

# Municipal Newsletter

## Township of Blandford-Blenheim



Welcome to our latest newsletter!

The Township will be hosting its 2<sup>nd</sup> Town Hall style meeting for 2016. The meeting will take place on Thursday October 6, 2016 from 7 – 9 pm at the Bright Fire Hall- 886277 Oxford Road 8.

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 exchange of ideas. Come out and have your say!



### Municipal Office

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

[www.blandfordblenheim.ca](http://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 Centres & Parks

Plattsville Arena &  
Plattsville 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](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca)

Have you heard about the **Green Cone**

**Composter** now offered? It's a way to compost your kitchen scraps underground, letting the sun and cone do all the work. There are many benefits to the Cone. No need to stir the compost, the composter is underground making it difficult for animals to get to and reduces odors. It's made out of recycled materials and allows you to compost kitchen scraps that traditional systems cant break down. Visit us at the Township Office to purchase your Green Cone for just \$40!

For a list of Holiday Events, please see the Community Calendar on our website or visit [www.oxfordcounty.ca](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca) to see what's happening!

Water Meter installation is happening in Oxford County for those connected to municipal water service. Installation is mandatory and has begun in Blandford-Blenheim. To book your installation visit [www.oxfordmeter.ca](http://www.oxfordmeter.ca)



**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

[http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca/Services/Building\\_Planning\\_Services/Building](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca/Services/Building_Planning_Services/Building)

## Parks & Recreation News

**Drumbo Softball Lights:** As part of the Canada 150 Grant received, Drumbo ball lights will be replaced in the fall of 2016.

**The Arena is Now Open!**

**Free Public Skating** is available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 11am until noon and Saturdays at 4:30 pm. We reserve the right to cancel or reschedule public skating at any time without notice due to weather, maintenance or emergency.

**Plattsville & District Lions Club Euchre Nights:** October 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> start time is 7:30pm in the Lions Hall, Plattsville Memorial Community Arena

**Princeton Trail is Now Open:** This 1.3 km hard surface trail is open for hikers and cyclists. It is located in Princeton Park. The trail was created through a Trillium Foundation grant and future park development will include fitness equipment, recreation hill, forested area and municipal tree nursery. Watch our website for updates or visit the park yourself!



**Notice: All Park Washrooms are Now Closed for the Season**



## About your Property Taxes

### Assessment Notices

Property Assessment Notices were sent out by MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) for all Residential only properties the week of April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. All other property classes (including properties with residential as well as other classes) are to be sent out the weeks of October 11, 18 & 24, 2016. If you do not receive your notice, or you have questions in regards to your notice, please contact MPAC at 1-866-296-6722.

### Pre-authorized Payment of Property Taxes

Consider paying your property taxes by pre-authorized payment. There are no administration fees and your payment will never be late. There are 2 options; 10 monthly payments from January to October, withdrawn on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month or 4 installment payments withdrawn on the tax due dates. Authorization forms are available online or at the Township office.

**Final Tax Installment due October 31, 2016**

**2017 Taxes are due on the last business day of February, May, August and October**

## For Your Information...

The **OPP Citizen Self Reporting** system can be used to report specific incidents online, at your convenience, without attending a detachment or waiting for an officer at [www.opp.ca/reporting](http://www.opp.ca/reporting)



### You can use this system to report:

- Driving Complaints
- Theft & Damage to Property / Vehicle Under \$5000

If you prefer, you may still contact the OPP by phone to report a crime to have an officer attend. **Do not use this system if it is an emergency!**

The 24 hour OPP toll-free number is **1-888-310-1122**.

**Using this program reduces policing costs for our Township.**

### Visit our Website!

The **Community Calendar** shows the upcoming events being held within the community. Feel free to submit your event to have it added for your neighbours and friends to see.

The **Newsroom** keeps residents up to date with important information.

Sign up for **eAlerts** to be notified by email of each time we add a News Item, Employment Ad, Public Notice or Tender. Sign up for one or all categories, depending on your interests.

[www.blandfordblenheim.ca](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca)

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. 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.

**Did you know?** As per Provincial Law, the Highway Act prohibits parking that interferes with snow clearing and allows removal of any vehicle blocking plows at the owners expense.

**Mailboxes:** The Township of Blandford Blenheim will replace broken mailboxes only if snow removal equipment makes physical contact with the mailbox. Landowners are responsible to ensure mailboxes are securely attached to their post.

### 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](http://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 set up an inspection at 519-463-5347.

You can apply for a **Marriage Licence** at the Township office. For more information contact the office or see the website.



Township Office will be Closed:  
October 10<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving  
November 11<sup>th</sup> for Remembrance Day  
December 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> for Christmas Holidays



### From the Protective Services Department

#### HOME ESCAPE PLANNING

It is **vital** that you know what to do when the smoke alarms sound in an emergency: Sit down with everyone in your home and discuss how each person will get out in a fire.

#### GET OUT & STAY OUT!

When the smoke alarms sound, get out immediately and call 9-1-1 from outside. Never re-enter a burning building. **You need to be outside when the firefighters arrive.**



#### CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES!

On November 6, 2016, continue the simple, life-saving habit of changing and testing the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors when setting the clocks back for daylight-saving time.



#### Mayor Marion Wearn

[mwearn@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:mwearn@blandfordblenheim.ca)

#### Councillor Randy Balzer

[rbalzer@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:rbalzer@blandfordblenheim.ca)

#### Councillor G. Bruce Banbury

[bbanbury@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:bbanbury@blandfordblenheim.ca)

#### Councillor Betty Cowan

[bcowan@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:bcowan@blandfordblenheim.ca)

#### Councillor Mark Peterson

[mpeterson@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:mpeterson@blandfordblenheim.ca)

#### Meeting Dates for 2016

October 5 & 19  
November 2 & 16  
December 7 & 21

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