



Georgian Bay




July 2020

TIMES

Together, Yet Apart



#muskokacares

 TownshipofGeorgianBay, Muskoka
 @gbtownship
 @georgianbaytownship
www.gbtownship.ca

Township of Georgian Bay
99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn ON
L0K 1S0
705-538-2337 | 1-800-567-0187





Council and Committee Meetings

Next Council Meeting: Monday July 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. – Electronic Meeting

Meetings with electronic participation have been approved for Council, and are available to watch live or view later on the Township of Georgian Bay's YouTube Channel.

There are no public meetings taking place and public meeting timelines have been extended as per Provincial legislation. This means that at this time, we are unable to permit public meetings for Planning Act applications or Shore Road Allowance applications.

Council and Committee meetings will resume to a regular schedule once it becomes safe and feasible for the Township to do so.

To view a schedule of meetings, agendas, or minutes, please view the Council Portal.

By-law Enforcement Zoning, Site Alteration, Tree Cutting and Blasting

Staff will continue to investigate By-law complaints; however any on-site inspections of such complaints may be affected during this time due to screening & Staff safety. Please submit through the form on our website, linked below:

<https://forms.gbtownship.ca/Report-a-Concern>

Commissioner of Oath



While the Township's municipal buildings remain closed to the public, staff are unable to provide commissioning services.

Any questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at info@gbtownship.ca.

Building and Planning Information

During this time, please refer to the information below related to the business continuity of the Development Services Department.

General Planning Enquiries

(Property Information & Zoning)

Please email planning@gbtownship.ca to request information regarding your property. If you are unable to communicate via email, please call 705-538-2337 ext. 263 and leave a detailed message with your name, property location, inquiry and phone number, and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

General Building Enquiries

Please email building@gbtownship.ca to request information regarding your property. If you are unable to communicate via email, please call 705-538-2337 ext. 233 and leave a detailed message with your name, property location, enquiry and phone number, and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

Application Submissions

(Building Permits & Planning Act Applications)

Applications are being accepted for both Building Permits and Planning Act applications at this time.

Regarding **Planning Act** applications, a one (1) week notice is respectfully requested to be provided to staff prior to submission. Please advise the Planning Department the purpose of the application and the property location, as this will ensure the necessary steps are taken so staff are able to accept the submission accordingly. Please advise the Planning Department at that time, staff will provide further instructions on how to proceed with the submission.

Application Processing & Review

Building

Building permit applications are continuing to be

received, processed and reviewed at this time; however, please note that process times will be effected. If you have any questions related to a specific building permit application, please contact one of the following below:

Dave Fedoriw, Chief Building Official

dfedoriw@gbtownship.ca

Caely Nicholson, Building Inspector

cnicholson@gbtownship.ca

Kim Allen, Building Inspector

kallen@gbtownship.ca

Building Inspections are still being conducted by the Building Department with an additional COVID-19 screening requirement to be completed prior to the inspection. Please note the Building Department will not be doing any Occupancy or Final Inspections in any continuously occupied structure.

If you'd like to book an inspection, please email building@gbtownship.ca. If you are unable to communicate via email, please call 705-538-2337 ext. 233 and leave a detailed message with your name, property location, enquiry and phone number and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

Planning

Planning Act applications are continuing to be received, processed and reviewed for completeness. Staff will continue to provide further technical comments where possible. At this time, Public Meetings have been cancelled for the month of April and further updates will be provided to applicants/agents as required. Due to this delay, decisions on any Planning Act applications will not occur until further notice. Staff will continue to conduct site visits (where possible) and prepare staff reports as required to move projects forward as smoothly as possible once regular business resumes. This may cause a delay in an applicants expected timeline, and it is encouraged that you contact the Planning Department for up to date information:

Victoria Lemieux, Manager of Planning

vlemieux@gbtownship.ca

Sydney Amero, Planning Technician

samero@gbtownship.ca

Taxes 2020

2020 COVID-19 Update

As the Province of Ontario moves into re-opening phases, the Township of Georgian Bay is also gradually transitioning towards "a new normal". In terms of property taxation this means the end of waived penalties on the Interim Tax Bill as of July 31, 2020. The 2020 final tax bills have been issued and the due date for 2020 final taxes remains as August 27, 2020. In order to assist those who are still feeling the financial hardship of COVID-19, we are offering payment plans without penalties and interest. In order to sign up for a payment plan please email the Township's Taxation & Revenue Coordinator at taxes@gbtownship.ca. These payment plans are intended for the taxpayer to have monthly instalments withdrawn from the bank account till the end of December 2020. If you are not on a payment plan penalties and interest will be 1.25% per month.



Midland opens COVID-19 Assessment Centre

**COVID19
Assessment
Centre**

By appointment only

 GEORGIAN BAY
General Hospital

[Click Here for next steps](#)

The #COVID19 outbreak can be stressful and may cause some people to experience anxiety or depression. Mental health and addiction supports are available online, by phone or text.
<http://Ontario.ca/Coronavirus> | #COVID19ON

**Mental health supports
from your home.**







Seen above. Dr. Jane Young from Pets Too, Beth Heintzman, President of the Baxter Ward Lions, Jennifer Schnier, Director of Sustainability, Township of Georgian Bay and Maggie the 3 year old Labernese.

About Pets Too:

The COVID-19 crisis has put much more pressure on people to meet the needs of feeding their beloved companion animals. 'Pets Too' realizes how strong the bond is between people and their pets, and how important it is to keep families intact. Studies show that having a pet helps people's mental and physical health. Through monetary donations from the community, Pets Too will distribute pet food to Food Banks in Muskoka. Everyone can help those in need to feed and keep their companion animals.

Pets Too is a division of Moosonee Puppy Rescue which is a registered Charitable Corporation.

To donate: Cash/cheque donations are preferred to increase safety during the COVID-19 crisis (you will receive a tax receipt).

Website: <http://www.moosoneepuppyrescue.com/pets-too>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/petstoo/>

**If you wish support the Baxter Ward Lions Club? Contact Beth Heintzman or any Lion at www.baxterwardlions.org.
The Port Severn Food Bank at present is operated by this Lions Club.**

What's Holding Your Dock Up?

A message from Georgian Bay Forever

Please take a look at your dock. You may be using unencapsulated foam and that becomes a serious shoreline litter problem and an ingestion threat to aquatic life as it fragments.

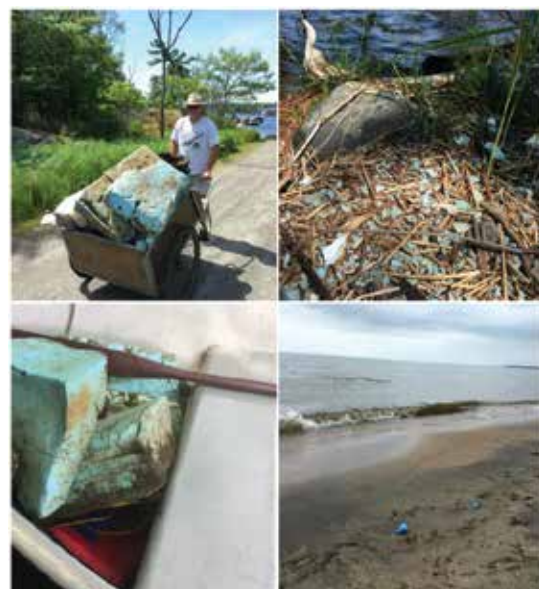
Many Georgian Bay residents participated in shoreline clean-ups last year, where polystyrene (PS) foam was the number one type of litter picked up, and the most visible of this litter type was foam from docks (often blue).

2020 may be worse - pictures have been sent to Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) this spring and summer of huge and little blue foam pieces picked up by concerned citizens - seeming to indicate that high water and storms have probably wreaked havoc on existing unencapsulated foam docks.

For more information on this pollution and its relation to docks: Problems with Polystyrene Foam. Environmental Fate and Effects in The Great Lakes, by Lisa Erdle for Georgian Bay Forever. (If the link doesn't work, copy this into your browser: <https://bit.ly/PSFoamGBF>)

How to help

If you have unencapsulated dock foam, you're not alone. Kindly investigate alternatives and consider a plan to swap it out as soon as possible. This will not be easy or inexpensive to get alternatives for floating your docks, but most alternatives will last a lot longer, and help reduce shoreline litter and its effects in Georgian Bay.



"Iceberg" PS foam litter picked up by volunteers in 2019

Examples of the thousands and thousands of fragmented pieces of PS foam on shorelines

Heather Sargeant states "There is sadly NO dock that doesn't have some impact to the environment, but if you email info@gbf.org, we can provide ideas on alternates to investigate for our dock from the Say "NO" to Dock Foam committee. And, if you want, please share your experiences with a dock alternate(s) - your information and experience is very valued".

Before You Burn...

Contact your local fire department about **local by-laws and restrictions** on open air burning.

Open air burning can include **bonfires, firepits** and **outdoor fireplaces**.

ontario.ca/firemarshal

I support small business **Shop Local!**

#ShopLocalON

We are recruiting Fire Fighters

The Georgian Bay Fire Department serves our community when help is needed the most. Our Fire Department has three Fire Stations located in Honey Harbour, Port Severn and MacTier with over 45 volunteer Firefighters. Volunteer Firefighters receive monetary compensation for training sessions and response to emergency calls. Application Submission Deadline: August 5th, 2020 at 4:00pm
Link to application

<https://www.gbtownship.ca/en/living-here/resources/Firefighter-Recruitment-Orientation-Guide--2020--FD-UPDATED.pdf>

For more information, please contact Chad Dowell
Deputy Fire Chief at cdowell@gbtownship.ca



Get Notified When an Agenda is Published

You can receive email notifications of any Council or Committee agenda. Follow these 5 simple steps:

- 1 Go to the Council Portal webpage.**
- 2 Click on the E-Updates tile.**
- 3 Select the meeting agendas you wish to receive.**
- 4 Enter your email address.**

You will only receive notifications regarding the meetings you have selected, and you may unsubscribe at any time.

- 5 Click on "Watch Council Meetings Live"**



Meetings with electronic participation have been approved for Council, and are available to watch live or view later on the Township of Georgian Bay's YouTube Channel.

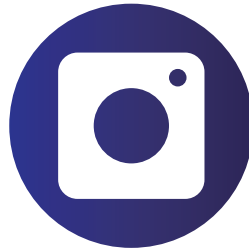
The Township's YouTube Channel contains past recordings of Council, Planning Council, Committee of the Whole, and Committee of Adjustment meetings. You can also watch videos on the Honey Harbour Waterfront Plan.

Any questions regarding Council or Committee Meetings, please contact the Clerk's Office at info@gbtownship.ca.

How can we stay in touch?



www.gbtownship.ca



@georgianbaytownship



For our staff directory



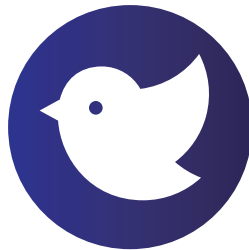
CLICK HERE



Township of
Georgian Bay,
Muskoka



For our phone extensions
(705)538-2337
Click here



@gbtownship

TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES may be REMOTE EMPLOYEES!



For the safety of you, your community, and our employees some staff are working remotely. You can still reach us at any of the above portals.

