

# Otonabee-South Monaghan an OSM Township

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

Tel: (705) 295-6852 • Toll Free 705 area code only: (800) 999-4861 • Fax: (705) 295-6405  
info@osmtownship.ca • www.osmtownship.ca • Facebook & Twitter @OSMTownship

# NEWSLETTER

## WINTER/SPRING 2025

### Interim Taxes Due Dates:

**Friday, February 28, 2025**

**Friday, April 25, 2025**

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.

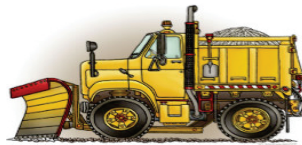


#### Payment Options

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. When paying through online banking, allow 3 business days for the payment to be processed by your bank in order to avoid late penalties. The best way to ensure payments are received by the Township on-time is to sign up for preauthorized payments. Sign up forms are available online at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca) under 'Payment Options' or at the Township office.

### Public Works

Equipped with plows, sand and salt, the Public Works Department clear your roads and sidewalks as quickly and effectively as possible. Routes are set so that one complete cycle can be done within a five to eight hour time period. There are strict laws that govern hours of work and hours of driving time, therefore careful planning is required for handling each snow/ice storm. The Public Works Department appreciates everyone's cooperation and patience during winter snow removal.



#### Reminders:

- ✓ The Highway Traffic Act Section 170, Subsection 12, states *no person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway*. Motorists who breach these winter parking regulations may be towed and will be responsible for all costs incurred.
- ✓ The Highway Traffic Act Section 181, Part X states *no person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing so to do from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road*.

#### Road Jurisdiction

Roads within the Township are maintained by different governing bodies. Typically, higher volume roads are owned and maintained by the Province or the County of Peterborough. Provincial highways and County roads will receive more frequent plowing and sanding than roads maintained by the Township. Township roads are maintained in accordance with the Township's Level of Service Policy. The Township does not maintain private roads.

#### Street Signs & Streetlights

If you notice a missing or damaged street sign or malfunctioning streetlight, please contact the Township Office at 705-295-6852 to report.

**Locates** - Call before you dig to locate underground infrastructure. Ontario One Call 1-800-400-2255 or visit [ontarioonecall.ca](http://ontarioonecall.ca).

#### 24-Hour Public Works Emergency Phone Number

24-Hour Public Works Emergency Phone Number "705-926-0223" this number is to be used **only** for roads or water related **emergencies**. All non-emergency Township Road maintenance or drinking water related issues in Keene Heights, Crystal Springs or Elgeti Systems should continue to contact the Municipal Office 705-295-6852 or the Public Works garage at 705-745-3595.

### 2025 Budget

The **2025 Total Township Budget** is \$14,048,222 which includes operating costs of \$9,042,531, capital plan projects of \$2,826,500 and \$2,179,190 provision for reserves to fund future infrastructure replacement. The **2025 Total Township Tax Levy** is \$7,784,963 with the balance funded through grants, user fees, development charges, reserve transfers and other revenue.

This results in a 5.2931% increase in the Township tax rate. Each property is impacted differently based on the assessed value determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and the property type. For more information about how your property is assessed, please visit the MPAC site 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). Any assessment-related tax increases are identified on your property tax bill.

### Building Department

The building department is now utilizing the on-line Cloudpermit process for all building permit application and planning applications. 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 extension 233 to discuss the details of your project. We can answer questions and provide direction related to the building permit process; and provide the requirements for your application.

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

- New residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings
- Residential, industrial, commercial and institutional additions, renovations, or alterations.
- Secondary dwelling units, garden suites, additional residential units.
- On-site sewage systems.
- Change of use to existing buildings.
- New plumbing and/or HVAC systems, and alterations/expansions to existing plumbing and/or HVAC systems.
- Private swimming pool enclosures and public swimming pools.
- Accessory structures: garages, decks, sheds, gazebos, porches, etc.
- Solid fuel burning appliances: Wood burning stove, pellet stove, etc.
- 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:

- Replacement of existing finished roofing materials.
- Replacement of existing, same-size windows and doors, hot water tank, furnace equipment replacement.
- Replacing exterior finish cladding materials.
- Utility 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 2025

The 2025 Township Development Charges under By-Law No. 2020-60 are as follows:

**Residential** (Single and Semi-detached) \$11,479.87

**Non-Residential** (per sq ft of building space) \$4.68

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

### DEPARTMENTS

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

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

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

**Director of Finance/Treasurer**, Dane Smith Ext. 211

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

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

**Accounting and Tax Clerk**, Jessica Glendinning Ext. 210

**Building & Planning Department** - 705-295-6852

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

**Deputy Chief Building Official**, John Smallwood Ext. 231

**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 and 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)

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

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

**Councillor for South Monaghan Ward** - Terry Holmes 416-899-0740, [southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca](mailto:southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca)

## Garbage and Recycling

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

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

## News & Notices

Watch for details on community events and recreational registrations by following us on Twitter and Facebook at @OSMTownship.

All community news and 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.



## Rabies Clinics

Please check our website for updates at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca) or contact Dog Control at 705-939-6791

## Dog Tag Renewal

Dog tags are good for life but must be renewed annually. Invoices are mailed in January and are due upon receipt. New and replacement dog tags can only be purchased at the Township Office.



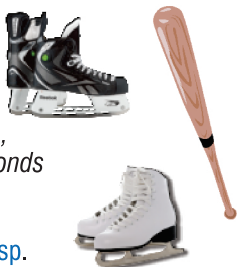
## Parks, Recreation and Facilities

Otonabee South Monaghan Township offers *banquet facilities, ice surfaces (hockey & curling), ball hockey/lacrosse facilities, and baseball diamonds for rent.* To view availability and complete an online booking request, visit <https://app.booking.ca/osmtownshippub/index.asp>.

### Winter and Spring Events and Updates:

- ✓ Public Skating – Thursdays @ 3:00pm – 5:00pm and Sundays @ 2:30pm – 3:30pm
- ✓ Seniors Skating – Tuesdays @ 10:00am – 11:00am
- ✓ Men's, Women's and Mixed 3-Pitch Leagues – Visit our OSM website for information on registration.
- ✓ OSM Parks and Recreation Master Plan! For more information, visit: <http://www.osmtownship.ca/parksrecmp>

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



## Fire Services

### Smoke & Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms - Alarming Facts

34% of the homes checked during the OSM Fire Department's door-to-door smoke/CO alarm program, were found non-compliant for smoke and/or CO alarms.

The Fire Department and its members feel very strongly about this program and commit as much time as they can to go door-to-door to assist residents. However, it is important to remember that the proper installation and maintenance of smoke and carbon monoxides alarms in your home are your responsibility.

Would your home be considered compliant if the Fire Department knocked on your door today? Smoke and CO alarms are the law! The life you save just might be your own.

Things to remember: Always follow the manufacturer instructions with your specific alarms.

### Smoke Alarms

- Installed on every level of your home and outside all sleeping areas.
- Test monthly and batteries replaced at least twice a year (when you change your clocks, as a reminder).
- Be replaced every 7-10 years, as per manufacturer specifications.
- You must, at a minimum, maintain the same level of protection required when your home was built/renovated (e.g. if your home has hardwired, interconnected alarms – you cannot replace them with battery powered alarms).

### Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms must be installed outside of all sleeping areas in homes that have:
  - a fuel-burning appliance
  - a fireplace, or
  - a storage garage
- Be tested monthly, and batteries replaced at least twice a year (when you change your clocks, as a reminder).
- Need to be replaced every 7-10 years, as per manufacturer specifications.

### Chimney Maintenance

Cleaning and maintenance of chimneys and wood heating devices is important to ensure their proper operation. As we experience warmer temperatures moving closer to spring, there is an increased risk of creosote build-up. A blocked chimney will not ventilate properly and can cause carbon monoxide to draft into your home. Make sure all heating appliances are properly cleaned and maintained on a regular basis.

**Open-Air Burning** All permitted burning in OSM must meet the requirements of the Open-Air Burning By-law 2022-50. Copies can be obtained on the OSM Township website or by calling the Fire Department non-emergency line. Permits are required for Open-air burning and can be renewed and/or requested at: <https://osm.burnpermits.com/> Campfires do not require a burn permit in OSM Township. Burn barrels are not permitted in OSM Township.

### Emergency Management

Being prepared for an emergency is everyone's responsibility. Be sure you and your family are ready for any emergency that could happen through the year in our area, or places you frequent/visit. For additional resources and information please visit: [www.osmtownship.ca/beprepared](http://www.osmtownship.ca/beprepared)



Have you registered yet for  
**VOYENT ALERT!**?

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 by visiting: <https://register.voyent-alert.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)