

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #6 - MARCH 2025

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Newsletter made
By: Grant, Isla and Avery.
Students from SGDHS
South Grenville District High School.

March Break Free Public Skating



twpec.ca/skating

INGREDION CENTRE, CARDINAL:

Monday March 10 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday March 12 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday March 14 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

SPENCERVILLE ARENA:

Sunday March 9 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday March 11 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday March 13 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

YOUR TOWN HALL



TOWNSHIP MEETINGS NOW AVAILABLE VIA LIVE STREAM!

We're excited to announce the launch of our live streaming module for Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council and Committee meetings. This new feature allows residents to stay informed and engaged with local decision-making more easily than ever before.

With real-time access, you can now watch compare to documents provided. meetings live directly from our website, ensuring you don't miss important discussions. If you're unable to tune in, the video will be available the next day through the HTML version of the agenda, which is conveniently linked on our Council Calendar. This update also means that all meeting-related information, including agendas, minutes, and videos, will be available in one central location for easy reference.

Note that meeting videos will no longer be uploaded to YouTube. Moving forward, all recordings will be accessible exclusively through our Council calendar.

Stay connected and stay informed! To watch live or catch up later, visit our Council Calendar at www.calendar.twpec.ca/meetings.

SCAN ME



calendar.twpec.ca/meetings

HOW TO PAY PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are due March 31. TWPEC offers multiple convenient ways for residents to pay their tax bills.

- **DROP OFF:** A 24-hour drop box is available at the main entrance of the Township Office at 18 Centre Street in Spencerville for cheque payments, though cash deposits are not advised.
- **BY MAIL:** Residents can also avoid line-ups by mailing their payments to the Township's mailing address, PO Box 129 Spencerville, ON KOE 1X0, ensuring they allow enough time for delivery.
- **IN-PERSON:** Payments are accepted at the municipal office during regular business hours from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with cash, debit, and cheque as the available payment options—though credit cards are not accepted.
- **ONLINE BANKING:** For those who prefer digital transactions, online or telephone banking payments can be made using a 19-digit roll number (excluding the last four digits if you bank with RBC), with early processing recommended to ensure timely receipt.

DOMESTIC FOWL OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING

On January 28, 2025, the Township held its first public open house meeting to discuss possible changes to the ‘Hobby Farm and Domestic Fowl Coop’ requirements in the zoning by-law, to include settlement areas. The intent of the open house was not only to inform residents about upcoming changes to policies or by-laws, but a chance for the public to provide comments, concerns and/or support. Most importantly it was a chance to be heard.

Approximately a dozen residents who attended the open house provided great insight on how possible changes may affect their continued enjoyment of keeping domestic fowl and coops. The discussions brought up some issues and ideas not only for settlement areas but for the rural area and hobby farm uses.

On February 3, 2025, the Committee of the Whole – Community Development held a Public Meeting to discuss the comments and information received during the open house. Over 20 residents attended and provided comments to the committee members. Information from all parties was collected and planning staff were directed to review all the information gathered to date and later return with a draft by law to be discussed at a future public meeting.

The township website is a great source of information for upcoming projects and notices of applications, open houses, public meetings as well as events happening in the area.

For any questions relating to planning and development matters, please contact the township’s Municipal Land Use Planner by calling 613-803-8342 or by email at tfisher@twpec.ca. The township welcomes feedback when creating policies and by-laws to ensure we are moving in the right direction. As always, our collective goal is to make our township a great place to live, work and play, and most importantly, a place to call home.

Open houses and public meetings are an important part of the planning and decision-making processes of Council and its Committees. The Township has made a commitment to provide open government and promote transparency, accountability and accessibility.

STAY INFORMED

We are committed to open and transparent communication with all residents



-  Check for upcoming public meetings and open houses
-  Subscribe to the page for updates
-  Learn how to participate

twpec.ca/public-meetings

RECREATION & LEISURE

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

A Summer of Fun and Discovery

The Township's summer day camps are back, offering children aged 5 to 10 a chance to explore, create, and play in a safe and welcoming environment. Running in four two-week sessions, each camp is packed with hands-on activities, including crafts, outdoor games, swimming lessons, and complementary swim sessions.

This year's themes promise to add extra excitement:

- Arts & Crafts – Unleash creativity through painting, sculpting, and DIY projects
- Survivor – Participate in fun outdoor team challenges.
- Sports – Action-packed days with different sports and teamwork activities.
- Camp Olympics – A thrilling wrap-up with friendly competitions and team spirit.

Camps will be held at two locations:

Cardinal Camp at the Ingredion Centre and Cardinal Pool
Johnstown Camp at the South Edwardsburgh Community Centre and Johnstown Pool

Registration opens April 1, 2025, at 8 a.m., and with limited spots available, early sign-up is encouraged.

To find out all the details visit: www.twpec.ca/camp



SENIORS WELLNESS PROGRAM

Boost your Mind, Body, and Spirit

Seniors in our community are invited to participate in a free program designed to promote wellness, creativity, and fun. This engaging initiative offers a variety of activities aimed at enhancing mental, physical, and emotional well-being.

Through this program, you can express yourself through art and unwind while music therapy fosters connection and happiness. The program also includes games, puzzles, and social activities to keep minds sharp and encourage interaction. You will also benefit from gentle exercises and nutrition tips, with a healthy snack provided at each session. A registered nurse will be available for health checks and wellness guidance, ensuring personalized support.

This program will take place at two locations:

South Edwardsburgh Community Centre
Mondays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. until May 19

Spencerville Town Hall
Thursdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. until May 8

For all the details and to sign up, visit www.twpec.ca/senior/adult or call 613-802-6774.

Take care of your wellness with the support of your community in a friendly and welcoming environment.

DIVE INTO LEADERSHIP

Lifeguard Training & Aquatic Instructor Courses & Jobs Open

The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal is making waves with its dynamic aquatic leadership programs, offering individuals the chance to become certified lifeguards and swim instructors. These courses provide valuable training in teaching swim strokes, evaluating techniques, and mastering effective instruction methods—essential skills for ensuring safety and success in the water.

Participants who complete the program will be certified to teach all levels of the Swim for Life Program, from toddlers to adults. This hands-on training not only enhances swimming and lifesaving skills but also builds leadership, responsibility, and teamwork—qualities that are highly valued in any career.

For those looking for a rewarding summer job, the Township is also offering a course fee reimbursement. Individuals who work as Township lifeguards or swim instructors for the summer season will have their training fees covered at the end of the season—a great way to gain experience while earning money and making a difference.

Check out course schedules, prerequisites, and registration details at www.twpec.ca/learn.

For summer employment opportunities, see www.twpec.ca/jobs and turn your skills into an exciting opportunity this summer!



BOOKED FOR FUN

Book sale

Join the Friends of the Spencerville Public Library for a fantastic Fill-a-Bag-for-\$1 Book Sale on Saturday, March 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Don't miss this chance to stock up on great reads at unbeatable prices!

March break

Looking for something to do over March Break? Drop by during regular library hours for Lego building, scavenger hunts, puzzles, games, colouring, books, and more! No registration required—just come and have fun!

Annual book mark design contest

Calling all creative minds! Our Annual Bookmark Design Contest is back at both library branches. The contest kicks off the week of March 10, and entry forms will be available at both locations. Get inspired and design a winning bookmark!

OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Cardinal Branch:

Address: 618 County Road 2, Cardinal

Phone: 613-657-3822

Hours:

- Mon: 5pm-8 pm
- Tue: 1pm-5 pm
- Wed: 5pm-8pm
- Thu: 1pm-5 pm
- Sat: 9am- 12 pm

Spencerville Branch:

Address: 5 Henderson St, Spencerville

Phone: 613-658-5575

Hours:

- Tue: 1pm-5 pm
- Wed: 5pm-8 pm
- Thu: 1pm-5 pm
- Sat: 10am - 1:30pm
- Mon: Closed

REMINDERS FOR RESIDENTS

REMINDER FOR RESIDENTS ON MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICES

Please take time to properly winterize your outdoor plumbing to prevent unexpected repairs and higher than usual water bills.

Residents connected to municipal water services are reminded to properly winterize all outdoor plumbing to avoid unplanned and potentially costly repairs and high water usage bills. Bylaw 2013-69 requires that adequate heating be maintained to ensure water meters do not freeze and leak. The cost to replace and install a new water meter that fails from freezing or neglect is at the owner's expense.



WINTER PARKING REMINDER

As per our Parking Regulations Bylaw, overnight winter parking is not permitted on Township streets between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. from November 1 to April 15 to allow for proper roadway ice and snow clearing. Vehicles parked during these hours may be fined and/or towed.

The Township may also declare a winter maintenance event outside of these dates, in which case overnight parking restrictions will apply from 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. the following evening.

Additionally, when parking in your driveway, please ensure your vehicle does not block sidewalks. Kindly pull all the way in to keep pathways clear for pedestrians.



RINSE AND RECYCLE



Keeping Ontario's Recycling Clean and Effective

Recycling is a simple way to reduce waste and protect the environment, but many people don't realize that a little extra effort can make a big difference. Rinsing out food and beverage containers before placing them in the blue bin helps ensure they can be properly processed and turned into new products, reducing contamination and keeping Ontario's recycling system running efficiently.

Why Rinsing Matters

Food and liquid residue left on recyclable materials can contaminate entire batches of recycling, making them harder to process or even sending them to landfill. A single unrinsed peanut butter jar, for example, can soil nearby paper and cardboard, rendering them unusable. By taking a few extra seconds to rinse containers, residents can help:

- ✓ **Improve Recycling Quality** – Clean materials are more likely to be successfully processed and reused.
- ✓ **Reduce Odours and Pests** – Rinsed recyclables keep blue bins and collection areas cleaner and less attractive to insects and rodents.
- ✓ **Support a Circular Economy** – Ensuring recyclables remain usable helps keep valuable materials in circulation, reducing the need for new raw materials.

What Needs to Be Rinsed?

While not every item requires thorough washing, it's a good habit to quickly rinse out food and beverage containers such as:

- Plastic, glass, and metal food jars
- Tin cans (e.g., soup, beans, pet food)
- Milk and juice cartons
- Yogurt and dairy containers

A quick swish with water is often enough—there's no need to scrub!

Recycling Right in Ontario

Ontario's blue box recycling system is undergoing changes to improve efficiency and sustainability by transitioning to extended producer responsibility where the businesses that sell packaging and paper products to consumers will be financially and operationally responsible for collecting, processing and recycling those materials. Transition to extended producer responsibility will take place between 2023 – 2025, with the new framework fully in place by January 1, 2026. As a result, Edwardsburgh Cardinal's blue box recycling program is now managed by Circular Materials, who is the administrator of the common collection system and a not-for-profit organization that is committed to building an efficient and effective recycling system in Ontario.

Once the transition to the new framework is complete in 2026, producers will be fully accountable and financially responsible for recycling the products and packaging that end up in recycling bins. Residents can visit <https://www.circularmaterials.ca/provincial-programs/recycling-in-ontario/> to stay informed about updates to Ontario's recycling program. By making small changes—like rinsing out containers before recycling—Ontarians can help keep materials clean, reduce waste, and contribute to a greener future. So next time you finish that jar of pasta sauce, take a moment to rinse it before tossing it in the blue bin—it's a simple step with a big impact!



NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM MAYOR TORY DESCHAMPS

Message from Mayor Tory Deschamps

Happy March everyone. Spring is just around the corner and I for one can't wait for warmer, sunny days that are sure to come.

Council is delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the dedicated students of South Grenville District High School—Grant, Avery, and Isla—who have agreed to continue this newsletter until the end of the school year. Their efforts have been instrumental in keeping our community informed and engaged, proving the newsletter to be an invaluable tool for effective communication and dissemination of township news.

Council has been bustling with activity, maintaining our regular meeting schedule while also attending the ROMA conference in Toronto. Council made several delegations to provincial Ministers and in one case we were successful in securing \$24 million dollars to improve water and sewer across Augusta, Prescott and Edwardsburgh-Cardinal. Budget planning is progressing well, and Council is steadfast in our commitment to addressing the infrastructure gap that has long been a challenge for our community. This year, we are excited to announce several key projects that will enhance our township's amenities and infrastructure. Plans are underway for a new splash pad in Spencerville, renovations to other existing recreational facilities, and a series of paving projects that will improve our roads. We have a long way to go but we are making great strides.

Additionally, we are thrilled to highlight the remarkable success of the Port of Johnstown in 2024. The Port achieved a surplus of over \$5.3 million, a testament to its vital role in our municipality. The Port continues to be a critical asset, facilitating the transport of local farm products to world market and contributing a portion of its surplus directly to the Township Capital reserves. This financial support is essential in closing our infrastructure gap, building much needed new recreational amenities without imposing significant costs or hardships on our residents.

As Stephen, Joe, Chris, Waddy and myself look forward to the upcoming year, we are inspired by the dedication and hard work of our students, our many volunteers, residents, township staff. Together, we will continue to build a thriving and resilient community for all.

