



August 2025 Newsletter

Public Works, Water & After-Hours Emergencies

Public Works and Water Department hours are 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday to Friday, excluding holidays

For after hours drainage, roads and animal control problems, please call 519-769-2010

For after hours water and sewer problems, please call OCWA at 519-868-0034

Members of Council:

Mayor Grant Jones - mayorgjones@southwold.ca

Deputy Mayor Justin Pennings - deputymayorpennings@southwold.ca

Councillor John Adzija - councilloradzija@southwold.ca

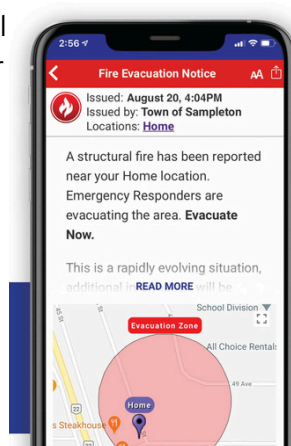
Councillor Sarah Emons - councilloremons@southwold.ca

Councillor Scott Fellows - councillorfellows@southwold.ca

Township of Southwold Council and Staff would like to welcome our newest members to the team Corey Nooren and Aiden Shaw, Public Works Operators. We would also like to thank all of the students that joined us in the Public Works, Parks and Facilities, and GIS Departments this summer!

We have chosen the Voyent Alert! Notification Service to keep you informed during emergencies as well as day-to-day notifications. Register now to receive important notifications about The Township of Southwold that matter to you! The service is FREE, easy to use and anonymous. For more information, and to register, visit Southwold.ca/alerts. Need assistance signing up? Contact the Township of Southwold at 519-769-2010 and we can register you.

Sign up to receive alerts from the Township!



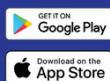
NOTIFICATION
SERVICE



GET THE INFORMATION YOU NEED, **WHEN YOU NEED IT**

Township of Southwold is pleased to announce it has chosen the Voyent Alert! service to keep you informed during times of crisis and for day-to-day notices. Register now to receive important notifications that matter to you. The service is free, easy to use and totally anonymous.

REGISTER NOW!



MOBILE APP USERS

Download and install the Voyent Alert! app from the Apple App or Google Play stores.



Scan the QR code to register online to receive email, voice or text-based alerts.

Stay Tuned! Talbotville Fire Hall Open House Coming Fall 2025

The Southwold Fire Department are going to be hosting an open house this fall! Stay tuned to our social media for all the details.

Mark your Calendar!

Southwold Fire Department BBQ is Sunday, September 7th 4:30 to 7:00 PM at the Southwold Keystone Complex. Tickets available for purchase.

Southwold Young @ Heart Dinners

Summer Picnic - Talbotville Optimist

Heritage Park - Aug 21st

Thanksgiving Drive-Thru Oct 23rd

Christmas Drive-Thru Dec 11th

More details on the dinners will be available soon.

Remembrance Day Service

This year's Remembrance Day Service will be both in-person and virtually broadcast on Sunday, November 9th, 2025. Follow the Township of Southwold's Website and social media for upcoming announcements.

Important Tax Dates in 2025

Final property tax installments are due by Friday, August 29th & Friday, October 31st

Utility Billing Changes Coming to Urban Areas July 2025

Effective July 1, 2025, the Township will eliminate individual drainage assessments for residential properties in the urban areas of Ferndale, Fingal, Lynhurst, Shedden, north Port Stanley, and Talbotville.

Beginning in August 2025, urban properties will transition to a monthly billing cycle for municipal utility services (water, sanitary, and stormwater, as applicable). As part of this change, a new monthly stormwater fee will appear on utility bills to support the ongoing maintenance and replacement of storm sewer infrastructure.

Fees Are as follows:

Single Detached Homes: \$16.08/month

Semi-Detached Homes: \$12.06/month

Townhomes: \$8.04/month

This updated funding model provides stable, long-term support for stormwater systems without the burden of large, one-time charges to individual property owners.

The first project funded through the new stormwater reserve will be the replacement of the Horton Drain in Shedden. Under the previous system, affected homeowners would have faced charges of several thousand dollars. With the new approach, current and future stormwater project costs will be shared across all urban area properties—offering a more equitable and predictable solution for the community.

2025 TAX BILL INFORMATION

Penalty - A penalty of 1.25% for the entire month will be added on the first day taxes are past due and every month thereafter in which default continues in the year 2025. Interest will be added commencing January 1, 2026 at a rate of 1.25% per month on the first of each month. Payments are applied first to penalty and interest and then to the oldest taxes outstanding until account is current. The tax department has no authority to waive or alter a penalty and/or interest charge for any reason.

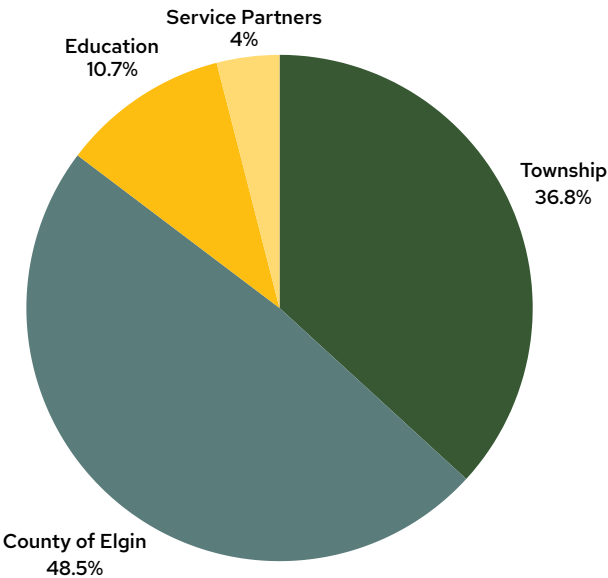
Failure to receive a Tax Bill does not excuse a taxpayer from responsibility for payment nor relieve them of liability for penalty for late payment.

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION – The amount of assessment and the name and address of the person assessed as shown on the face of the Tax Bill are in accordance with the Assessment Roll compiled in 2024 and updated where applicable to date by the Municipal Property Assessment Office. The Township of Southwold is required by statute to send out its Tax Bills strictly in accordance with the information appearing on the Assessment Rolls. It is important that any changes of ownership or tenancy or matters affecting property valuation be called to the attention of the Treasurer and the Municipal Property Assessment Office, at: Westmount Mall, Unit 252, 785 Wonderland Road South, London, Ontario N6K 1M6. For more information regarding assessments phone 1-866-296-6722. Unless this is done, a new owner may not receive a Tax Bill.

2025 Tax Rates

Residential	.01432032
Farmland	.00332427
Commercial	.02974543
Commercial Vacant	.02974543
Large Industrial (Occupied)	.04501962
Large Industrial Vacant	.04501962
Industrial (Occupied)	.03725974
Industrial Vacant	.03725974
Pipeline	.02343980
Managed Forest	.00358008

Share of Residential Tax Rates



To calculate property taxes for a Residential property assessed at \$260,000:
Current Value Assessment multiplied by Tax Rate Equals
Property Taxes
 $\$260,000 \times 0.01432032 = \$3,723.28$

- 36.8% of the residential property tax bill funds Township services
- 48.5% funds County of Elgin
- 4.0% funds Service Partners (OPP, Conservation Authorities)
- 10.7% funds Education

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Please retain the final tax bill for your 2025 Income Tax Return. **NO DUPLICATES OF TAX BILLS WILL BE ISSUED.**

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGETED FOR 2025

Public Works Facility Construction	\$4,750,000
Public Works Fleet & Equipment Replacements	\$246,000
Parks Projects	\$107,605
Talbotville Fire Station Construction Project	\$4,500,000

Road Projects

John Wise Line Rehabilitation	\$480,000
Longhurst Line Rehabilitation	\$420,000
Gravel Road Improvements	\$700,000
Bridges & Culverts	\$910,000
Scotch Line Resurfacing	\$175,000
Elizabeth and John Street Reconstruction	\$600,000
Fingal Streetscape Contribution	\$300,000

911 Signs

It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain their 911 sign. There is a \$50.00 fee for a replacement 911 sign if repairs are not possible. Please check your sign on a regular basis to ensure that the sign is clear of trees, bushes and weeds to enable emergency responders to read your sign.

Drainage

All maintenance required on Municipal Drains must be reported on the Drain Maintenance request form. Forms are available at the Township Office and on the website (southwold.ca). Please provide as much information as possible for identification of the drain and location of the repair site. A hand drawn or GPS map and a marker by the repair site would greatly assist our staff in the field.

September 28, 2025, is
Test Your Smoke Alarm Day!

As part of Test Your Smoke Alarm Day, all Ontarians are encouraged to learn more about smoke alarms, fire safety, and home fire escape planning, which can save the lives of you and your loved ones. Most importantly, we want you to test your smoke alarms!