



NEWSLETTER

February 2020

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MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL



Our thanks to those who were able to join us on January 1st to welcome a new decade at the Mayor's inaugural New Year's Levee. We had lots of good conversation, and an opportunity to view plans for the expansion of the Whitestone Library.

Work is well underway to establish the Municipality's capital and operating budgets for 2020; and the property tax rates that will be necessary to fund them. Interested ratepayers are encouraged to attend special budget meetings planned for February 19th and March 17th as we work through the various expenditures. As in the past, Council will be endeavouring to keep taxes as low as possible consistent with our responsibility to maintain our municipal assets and deliver the quality services we all expect.

The year 2020 will be a busy for Whitestone as we embark on a number of special projects. Noteable among these are changes to our waste management operations designed to improve recycling and prolong the life of our landfill sites. You can read more about these changes below.

WINTER FUN IN WHITESTONE!

Lace up those skates for Skating fun at the Dun-Dome. See our website for the skating schedule and ice conditions. The Dun-Dome offers heated change rooms and washrooms.



The Whitestone and Nesbitt walking trails are the perfect place for snowshoeing!! (Note: Do not park illegally. Please watch for vehicles and snow plows. Also remember the trails are shared so there may be snowmobiles – be cautious).

NEW TAX PAYMENT OPTIONS COMING SOON!

Receive your Property Tax Bill by e-mail AND / OR

Sign up for a Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Plan

FORMS available for download on the Municipal Website. Implementation date is planned for July 2020 just in time for the Final Tax Billing.

For more information please contact the Municipal Office at 705-389-2466 or info@whitestone.ca

◀ IMPORTANT CHANGES AT THE LANDFILL SITES ▶

Commencing **May 1, 2020**, we are implementing some important changes to our Waste Management System. Council has identified a number of options to create efficiencies and to extend the life of our landfill sites.

NO TIRES will be accepted. See our website for your tire disposal options

ALL BRUSH will **ONLY** be accepted at the Auld's Road Landfill Site.

BOATS - completely stripped metal hulls **ONLY**, will be accepted

NO COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION DEMOLITION

DEBRIS or **BRUSH** will be accepted.

See our website for your disposal options



More changes to come! Follow us on Facebook and watch for information on our website and in our Newsletters.



Whitestone Public Library

Tech Tuesdays with Eva are back! Time slots are available from 1-5pm every Tuesday. Do you have a new device or want to learn more about what your phone or tablet can do? Did you know you can enjoy Ebooks and Audiobooks anytime, anywhere with the Libby app? Learn how to access popular titles from your phone or tablet 24/7. The library also owns several new Kobos that sync with Libby. Borrow the Kobos after a quick lesson for up to a month at a time.

Mark your calendars...

Every Tue. 1:00pm-5:00pm
Every Wed. 1:00pm-3:00pm (in winter)
Every Thu. 1:00pm-3:00pm

Tech Tuesday - Schedule an appointment with Eva for your tech questions.
Wellness Wednesday - Join Kali as she will focus on guided meditation and gentle yoga, along with some DIY aromatherapy workshops.
Knitting Circle - Whether you are just learning or you are a pro, come out for a visit with your fellow crafters.

March Break Kids Events

Tue. Mar. 17th 1:00pm-3:00pm St. Patrick's Day Bingo, Crafts and Games
Thu. Mar. 19th 1:00pm-4:00pm Arctic Dogs Movie Fun



Have you heard that the Municipality of Whitestone has been approved for a \$150,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant for the Library Expansion? The library board has been busy fundraising and we have successfully raised \$86,000 so far! The Library Expansion drawings are on display at the library so come in, take a look and leave your feedback. Tax deductible donations for the Library Expansion project may also be made in person, by cheque or online at www.canadahelps.org (select Whitestone Public Library as the recipient).

Building Department

Planning to Build, Renovate or Demolish? New construction, renovations and demolition must comply with both the Municipality of Whitestone's Zoning By-Law and the Ontario Building Code. Here are a few tips to help get you started;

- Plan ahead and give yourself plenty of time to get drawings, approvals, permits and contractors in order
- Determine if your project will comply with the specific zoning requirements for your property
- Most Building Permit Applications require detailed drawings some of which can be done by the owner, however a Qualified Designer, or Professional may be required

Please contact our Chief Building Official, Tyler Irwin for more information at 705-389-2466.

Winter Road Safety Tips



Winter is here! The weather can be unpredictable during the winter months.

Be prepared when planning a journey on the road:

- Check weather forecast and road conditions - if the weather is poor or the road surface is dangerous, reconsider your travel plans.
- Allow extra time for your journey.

- Drive according to road conditions.
- Let people know where you are going and when you expect to arrive.
- **IT'S NOT A RACE – GIVE PLOWS SPACE.** They can't see you and you can't see the road ahead.

By-Law and Winter Reminders

A reminder that winter overnight parking restrictions are in effect from November 1st to April 15th. No vehicles are permitted to park on any municipally maintained roadways and turn-a-rounds in this timeframe. This allows for snow removal and other winter road maintenance. Vehicles in contravention will be tagged and/or towed away at owners' expense.

It's time to think about your **2020 Dog Tags**. They are available for sale at the Municipal Office for \$10.00 per tag.

For information or to report the contravention of any By-Laws, please leave a detailed message including name and phone number for **Paul Rossiter, By-Law Enforcement Officer at 705-389-2466 Ext. #45.**

Knox United Church

Weekly Sunday morning worship service At 11:00 A.M. All welcome, Sunday School available. **Bake Sale, Yard Sale and BBQ at Knox United Church. Saturday, August 1, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.**



Maple Island Thrift Shop

The Maple Island Thrift Shop will open Saturday April 4th. Let's work on the environment together - we accept gently used furniture, clothing, toys and household goods. Let's keep them out of the landfill.

For more info: Call Peggi Woehl 705-389-3775 or Elizabeth Hamilton 705-389-2207.

Recreation Committee

Volunteers are always needed and welcome for our events. If you are interested, please contact Rebecca Green at 705-773-2091.

Sweatshirt Hoodies with the Whitestone Logo - Now Available!

They are 'comfy and fun to wear'. Available at the Municipal Office in the following sizes:

Medium Large XL 2XL 3XL

Cost: \$26.00 (tax included)