



2026 ATV Poker Run is coming fast!



Registration is open for a full day on the trails in Johnson Township. Gather your crew, fire up the ATVs, and join us Saturday, September 12, 2026.

Check-in starts at 8:00 AM at the Gordon Lake Hall, Gordon Lake Road, Desbarats, ON

Poker Hand: \$25
Extra Card: \$5
Mystery Card: \$2
Door Prize Ticket: \$2
Lunch: \$15 (meal tickets available at check-in)
Lunch prepared by the Gordon Lake Social Club.

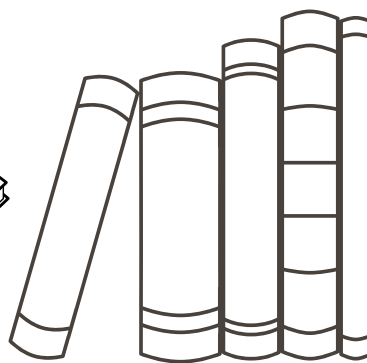
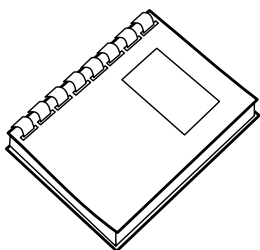


A map will be available at check-in. The best poker hand, dealt at the end of the ride, takes home half the pot. Last year's winner took home \$1,400!

Funds raised support recreation efforts in Johnson Township, including youth programming, facility improvements, and equipment for community use.

Register early online. Day-of registration will also be available at Gordon Lake Hall during check-in.

Colouring Section:



IMPORTANT DATES:

September 1st -30th : Big Buck Registrations Opens

September 7th : Labour Day OFFICE CLOSED

September 12th : ATV Poker Run

September 19th : Sylvan Circle Tour

Gordon Lake Card Parties Start October 2nd

October 13th : Ice Season Starts

50+ Club Wednesdays 1pm-3pm Starting October 14^h

October : LUG Hockey Starts

October 16th : First Public Skate

October 30th : Halloween Skate

October 31st : Halloween!

Every Saturday Johnson Farmers Market 9am-2pm



Keep Water Meters clear of debris for easy access when reading.

Events & Recreation



19TH ANNUAL BIG BUCK CONTEST

REGISTRATION OPEN FROM SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2026

Online at www.johnsontownship.ca
Or at the Municipal Office/ Community Centre

Awards Dinner, Saturday November 28, 2026
6pm

Measuring check-in at 4pm at the Johnson Township Community Centre

Bar opens at 4pm
Registered Hunter & Dinner - \$35
Dinner Ticket - \$20
Youth - \$10

Every Registered Hunter wins a prize!

Registration is Open for the Annual Big Buck Contest!

Registration is now open for the 19th Annual Big Buck Contest in Johnson Township! Hunters can register from September 1 to September 30, 2026, either online at www.johnsontownship.ca or in person at the Municipal Office or Community Centre.

Every registered hunter is guaranteed a prize, with cash prizes awarded to the top 3 adult and youth hunters. Whether you're in it for the competition or just the experience, it's a great opportunity to take part in a long-standing local tradition.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Awards Dinner on Saturday, November 28, 2026.

Tickets will be available for Purchase at the Johnson Township Community Center!

LUG Hockey League Coming to Johnson Township!

We're excited to welcome the LUG Sports Hockey League to Desbarats this fall! The league offers a fun, organized, and competitive hockey experience for players. The season runs from October through March and includes 22 guaranteed games, playoffs, and custom jerseys for teams registered by the early registration deadline.

Whether you have a full team, want to join an existing team, or are signing up as a free agent, there's a place for you. Visit the Johnson Township Recreation Facebook page for registration links and more information.



LUG **OA**

EXPANDING TO

JOHNSON TOWNSHIP

SEASON DETAILS

ARENA	JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTRE		
DAY	SUN/MON	TIME	8:00 PM+ EST

Ice bookings are a ton of fun for Birthday Parties, family fun and more. Contact Gabi LeClair at 705-782-6601 x 803 or email recreation@johnsontownship.ca to make a booking.

Events & Recreation



JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTRE

ICE & HALL RENTALS AVAILABLE FOR:



- Team Practices
- Private Practices
- Birthday Parties
- Family Gatherings
- And More!

Contact Gabi to Book Today:
Office: 705-782-6601 x803
Email: Recreation@johnsontownship.ca

ICE RENTAL - \$125 / HOUR
HALL RENTAL - \$25 / HOUR

*ALL PRICING IS + HST
CONTRACT RATES AVAILABLE FOR 5+ BOOKINGS

ICE SEASON IS COMING!

2026–2027 Ice Season Bookings Now Open

The 2026–2027 ice season begins October 13, 2026, and bookings are already filling up quickly. If you're looking to reserve ice time for your team, group, or organization, now is the perfect time to book.

Ice Rental Rates: \$125 per hour

Book Your Ice Time

For availability and bookings, contact Gabi:

recreation@johnsontownship.ca or 705-782-6601

Hall Rentals Available

Looking for a space for your next event? The hall is available for parties, family gatherings, celebrations, and more.

Contact us for more information about hall rentals and availability.

Don't miss out – secure your ice time for the 2026–2027 season today!



HALLOWEEN

Skate Night

OCTOBER 30, 2026

6:30PM-8PM

ENTRY BY DONATION
JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY
CENTRE 1 CAMERON DRIVE, DESBARATS,
ON



YOGA CLASSES

with Terri



Yoga in Desbarats
Johnson Township Community Centre
Tuesdays, Sept. 15 - Oct. 27 (7 weeks)
7:00 PM – 8:15 PM
\$105 + tax = \$118.65



Yoga in Bruce Station
Bruce Station Community Hall
Thursdays, Sept. 17 - Oct. 29 (7 weeks)
7:00 PM – 8:15 PM
\$105 + tax = \$118.65

Double the zen! Register for both Desbarats + Bruce Station and save 10%

\$189 + tax = \$213.57
To save your spot or ask a question:
Email / E-transfer: terri@meadowviewalpaca.com

Yoga Classes with Terri

Take some time to relax, stretch, and recharge with Yoga Classes with Terri!

Email terri@meadowviewalpaca.com for more info or to grab your spot!

Ice bookings are a ton of fun for Birthday Parties, family fun and more. Contact Gabi LeClair at 705-782-6601 x 803 or email recreation@johnsontownship.ca to make a booking.

FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

August 19th, 2026

- Smoke Detector Inspections: The Fire Department will soon be conducting inspections on Monday evenings to ensure the functionality of smoke detectors. Please cooperate with their efforts, as a working smoke detector is crucial for safety.
- Exciting Fall Events: The Recreation Department is preparing for an eventful fall season. The ATV Run, followed by the Big Buck Contest. Additionally, the hockey season will be commencing starting in October, and arena bookings are filling up fast.
- Support for New Rural Hospital: A Vision for the Future. Community Statement of Support is available at the Municipal office. This document is intended to garner your endorsement for the establishment of a new rural hospital.
- Res: 2026-143 BE IT RESOLVED THE COUNCIL support the West O.P.P. Detachment in their request for traffic calming and speeding mitigation techniques. (cd)
- Municipal Elections Voting Dates:
 - Advanced Voting: October 17th, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Johnson Township Community Center.
 - Regular Election: October 26th, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Johnson Township Community Center.

Next Regular Meeting: Septemeber 16, 2026

6pm In-person at the Council Chambers: 1 Johnson Drive, Desbarats, ON (Municipal Office)

The Public Works Garage

The Roads Department will be conducting inspections of signage at all bridges and culverts to guarantee that everything is clearly marked and visible.

Celebrating Denise

After many years of dedicated service to our community, we'd like to recognize Denise Methot, our Arena Manager, as she prepares for retirement. Denise has been an important part of the arena and has contributed so much to making it a welcoming and well-run place for our community to enjoy. Her hard work, commitment, and friendly presence will certainly be missed.

Please join us in thanking Denise for everything she has done and wishing her all the very best in this exciting new chapter. Congratulations on your retirement, Denise! We hope it's filled with plenty of relaxation, fun, and time to enjoy all the things you love.



Gordon Lake News:

Gordon Lake Card Parties Return starting Friday October 2nd, 2026.

\$10 Buy in, 500 bid & Crokinole, 18+ @ Gordon Lake Hall. Doors open at 7pm

Mount Pleasant Tree Care Update:

Mount Pleasant trees have been impacted by the Ash Borer.

These trees will receive expert professional care to resolve the infestation.

Final tax bills were mailed out in July & due in August and October

If you have questions about your bill, please contact the Municipal office at 705-782-6601.

Notice of Public Meeting New Official Plan

In accordance with Section 17 and 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., C.P. 13, as amended, the Township of Johnson is holding a Public Meeting for the Official Plan for the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board.

The Official Plan is a statement of goals, objectives and policies to guide future growth within the townships for a twenty to thirty (20-30) year horizon. The Official Plan for the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board will replace the in-effect Official Plan for the Township of Johnson.

The current Official Plan has been in-effect since 2006. The purpose of this Official Plan is to implement a shared vision for land use planning and development for the Township and other municipalities that form part of the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board. The Official Plan incorporates new provincial policy directions and considers local planning issues that impact your community.

The Official Plan will apply to all lands within the Township of Johnson.

The statutory public meeting for the review and adoption of the Official Plan will be held on:

September 14, 2026
at
6 pm

Located at:
**Johnson Township
Council Chambers
1 Johnson Drive**

Participation

If you wish to speak to this matter, you must contact the Clerk by September 11, 2026 by 2:30 pm at jmaguire@johnsontownship.ca or by phone at 705-782-6601 ext:201 to be registered to participate in the public meeting.

If you wish to provide written comments at the public meeting, comments must be addressed to the Clerk and received by September 11, 2026 2:30 pm. Comments may be mailed or emailed. All written comments received prior to any approval will be considered.

Appeals

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Johnson before the proposed official plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Johnson office before the proposed official plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Where can I find information regarding the Official Plan?



The proposed Official Plan is available online at: [Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board](#)

This information is also available to the public at the Johnson Township Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

To send written comments:

By mail or in Person:
the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board
By email: Jared Brice at admin@tarbutt.ca or Janet Maguire, at jmaguire@johnsontownship.ca

Want to be notified?

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Township of Johnson, please make a written request to the contact above.

NOTE:

Under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and in accordance with Ontario's Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), all information provided for, or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record, including resident deputations. This information may be posted on the Township's website and/or made available to the public upon request.

This document can be made available in other accessible formats upon request.

**Date of this Notice:
August 24, 2026**

Around the Community

ROWDY RANCHER
ROUND UP
Horse Show

SEPT 4 to 7TH 2026
LAIRD FAIRGROUNDS IN ECHO BAY

PONY RIDES SAT & SUN

HORSE SHOW WESTERN AND ENGLISH ALL WEEKEND

SPECIAL JUDGE TYLER DELANGE FROM DELANGE CUTTING HORSES

MEALS FROM TEXAS BARBECUE OF CANADA

ICE CREAM AND SNACKS FROM Sherryanne's

VENDORS

COME OUT FOR A WEEKEND TO SUPPORT LOCAL EQUESTRIANS!

Everyone is welcome!

Huron Shores
FAMILY HEALTH CARE
ÉQUIPE DE SANTÉ FAMILIALE

Fall Group Programs
STARTING SEPTEMBER 2026

Living with the Legacy of Trauma

Healing Journey Grief Support Group

GROUPS HELD IN:

- BLIND RIVER
- THESSALON EVENING GROUP
- RICHARDS LANDING EVENING GROUP

CALL 705-356-1666 EXT. 283
TO INQUIRE OR ADD YOUR NAME TO THE REGISTRATION LIST.

SPACES ARE Limited!

THESSALON CURLING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Your Club. Your Voice. Our Future.

MONDAY OCTOBER 5, 2026

7:00 PM

THESSALON CURLING CLUB
120 Main Street, Thessalon, ON

YOUR INPUT MATTERS!

This year's AGM is especially important as we make decisions about the future of our club and the 2026/2027 curling season.

Be Involved. Help Shape Our Season!

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!
Come out, stay informed, share your ideas, and help us make the best decisions for our club's future.

TOGETHER, WE CAN KEEP OUR CLUB STRONG AND OUR ICE IN GREAT SHAPE!

Thank you for your continued support!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

BRUCE MINES FALL FAIR

BIG RIG TRACTOR SHOW

MOST KALOMETRIES
OLDEST TRUCK
BIGGEST TRUCK
CHOW FAVORITE
MOST UNIQUE

BIG RIGS SHINY CHROME POWER & PRIDE
TRUCKERS WELCOME!

ALL DAY FAMILY FUN!

COME CHECK OUT THE BIGGEST & BEST ON THE ROAD!

TRUCK SHOW | VENDORS | FOOD | FUN FOR ALL AGES

BRUCE MINES FALL FAIR
Community • Tradition • Good Times

go to the fair go to the fair go to the Bruce Mines Agricultural Fair, see y'all there!

SEPTEMBER 2026

Early ON
Child and Family Centre

Drop-In Play 'N Learn Schedule

MONDAY
Echo Bay EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: Echo Bay Community Hall, 201 Church St. Echo Bay, ON

TUESDAY
St. Joseph Island EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: St. Joseph P.S., 1008 Richards St. Richards Landing, ON

BRUCE MINES EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: Bruce Mines Community Hall, 580 Highway 19E, Bruce Mines, ON

WEDNESDAY
Debarbats EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: Central Algoma Child Care Centre, 32 Kensington Rd. Debarbats, ON

THURSDAY
Thessalon EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: Thessalon Church of Christ, 6 Albert St. Thessalon, ON

FRIDAY
Bruce Mines EarlyON
Time: 9:00AM - 10:30PM
Location: Bruce Mines & Plummer Additional Public Union Library, 93 Debarbats St. Bruce Mines, ON

SATURDAY
Echo Bay Weekend EarlyON
Time: 10:00AM - 12:00PM
Locations: Echo Bay Early Learning and Care Program (Inside Echo Bay Public School), 200 Church St. Echo Bay, ON

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	1	2	3	4	5
	ECHO BAY DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Echo Bay Community Hall	ST. JOE'S DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM St. Joseph P.S.	DEBARBATS DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Central Algoma Child Care Centre	THESSALON DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Thessalon Church of Christ	BRUCE MINES DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM BRUCE MINES	CLOSED
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	CLOSED	ST. JOE'S DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM St. Joseph P.S.	DEBARBATS DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Central Algoma Child Care Centre	THESSALON DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Thessalon Church of Christ	BRUCE MINES DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM BRUCE MINES	ECHO BAY WEEKEND PLAYGROUP 10:00 - 12:00 PM Echo Bay ELC
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	ECHO BAY DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Echo Bay Community Hall	ST. JOE'S DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM St. Joseph P.S.	DEBARBATS DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Central Algoma Child Care Centre	THESSALON DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Thessalon Church of Christ	BRUCE MINES DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM BRUCE MINES	ECHO BAY WEEKEND PLAYGROUP 10:00 - 12:00 PM Echo Bay ELC
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	ECHO BAY DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Echo Bay Community Hall	ST. JOE'S DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM St. Joseph P.S.	DEBARBATS DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Central Algoma Child Care Centre	THESSALON DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Thessalon Church of Christ	CLOSED	ECHO BAY WEEKEND PLAYGROUP 10:00 - 12:00 PM Echo Bay ELC
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	ECHO BAY DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Echo Bay Community Hall	ST. JOE'S DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM St. Joseph P.S.	DEBARBATS DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Central Algoma Child Care Centre	THESSALON DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM Thessalon Church of Christ	BRUCE MINES DROP-IN PLAYGROUP 9:00 - 10:30 AM BRUCE MINES	ECHO BAY WEEKEND PLAYGROUP 10:00 - 12:00 PM Echo Bay ELC

PRENATAL CLASSES 9:00 - 10:00 AM Echo Bay Community Hall

ORANGE SHIRT DAY Central Algoma Child Care Centre

TOUCH-A-TRUCK Thessalon Place Park

VISIT US AT WWW.KEYON.CA

CALL US AT 705-542-5661

LIKE "CENTRAL ALGOMA CAPC EARLYON CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE" ON FACEBOOK

NATIONAL SENIORS DAY

OCT. 1, 2026

1:30-2:30

ARTHRTIS SOCIETY CANADA

Huron Shores FHT - Blind River Site Boardroom, 527 Casuley Street, Blind River, ON.

Bruce Station Hall, 109 Station Rd, Bruce Station, ON.

Huron Shores FHT - Thessalon Site Boardroom, 333 River Street, Thessalon, ON.

Township of St. Joseph, Council Chambers, 1669 Arthur Street, Richards Landing, ON.

Join us for a free public presentation by the Arthritis Society Canada, in Blind River, Bruce Mines, Richards Landing, or Thessalon, to learn about arthritis and why physical activity is important. For more info, contact Robin at 705-356-1666 ext 283

Huron Shores
FAMILY HEALTH CARE
ÉQUIPE DE SANTÉ FAMILIALE

Sylvan Circle
An Artist & Artisan Tour

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Echo Bay - Bruce Mines

24th Annual Sylvan Circle Artist & Artisan Tour. Travel

the picturesque countryside between Echo Bay and Bruce Mines and meet more than sixty of the area's finest artists and artisans. Open 9am to 5pm. At each location you'll find unique, one of-a-kind creations, perfect for your home or for gift giving.

SEPT 5TH, 2026

HOME ALONE

WORKSHOP

10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Learn. Practice. Be Prepared.

A fun and interactive workshop that teaches kids the skills and confidence they need to stay safe and responsible when home alone.

AGES 8+

PRICE \$35

LOCATION: Holy Trinity Anglican Church located at 580 M & N Line Road in Jocelyn Township, St. Joseph Island, Ontario

BABYSITTER'S WORKSHOP

12:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Build skills. Gain confidence. Make a difference.

A hands-on workshop for future babysitters who want to be prepared, responsible, and ready to care for kids of all ages.

AGES 11+

PRICE \$65

REGISTER TODAY! Secure your spot and gain skills for life!

Great babysitters make great memories!

INVEST IN SAFETY. BUILD CONFIDENCE. HAVE FUN.

HOME SAFETY TIPS

BASIC FIRST AID & EMERGENCIES

WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

RESPONSIBILITY & CONFIDENCE

FUN ACTIVITIES & SCENARIOS

CHILD CARE BASICS

SAFETY & SUPERVISION

FUN ACTIVITIES & PLAY IDEAS

FIRST AID & EMERGENCIES

COMMUNICATION & PROBLEM SOLVING