



# October 2007

General Delivery, 21 Church Street  
Dunchurch, Ontario P0A 1G0  
Phone 705-389-2466 ~ Fax 705-389-1855

## “Whitestone, a Perfect Place to Live, Work & Play”

### Environmental

Before you alter your shoreline please contact the Parry Sound Ministry of Natural Resources for fact sheets and information on permits for waterfront work. All dredging and filling must be authorized by any governmental organization having jurisdiction. Be aware of the Federal Fisheries Act and other legislation. Violations to the fisheries act can result in substantial fines and/or the risk of imprisonment.

It is recommended that septic systems should be checked and tanks be pumped out every three years.

Did you know that it is illegal to dump bait buckets in any body of water? Never release fish from one waterbody to another and when transporting a boat from one waterbody to another please follow important steps outlined by the Invading Species Program which can be found at [www.invadingspecies.com](http://www.invadingspecies.com) or by calling 1-800-563-7711.

### Landfill Sites

Enforcement will continue at our landfill sites regarding waste left at the gate. Fines of \$300.00 are still in effect.

All ratepayers should be reminded of the importance of recycling. With the increased population since amalgamation the landfill site's life expectancy is deteriorating.

Two streams of recycling is available as follows:

#### Stream One – Recyclable Fibres

Newspapers, magazines, catalogues, telephone books, corrugated cardboard, boxboard egg cartons, mixed papers, office papers and brown paper bags.

#### Stream Two – Recyclable Containers

Glass bottles and jars, metal beverage containers, metal food cans, plastic soft drink bottles, rigid plastic bottles, aluminum trays and foil.

### Snowmobile Trail Re-Routed

The main snowmobile trail (C104D) will be re-routed along East Townline Road and Boudary Spur Road. Proper OFSC signs will be posted. If you have any questions or concerns please contact DunAhmic Snowriders Executive.

Paul Guillemette, President      705-387-3223

Dave Hodgson, Vice President      705-389-2374

As Mayor of the Municipality of Whitestone I would like to inform you that within the next few months Council will be deliberating on the passing of an Off Road Vehicles By-Law regarding usage on Municipal roads.

As of July 2003, municipalities were given the authority to determine whether or not off-road vehicles (ORV's) should be allowed access to highways under their authority. Municipalities must put a by-law in place for ORV's to be allowed access their local roads. Currently, off road vehicles are permitted on Provincial Highways (HWY 124 & HWY 520) within the Municipality of Whitestone.

Municipalities can determine which local roads, where on the roads, time of day, and season that ORV's are allowed access. They can also set speed limits that are lower than those set out in the regulations.

A public meeting will be held Monday, November 19, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hagerman Community Centre in Dunchurch. There is a draft by-law available at the municipal office or on the municipal website for viewing and written comments. Comments should be submitted on or before Wednesday, November 14, 2007.

Best Regards,  
Chris Armstrong, Mayor

Fellow Ratepayers

After close to a year into this term I feel that your Council has a better understanding of the task at hand. We continue to act in your best interest and have a better handle on what our priorities should be.

In my opinion, major areas of concern are Waste Disposal, Road Maintenance, Emergency Services and Economic Development. These Concerns must be dealt with in the most efficient and economical ways possible.

We are committed to keep you, the ratepayers informed of our decisions, whether those decisions are popular or not, but are in the best interest of the whole Municipality. I sincerely hope that we are travelling down the right path to make our Municipality “The Perfect Place to Live, Work & Play”.

In addition, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any other Councillor if you have any questions or concerns.

In closing I wish you all the very best for a safe and happy holiday season.

Councillor, Bill Church  
Phone 705-389-1956  
E-mail: [councillor.church@whitestone.ca](mailto:councillor.church@whitestone.ca)

To the Ratepayers of the Municipality of Whitestone

I believe that we all have a responsibility in controlling the amount of garbage that we create. We also have a responsibility in disposing of this garbage through recycling and other means that will limit the amount of waste material that is going into our landfill sites. As a Councillor in the Municipality of Whitestone I believe that I have the responsibility to work with Council in applying a process to ensure the longest life span possible for our landfill sites.

I further believe that one of the most important elements of applying a process to lengthen the operating time of our landfill site is providing information on how and what we can recycle. I will be discussing with Council and Ratepayers, the best way to share and apply this information.

To be informed and take the responsibility for the waste that we create is in everyone's best interest, environmentally and economically.

I am available to every Ratepayer in the Municipality of Whitestone; I am here to talk with, listen to and act on your behalf regarding issues and concerns that you may have. Feel free to contact me at (705)389-1995.

Sincerely,  
Alan Ladd  
Deputy Mayor/Councillor

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Dear Ratepayers of Whitestone.

I hope each of you had a wonderful summer in our little piece of heaven, called Whitestone.

As we approach the last quarter of the year we will begin deliberations on our 2008 budget. We need to continue to reduce unnecessary expenditures while prudently investing in our infrastructure. I am still concerned that our operating budget is too high. This along with the ever increasing downloading and escalating costs from the Provincial Government limits our ability to invest in our infrastructure for things such as better roads and bridges without significant tax increases.

Our roads are a subject I hear a great deal about from ratepayers. We have a 5 year strategic plan for our various roads which I encourage you to get a copy of from our Municipal office. In addition to the details outlined in the plan I think it is time we step up to the plate and start to take more responsibility for our Municipally owned but unassumed roads. This may mean that we assume these roads for summer maintenance only since most of them do not have adequate turnaround space for winter plowing. I also envision a day where the Municipality has a supply of gravel that it provides free to private roads wishing to improve their roads. This could be made available on some sort of lottery system over a number of years so as to control the cost and make it available to all ratepayers on private roads. I believe this type of out of the box thinking is required to level the playing field for all taxpayers in Whitestone. I encourage your input and comments on these ideas.

I am also very concerned with our landfill sites. The remaining life of the York and Auld's road sites is somewhere in the area of 5 years. Once filled we will probably end up with more expensive transfer station facilities. We need to start to allocate more monies towards the eventual closing of these facilities. We also need to examine ways to extend the life of current sites by prudent measures such as more grinding and compaction efforts, limiting what goes into our sites such as construction waste (recently two full demolished houses were put into the York Street Site) and extended hours when a Landfill Attendant is available. As unpopular as it may be I also believe we must look critically at our free dump weekends.

I have tried over the last year to have the nursing station in Dunchurch open on weekends during the summer months when our population swells. In 2007 council approved a motion supporting this initiative which was forwarded to the West Parry Sound Health Centre. The Hagerman Ratepayers Association also supported extended hours. There is a resistance and reluctance by the Health Centre to accommodate these requests. If you feel strongly about this issue as I do I encourage you to contact Mr. Norm Maciver c/o West Parry Sound Health Centre, 6 Albert Street, Parry Sound P2A 3A4 .705-746-9321 ext 4136 [ceo@wpsbc.com](mailto:ceo@wpsbc.com) to let your feelings be known.

You will find a Ratepayer Survey/Municipal Report Card accompanying this letter. I encourage you to participate in the survey and to provide your input and comments. This fulfills a campaign promise I made to you to establish this yearly survey. In fact I have just finished reviewing my extensive campaign letter and take great pride in the fact that to the best of my knowledge I have fulfilled all the promises that I made in the letter.

In terms of economic development it is great to see new owners at the Whitestone Marina. Council's decision in 2007 to make the business and industrial tax rate the same as the residential tax rate should bear fruit in the future. I would still like to see more specific incentives for establishing non-competing businesses in Whitestone.

I believe that we need an ATV bylaw to allow for the safe and legal use of all terrain vehicles on our municipally owned roads. Currently ATV'S are not legally allowed on Municipally owned roads. They are allowed to legally operate on many Provincially owned roads including Highway 124 and 520. There are 4 ATV'S sold for every snowmobile in Ontario. In my opinion we can not ignore the tourism dollars and related economic benefits related to off road vehicles. I am encouraged by the fact that some ratepayers are talking about forming an association to develop ATV and walking trials in Whitestone. There are Provincial funds available to support these initiatives.

In conclusion I believe leadership is being up front with you on where I stand on various issues and providing a vision for the future. I will continue to work hard on behalf of all ratepayers both permanent and seasonal for the betterment of our community. Please continue to call me with your ideas and input.

Since our next newsletter is in 2008 Cathy and I would like to extend to each of you and your families a safe and happy upcoming Holiday Season.

Sincerely  
Joe Lamb, Councillor

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I think collectively this Council has worked together very well this year and I look forward to approaching our agenda for 2008 with the same cost effective views. There are a lot of areas of concern for Council for the coming year. We will have to look at these areas with cost effective priorities. It is important that you take a good look at our survey and relay your opinions to Council. We have done a bus tour of our road system on October 14, 2007 to give us a better understanding of what areas need to be considered for maintenance.

From my family to yours,  
Have a safe and happy holiday season  
Morley Moore, Councillor