



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

Eazy Talk

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Christmas Gift Suggestions....

To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.
To all, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.

Oren Arnold

EZT Services - Who do I Call?



The Township offers many services and you may ponder “who do I call” about certain questions/requests. The following is a list of the most popular questions we receive here in the office and who may be able to provide the assistance.

Can I have a controlled burn? Initially this will be handled by front line staff and the details you provide will be called in to dispatch. In some instances, staff may have you consult with the Fire Chief.

Who do I speak with about building permits? Again front line staff may be able to assist you with some of your questions or booking of inspections. Further questions will be directed to our Building Department.

Who do I speak with about a drainage issue? These inquiries will be directed to our Drainage Superintendent.

What do I do about a streetlight that is not working? You should contact the Township office with details such as the address of where the streetlight is located and the number located on the pole. This information will then be passed on by staff to Erie Thames Powerlines for repair of the light.

What if I have an issue regarding my road? This will depend on where you live. If it is a “County” road then your inquiry should go to the County of Oxford, Public Works Department. If you live on a “Township” road then your issue will be directed to our Township Public Works Department.

Who do I call if my garbage or recycling is missed? You may contact the Township office and we will try to resolve the issue, however, in some instances you will be directed to call the County’s Waste

Management Department.

What if I have a dog complaint? In many cases if it is a lost dog issue, staff can assist you by looking in our data base to determine who owns the dog . If it is a by-law issue, you will be directed to our By-Law Enforcement Officer/ Protective Services Coordinator.

What is owing on my taxes and can you explain my tax bill? Front-line staff will be able to assist you in most cases - if required you will be directed to our Tax Collector if you have a more in-depth inquiry.

If I have a form that needs to be signed by a Commissioner, can someone at the Township do this? Yes, our CAO or Clerk can take care of this for you.

What if I have an issue with my municipal water or sewer?

Please contact the County of Oxford Public Works Department.

How do I have a Police Check done?

If you are a resident in EZT you have the option to come to the Township office in Hickson and the paperwork can be filled out here **in person** by the applicant. You can also visit the OPP detachment in Ingersoll or Tillsonburg. The Tavistock OPP office at the firehall is only a satellite office and you will not be able to complete your application at that office. The OPP do a pick-up of applications twice a week from our office in Hickson. These are processed by the OPP and returned to our office for pickup. There are many items that must be completed prior to submission of the application. Please contact the office if you have any questions and to ensure you have all the required documentation. This will avoid any delays or disappointment.

Be Prepared for Old Man Winter

The temperatures are dropping, the winds are changing - are you prepared for "Old Man Winter"? Here are a few reminders of some of the weather conditions we will encounter over the next several months.

Snow Squall Warnings will be issued when 15 cm or more of snow is expected to fall within 12 hours or the visibility is likely to be near zero for at least 4 hours because of falling and blowing snow. Snow squalls can dump heavy snow over a small area in a few hours.

Winter Storm Warnings will alert you that a combination of hazardous winter conditions are occurring or expected to develop shortly. A **Snowfall Warning** is issued when hazardous amounts are expected to fall over a 12 or 24 hour period.

Blizzards come in on a wave of cold arctic air, bringing snow, bitter cold, high winds and poor visibility. While these conditions must last for at least 6 hours to be designated a blizzard, they may last for several days.

Freezing Rain occurs when the air in an upper air layer has above-freezing temperature while the temperature at the surface is below freezing. More slippery than snow, freezing rain is tough and clings to everything it touches. A little of it is dangerous, a lot can be catastrophic.

When any of these conditions are in the forecast, leave the radio on to stay informed of the situation and hear updated forecasts.



Carbon Monoxide in Your Home

As the colder weather starts to settle in, people use fuel-burning appliances more frequently. Extreme vigilance should be used in dealing with these appliances to prevent deadly exposure to the serious hazards of carbon monoxide (CO).

Carbon monoxide is often called the "Silent Killer" - victims cannot see it, smell it or taste it. It is an invisible, odorless gas that can poison, and even kill you. Headaches, nausea, dizziness and shortness of breath are some of the symptoms individuals may experience. People most at risk are infants, small children, pregnant women, elderly people and people with heart or lung problems.

Carbon monoxide is produced by the incomplete burning of fuels. It can be released by gas furnaces, hot water heaters, cars, fireplaces, wood stoves and kerosene heaters. Faulty burners or clogged chimneys are often part of the problem. To avoid the production of CO, you should have your chimney, furnace and gas-fired appliances checked by professional technicians every year. A carbon monoxide detector is the best way to protect you and your family. Install CO alarms where they can be easily heard - outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. When installing a CO alarm, always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Test CO alarms at least once a month and replace batteries according to manufacturer's instructions. Remember, CO alarms should be replaced every 5 years.

To reduce the chances of carbon monoxide poisoning, have furnaces, fireplaces, and all fuel-burning appliances checked once a year. Know the symptoms and get everyone to fresh air immediately. Never heat your home with a gas stove. Never use a BBQ in the home or in an enclosed area. During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow. Never use a gas-powered generator inside your home.

Canada Safety Council

Use Your Crossing Guard Service

For several years the Township has offered the Crossing Guard service to the children in Innerkip and Tavistock. Earlier this fall, OPP Community Services Officer, Mike Hanna and a member of the Township staff met with our Crossing Guards to discuss any "issues" relating to safety for the children as well as themselves. The Crossing Guards provided some very valuable and interesting feedback. We would like to take this time to stress a few important items to you as a student, parent or member of the general public.

- * Use this service - whether you are beginning JK or you are one of the older Grade 8 students, take advantage of the expertise of these Crossing Guards. They will ensure you get to your destination in a safe manner. It's not uncool to use their assistance!
- * If you are riding your bicycle, get off and safely walk your bike to the other side.

- * Be very watchful and listen carefully to what the Crossing Guards are telling you - take out the ear phones and don't be talking on a cell phone when crossing!
- * There is no reason to poke along - walk quickly but safely across the street.
- * Be respectful of the Crossing Guards. These individuals are there in all weather conditions to ensure your safety and deserve to be treated well.
- * As a driver, be watchful of the "STOP" sign particularly on those foggy, icy or snowy days - the children and Crossing Guards are depending on you to stop. It is the law!



In conclusion, please make use of this service and stay safe!

Message from the Mayor



“Be glad for what you have because it may not last”. These are words my grandmother often said to her grandchildren. These are not surprising words of wisdom coming from someone who lived and raised a family through the Great Depression. She was a gracious lady. A glass of milk and a cookie created the captive audience for grandma to teach us to be grateful. A cup of tea and a scone with her neighbours gave her moments to cherish true friendship. No meal ever started at grandma’s house without first giving thanks. Faith, family and friends were her constant before, during and after the economic reality of the depressions years.

When I listen to the news and hear the economic uncertainty around the world, I cannot help but wonder what our future holds. How long will our Country’s prosperity continue? Are we prepared to live in a world with less? I fear we are not ready. We get so upset when our road is under construction. We oppose consolidation in education and health care services if it impacts our community. We want to be able to change how we use our property but do not want the neighbour to be able to change their property use. We live in a generation focused on entitlement and not on appreciation. Be glad for what you have because it may not last and to value life’s real assets; faith, family and friends.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Don McKay

EZT Holiday Information

The Hickson Municipal Office will close on Friday December 23rd at 4:30 pm and re-open Tuesday January 3rd 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 no change to the recycling or garbage collection. 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.

Free Holiday Skating at Tavistock Arena:

Dec. 25/26	Arena Closed	Jan. 2	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Dec. 28	1 pm - 3 pm	Jan. 4	1 pm - 3 pm	Zehr Automotive
Dec. 30	1 pm - 3 pm	Jan. 6	1 pm - 3 pm	Tim Hortons
Jan. 1	Arena Closed	For open ice time see: www.ezt.ca/tdrc		

Winter Control Policies

Just a reminder to all residents of the Township’s ‘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.

A contractor 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 in 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 “Frequently Requested By-laws” under the “Council” tab. 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 co-operation in this matter. It will assist us greatly in providing a safe and reliable road system to our ratepayers.

Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

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Deputy Mayor

Maureen Ralph

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Councillor - Ward 1

Linda Fulton

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Councillor - Ward 1

Clive Lawry

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Councillor - Ward 2

Don MacDonald

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dmacdonald@ezt.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Don Lazenby

519.537.3758

dlazenby@ezt.ca

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.

Rural Oxford Economic Development

Business Retention and Expansion Project

Beginning this month, community businesses will be given the opportunity to voice their opinions about the local economy. In early November, trained volunteers and staff began meeting with local businesses to identify their needs and concerns, ask their opinions about government and determine ways the local business climate can be improved. The project is known as the Rural Oxford Economic Development Business Retention and Expansion Project.

The business visits have 4 purposes. First, we want to show our local businesses that we really appreciate the contributions they are making to our local community. Second, we want to see if they have any concerns, and if so, if there are ways we can help. Third, we will be offering to help our local businesses take better advantage of business resources. Finally, we want the businesses to help us set priorities on future directions of local economic efforts.

Businesses should have received an information package containing an introduction letter discussing the purpose of the project as well as a copy of the survey. All information collected from the surveys will remain confidential. The data will be entered into an online tool which will provide reports on the information that was collected.

We have created a website to showcase the profiles of the rural communities as well as provide updates on the BR & E Project. Please take the time to visit the website (www.roed.ca) and provide us with any feedback you may have. Also, please link us to your site and distribute this website to all your friends, clients and co-workers who may be interested in the project.

Lastly, if you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Visitor, please contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator, Carla Garrett at cgarrett@zorra.on.ca or Project Co-ordinator Karen Nelson Hamilton at knelsonhamilton@zorra.on.ca.



**Seasons Greetings from
the EZT Council and Staff**

Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

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Box 100
Hickson ON N0J 1L0
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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