

Municipal Newsletter

Township of Blandford-Blenheim



Municipal Office

47 Wilmot St. S.,
Box 100
Drumbo, ON N0J 1G0
Phone: 519-463-5347
Fax: 519-463-5881
www.blandfordblenheim.ca

Hours of Operation

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Public Works Yard/ Leaf Waste Depot

The depot is located at
895957 Oxford Road 3,
just North of Drumbo

Community Services

Plattsville Arena &
Community Hall
68 Mill Street East
519-684-7482

Princeton Centennial Hall
35 Main Street South
519-458-4891

County of Oxford

Phone: 519-539-9800
www.oxfordcounty.ca

The Township will be hosting its 2nd Town Hall style meeting for 2017. The meeting will take place on Thursday November 9th from 7 – 9 pm at the Drumbo Agricultural Society Hall in Drumbo - 42 Centre Street. These meetings will be based on a question and answer format with all members of the public welcome to pose questions and provide comments to Township Council and staff. These meetings are opportunities for informal dialogues and an exchange of ideas. Come out and have your say!



Public Works Yard/ Leaf Waste Depot

895957 Oxford Road 3 - Open 24/7 to drop off yard waste such as grass, hedge trimmings, leaves, Halloween pumpkins plus house and garden plants. Please remember not to leave planter boxes or bags in the piles. See the Wasteline Calendar that was mailed to you or check the Oxford County website for more details.

From the Community Services Department

Remembrance Day Services:

November 5th Chesterfield Cemetery; November 10th Plattsville Public School and Blenheim Public School; November 11th Princeton War Memorial

The Arena is Now Open! Become a Sponsor for our public skating – contact 519-684-7482 ext 2
Free Public Skate on Saturdays 4:30-5:20pm & **Free Parent & Tot Skate** Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 11am – noon. We reserve the right to cancel or reschedule public skating at any time without notice due to weather, maintenance or emergency.

Free Public Skates will be held at Plattsville Arena over Christmas Break (details will appear on the website in December)

Free Family Day Skate Feb 19th 12-2pm at Plattsville Arena. Hot dogs and refreshments thanks to the Plattsville Lions Club

Wounded Warriors Event: March 31, 2018 at the Plattsville Arena

Princeton Firefighters' Hallowe'en Dance: November 4th Princeton Hall

Fitness: at the Plattsville Community Hall – contact 519-465-7147 for further information

Notice: All Park Washrooms will be closed for the season on October 28, 2017

Santa Claus Parades:

Saturday Dec 2nd 6:30pm in Plattsville. Hot chocolate and meet Santa after the parade at the Lions Hall. Saturday Dec 2nd 2pm in Bright. Meet Santa after the parade at the Fire Hall.

Santa Claus comes to Town: at Princeton Hall on December 9th



About your Property Taxes

E-mailing of Property Tax Bills

Please consider having your property tax bill e-mailed to you, instead of regular mail. Receiving your tax bill by e-mail will allow you to easily file these important documents electronically for future reference. It's not only environmentally friendly, but also fiscally responsible. Your authorization is required and can be done by sending an e-mail requesting this service, to Katie, our Deputy Treasurer / Revenue Co-ordinator, at kkoski@blandfordblenheim.ca. Don't forget to keep us updated if your e-mail address ever changes.

E-post

The Township is no longer using E-post. If you were previously receiving your property tax bill this way and would like to continue receiving it electronically, please sign up for the e-mail option above.

Pre-Authorized Payment of Property Taxes

Paying your property taxes by pre-authorized payments makes sense. There are no administrative fees and your payment is never late. There is a monthly payment option; 10 months from January to October, withdrawn on the 15th of each month, as well as the installment option withdrawn on the four tax due dates. Forms are available online or at the Township office.

Farm Property Tax Credit

If you participate in the Farm Property Tax Credit Program, it is important to keep the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) up to date with any changes to the farm ownership or tenancy. It is important to maintain your relationship with OMAFRA as even minor changes can have dramatic effects on your assessment and property taxes. Please contact OMAFRA at 1-877-424-1300 to report any changes or if you have questions about the program.

FINAL TAX INSTALLMENT DUE OCTOBER 31, 2017

2018 Taxes are due on the last business day of February, May, August and October

For Your Information...



From the Protective Services Department

Check all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they work, and change the batteries. It is the law for all Ontario homes to have a working smoke and carbon monoxide alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas. This covers single family, semi-detached and town homes, whether owner-occupied or rented.

When you change your clocks on Nov 05, 2017, change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms!



Have a useable fire extinguisher available!



CONTROLLED BURN GUIDELINES

It is illegal to burn any yard waste, including leaves, garden waste, and grass clippings. Instead of burning please consider using the yard/leaf waste depot at the Drumbo Public Works Yard.

Check out the complete burn guidelines on our township website under the Emergency & Protective Services section.

Controlled Burns: All non-fire-pit burns must be called into the Township Office. This helps us to make sure that fires are being performed in a safe manner, as well as making sure that firefighters are only dispatched to real fires. This saves resources and makes sure that when a fire emergency happens, people and vehicles are available. Failure to call in a burn could mean that you'll be faced with the expense of dispatching firefighters out.

The Township Office is able to process your request for a Criminal Record Check/Vulnerable Sector Check. If you require a Vulnerable Sector Check, the OPP requires a letter from the organization stating that you require this check along with a signature. It is required by you to bring 2 acceptable pieces of identification: Driver's License, Passport, Birth Certificate, Hunting License, Blood Donor Card or Student Card.

We cannot accept a Health Card as identification.

Did you know that you can purchase your marriage license at the Township Office? The license must be obtained within 3 months of the marriage date. There is a fee of \$100 to issue the license. Please call ahead so we can be ready for you. See our website for further information.

Township Office will be Closed:

November 13th for Remembrance Day
December 25th – 29th for Christmas Holidays
January 1st for New Years Day
February 19th 2018 for Family Day



From the Public Works Department

Snow Removal: Residents are reminded that it's an offense to deposit snow or ice on a roadway. Snow pushed or blown onto a road creates a hazard to both vehicles and snow removal equipment and can interfere with water flow in ditches. This practice contravenes Township of Blandford-Blenheim By-law Number 455-82 and similarly The Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.H.8, S 181, which states "No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry or Road Authority responsible for the maintenance of the road".

To assist with snow removal operations, parking is restricted on all Township maintained streets in the urban centres of Bright, Drumbo, Plattsville and Princeton during the winter season. Parking is restricted on these streets from 8:00.A.M to 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday from November 1st to March 31st. Parking on main streets maintained by the County of Oxford is restricted from 2:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M. during the same period.



Are you planning on constructing a building or structure?



If so, keep in mind a building permit may be required! Building permits ensure that all buildings within the Township have been inspected in accordance with the Ontario Building Code regulation and the community can be assured the buildings are safe, healthy and accessible. If you are unsure if a building permit will be required, feel free to contact the Building Department staff at 519-463-5347 or visit our website!

Municipal Drains

The Township website has an interactive map showing municipal drainage. Use this map to determine if your property is affected by municipal drains. www.blandfordblenheim.ca/Services/MunicipalDrainage

If you suspect that the municipal drain on your property requires maintenance or repair, **including being affected by trees or their roots**, please contact the Drainage Superintendent to schedule an inspection at 519-463-5347.

Mayor Marion Wearn

mwearn@blandfordblenheim.ca

Councillor Randy Balzer

rbalzer@blandfordblenheim.ca

Councillor G. Bruce Banbury

gbanbury@blandfordblenheim.ca

Councillor Betty Cowan

bcowan@blandfordblenheim.ca

Councillor Mark Peterson

mpeterson@blandfordblenheim.ca

The Mayor and Council are always receptive to your input and comments. Your attendance at Council is welcome.