



# Municipal Newsletter

## Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Mayor Mark Peterson  
[mpeterson@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:mpeterson@blandfordblenheim.ca)



Councillor Randy Balzer  
[rbalzer@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:rbalzer@blandfordblenheim.ca)

Councillor Bruce Banbury  
[bbanbury@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:bbanbury@blandfordblenheim.ca)

Councillor Nancy Demarest  
[ndemarest@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:ndemarest@blandfordblenheim.ca)

### Municipal Office

47 WILMOT ST. S.,  
DRUMBO, ON NOJ 1G0  
Phone: 519-463-5347  
Fax: 519-463-5881  
[www.blandfordblenheim.ca](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca)

### Hours of Operation

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Monday – Friday

### Public Works Yard/ Leaf Waste Depot

The depot is located at  
895957 Oxford Road 3,  
just North of Drumbo

### Community Services

Plattsville Arena &  
Community Hall  
68 Mill Street East  
519-684-7482

Princeton Centennial Hall  
35 Main Street South  
519-458-4891

### County of Oxford

Phone: 519-539-9800  
[www.oxfordcounty.ca](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca)

**Council meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at  
4:00 p.m.**

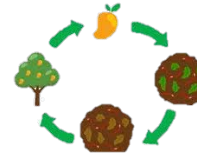
The Mayor and Council are always  
receptive to your input and  
comments. Your attendance at  
Council is welcome.

### **Stay up to date!**

Check out our website to stay up to  
date with public events, road closures,  
Council Meetings and more!  
[www.blandfordblenheim.ca](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca)

Like us on Facebook! Search for the  
Township of Blandford-Blenheim to  
see our page.

Have you heard about the **Green Cone Composter**  
now offered? It's a way to compost your kitchen  
scraps underground, letting the sun and cone do all  
the work. There are many benefits to the Cone. No  
need to stir the compost, the composter is  
underground making it difficult for animals to get to  
and reduces odors. It's made out of recycled  
materials and allows you to compost kitchen scraps  
that traditional systems can't break down. Visit us at  
the Township Office to purchase your Green Cone for  
just \$40!



### **Why home escape planning and practice matter**

- Home escape planning and practice ensure that everyone knows what to do in a fire and is prepared to escape quickly and safely.
- Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as **two minutes** to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds.
- When the smoke alarm sounds in a real fire, it's too late to start making a plan.



### **Township Office will be Closed:**

November 11<sup>th</sup> for Remembrance Day  
December 24<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup> for Christmas Holidays  
January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Years Day  
February 17<sup>th</sup> for Family Day  
April 10<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> for Easter



### **Local Remembrance Day Services:**

81661 Oxford Rd. 22 Bright ON: November 10 -11am  
32 Wilmot St. South Drumbo ON: November 11 -11am  
112 Mill St. South Plattsville ON: November 11 -11am  
25 Main St. South Princeton ON: November 11 -10:30am

## About your Property Taxes

### **E-mailing of Property Tax Bills**

Have your property tax bill e-mailed to you, instead of regular mail! Receiving your tax bill by e-mail will allow you to easily file these important documents electronically for future reference. It's not only environmentally friendly, but also fiscally responsible. Your authorization is required and can be done by sending an e-mail requesting this service, to Katie, our Deputy Treasurer / Revenue Co-ordinator, at [kkoski@blandfordblenheim.ca](mailto:kkoski@blandfordblenheim.ca). Don't forget to keep us updated if your e-mail address ever changes.

### **Pre-Authorized Payment of Property Taxes**

Paying your property taxes by pre-authorized payments makes sense. There are no administrative fees and your payment is never late. There is a monthly payment option; 10 months from January to October, withdrawn on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, as well as the installment option withdrawn on the four tax due dates. Forms are available online or at the Township office.

### **Internet/Telephone Banking Tax Payments**

If you pay your taxes online or by telephone banking, please allow for 2-3 business days for processing. The Township **must** receive payment by the due date. Payments made online or by telephone banking on the due date will not reach the Township on time and will be subject to penalty.

### **Farm Property Tax Credit**

If you participate in the Farm Property Tax Credit Program, **it is important to keep the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) up to date with any changes to the farm ownership or tenancy.** It is important to maintain your relationship with OMAFRA as even minor changes can have dramatic effects on your assessment and property taxes. Please call 1-877-424-1300 to report any changes or if you have questions about the program.

**FINAL TAX INSTALLMENT DUE OCTOBER 31, 2019**

### Public Works Yard/ Leaf Waste Depot:

Located on Township Road 8 beside the Public Works yard at 895957 Oxford Road 3 - Open 24/7 to drop off yard waste such as grass, hedge trimmings, leaves, Halloween pumpkins plus house and garden plants. No containers please.



**SCHOOL BUS**

**I STOP YOU STOP**

**FINES**

- First offence: \$400 to \$2,000 and six demerit points.
- Each following offence: \$1,000 to \$4,000, six demerit points and possible jail time (up to six months).

**Do not pass when signals flashing.**



### From the Public Works Department

**Respect the BLUE:** Snow removal equipment will soon be out on the roads. When you see the BLUE lights flashing give them lots of room to work. They are there to make the roads safer for everyone to use.

**Snow Removal:** Residents are reminded that it's an offense to deposit snow or ice on a roadway. This practice contravenes Township of Blandford-Blenheim By-law Number 455-82 and similarly The Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.H.8, S 181, which states "No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry or Road Authority responsible for the maintenance of the road".

**Parking:** To assist with snow removal operations, parking is restricted on all Township maintained streets. Starting November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> there is NO Parking from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Friday. Parking on streets maintained by the County of Oxford is restricted from 2:00 am to 6:00 am.

**Mailboxes:** The Township will replace broken mailboxes **only** if snow removal equipment makes physical contact with the mailbox. Landowners are responsible to ensure mailboxes are securely attached to their post.

### BURNING GUIDELINES

Open air burning shall not take place unless it has been approved or, the open-air burning consists of a small confined fire that is:

- Used to cook food on a grill, barbeque, or spit;
- Proportionate with the type and quantity of food being cooked; and,
- Is supervised at all times.



All toxic materials prohibited by the Environmental Protection Act including treated, painted or laminated wood, tires, rubber, leaves/brush, plastic, asphalt, foam and insulation shall not be burned, at any time.

Fire must always be supervised at all times.

Sufficient water or other fire retardant equipment is readily available to keep fire under control.

You can apply for a **Marriage Licence** at the Township office. For more information contact the office or see our website.



The Township intakes Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Checks. If you require a Vulnerable Sector Check, the OPP requires a letter from the organization requesting it. You must bring two pieces of identification: Driver's License, Passport, Birth Certificate, Hunting License, Blood Donor Card or Student Card. We cannot accept a Health Card as identification.



### Holiday Celebrations

#### Bright Santa Claus Parade

December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

Collection of Non-perishable foods

#### Plattsville Santa Claus Parade

December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Collection of food, coats and stuffed animals

#### Drumbo Community Carol Sing

December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Meet at the Lions Gazebo



### Parks & Recreation News

Youth Drop in Center – Wednesday nights from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Adult Active Center – Wednesdays 10am to 12pm.

Free Public Skating – Saturdays from 1pm to 2pm at the Plattsville Arena

Free Parents and Tots Skating – Wednesdays & Thursdays from 11am-12pm at the Plattsville Arena

Free Adult Skating – Tuesdays from 12pm-1pm at the Plattsville Arena

Oxford Early on Years – Thursdays from 9:30am to 11am at the Plattsville Arena

Fitness Classes – Mondays, Thursdays 7pm-8pm and Saturdays 9am-10am Contact Terri at 519-465-7147.

Yoga Classes – Tuesdays 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Contact Vickie at 519-498-2251

Parks will be shut down October 30. This means the washrooms will be closed, and garbage's will be limited.

The Plattsville Arena will be closed December 25-26, and January 1.

For information regarding renting ice/pad, hockey/skating, or the Plattsville Hall please call 519-684-7482

Sponsored free skates over Christmas break will be posted at the Arena, and on the Township's website.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.blandfordblenheim.ca](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca)



### Municipal Drains

Dead & fallen trees can affect the function of drains, this can cause blockages, which may also cause flooding. Please inspect open drains on your property.

If you suspect that the municipal drain on your property requires maintenance or repair, including being affected by trees or their roots, please contact the Drainage Superintendent to schedule an inspection at 519-463-5347.

[www.blandfordblenheim.ca/Services/MunicipalDrainage](http://www.blandfordblenheim.ca/Services/MunicipalDrainage)

Do you have a pool? Fall maintenance may mean you are backwashing and draining water to prepare for the winter. Remember that it is against by-law to drain any water onto neighbouring properties. Be neighbourly and ensure your run off is draining on your own property.