



For Immediate Release

RE: Freezing Rain Event

Whitewater Region, Ontario – April 6, 2023

With the freezing rain event occurring through April 5 and 6, 2023, the Township Public Works staff commenced Wednesday managing the municipal road and sidewalk network. In the afternoon of Wednesday and all-day Thursday, staff prioritized tree removal blocking access to local roads, removing hundreds of fallen trees, limbs, and debris. Following the clearing of roadways, staff will address broken limbs, damaged trees within the Township's right-of-way, and brush/wood cleanup.

If you observe a tree obstructing a roadway, notify the Township as soon as it is safe to do so, using our website, www.whitewaterregion.ca - "feedback and/or the emergency after-hours phone line at 613-646-2282, Option 9.

Power Lines

If you come across a fallen power line, maintain a distance of 10 meters away, even if it does not appear to be live. Report it to the Ontario Provincial Police and Hydro One at 1-800-434-1235. In the Beachburg area, contact the Ottawa River Power Corporation at 613-732-3687.

Private Property Clean-up

Residents can take brush under 150mm (3") in diameter to the Landfill located at 990 Kohlsmith Road for no charge. The Landfill will operate during its regular hours on Wednesday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A special exception extending to April 29, 2023, will allow residents to dispose of trees, large branches, stumps, roots, timber, and logs at the Landfill for no charge.

Burn Permits

Burn permits are required for all types of outdoor burning anytime throughout the year and can be accessed on our website at wwr.burnpermits.com or by calling 1-855-922-2652. Burn permits must be obtained prior to burning and are valid for the calendar year, expiring on December 31.

Recreational burning must be contained within a commercial, non-combustible or fabricated appliance that is CSA or ULC approved and specifically designated for recreational fires, or a fire pit that is 60 centimetres by 60 centimetres (2 feet by 2 feet) with a flame no higher than 0.91 metres (3 feet). Large open-air burning is allowed for lots that are greater than 0.40 hectares (1 acre) and must be no greater than 2 metres (6.5 feet) in diameter and greater than 2 metres (6.5 feet) in height.

Veteran Memorial Park

Veteran Memorial Park in Cobden has been closed for safety reasons due to fallen trees and broken limbs.

Fire Department

The Fire Department was active in the afternoon and evening of April 5, responding to more than a dozen calls. Firefighters have worked tirelessly for the last 24 hours and continue to do so keeping residence safe from downed hydro lines and fires.

Mayor Nicholson commented, "I would like to thank staff for their efforts and long hours to prepare and ensure that residents and emergency services can safely access our residents. I'd also like to extend a thanks to residents for their patience with the cleanup which will take some time to complete."

Additional information:

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