



March 2024 Newsletter

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Website: www.southwold.ca

Southwold

Public Works, Water & After-Hours Emergencies

For after-hours roads, drainage and animal control, please call 519-671-8915

For after-hours Water and Sewer Emergencies, please contact OCWA at 519-868-0034

For after-hours Water and Sewer Emergencies in Lynhurst and Ferndale, please call 519-631-1680, option 1

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, Danielle Truax, Planner, and Cassandra Loewen, GIS & Asset Management Coordinator. We would also like to congratulate June McLarty on her new position, Deputy Clerk.



Talbotville Fire Hall Project

The Township of Southwold Council, Staff and especially the Southwold Fire Department are excited for the new fire station in Talbotville!

Sitework is to commence in Spring 2024 and Construction is to start Summer 2024. Stay tuned for a Spring groundbreaking event!

The Communities in Bloom will be holding their Annual Plant Sale Saturday, May 25th, 2024 at the Keystone Complex Pavilion. Keep an eye on the Communities in Bloom Facebook page, and Township social media channels for the most up to date information.

Important Tax Dates in 2024: Interim property tax installments are due by Thursday, March 28th and Friday, May 31st, 2024

2024 Total Solar Eclipse: The Township of Southwold will experience a total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8th. Viewing glasses are available for residents at the Township office while supplies last. For more information on solar eclipses, visit: <https://www.elgincounty.ca/2024-total-solar-eclipse>

2023-2027 Strategic Plan

The Township of Southwold has updated its Strategic Plan. Four goals were identified: Managed Growth, Welcoming and Supportive Neighbourhoods, Economic Opportunity, and Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability. For more information on the Strategic Plan, visit southwold.ca/stratplan.

Organics

Organics Collection is coming soon to Talbotville, Ferndale and Lynhurst. Biweekly organics collection will begin mid-May. Specific information, instructions and guidelines will be provided to the collection areas in the near future. Green Bins will be delivered by Township staff before the May start date. We are excited to start this program and continue to promote sustainable end of life practices and waste diversion.



Snapshots: One Act Plays About WW2 and the RCAF Station Fingal are available at the office for purchase. \$20 each, cash only. Tickets for the Saturday, April 20th shows are still available!



Reminder!

Please do not flush "Flushable" wipes. Wipes don't break down and are causing pumps in the Talbotville Waste Water Treatment plant to break.

Payment Options: In person at the Township office - cash, cheque, debit, credit card (a 2% surcharge is charged on all credit card transactions). Online bill payments and telebanking services through your financial institution. Afterhours cheque payments - we have a secure mail slot on the exterior of the office.

Bill Delivery: The Township of Southwold offers email delivery of property tax and utility bills. Forms are available on our website or at the Township office.

Water Bill Due Dates: 2024 Due Dates: April 30, July 31, October 31, 2024 and January 31, 2025. Payment arrangements can be made by contacting the Township office.

Preauthorized Payments - available Monthly and on Due Dates: Preauthorized payment (PAP) plans are available for tax installments and water utility bills. The monthly withdrawal is on the last business day of each month. Please visit our website, or visit the Township office to complete the form to enroll.



Time Change occurs March 10th, which is a great time to change your Smoke & CO Alarm Batteries!

Remember to Test your alarms monthly!

DYK? Alarms must not be more than 10 years old? Check your alarms for Date of Manufacture and/or "Replace By" date.

DYK? You can purchase alarms with 10-year batteries, so you never need to change the battery?

Questions? Contact us anytime at fireprevention@southwold.ca

Greening Communities Program: This program, administered by the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority, gives residents the opportunity to purchase saplings. Please contact Betsy McClure at betsy@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca or 519-631-1270 x 229 for more information.

Volunteer Recognition Award: deadline for nominating a volunteer for the Volunteer Recognition Award is June 30th, every year.

Southwold Scholarship Award: deadline for applying for the Southwold Scholarship Award is July 31st, each year.

Landfill odour complaint: Call Green Lane Landfill at 519-652-0909.

Locates - Call before you dig: If you require a locate for your outdoor project, please contact Ontario One Call at 1-800-400-2255 or visit their website: <https://www.ontarioonecall.ca>.

Streetlights: We rely on our residents to report when streetlights are out. Please call the office to report a streetlight concern. Thank you for your help!

Garbage and Recycling Collection: The 2024 Collection Calendar is available on our website, or in print at the Township office. For missed garbage pick-ups, please contact the Township office, or fill out a request on our website. For missed recycling pick-ups, please contact Waste Connections at 519-691-2206.

Drain Maintenance: We ask that property owners take time in early spring to look at areas on your property where municipal drains are located. Maintenance request submissions in advance of crop planting allows for efficiency in scheduling repairs. There is a drain maintenance request form on our website. If you have any questions on completing a request, please contact the Township office, or email drainage@southwold.ca.

Homeowners connected to Municipal water: It is the homeowner's responsibility to have the water shut-off valve (curbstop) accessible and visible to Municipal Staff at all times. This is so that it can be easily located in the case of an emergency or in the event that the water needs to be turned off at your home.

Half Load Season on Roads: is effective from March 1 to April 30, every year. The weight allowed is reduced on roads and bridges. Farm equipment, including mounted implements, are not subject to the reduced weight rules on "load reduced roads", Class B roads or bridges. However, heavy farm equipment owners are potentially liable if an overweight vehicle causes damage to a highway or bridge.

Municipal Parking By-Law: By-law 2002-4 prohibits parking of any motor vehicle on municipal streets between the hours of 3:00 AM and 5:00 AM year-round. Owners of vehicles that are in contravention of this by-law may be subject to a fine. Any vehicles in contravention of this by-law may be subject to removal at the owner's expense.

MPAC Property Assessment Notices: Update your mailing address online with MPAC. As a property owner, you will receive notices from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation about your property's assessed value. If you want to change your mailing address, you can easily update it on www.mpac.ca.