



JOHNSON TOWNSHIP AND COVID: UPDATES

Johnson Township Office: The office will remain closed until the Algoma Region is designated a Green Zone under the Provincial Government's Covid framework. Office staff are monitoring phones and emails. Please leave messages and 705-782-6601 and we will direct it to the appropriate department. Payments can be made by e-transfer, online through your financial institution, or by using the drop box at the front door.

Algoma Public Health Statement [\(\[algomapublichealth.com\]\(http://algomapublichealth.com\)\)](http://algomapublichealth.com)

"In regards to the general influx of cases that we have seen(...). We know that it only takes one exposure to lead to increased numbers of COVID-19 cases (such as parties, family gatherings, workplace exposures, etc.). It is important that in small communities such as those in Algoma, we continue to push the message of BEING KIND, and wrapping our small communities and sub-populations in as much support as we can. Moving forward, as cases appear, [we] appreciate your support and continuing to push this message: the thing to do is not publicly shame any group or person, or paint an entire community with stigma, but to wrap supports around folks who are ill and need assistance, and combat misperceptions and stigma.

Fear and stigma are real. But we can help combat that! We know that the vast majority of Algoma residents are taking precautions. Let's continue to encourage this, while not stigmatizing ill individuals, nor entire communities.

To minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19, you should:

- stay home if you have symptoms, even if they are mild, and call for testing (705 759 3434 x7152 to book an appointment. Walk-in testing for those WITHOUT symptoms is available beside the West End Walk-in Clinic at 568 Second Line West OR at the Thessalon Assessment Centre, 158 Dawson St. - call 705-356-2265 ext. 2662)

• Protect yourself

Avoid close contact with people who are not a part of your immediate household. The fewer close contacts you have, the less risk of exposure.

Stay at least 2 metres or 6 feet apart from other people at all times.

Avoid non-essential travel.

• Protect others

Stay home if you are sick, even with mild symptoms.

Screen your children for symptoms every day before school and keep them home if sick.

Wear a mask or face covering in all indoor public places.

Township Office
Is currently closed and will remain so until the region becomes a Green Zone.

INTERIM TAX DUE DATES
1ST INSTALLMENT:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31
2ND INSTALLMENT
MONDAY, MAY 31

DOG TAGS
2021 Dog Tags will be available once the office is open (i.e., when we enter Green zone status.)

FIRE PERMITS
Are now **free** and can be filled out online and approved through the township website. If you need assistance filling out the online form, call the office for help. All other conditions and requirements of a Permit continue to be applicable.

WINTER LANDFILL HOURS
Wednesdays - **NOON to 5PM**
Saturdays - **9AM to 5PM**
Note: Share Shed will re-open once Algoma becomes a Covid Green Zone

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THIS DOCUMENT AND ALL PUBLIC DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT.

Stay safe from COVID-19



Stay home if you are sick.



Stay 2 metres away from people you don't live with. 2 metres means a car should be able to drive between you.



Don't hang out inside with groups of people.



FIRE DEPARTMENT—Tips and News

Johnson Township is now issuing Fire Permits at no cost. Applications can be filled out on line and permits will be issued electronically to your email address. If you need assistance filling out a permit or do not have access to a computer and/or internet, please call the office and someone will assist you.

All previous conditions and responsibilities are still applicable and there is NO daytime burning allowed in the municipality.

911 Signs - A reminder that 911 Civic Number Signs should be upright, clear and visible from/or at your driveway.

JOHNSON TOWNSHIP NEWS

New Website - The township now has an updated and modernized website. Please check it out...we have tried to make it easier to find information that is commonly asked for, e.g., permits, forms, and applications are available from the Home page by clicking on a large button; menus are easy to find and are repeated throughout the browsers experience. The site has larger type and simpler graphics and is now 100% accessible, a requirement of Ontario legislation that came into effect on January 1st.

Water Meters - Please ensure that your water meter is

accessible and snow cleared away. Township staff will be doing readings in March.

Winter Parking - Please remember that from now through to April 2021 there is no overnight parking allowed on Township Roads. This By-Law is in effect, snow or no snow.

Payments - all payments for taxes or other township fees can now be made online through your banking service or by e-transfer to people@johnsontownship.ca. Please call the office for more details.

NEWS FROM COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Highlights from the minutes of the December 16/20 and February 17/21 Council Meetings. Please note that this report does not include all proceedings of the council meetings. For more detailed information, please request copies of the minutes at the Township Office or go to the Meetings page of the website.

Council has adopted a Strategic plan and will be posting it on the website soon. Residents are asked to participate in the strategic plan by letting councilors know what they would like to see - think of it as a wish list so we can plan into the future!

Public Works has completed a 2021 Roads Work Plan and it has been accepted by Council. It is posted on the website. A copy can also be requested from the office.

FYI: regarding building in the township, 29 permits have been issued with an estimated value of \$3,408,200.00; and 79 inspections and over 211 consultations have been carried out.

Clerk Glenn Martin presented his General Report to Council for activities and accomplished tasks for the last six months. This report contains a lot of information that would be of interest to ratepayers and can be read on the Township website (check out the News

items on the Home Page) or requested from the office.

Council approves:

- a Facility Assessment of Municipal Buildings proposal by Kresin Engineering for \$18,250+tx;
- the promotion of Heather Tener to position of full-time Treasurer;
- a by-law to permit the operations of Off-Road Vehicles on highways within the boundaries of the Municipality.;
- the elimination of the \$10.00 fee for fire permits;
- bylaws to set tax ratios and an interim tax levy for 2021; and
- the renewal of the rental contract with the Johnson Farmers' Market for use of the Pavilion and JTCC.

Council instructs the Clerk and the Johnson Fire Chief to express their concerns to the Province concerning the closure of the Ontario Fire Training College in Gravenhurst with no consultation from local fire chiefs, brigades, or volunteer firefighters.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Regular Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 5:30pm, Virtual Meeting, Zoom link provided on township website

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

If you notice any emergency situations on municipal roads, please call the Public Works number 705 782 6601 x-206 and leave a message.

Snow Removal is ongoing as needed. When we are not removing snow, we are brushing roadsides. Please watch for Construction signs and slow down when approaching Public Works employees and equipment.

RECREATION

Unfortunately, the Winter Activity Festival had to be cancelled due to the Covid lockdown and plans for some new events and activities put on hold until next year. It has been very frustrating making plans with no idea what the regulations are going to be. That being said, we have made applications for summer student employment grants and are planning events and programs with the idea that some pandemic restrictions will likely still apply. Roll outs of the Covid vaccine will likely pick up as spring approaches and we hope to have a clearer idea by springtime of what may be possible for the summer.



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E-mail:

people@johnsontownship.ca

Website:

www.johnsontownship.ca

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm
Saturday and Sunday
Closed