

# Georgian Bay Times



March 2025

# MARCH Break



**MacTier Arena Open  
for March Break**

Check page 10 for details



Township of Georgian Bay  
99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn, Ontario L0K 1S0  
Phone: 705-538-2337 Toll Free: 1-800-567-0197  
[www.gbtownship.ca](http://www.gbtownship.ca)

# COUNCIL DATES

MARCH 2025



## PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

Public participants for electronic public meetings are responsible for securing their own device (web camera, microphone, and speakers required) and internet connection.

All participants will be required to follow all instructions and procedures provided. Failure to comply will result in their removal from the meeting.

Submit registration requests to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca) and clearly identify the following information:

- First and last name
- Municipal address
- Phone number
- Application number and title

As always, written correspondence for Members can be sent in advance of the meeting start time to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca) or [info@gbtownship.ca](mailto:info@gbtownship.ca).



You can Watch Council Meetings on YouTube.

### Council

Monday, March 3 at 9:00 AM

### Planning Council

Tuesday, March 4 at 9:00 AM

### Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, March 4 at 1:00 PM

### Committee of Adjustment

Friday, March 7 at 10:00 AM

### Special Council (Training)

Wednesday, May 12 at 10:00 AM

### MacTier Arena Advisory Committee

Monday, March 24 at 10:00 AM

Planning Council and Committee of Adjustment requests for remote participation are due the previous business day by 12:00 Noon to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca)

Council and Committee of the Whole requests for Open Forum remote participation are due the previous business day by 12:00 Noon to [clerks@gbtownship.ca](mailto:clerks@gbtownship.ca).

# Building Department: Maintenance Fee

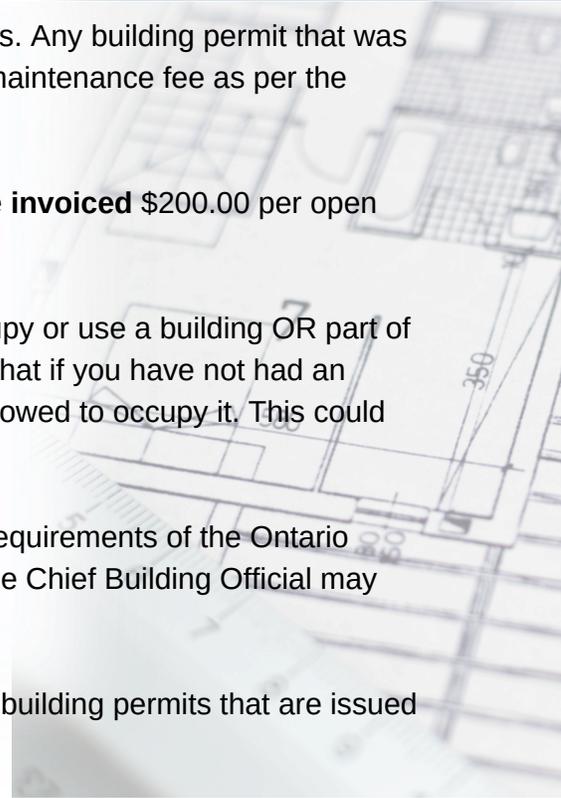
The Building Department is currently reviewing its open building permit files. Any building permit that was issued in 2022 or prior will be subject to the Township of Georgian Bay's maintenance fee as per the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.

If a building permit remains **open** as of **September 30th, 2025**, you will be **invoiced** \$200.00 per open building permit (unless Fees and Charges By-law is updated).

Be advised that under the Ontario Building Code Act, no person shall occupy or use a building OR part of a building until the requirements of the building code are met. This means that if you have not had an occupancy inspection on your outstanding building permit – you are not allowed to occupy it. This could also lead to issues with your insurance provider.

Note: this is **not a renewal fee**, if your building permit does not meet the requirements of the Ontario Building Code regarding commencement or continuation of construction the Chief Building Official may cancel it.

As the owner of the home, you are entirely and solely **responsible** for the building permits that are issued in relation to your property.



## Burn Permits are Required



Whether it's for leisure or to get items cleaned up around the property, a burn permit is required in the Township of Georgian Bay.

- Its Fast & Easy!
- Apply Online or
- In person at Libraries or
- Administration Office






Calling LEGO enthusiasts of all ages. Join us in creative play and building with Lego bricks! Explore your imagination, develop teamwork and problem-solving skills, meet new people and have fun!

**HH: Saturday, March 15 at 10:30am**

**MT: Saturday, March 1 at 10:30 am**

## Cricut & Coffee

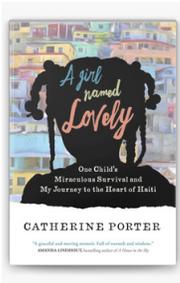
**HHPL:** Friday, March 14 at 1:30 pm

**MT:** Friday, March 21 at 1:30 pm



Cricut & Coffee, where we create and caffeinate! Join us for some crafty fun as we tackle this month's Cricut project! February is Valentine Sign making.

**Drop-in, while supplies last!**



## MacTier Book Club

The first Friday of the month at 11 am

March 7 Title:

A Girl Named Lovely by Catherine Porter



## After School Adventurers – Drop In

**HH:** Tuesday, March 4 & 18 from 3 – 5 pm

**MT:** Wednesday, March 5 & 19 from 3 – 5 pm

Become an After School Adventurer! Join us every other week as our adventurers embark on a new theme, exploring everything from science and nature to art and technology.

**Drop in and let the adventures begin!**

## TECH HELP

One on One Tech Help

**HH: Wednesdays from 1 – 2:30 pm**

**MT: Tuesdays from 1 – 2:30 pm**



Drop in for a technology help session with one of our friendly staff.

Need to access Service Ontario? You can access their mobile unit outside of the **MacTier Library** on Tuesday February 4 and 18 from 10 – 3 pm

DIY Storytime - Drop In

**HH & MT:** Friday, March 28

Drop in for a self led story and craft during our open hours



# CRAFT

## Adult Craft Night

**HH:** Tuesday, March 18 at 6:30 pm

**MT:** Wednesday, March 19 at 6:30 pm

Come out and be creative with us!

Contact your branch for more details

Please register as space is limited.

### Honey Harbour

Tuesday 10:00 – 6:00

Wednesday, Friday,

Saturday 10:00 – 3:00

### Port Severn

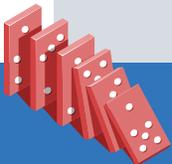
Tuesday, Friday &

Saturday 10:00 – 3:00

### MacTier

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 – 3:00

Wednesday 10:00 – 6:00





## MARCH BREAK ACTIVITIES



### **BUTTON BONANZA**

HH: Wednesday, March 12 – all day!

MT: Tuesday, March 11 – all day!

All ages.

Design and create personalized buttons showcasing anything from your favourite quotes to your own artistic flair.



### **STUFFY SLEEPOVER**

HH & MT: Friday, March 14 at 10:30 am

All ages.

Enjoy storytime, games, and crafts, all while your stuffies settle in for a sleepover. Please bring a stuffy friend you are comfortable leaving with Library staff for the sleepover



### **FIREFIGHTER STORY TIME**

HH: Tuesday, March 11 at 10:30 am

MT: Wednesday, March 12 at 10:30 am

Join us for a special story time session presented by our friends from Georgian Bay Fire & Emergency Services. Enjoy the stories and get up close and explore the fire engine!



### **POPCORN PICKS**

HH: Wednesday, March 12 at 1 pm

MT: Saturday, March 15 at 1 pm

Lights, Camera, Library! Join us for Popcorn Picks, it's movie fun for the whole family! No admission and complimentary popcorn.



# MARCH



## MARCH

**MacTier Memorial Arena 9 Haig Street  
Thursday, March 20, 2025**

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Social  
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Who Are You Bingo  
11:00 - 12:00 p.m. Respiratory Therapy -  
VitalAire Parry Sound  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch - Chicken Parmesan  
with Pasta  
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Documentary and  
Discussion - Live to 100

## MARCH

**Baxter Ward Community Centre 275  
Honey Harbour Rd., Port Severn  
Thursday, March 27, 2025**

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Social  
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Brain Games  
11:00 - 12:00 p.m. Beausoleil Island -  
Honey Harbour Historical Society  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch - Chicken  
Parmesan with Pasta  
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Suncatcher

**Please Register one week in advance for  
programs.**

*Register  
Now*

**Seniors Programs and Services**

705-645-2100 ext. 4199

seniorsprograms@muskoka.on.ca

Green Bins

Clear Bags



# A Clear Vision For Our Community

Starting March 3rd, 2025



## Only the colour of your garbage bag is changing.

If organics or recyclables are found in your clear garbage bag, you will receive a reminder to separate them.

### Need help sorting your waste?

Use the District's online Waste Wizard to determine whether common items belong in the garbage, recycling, or green bin.



[Scan me!](#)

## Get your household ready in three simple steps:



### Stock up

Stock up on clear bags at your local grocery or hardware store.



### Download Muskoka Waste App

Download the Muskoka Waste app to quickly check which bin everyday items belong in.



### Gather Your Bins

Ensure your green bin and recycling bins are ready to collect any items that shouldn't be put in the garbage.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Can I still put my garbage bag into a container or bear bin?

Yes! The only thing changing is the colour of your garbage bag.

### Can I use a tinted blue bag for my garbage?

No! Only clear, colourless, transparent bags will be permitted for garbage.

### What do I do with the garbage I would like to keep private?

Your privacy is important to us. Two opaque privacy bags (think shopping bag size) are permitted inside your clear bag.

## Make a Clear Commitment

A big shoutout to Muskoka residents making the Clear Commitment early! We are already seeing clear garbage bags at the curb, before the official launch of the program.

### Are you ready to make the clear commitment for your community?

Visit [www.muskoka.on.ca/clear-bags](http://www.muskoka.on.ca/clear-bags) to learn more about the clear bag program.



*Scan me!*



Download our Muskoka Waste App today!



# Muskoka Community Grants

The District of Muskoka (District) is excited to announce the launch of the 2024 Muskoka Community Grant program.

The District is committed to making life better for everyone, especially those who need it most. One way we do this is through community-funded programs. Our Community Grant Program is all about bringing people together to support those who are most vulnerable.

## Pay It Forward (PIF)

- PIF has been made available to grassroots Muskoka community groups since 2012 and offers grants of up to \$2,500.
- PIF grants are awarded to community members or groups with innovative ideas that will bring people together and contribute to the well-being of our community. Grants are awarded to projects that fill a strategic need in the community, enhance community support and leadership, and create positive change. PIF grants can help grassroots ideas become a reality.

## Community Enhancement Fund (CE)

- The CE fund has been made available to non-profit community organizations since 2020 and offers grants up to \$10,000.
- Grants are awarded to non-profit community organizations that address poverty reduction, food security, housing and living conditions, education and training opportunities, volunteer and job development, and citizen engagement.
- Complete an Application Today!
- Applications for both PIF and CE can be made through our 2024 Muskoka Community Grant Project Page on the Engage Muskoka Platform at the following link: [2024 Muskoka Community Grants](#)

Applications close Friday, March 22, 2024.

## Learn More and Stay Informed!

For updates regarding the program and available grant opportunities, please subscribe to the Community Grant Program Project Page made available on the Engage Muskoka platform at the following link: [2024 Muskoka Community Grants](#)



# Municipal Grants



## REQUESTS FOR FUNDS \$1500 OR UNDER.

On an annual basis, applications shall be received by the Director of Finance from area cottage and lake associations, community associations and nonprofit groups that are united with a common goal for consideration by Township Council for the Municipal Grant Program.

Private road associations, lake associations or not for-profit organizations are excluded. All grant requests must be submitted between **January 1st and March 31st** for consideration into the annual subsidy.

The amount of distributed municipal funds shall be dependent on the number of applicants received that meet Municipal Grant Policy For More information click [here](#)

[treasury@gbtownship.ca](mailto:treasury@gbtownship.ca)

DONATE NOW

GATHER THE GANG!

**SPRING INTO  
SUPPORTING THE  
FOOD BANK!**

We have a matching donor who will give us the year of 2025 to raise \$25,000!!

Cash Donations are a great way to support the Food Bank and your neighbours.

**Guess  
WHAT**



# March



## ON THE ICE

	Parent & Child Shinny	14 & Up Shinny	13 & Down Shinny	Adult Skate	Public Skating
Monday, March 10	9:00 AM to 10:20 AM	11:00 AM to 12:20 PM	13:00 PM to 4:20 PM		1:00 PM - 2:20 PM
Tuesday March 11		2:30 PM to 4:50 PM		9:00 AM - 10:20 AM	
Wed. March 12	9:00 AM to 10:50 AM		1:30 PM to 2:50 PM	3:30 PM - 4:50 PM	11:30 AM - 12:50 PM
Thursday March 13		11:00 AM - 12:20 PM		1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	9:00 AM - 10:20 AM
Friday March 14	9:00 AM to 10:20 AM	1:00 PM to 2:30 PM		3:00 PM - 4:50 PM	11:00 AM - 12:20 PM

# Community Events

## Half Loads



**Start: March 10, 2025**

**Check our  
Calendar often for  
up to date  
information**

Explore events happening across the Township of Georgian Bay with our online Community Calendar. Residents, organizations, and businesses can submit their own events or subscribe to get updates directly to their inbox. Visit [gbtownship.ca](http://gbtownship.ca) to stay informed and get involved!



*follow us*



## 2025 FEES & CHARGES BY-LAW UPDATED



The Township of Georgian Bay has updated its Fees and Charges By-law for 2025 to reflect the services and programs offered in our community. These changes are designed to ensure fairness and sustainability for all.

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

Whether you're planning permits, facility rentals, or other services, be sure to check the updated by-law for the latest information.

Visit our website for details:

<https://www.gbtownship.ca/en/township-hall/fees-and-charges.aspx>

# Parking Passes

## 2025



Residents of the Township of Georgian Bay can now pick up their parking passes for the 2025 season. These passes provide access to designated parking areas across the township.

**Where to pick up:** Township Office, 99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn. Or one of the three Georgian Bay Public Library Branches.

**When:** Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

Be sure to bring proof of residency (e.g., driver's license or utility bill).

*Stay connected and park with ease!*

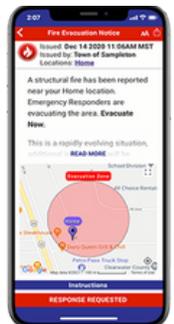
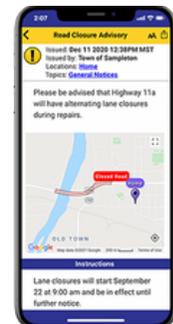
## Download Now!



### GEORGIAN BAY ALERT

REGISTER AND RECEIVE NOTICES ON:

- Muskoka Emergency Alerts
- Events
- Notifications
- Fire Rating every Friday
- Emergency Notifications
- Road Closures
- News and Press Releases





PROUDLY PRESENTS THE  
**FOODCYCLER**  
PROGRAM



## INTRODUCING THE NEW FOODCYCLER ECO 3! Small size, BIG POWER.

The Eco 3 is the most powerful and compact food recycler available on the market! The Township of Georgian Bay invites permanent and seasonal residents to purchase this innovative on-site food waste recycling technology at a subsidized rate. Less waste, less worry!

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
AND TO PURCHASE YOUR  
SUBSIDIZED FOODCYCLER:



~~\$599.00~~  
**\$249.00**  
+ tax





### WHERE IS BYLAW ENFORCED?

On **ALL** municipally maintained roads within the Township of Georgian Bay.



### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Remember, it's not just about parking – it's about creating a winter wonderland that's safe, accessible, and ready for anything!



### OUR GOAL

To educate our residents and visitors to create a peaceful, safe place for all to enjoy.

# WINTER PARKING

November 15 and April 1.  
Parking By-Law 2018-06

The Township prohibits parking within 3.05 metres (10 feet) of the edge of any gravel, surface treatment or asphalt road within Georgian Bay between November 15 and April 1.  
Parking By-Law 2018-06

### Web Services



Pay your tickets online at our website. It's fast, easy and convenient.  
[gbtownship.ca/payments](http://gbtownship.ca/payments)

### Don't Get Towed



Our By-Law officers have the right to have your vehicle towed if you are in contravention of the parking by-law. This will cost you \$\$\$.

Looking for more information from Council?



*click here!*



# @COUNCIL Connect