

Essa Township Newsletter

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Administration Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

2023 – Volume 1



Essa Township Council – 2022-2026 Term

Left to Right – Councillor Pieter Kiezebrink, Deputy Mayor Mike Smith, Mayor Sandie Macdonald, Councillor Henry Sander, Councillor Liana Maltby

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

Essa Council would like to wish everyone all the very best for 2023. A warm welcome to all our new residents and businesses who now call Essa home. Our important goal for Essa Council is to continue to create a strong, informed and connected Township. We hope you are taking in all that Essa has to offer such as trails, fishing and public skating at the Thornton and Angus Arenas. Join the fans for Essa Minor Hockey Eagles and Thornton Minor Hockey Tigers games – to cheer on our youth; it is a lot of fun! Come out on Monday and Thursday mornings at 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. to the Angus Arena for the free Walking and Exercise Club hosted by Sandie. Watch our great local talent in plays and dance through Music in Motion Angus and so much more. You are now able to pay for more Township services online. We are pleased to have new businesses opening, and we recently celebrated a resident's milestone 60th anniversary.

We are very fortunate to have outstanding Township employees, and every day we see the results of their commitment in delivering excellent services to our residents. Council and Staff are busy working diligently on budget deliberations and hiring of new staff to fill vacant positions.

Our sincere personal thanks goes out to you, the residents, for caring about Essa Township. You have not only been diligent in investing in the Township by shopping local first, but you have generously given your time through volunteering in your community. No township can be its best without committed and compassionate people coming together and focusing on common goals.

Residents, our number one complaint is speeding on our roads - please help us by doing the posted speed limit to keep everyone safe.

Lastly, as we embark on 2023 we look ahead to a new year filled with opportunities. Essa Council encourages and welcomes input from our residents. From all of us a heartfelt thank you to our military and emergency services that work daily to protect our great country Canada and all Canadians.

May the rest of your winter be filled with fun and laughter, stay safe!

Kind Regards,
Mayor Sandie Macdonald, Deputy Mayor Mike Smith,
Councillors Pieter Kiezebrink, Henry Sander and Liana Maltby

Council

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Upcoming Due Dates:

Taxes:

March 29, 2023

June 28, 2023

Water and Sewer:

April 28, 2023

July 31, 2023

Payments can be made at most financial institutions using tele-payment or online banking options.

In person with Debit, Cash or Cheque can be made the Administration Centre. A Drop Box is available at the Administration Centre upper and lower-level doors for payments made during Office Closures.

Pre-Authorized Payments can also be arranged. Payments must be received by the due date to avoid penalties.

Increased Online Services - The Township of Essa is excited to advise that it has increased its online services to accept online payments for a variety of services such as parking tickets, dog tags, burn permits, fishing access passes, moving/heavy load permits, road occupancy permits, entrance permits, and a whole lot more.

Additionally, Essa's new Virtual City Hall (VCH) portal is set to go live soon. VCH will provide residents with the ability to access their property tax and/or water accounts at their own convenience, 24-7. The portal will also allow residents to make online payments to their property tax and/or water accounts. Stay tuned to our social media channels for the "go-live" launch of VCH.

Stay Informed and Up to Date! - If you haven't already done so, consider subscribing to the [News Feed](#) and the [Community Calendar](#) on Essa's website. This will allow you to receive notifications by email when the Township posts news and events. Contact 705-424-9917 ext. 101 if you need assistance.

What's New in Essa's Parks? - The Parks and Recreation Department is excited to promote Public Shiny and Public Skating. Times, dates, locations, and black-out dates can all be found on the Township website.

The department is also hard at work navigating the logistics of opening the Thornton Union Cemetery for plot purchases. The department has also assumed the responsibility and ownership of the Angus Union Cemetery as of January 1st. For any inquiries regarding cemeteries, please reach out to our Cemetery Administrator at (705) 424-9917 ext. 121 or by email at sgreene@essatownship.on.ca.

The Parks and Recreation Department is always looking for new and creative initiatives to serve the community. If you would like to share your ideas on what you would like to see in our parks, contact the Parks Administrator at (705) 424-9917 ext. 107 or by email at bwhite@essatownship.on.ca.

Transportation & Trails Master Plan - The Township is working to develop a Transportation and Trails Master Plan that will assist in developing transportation infrastructure needed to accommodate future growth. The Plan will identify infrastructure improvements for active transportation, trails, and road networks. Engagement will include interacting with stakeholders & Township Committees. Watch our website for upcoming Public Consultation Sessions!

Official Plan Update - Legislative changes resulting from Bill 23 (More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022) are affecting the schedule of the Township Official Plan Update. Please visit the Township's 'Official Plan Review' page on the Township's website to keep updated on the project's progress or email us at officialplan@essatownship.on.ca with any questions or comments you have.

Additional Residential Units Program - The Township is excited to work with all residents looking to legalize and create Additional Residential Units (aka Secondary Suites) in a safe and timely manner. Please contact Steven Walmsley, Building Inspector-ARU Official, at swalmsley@essatownship.on.ca for more details!

What's Happening at the Library this Spring? - Your library card gives you access to our physical and digital collections including books, kitchen items, puzzles, board games, maker kits to keep you learning and entertained. Come in to visit our friendly spaces where you can Imagine, Discover, and Connect. Check out our website for programs for all ages. www.essa.library.on.ca . **Imagine, Discover, and Connect.**

Reminders to Residents

Paperless E-Billing for Property Taxes and Utility Bills

Tired of receiving paper bills for your property taxes and water bills? Consider opting to receive paperless bills instead. For more information or to sign up, visit our website to fill out our online form.

Alertable Notifications

Sign up for Essa's mass notification system so that you receive notifications directly from the municipality. Such notifications will inform you of important happenings such as road closures, burn bans, watering restrictions, emergency situations, and more!! Stay safe, plan ahead, and save time. Visit www.essatownship.on.ca or our Facebook page (@essatownship) to sign up today!

Dogs Running at Large

Reminder to residents that dogs are not permitted to run at large. By-law 2006-18 regulates the control of dogs and is being strictly enforced. Owners of dogs found running at large are subject to fines. Purchase your 2023 Dog Tag(s), now available for purchase [online](#).

Burn Permits

Recreational burning is permitted as per By-law 2015-92 once a permit has been purchased. Purchase your Burn Permit [online](#), or visit the Administration Centre.

Street Lights

If you notice malfunctioning streetlights, please contact our Public Works Department at extension 112 or 127.

Spring Water Main flushing

Municipal water users are advised that flushing of drinking water mains will take place at the following locations and time periods:

Angus: Apr 24 – May 5, 2023
Thornton: Apr 24 – Apr 28, 2023
Baxter: Apr 24 – Apr 28, 2023