



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

Phone: 613-658-3055
Fax: 613-658-3445
Toll Free: 866-848-9099
E-mail: mail@twpec.ca

P.O. Box 129,
18 Centre St.
Spencerville, Ontario
K0E 1X0

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, March 20th, 2020

For Immediate Release

RE: UPDATE: Township Services during COVID-19 Pandemic

The Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) of Edwardsburgh Cardinal met on Wednesday, March 20th to discuss the rapidly evolving situation related to the COVID-19 virus. We continue to monitor information from medical professionals at the Ministry of Health and the Leeds Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit and will continue to take precautionary measures. While this is not “business as usual” for any of us, our staff are working to assist you and maintain essential services within TWPEC. We have set up a dedicated webpage to township service updates during the COVID-19 pandemic so that residents can easily find any changes or new information related to township operations and services. Please visit us at www.twpec.ca/covid19.

Our municipal office remains open to the public by appointment only. Please phone or email our office before visiting. Township staff will do their best to help you remotely, or schedule an appointment as necessary. **We can be reached at (613)658-3055.** Tax payments can be made through online banking where possible by setting up “Edwardsburgh/Cardinal” as a payee with your online banking provider, using your property roll number as your account number. We also accept mailed cheques to PO Box 129, Spencerville ON K0E 1X0. Staff can also help you to set up interest-free pre-authorized monthly payments if you would prefer to pay in installments.

Our Fire Department is taking extra precautions to protect our Fire Fighters. All public events have been cancelled and our volunteers will continue their training online. We are working closely with our neighbouring departments, and are committed to supporting each other. **If you phone 9-1-1, and you require emergency support, you will receive it.** For non-emergencies related to the COVID-19 virus, we encourage you to reach out to the Health Unit at 613-345-5685 or Telehealth Ontario 1-866-797-0000. Burn Permits can be obtained online at no cost by visiting www.ec.burnpermits.com. Please call 613-658-3001 x1 for assistance with burn permits. Remember to phone the burn permit hotline 613-704-2699 before burning, and check that there are no bans in place.

All indoor recreation facilities are closed to the public with the exception of the *Food For All Food Bank* and *Good Food Basket* program operating out of the Cardinal Library and Ingredient Centre. Our Facilities Staff have gone above and beyond their regular duties to help with extra cleaning/disinfecting to support these groups and our office staff so that we can safely maintain essential operations for TWPEC residents. We do not encourage the use of our outdoor play structures at this time. We do encourage you to check out *Children's Services of United Counties of Leeds and Grenville* on facebook for kid-friendly activities while practicing physical distancing.

Our **Public Works** department is operating as scheduled, and will commence road work as weather permits. **Garbage/Recycling curbside collection is on schedule**; township bags can



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be purchased from any of our community partners listed on our website. Please ensure your bags are tied tightly to prevent spills and protect the collectors. **The Scott Road Transfer Station** is open for regular hours, although staff will be limiting the number of people allowed on site for public safety. Residents are encouraged to purchase payments cards for the transfer station online, or phone the Township office at (613)658-3055 to make other arrangements.

Our Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants are operating regularly. We do not anticipate any disruption to services. We recognize that residents are using more disposable wipes around the house lately as we all take extra precautions. Please be aware that **no wipes, whether they say flushable or not, should be disposed of by flushing down the toilet.** They may go down the drain with ease but have the capacity to bind with fats, grease and oils and wreak havoc on Waste Water infrastructure, clog sewer mains, Residential Sewer laterals and private septic systems. Unlike toilet paper, wipes are designed and fabricated to be durable and resilient. Toilet paper on the other hand is fabricated to disintegrate quickly. All manner of wipes should be properly disposed of with regular household garbage. Considering the additional stress of somewhat uncertain times, the last thing anyone needs to deal with is the additional stress of backed up sewers.

We applaud our local businesses for taking extra steps to protect their employees, customers and community. The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville has set up a webpage where our business owners can find information, updates and resources during these extraordinary circumstances. www.invest.leedsgrenville.com/covid19 will be updated regularly by the Economic Development Office. **To all members of the TWPEC community, please join us in supporting our local businesses.** You can help by purchasing gift cards, ordering take-out, and sharing their online ads.

We are touched by the extra efforts our residents are taking to support each other during these times. Social or physical distancing does not mean that you can't connect by phone or social media. Please continue to reach out to your neighbours and offer to help.

For more information, contact our office at 613-658-3055.