

Otonabee-South Monaghan an OSM Township

P.O. Box 70, 20 Third Street, Keene, Ontario K0L 2G0

Tel: 705-295-6852 • Toll Free 705 area code only: 800-999-4861 • Fax: 705-295-6405
info@osmtownship.ca • www.osmtownship.ca • Facebook & Twitter @OSMTownship

NEWSLETTER

WINTER/SPRING 2024

INTERIM TAXES DUE DATES:

Friday, February 23, 2024

Friday, April 26, 2024

Please note that a 1.25% penalty applies on the 1st day of the month after the due date and on the 1st day of each subsequent month thereafter.

Township staff do not have the authority to waive penalties.

Payments

Payment options are listed on the back of your tax bill and on our website at www.osmtownship.ca under 'Payment Options'.

Preauthorized payment plans are available for your convenience. The sign-up form is available at the Township office or online at www.osmtownship.ca under 'Payment Options'.

When paying through the internet or telebanking, use your roll number as your account number. If you have multiple properties, a separate payment is required for each roll number.



Public Works

Equipped with plows, sand and salt, the Public Works Department clear your roads and sidewalks as quickly and effectively as possible. Routes are set so that one complete cycle can be done within a five to eight hour time period. There are strict laws that govern hours of work and hours of driving time, therefore careful planning is required for handling each snow/ice storm. The Public Works Department appreciates everyone's cooperation and patience during winter snow removal.



Reminders:

- ✓ The Highway Traffic Act Section 170, Subsection 12, states *no person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway.* Motorists who breach these winter parking regulations may be towed and will be responsible for all costs incurred.
- ✓ The Highway Traffic Act Section 181, Part X states *no person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing so to do from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road.*

Road Jurisdiction

Roads within the Township are maintained by different governing bodies. Typically, higher volume roads are owned and maintained by the Province or the County of Peterborough. Provincial highways and County roads will receive more frequent plowing and sanding than roads maintained by the Township. Township roads are maintained in accordance with the Township's Level of Service Policy. The Township does not maintain private roads.

Street Signs & Streetlights

If you notice a missing or damaged street sign or malfunctioning streetlight, please contact the Township Office at 705.295.6852 to report.

Locates

Call before you dig to locate underground infrastructure. Ontario One Call 1-800-400-2255 or visit on1call.com.

24-Hour Public Works Emergency Phone Number

24-Hour Public Works Emergency Phone Number "705-926-0223" this number is to be used **only** for roads or water related **emergencies**. All non-emergency Township road maintenance or drinking water related issues in Keene Heights, Crystal Springs or Elgeti Systems should continue to contact the Municipal Office 705-295-6852 or the Public Works garage at 705-745-3595.

Budget 2024

The **2024 Total Township Budget** is \$13,446,654 which includes operating costs of \$8,529,584, capital plan projects of \$3,089,700, and \$1,827,371 provision for reserves to fund future infrastructure replacement. The **2024 Total Township Tax Levy** is \$7,239,352 with the balance funded through grants, user fees, development charges, reserve transfers and other revenue.

This translates into a 2.97% increase in the Township tax rate. Each property is impacted differently based on the assessed value determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. For more information about assessment, please check out the MPAC website at www.mpac.ca. To find out more about your particular property assessment, register online at www.aboutmyproperty.ca. A breakdown showing any assessment-related tax increase is provided on every tax bill.

Building Department

The Building Department is available to discuss the details of your planned project, answer questions and assist with the new Cloud Permit process. Inspection appointments must be booked 48 hours in advance. Information regarding building requirements and permits can also be found on our website at www.osmtownship.ca.

It is recommended that you ask before you start work. This will save you time and money!

If you build without a permit, permit fees will be doubled. You also run the risk of having your construction project removed or having to make major modifications to bring it into compliance with the Ontario Building Code.

Building permits are required for the following:

- All new construction greater than 108 sq ft (10 sq m)
- All additions to structures regardless of the size
- All plumbing work
- Renovations, specifically any structural changes
- All swimming pools
- Decks (including replacement decks) - We recommend hiring a BCIN qualified designer to design your deck to ensure compliance with The Ontario Building Code and local By-laws.



All additions, swimming pools, garages and accessory buildings require location approval in relation to the existing septic system from Peterborough Public Health prior to a building permit being issued. A Development Permit may be required from Otonabee Conservation or the Ministry of Transportation in certain areas.

Don't need a permit? Remember that your structure must still comply with zoning regulations, so check with the Director about any approvals you may need.

Development Charges for 2024

The 2024 phased in Township Development Charges under By-Law No. 2020-60 are as follows:

Residential – All dwelling units \$11,117

Non-Residential – Commercial Sector \$4.53/square foot

Note: The Township also collects development charges for the County of Peterborough, PVNCCDSB and KPRDSB Educational Boards (not included in the above prices)

DEPARTMENTS

Municipal Administration - 705-295-6852 / 1-800-999-4861

Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk, Heather Scott Ext. 223

Treasurer/Director of Finance, Sara Flaherty Ext. 211

Deputy Treasurer/Office Manager, Jackie Fitzgerald Ext. 216

Tax Inquiries - 705-295-6852

Accounting and Tax Clerk, Shannon Neto Ext. 210

Building Department - 705-295-6852

Director of Building Services (CBO), John Eisinga Ext. 222

Junior Planner, Emily Baker Ext. 232

Building Inspector, Steve Wigboldus Ext. 212

Building & Planning Assistant, Christine Zurosky Ext. 233

Parks & Recreation Department - 705-295-6862

Recreation, Parks & Facilities Manager, Mike Nelson

Public Works Department - 705-745-3595 - **Director of Public Works**, Craig Brooks

Dog Control - 705-939-6791 / 1-866-709-6083 - **Dog Control Officer**, Debra Haigh

Fire and Emergency Services - 705-295-6880

Fire Chief/CEMC, Chuck Parsons Ext. 217

Fire Admin/Public Education/Fire Prevention Officer, Cara Wood Ext. 215

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Joe Taylor 705-295-4886 mayor@osmtownship.ca

Deputy Mayor Bonnie Clark 705-295-4434 deputymayor@osmtownship.ca

Councillors -

at Large Mark Allen 705-295-1544 atlargecouncillor@osmtownship.ca

Otonabee Ward Nick Powers 705-875-8245 otonabecouncillor@osmtownship.ca

South Monaghan Ward

Terry Holmes 416-899-0740 southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca

Fire Services

Fire Safety

Are you and your household protected from Smoke, Fire and Carbon Monoxide (CO)?

Smoke Alarms are required on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms need to be installed, at minimum, adjacent to all sleeping areas in a residential home containing a fuel-burning appliance or fireplace, or that has an attached garage

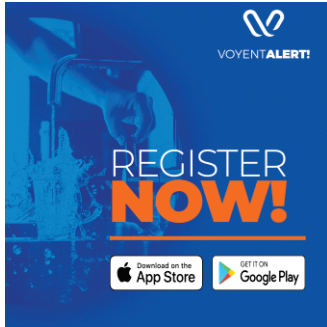
Check your alarms today to ensure they work and are properly located within your home.



Chimney Maintenance

Cleaning and maintenance of chimneys and wood heating devices is important to ensure their proper operation. As we experience warmer temperatures moving closer to spring, there is an increased risk of creosote build-up. A blocked chimney will not ventilate properly and can cause carbon monoxide to draft into your home. Make sure all heating appliances are properly cleaned and maintained on a regular basis.

Emergency Management

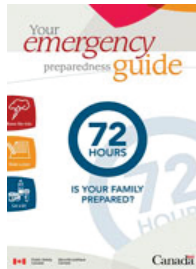


Choose how you want to stay informed during emergencies and of day-to-day urgent notifications. Sign up for Voyent Alert! Notification Services to receive notifications from OSM Township via Voyent Alert! mobile app, text/SMS, email or voice calling to a landline. To ensure you are being reached during a crisis, we recommend registering for at least two of the channels.

Register here: <https://vovent-alert.com/ca/community/> or access the online registration on the Township website. Alternatively, please call the Fire Department Administration office.

Emergency Preparedness Week runs the first full week in May. Ensure you and your family are prepared for at least the first 72 hours of any emergency.

For more information on specific risks and how to prepare for emergencies, visit: <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/>



Flood Watch

Flooding conditions along the Otonabee River and surrounding tributaries has become an annual occurrence in OSM. Be reminded that the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) is the Flood Watch agency for this Municipality. Flood Watch information can be found at www.otonabeeconservation.com or by contacting the ORCA Flood Watch Hotline at 705-745-5791 Ext. 228

Residents living in these flood prone areas are responsible for monitoring the conditions and being prepared to take immediate action, if necessary, for the protection of life and valued property. It is recommended that all owners of properties within these flood prone areas sign up for Voyent Alert! to receive timely messages.



Burn Permits

If you had a 2023 burn permit and would like to renew for 2024, visit: <https://osm.burnpermits.com>, login to your account and click on the green button in the right-hand side of the screen "+ Renew Permit/New Permit". Follow the prompts on the screen to renew your permit for the 2024 calendar year.

If you did not obtain a 2023 burn permit, owners of properties will need to create an account, and request the burn permit via the same online system. If you have any question, please contact the Fire Department.

Burning in a barrel is not permitted in OSM. Follow requirements listed in **By-law 2022-50: Regulations for the Setting of Open-Air Fires**. Copies of the by-law can be found within the burn permit system and on the Township website.



Garbage and Recycling

OSM Transfer Station

1594 Drummond Line, 705-749-2331

Hours: Mon. & Fri. 1-6 pm / Wed. 9 am - 6 pm / Sat. 9 am - 3 pm

Garbage Collection Inquiries/Missed Collection

Waste Connections Canada 705-742-4268 or

Marilyn.jewer@wasteconnections.com or

Stephen.bye@wasteconnections.com



Clear Garbage Bag Program. Thank all residents for helping to make this program a continued success. The Township is very pleased to report that since the launch of the program there has been a significant decline in waste generation and a huge increase in recycling. Garbage can be left at the curb or can be taken to the Drummond Line Transfer Station for a fee in the following ways: 1) in a clear bag in a garbage container; 2) in a clear bag; or 3) in an opaque small grocery size privacy bag to shield private items. **Garbage must be at the road before 7:00am to avoid missing collection.** For clear bag program details please see the Township website www.osmtownship.ca,

Beginning January 1, 2024, the blue box program will transition to producer responsibility. The County will no longer be overseeing the blue box program and will now be managed by Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) and their contractor Emterra Environmental.

Recycling Program – Emterra Environmental

For questions or missed collection call Emterra at 705-742-3139

Remember the Big Three when recycling:

1. **Have your blue boxes to the road by 7am.**
2. Sort your materials into 2 boxes, Containers and Papers.
 - ✓ Use as many boxes as needed, as long as Containers, and Papers are in separate boxes.
3. Keep recycling loose in Blue Boxes.
 - ✓ Bagged recycling will not be collected.

Special Provisions for Individuals with a Medical Condition

The Application for Medical (Non-Hazardous) Waste Exception – Curbside Waste Collection can be found at www.osmtownship.ca/en/living-here/Garbage-and-Recycling.

Recreation, Parks and Facilities

Otonabee South Monaghan Township offers *banquet facilities, ice surfaces (hockey & curling), ball hockey/lacrosse facilities, and baseball diamonds for rent.* To view availability and complete an online booking request, visit <https://app.booking.ca/osmtownshippub/index.asp>.

Winter and Spring Events and Updates:

- ✓ Public Skating – Thursdays @ 3:00pm – 4:00pm and Sundays @ 2:30pm – 3:30pm
- ✓ Seniors Skating – Tuesdays @ 10:00am – 11:00am
- ✓ Men's, Women's and Mixed 3-Pitch Leagues – Visit our OSM website for information on registration.

Events and rental details can also be found on our OSM website.



Rabies Clinics

Please check our website for updates at www.osmtownship.ca or contact Dog Control at 705-939-6791



Dog Tag Renewal

Dog tags are good for life but must be renewed annually. Invoices are mailed in January and are due upon receipt. New and replacement dog tags can only be purchased at the Township Office.

News & Notices

Watch for details on community events and recreational registrations by following us on Twitter and Facebook at @OSMTownship. All community news and events can also be found on our website at www.osmtownship.ca Running a community program or event? Submit the details to us by email at receptionist@osmtownship.ca and your event may be promoted on our website, LED sign, Facebook, or Twitter, provided it meets the Electronic Information (LED) Sign Policy.



Coming Soon.....

We will be asking the residents of OSM Township to complete a brief form to let us know if you are looking for a family doctor. We will also be asking what other health and social services you would like to see closer to home. Keep your eye on our Social Media accounts and website to ensure you do not miss this important opportunity.

