

# Otonabee-South Monaghan an OSM Township

P.O. Box 70, 20 Third Street, Keene, Ontario K0L 2G0

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info@osmtownship.ca • www.osmtownship.ca • Facebook & Twitter @OSMTownship

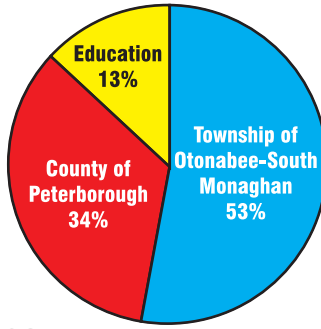
# NEWSLETTER

## SUMMER/FALL 2024

### Property Tax

Property taxes fund Education, the County of Peterborough and the Township. For residential ratepayers, the taxes paid to the Township are shared as follows:

- Education 13%
- County 32%
- Township 53%



### 2024 Final Tax Bill Due Dates

Friday July 26 & Friday Sept 27

Please note that a 1.25% penalty is imposed on unpaid balances on the 1st day of each and every month the default continues. Township staff do not have the authority to waive penalties.

### Flat rates for Area Services on the Tax Bill

Annual Rate for:

- ✓ Curbside Pick Up (island and vacant lands excluded)  
\$ 55.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ For owners of properties served by the Municipal Water Systems in Keene and Stewart Hall  
\$ 2,311.00 per household
- ✓ For Burnham Meadow property owners served by sewer systems:  
\$ 1,185.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ Swimming Pool Surcharge  
\$ 117.00 per household in Keene and Stewart Hall
- ✓ Street Light Service Areas are rated by community area

**Payments** - Payment options are listed on the reverse side of your tax bill as well as on the Township website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca) under "Payment Options" or please call or visit the Township office for more information. Pre-authorized payment plans are available. If paying through internet banking, please allow 2-3 business days for us to receive payment to ensure your payment is not received late. You can also pay by credit card online through Paymentus.

### Property Tax Grant for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities

If you are a senior on the guaranteed income supplement or a person on a disability pension, you may qualify for a property tax grant. This grant covers permanent year round residences only. The County of Peterborough runs the program and it is administered by the Township. Proof of eligibility is required. Applications will be available on our website and in the office by approximately the end of September and must be submitted by November 15, 2024.

### Budget 2024

The 2024 **Total Township Budget** is \$13,438,654 which includes operating costs of \$8,521,584, capital plan projects of \$3,089,700 and \$1,827,371 provision for reserves to fund future infrastructure replacement. The **2024 Total Township Tax Levy** is \$7,239,352 with the balance funded through grants, user fees, development charges, reserve transfers and other revenue. This translates into a 2.97% increase in the Township tax rate. Each property is impacted differently based on the assessed value determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. Assessment increases are generally phased in over four years. For more information about assessment, please check out the MPAC website at [www.mpac.ca](http://www.mpac.ca). To find out more about your particular property assessment, register online at [www.aboutmyproperty.ca](http://www.aboutmyproperty.ca). A breakdown showing any assessment-related tax increase is provided on every tax bill.

### Building Department

The building department is now utilizing the on-line Cloud Permit and Planning process to make the application and communication process more modern. A direct link to make an application through cloudpermit can be found on the Township website.

When considering a renovation, alteration, change of use, addition, new build, swimming pool, or, adding a secondary suite please call the Building Department at 705-295-6852 ext 233 to discuss the details of your project. We can answer any questions that would relate to applying for a building/renovation permit, provide the requirements for drawings, zoning, septic system setbacks, and Otonabee Conservation Authority for your application.

#### Building permits are required for the following:

- Additions, renovations, or alteration to a house, adding a secondary suite
- New industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings
- Change of use to existing buildings
- Making new openings for larger windows/doors
- Swimming pool
- Decks, fireplaces, adding plumbing fixtures, finishing a basement.
- Tents greater than 60 sq m (646 sq.ft.) in ground area (including multiple tents).
- Demolition of part or whole structures

#### Building permits are not required for the following:

- Roof re-shingling
- Replacement of existing, same-size windows and doors, hot water tank, furnace
- Replacing exterior siding
- Minor Interior renovations such as replacing cabinetry
- Accessory shed under 15 sq.m (161 sq.ft.) but must conform to zoning setbacks
- Demolition of a building located on a farm



**For a more complete list and additional information visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca).**

### Development Charges for 2024

The 2024 phased in Township Development Charges under By-Law No. 2020-60 are as follows:

Residential – All dwelling units \$11,117

Non-Residential – \$4.53/square foot

Note: The Township also collects development charges for the County of Peterborough, PVNCCDSB and KPRDSB Educational Boards (not included in the above prices)

### News & Notices



Watch for details on community events and recreational registrations by following us on Twitter and Facebook at @OSMTownship. All community news & events can also be found on our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca).

Running a community program or event? Submit the details to us by email at [info@osmtownship.ca](mailto:info@osmtownship.ca) and your event may be promoted on our website, LED sign, Facebook or Twitter, provided it meets the Electronic Information (LED) Sign Policy.

Weekly Township News Bulletins are posted Monday mornings on our website as well as shared to social media. They highlight meetings, news, events and reminders

### DEPARTMENTS

**Municipal Administration** - 705-295-6852 / 1-800-999-4861

**Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk**, Heather Scott Ext. 223

**Deputy Clerk**, Liz Ross Ext. 214

**Deputy Treasurer**, Kira Feilders Ext. 216

**Tax Inquiries** - 705-295-6852

**Accounting and Tax Clerk**, Shannon Neto Ext. 210

**Building Department** - 705-295-6852

**Director of Building Services (CBO)**, Paul Monks Ext. 222

**Junior Planner**, Emily Baker Ext. 232

**Building Inspector**, Steve Wigboldus Ext. 212

**Building & Planning Assistant**, Christine Zurosky Ext. 233

**Parks & Recreation Department** - 705-295-6862

**Recreation, Parks & Facilities Manager**, Mike Nelson

**Public Works Department** - 705-745-3595 - **Director of Public Works**, Craig Brooks

**Dog Control** - 705-939-6791 / 1-866-709-6083 - **Dog Control Officer**, Debra Haigh

**Fire and Emergency Services** - 705-295-6880

**Fire Chief/CEMC**, Chuck Parsons Ext. 217

**Fire Admin/Public Education/Fire Prevention Officer**, Cara Wood Ext. 215

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Mayor Joe Taylor** 705-295-4886 [mayor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:mayor@osmtownship.ca)

**Deputy Mayor Bonnie Clark** 705-295-4434 [deputymayor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:deputymayor@osmtownship.ca)

**Councillors -**

**at Large Mark Allen** 705-295-1544 [atlargecouncillor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:atlargecouncillor@osmtownship.ca)

**Otonabee Ward Nick Powers** 705-875-8245 [otonabecouncillor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:otonabecouncillor@osmtownship.ca)

**South Monaghan Ward**

**Terry Holmes** 416-899-0740 [southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca)

## Fire Safety

### Smoke & Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

Do you know that smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms expire? You need to replace smoke and CO alarms according to manufacturer instructions. Replacing alarms is required every 7-10 years, depending on the alarm type.

If your alarms do not have a sticker indicating a replacement date, it is likely due for replacement. These replacement identifying stickers have been placed on alarms for over 10 years now.

When replacing alarms remember that you are required to replace your alarms with the same level of protection that was installed at the time of construction of your home.

For example, if you have hard-wired interconnected alarms with strobe lights, you cannot go to a stand-alone battery alarm. You must replace the alarms with the same level of protection that is existing.



### Alarm Door-to-Door Checks

Members of the Otonabee-South Monaghan Fire Department, identifiable in uniform and with photo id, will be heading out to knock on some doors between June 15 and September 15, to conduct the door-to-door remote area smoke alarm program.

If they are in your area and knock on your door, please be reminded that this is a service for your benefit. Smoke alarms save lives, but only if they are operating and installed in the proper locations within your home.

Ensure you have your smoke & CO alarms working and installed properly, even if we do not knock on your door this year. Smoke alarms are to be located on every level of your home and outside of all sleeping areas.

**Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms** are to be located adjacent to all sleeping areas in homes with fireplaces, fossil-fuel burning appliances or that have an attached garage.

When replacing alarms, consider using combination smoke/CO alarms with a 10-year sealed battery to save you from having to change batteries each year.

Be reminded that these alarms still need to be tested monthly. Please contact the Fire Department Administration Office if you have any questions about your alarms or require assistance changing batteries or alarms.

**Saved by the Beep** – Test your Smoke Alarm day is taking place on September 28, 2024. Smoke Alarms should be tested every month. Get in the habit of testing your alarms at the end of each month.

The week of Sept. 23, be sure to follow us on social media and the OSM Township website, as we promote this worth-while initiative in fire safety. And don't forget to test your smoke alarms on September 28th!



### Open-Air Burning

Campfires do not require a burn permit in OSM Township. However, you are still required to follow the requirements of the open-air burning by-law #2022-50. This by-law can be found on the OSM Township website, or you can obtain a copy by calling the Fire Department Administration Office for a copy to be emailed to you.

When you are enjoying a campfire or recreational fire, please be reminded that the only burnable items are wood and wood by-products.

And please be mindful of the smoke and how it could be affecting your neighbours. If it is possible that the air is heavier than normal, preventing the smoke from clearing the area, and that it could be impacting someone nearby with a health issue or aversion to smoky air, please consider dousing the fire to mitigate the extra smoke until the air is lighter.

Be reminded that burn barrels are not permitted in OSM Township.

### Emergency Management

**Plan for Every Season** – practice emergency preparedness throughout the whole year and ensure you are prepared of the unique challenges that can face us in our community. For additional resources and information please visit: [www.osmtownship.ca/beprepared](http://www.osmtownship.ca/beprepared)

### Voyent Alert!

Have you registered yet for



If you have not yet registered for Voyent Alert!, register today to help you stay informed about emergency alerts and day-to-day information in our community.

You can choose to be alerted by way of:

• mobile app, • text/SMS, • Email and/or • Voice calling to a landline.

Register by downloading the app, or visit: <https://register.voyentalert.com>

If you require assistance registering, please contact the Fire Department Administration office at 705-295-6880 Ext. 215 or

[fireadmin@osmtownship.ca](mailto:fireadmin@osmtownship.ca)

## Garbage and Recycling

**OSM Transfer Station** - 1594 Drummond Line, 705-749-2331  
Hours: Mon. & Fri. 1-6 pm / Wed. 9 am - 6 pm / Sat. 9 am - 3 pm

### Garbage Collection Inquiries/Missed Collection

Waste Connections Canada – 705-742-4268 or  
[Marilyn.jewer@wasteconnections.com](mailto:Marilyn.jewer@wasteconnections.com) or  
[Stephen.bye@wasteconnections.com](mailto:Stephen.bye@wasteconnections.com)



**Clear Garbage Bag Program.** Thank you to all residents for helping to make this program a continued success. The Township is very pleased to report that since the launch of the program there has been a significant decline in waste generation and a huge increase in recycling. Garbage can be left at the curb or can be taken to the Drummond Line Transfer Station for a fee in the following ways: 1) in a clear bag in a garbage container; 2) in a clear bag; or 3) in an opaque small grocery size privacy bag to shield private items. **Garbage must be at the road before 7:00am to avoid missing collection.** For clear bag program details please see the Township website [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca).

### Peterborough County provides waste reduction services to all residents.

The County of Peterborough website ([www.ptbocounty.ca/recycling](http://www.ptbocounty.ca/recycling)) has a Searchable Waste Portal to find information regarding recycling and garbage collection schedules as well as a recycling and disposal information tab that will assist you in finding the appropriate place for your recyclables.

### Recycling Program – Circular Materials Ontario (CMO)

For missed recycling collection call Emterra Environmental at 1-888-597-1541

### Remember the Big Three when recycling:

1. **Have your blue boxes to the road by 7am.**
2. Sort your materials into 2 boxes, Containers and Papers.
  - ✓ Use as many boxes as needed, as long as Containers, and Papers are in separate boxes.
3. Keep recycling loose in Blue Boxes.
  - ✓ Bagged recycling will not be collected.

### Special Provisions for Individuals with a Medical Condition

The Application for Medical (Non-Hazardous) Waste Exception – Curbside Waste Collection can be found at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca) on the Garbage page.

## Recreation, Parks and Facilities

### Parks and Conservation Areas

Our Township is proud to offer several parks and playgrounds for residents to enjoy. Whether you're looking for a place for your children to play, a spot to connect with nature, or a perfect picnic location, we have something for everyone.

Visit our revitalized Otonabee-South Monaghan Memorial Community Centre

Are you looking for a place to enjoy your favourite recreational activities? Look no further than our newly revitalized Community Centre! We are excited to offer a variety of programs to keep you active and engaged.

### Summer Services:

- ✓ Ball Hockey – Sharpen your skills and enjoy the fast-paced action.
- ✓ Lacrosse – Join us for a game of Canada's national summer sport.
- ✓ **Pickleball (drop-in)** – Try out our newly added service and discover why this sport is quickly gaining popularity! Visit our website event calendar for dates and times!

### As we transition into fall/winter, the ice will be back in for:

- ✓ Public Skating: Skate in a fun and family-friendly environment.
- ✓ Hockey: Whether you are part of a team or just looking for a pick-up game, we've got you covered.
- ✓ Curling: Experience the strategy and excitement of curling with friends and family

### Outdoor Sports Fields

Our Township is proud to offer a total of four sports fields and one soccer field, catering to a variety of athletic and recreational activities. Whether you're an aspiring baseball star or a soccer enthusiast, our facilities provide a great experience for players and spectators alike. With well-maintained fields located in beautiful park settings, our township is the perfect place to stay active while enjoying some friendly competition. For more information including locations and field availability, visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca)

### Community Halls and Events

Our township offers a variety of community halls perfect for hosting all sorts of events. Whether you're planning a wedding, a Jack and Jill, a corporate meeting, or a family reunion, our versatile spaces can accommodate your needs and make your event truly special.

### Upcoming Summer and Fall Events and Updates:

- ✓ Public Skating – 2024/2025 Season begins September 2024
- ✓ Minor Hockey Registration – [www.otonabeewolves.com](http://www.otonabeewolves.com) for more info.
- ✓ Youth Girls Hockey Registration – [www.keenewolverines.com](http://www.keenewolverines.com) for more information
- ✓ Otonabee Skating Club Registration – [www.otonabeeskatingclub.ca](http://www.otonabeeskatingclub.ca) for more information

For more information including locations, booking details and availability, visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca)