



For Immediate Release

RE: Provincial Covid-19 Lockdown and Municipal Services

Whitewater Region, Ontario – April 1, 2021

With a provincial lockdown announced today which takes effect on Saturday, the Township has reviewed impacts on services and operations. New requirements and orders are expected to be in place until at least the end of April.

<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/60986/ontario-implements-provincewide-emergency-brake>

Mayor Moore stated, “with variants of concern now in Renfrew County, I urge our residents to stay safe. Where possible, please support local businesses and continue to respect public health guidance. We are doing our best to ensure the continued provision of municipal services.”

The Township’s Emergency Control Group, which includes Mayor Moore, CAO Tremblay and senior staff met yesterday to review operations. The following provides a summary of services:

- Council will meet electronically in April. Meetings are scheduled for April 7, 14 and 21. They will be conducted virtually via zoom and broadcasted on the Township’s YouTube page.
- Access to the Municipal Office’s front counter will be by appointment only. Please call in advance 613-646-2282. Staff will be available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., except for Good Friday and Easter Monday. A staff directory with contact information is available on our website.
- Payments can be mailed or dropped off in the after-hours drop box. Pre-Authorized Payment plans are also available. Electronic payments through your financial institution are encouraged. Please contact Kim Peterson, Deputy Treasurer at kpeterson@whitewaterregion.ca or Ext. 129 for more information.
- Normal road maintenance activities continue with no impact. Any concerns can be reported to the Randy Buckwalt, Road Superintendent at rbuckwalt@whitewaterregion.ca or 613-639-2621.
- Existing building permits remain in effect and inspections can be coordinated by contacting Doug Schultz, Chief Building Official or Debbie Ready, Community Development Coordinator. Complete Building Permit applications can be submitted to dready@whitewaterregion.ca or dropped off for review to avoid any delays. Call Ext. 121 for more information.
- Licenses can be submitted and dropped off, including kennel, recreational vehicle, lottery, and backyard chickens. Contact: Carmen Miller, Clerk/CEMC cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca or call Ext. 123.
- No indoor gatherings are permitted in municipal facilities. Community halls will remain closed. Arena facilities are closed.
- Outdoor gatherings cannot exceed 5. Outdoor recreation (parks, playgrounds) remains available while respecting physical distancing, along with mask wearing. No team sports are permitted.
- Park operations have started, and parks and municipal boat launches will be formally opened in May. More information will be shared later. Contact Jordan Durocher, Manager of Parks & Recreation for further information at jdurocher@whitewaterregion.ca or Ext. 122.
- Government related meetings are permitted; however, they will be held electronically until further notice.

- Please contact the Library directly for hours and services (Cobden – 613-646-7592, Beachburg – 613-582-7090, Foresters Falls – 613-646-2543).
- Dog tags can be purchased through the website at the present time. Early bird rates ended on March 31. If your dog is found without a tag, a fine can be charged. More importantly, a tag allows us to reunite lost dogs with their owners.
- At the landfill, payment using debit is now available. To keep staff safe, wear a mask when entering the landfill. Payment by cash and cheque remains available. Avoid unnecessary trips and use curbside collection when you can. For more information, please contact Steve Hodson, Superintendent of Environmental Services, shodson@whitewaterregion.ca or Ext. 127.
- Curbside collection of recycling and household garbage is not impacted by provincial measures. Please note changes to the collection schedule the week of April 6 due to Easter Monday. Collection is delayed by one day and comingled recycling is being collected this week.
- The Fire department is available for emergency response. Fire permits can be renewed online. Do not burn without a permit. For those without internet access, call the municipal office.
- The Township is monitoring seasonal melt and potential flooding. Sandbags are on hand if needed. Concerns or questions can be directed to Carmen Miller, Clerk/CEMC at cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca or Ext. 123. Info on river water levels can be found here: www.ottawariver.ca. Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry bulletins will be posted on our website when available.

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/>

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

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Additional information:

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Michael Moore, Mayor
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