. **The program only accepts car, truck, motorcycle and tractor tires that are REASONABLY CLEAN inside and out and have no inner tube.**

The depot is experiencing some "growing pains". Recently, items such as bicycle tires, plastic piping, rubber doormats, and automobile/tractor tires with extensive decay, have been left at this location. Also, some of the tires have been excessively dirty. The recycling company that picks up the tires will not accept items in this condition, and as such, the Township is now having to dispose of the additional items at considerable expense.

Further dumping of inappropriate material at this location could result in a review of the continuation of this service.

Load Restriction

Load Restrictions on Township roadways take effect March 1st and run until the end of April. In accordance with By-Law #2005-46, during this time most vehicles are restricted to 5 tonnes for each axle. Fuel and feed trucks are limited to 7.5 tonnes per axle and milk trucks are exempt. The reason for the load restriction is to minimize the deterioration of the road during the spring thaw. Equipment exceeding the weight restriction causes extensive damage to the roads, resulting in very high maintenance costs and increased liability. Although farm equipment is not included in this by-law, we request local farmers to consider spring thaw conditions when scheduling movement of commodities, machinery etc. This will help preserve your Township roads.

Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste

There are 3 Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste Depots located throughout the Township.

Tavistock	18 Hendershot St. (by the Water Tower)
Innerkip	Corner of George St. and Main St.
Hickson	158 Loveys St. (at the Road Shop)

A reminder that these depots must be used properly. To ensure high quality compost is produced, please make sure the material dropped off is free of garbage and plastic bags. Refer to your Waste Management Calendars for a list of acceptable/unacceptable material.

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
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