

Township of East Garafraxa

Winter/Spring 2016

Information & News

Taxation Information

The 2016 **Interim Tax Bill** is based on 50% of your 2015 annualized taxes, not your new 2016 Assessment as set by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). The 2016 Assessment figures will be used to calculate the final taxes which will be issued in July.

Tax payments may be mailed or dropped off at the Township office just west of Laurel. Secure drop boxes are available in Marsville and at the Municipal office location for after hour use. You may also make your payments via telephone or online banking services provided by most financial institutions. Look up, "East Garafraxa – Township of" as the vendor and quote your full 19 digit roll number (2201-000-00X-XXXXX-0000) as your account number. *Please allow 3-4 business days for your payment to be processed in order to avoid late charges.*

For questions regarding your **property assessment**, please contact MPAC directly at www.mpac.ca or 1-866-296-6722. Requests for Reconsideration (**RfR**) for regular or amended Property Assessment Notices can be submitted anytime after notices are mailed and before March 31 of the applicable tax year.

RfRs may also be filed on a supplementary or omitted Property Assessment Notice. In these cases, the deadline is March 31 of the year in which the Notice is mailed or 90 days after the mailing of the Notice, whichever is later.

Planning Information

Township approval is required for all development. The Township Official Plan and Zoning By-law can be found on the Township website along with various planning applications. Development Charges are imposed under By-law 23-2014 for residential and wind turbine developments.

The Township is undertaking an **Official Plan review** for which public meetings will be held. Check the website and local newspapers for further information.

Conservation Authorities (CA) regulate activities in natural and hazardous areas to prevent the loss of life and property damage due to flooding and erosion, and to conserve and enhance natural areas. If you are planning a project in a regulated area, you may need a permit from the CA in your area, in addition to a building permit or other approvals from the Township. Outside the regulated areas, **all site alterations and importation/exportation of fill requires** Township approval.

Tree Information

Pick up day for **trees** ordered From the Township Fall 2015, will be May 7, 2016. Notices will be mailed to those who ordered. Conservation Authorities also offer tree programs. Check with Grand River Conservation www.grandriver.ca/trees (until March 1); or Credit Valley Conservation <http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/your-land-water/tree-planting-and-habitat-restoration-services/tree-planting>.

Township Contact Information

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Administration Office
374028 6th Line
Amaranth ON L9W 0M6
(519) 941-1007 or (519) 928-5298
FAX (519) 941-1802
ROAD DEPT TEL (519) 855-9833

Email – township@amaranth-eastgary.ca
Website – www.amaranth-eastgary.ca

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer – Susan M. Stone
Director of Public Works – David Menary
Planner – Christine Gervais

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Council 2014 – 2018

Mayor Guy Gardhouse	(519) 855-4832
Deputy Mayor John Stirk	(519) 941-5061
Councillor Lenora Banfield	(519) 928-9683
Councillor Tom Nevills	(519) 855-4324
Councillor Fran Pinkney	(519) 855-6332

Road Department Information

Please take note that under the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act, no person shall park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended upon any such roadway in such a manner as to interfere with snow removal operations. Any vehicle obstructing snow removal operations will be referred to the Dufferin OPP and shall be removed at the owner's expense.

Pushing snow across the roadway and depositing it on the road is prohibited and every person who contravenes these provisions of the Highway Traffic Act is guilty of an offence and liable, upon conviction, to a fine. You cannot leave ridges of snow across the road which freeze and become a hazard to drivers.



Trucks with **flashing blue lights** are performing winter maintenance. Please give them room to work and pass with caution as visibility may be compromised with blowing snow. If a snowplow stops, it is likely to back up, so please give them lots of room. You can see them, but if you are driving a small car they may not see you if you are following too closely. **Do not pull in behind any vehicle with a blue flashing light!**

Please consider the snowplow and/or mail delivery when putting your recycling and garbage out. **Place away from the travelled portion of the road and do not place out the night before as it is hard to see in the dark or blowing snow and difficult to manoeuvre a snowplow and wing around.**

While Spring is very welcome after a long winter, it presents us with its challenges too, ie. mud and later dust – elements of country living. Remember, the spring break up is temporary, although very frustrating...for everyone. Your care and patience is appreciated and as always, please drive according to the conditions.

For any road related emergency call 9-1-1.

Entrance permits are required for installation of any **driveway** off a Township road, contact the office for more information. For a County Road, please contact County of Dufferin <http://www.dufferincounty.ca/government/permits-and-applications> or 519-941-2816.

Fire Safety Information

Fire permits are required, at no charge, for all burning within the Township. Fires are to be in accordance with Fire By-law 7-2009. Costs of fire calls will be charged to property owner if provisions of the fire permit are contravened, or in absence of a fire permit, and for additional costs incurred as a result of an investigation. Working smoke alarms are required on each level of your home and CO detectors installed adjacent to all sleeping areas. With today's weather patterns often leaving us without power, please take care when using alternative lighting, cooking and heating sources. For more information contact your local fire department or go online to <http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca>.

2016 Dog Tags

Shortly, you will receive your 2016 Dog Tag(s) by mail, based on current records. An invoice will be included.



Please submit payment, check and update information and return to the Township accordingly. You are required to license each dog you own or house, pursuant to By-law 2-95 and to notify the Township if your dog is not registered. For canine control please contact Olympus Dog Training and Security at (519) 942-1508. Dogs running at large is prohibited in the Township.

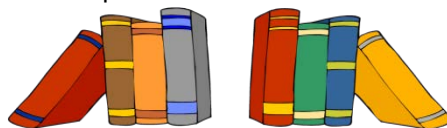
Waste Management

Garbage, recycling, green bin, yard waste, bulky items or white goods collection questions should be directed

to the County of Dufferin Waste Services Dept. by phone at (519) 941-2816 ext. 2620 or online at dufferinwaste@dufferincounty.ca or on Facebook at Dufferin Waste.

Recreation Information

Recreation facilities are available at the Grand Valley & District Community Centre which is supported by the Township.



Library Services

Library Services are available at Grand Valley Public Library free of charge. Residents who wish to use another library will be reimbursed the user fee (one per household annually) to a maximum as determined by Council, upon presentation of your receipt.

Ducks Unlimited



Did you know wetlands keep our water clean, provide habitat for wildlife, reduce flooding and replenish the groundwater supply? Ducks Unlimited Canada's new program called the Lake Simcoe Georgian Bay Wetland Collaborative can help you conserve and enhance your wetlands by providing technical advice as well as up to 90% of the project costs in the program area, which includes some areas of Simcoe, Dufferin, Grey, York, Durham, Kawartha, Muskoka and Parry Sound counties. Eligible projects include wetland restoration, livestock exclusion fencing, and wood duck nest boxes. For more information on how to apply please contact Sean Rootham at 1-800-402-4444 Ext 232 or s_rootham@ducks.ca.