



For Immediate Release

**RE: Additional Service Changes and COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus)**

**Whitewater Region, Ontario – March 27, 2020**

The Township's Municipal Emergency Control Group, comprised of the Mayor, Reeve, CAO and staff from key areas, meets regularly by teleconference to review the current situation involving COVID-19.

***In addition to the previous media releases (March 13/16, 2020) and service changes listed below, the Township Administration Building at 44 Main Street in Cobden continues to be closed to the public until further notice.***

- *The Acting Fire Chief will be removing the fire ban for a period of 2 weeks commencing immediately. If you have a valid permit, you are required to contact the Township at 613-646-2282 every two weeks, if you are burning. We urge all residents to take the necessary precautions and have the means of extinguishment readily available. An online permit application is available on the Website.*
- *The municipal landfill at 90 Kohlsmith Road is **closed** for the safety of our staff and the general public. Regular residential garbage and recycling should be placed, in keeping with the usual schedule, at curbside. Please disinfect your recycling containers after pick-up and avoid any contact with the curbside contractor staff.*
- *All municipal park facilities remain closed. Play structures are not to be used as they are not sanitized. Only walkthroughs are permitted – while respecting physical (social) distancing.*

The Township continues to maintain essential services, by order of the Provincial Government, as we continue to monitor the situation with guidance from the Health Unit and other levels of government. Essential services including administration, permits, curbside pick-up, fire response, water/sewer, and routine road maintenance continue to operate. Municipal flood preparations are also underway with the securing of sandbags.

***Municipal staff can be contacted by telephone, voicemail or email (contact list available on Website)***

Due dates for taxes, water/wastewater billing and accounts receivable remain unchanged. To provide relief during this difficult time, Council has approved that no penalty will be charged for March and April. With outstanding payments, residents can mail cheques to the Township via regular mail, utilize the afterhours drop box at 44 Main Street, or pay online or at your bank.

The early bird rates for dog tags are extended to May 31. You can purchase your tag at local retailers or on our municipal website, where electronic payment and mailout is available for a fee.

***Residents are directed to the Renfrew County & District Health Unit for information and guidance on COVID-19. Please refer to instructions on how to protect yourself and your family. <https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/>***

- ***Ontario Self-Assessment Tool <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/#q0>***

Additional information will be shared as available on the municipal website.

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Additional information: Add yourself as Emergency Information Officer

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613-646-2282, Ext. 126  
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Michael Moore, Mayor  
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Ivan Burton, Planner/ EDO  
Emergency Information Officer  
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