

For Immediate Release

RE: Outdoor Recreation and Other Updates

Whitewater Region, Ontario - April 1, 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.

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. Municipal flood preparations are also underway.

The Township Administration Building (44 Main Street) and the municipal landfill (990 Kohlsmith Road) remain closed for the safety of staff and the general public until further notice. **Municipal staff can be contacted by telephone, voicemail or email (contact list available on Website).**

The Township provides the following service and information updates:

The Province of Ontario has issued a new emergency order to close all outdoor recreational amenities, effective immediately. *The following facilities are now closed:*

- **Ball Diamonds:** Beachburg, Cobden, Foresters Falls, Westmeath
- **Beaches:** Cobden, Little Lakes
- **Boat Launches:** Ottawa River (LaPasse, Westmeath, Acres Road) Muskrat Lake/River (Cobden/Highway 17)
- **Facilities:** Beachburg, Cobden and Westmeath Arenas, Cobden Beach House, Foresters Falls Recreation Facility (incl. Ball Diamond Washrooms), Tourist Booth
- **Playgrounds/Parks:** Beachburg, Foresters Falls, Haley Townsite, Lapase and Veterans Memorial Parks
- **Trails and Open Space:** Cobden Marsh Interpretive Trail and Westmeath Scenic Lookout

Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) has launched to strengthen access to primary care for all Renfrew County residents. The RC VTAC is a collaboration between Renfrew County Primary Care teams, the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, Renfrew County Hospitals, and the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, with the support of Ontario Health East.

*If a person does not have a family physician or cannot access their family physician, direct them to call the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre at **1-844-727-6404** for care and support from a nurse practitioner, family physician and/or community paramedic. Learn more at www.rcvtac.ca.*

County of Renfrew Declares State of Emergency - On March 30, 2020, Renfrew County Warden Debbie Robinson declared a state of emergency due to the global COVID-19 pandemic across the entirety of the County of Renfrew under the Emergency Management and Protection Act. This declaration of emergency will further assist the County of Renfrew in maintaining essential services and addressing the increasing threat of the COVID 19 outbreak in an effective manner. The declaration also evokes the County of Renfrew Emergency Response Plan and its Emergency Operations Centre.

For up to date information and guidance on COVID-19, residents are directed to the Renfrew County & District Health Unit website at www.rcdhu.ca or the Province of Ontario's site at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>.

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

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Additional information:

Robert Tremblay, CAO
613-646-2282, Ext. 126
rtremblay@whitewaterregion.ca

Michael Moore, Mayor
613-585-1609
mayormoore@whitewaterregion.ca

Ivan Burton, Planner/ EDO
Emergency Information Officer
613-646-2282, Ext. 124
iburton@whitewaterregion.ca

Jordan Durocher
Manager of Parks & Recreation
613-646-2282, Ext.122
jdurocher@whitewaterregion.ca