



# Sound Opportunities

September 2018 • Newsletter

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## Pet Overpopulation and Spaying and Neutering

The Town of Parry Sound held a very successful Spay/Neuter event in April of this year in order to help address cat overpopulation within the town and promote responsible pet ownership. The event was open to residents of Parry Sound and offered spaying and neutering at a reduced cost at the OSPCAs clinic in Barrie. The program was subsidized by the By-law Department and included transport of the pets to the clinic in Barrie.

There are many benefits to spaying and neutered pets. It helps to reduce overpopulation and therefore the burden of unwanted animals. Unwanted pets are often left to roam or are abandoned. This creates problems for residents dealing with these animals and a drain on adoption facilities and rescues trying to accommodate them. There are also many health and behaviour benefits for the individual animals. Fixed pets are less likely to roam which reduces the risk of injury, accident and loss, less likely to have altercations with other animals and less likely to mark/spray. Spaying or neutering your pet can also reduce the risk of developing certain cancers and illnesses. The earlier dogs or cats get fixed the greater the benefit for the pet.

The Town of Parry Sound plans to hold another Spay/Neuter event for cats on Thursday October 25, 2018 and will also be offering a rebate program for dogs. Please watch for further information to be posted about these programs at the Town of Parry Sound website [www.parrysound.ca](http://www.parrysound.ca) or contact 705-746-2413.

## Recreation Programming

The fall 2018 recreation programming schedule is now available on our website, [www.parrysound.ca/recreation](http://www.parrysound.ca/recreation). New this fall is 5 vs 5 co-ed dodgeball for adults along with returning favourites pickleball, shuffleboard, yoga, belly dancing, cooking classes & painting classes.

## Town of Parry Sound

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## Public Pool and Wellness Centre One Step Closer

The Town of Parry Sound and the Township of Carling jointly purchased 49 acres of land that could be the future home of a new public pool and wellness centre.

“This land could be the site of a dynamic public pool and recreational complex that could serve more than 20,000 people across our area,” said Parry Sound Mayor Jamie McGarvey. “People have wanted facilities like this for years. When a good parcel of land came up for sale at a reasonable price, we secured it.”

The 49.34 acres, purchased for \$420,000 is located in Town on the east side of Parry Sound Drive between Canadore College and Connor Industries. The Town and Carling signed an agreement outlining terms of the joint property purchase, approved by each Council at respective meetings held on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

This follows the support for a pool and wellness complex expressed formally by resolution of the West Parry Sound Pool and Wellness Committee, representing the 7 area municipalities, and Wasauksing and Shawanaga First Nations at their meeting held April 24<sup>th</sup> this year. Since that meeting, proponents have researched pool and wellness centre plans and operations as well as potential local properties.

Carling has shown particular enthusiasm by partnering in the initial land purchase. “It’s a real opportunity to create a great public asset for the whole area,” said Township of Carling Mayor Mike Konoval. “We could create a lot more than just a pool here. It’s an opportunity to create a wide range of recreational facilities, programs for seniors, and new public spaces.” The land purchase paves the way for future area wide discussions which could begin as early as September, or upon new Council inaugurations in December.

As part of the overall purchase, the Town is independently acquiring an industrially zoned 7.21-acre adjacent property owned by the Macklaim estate on Tudhope St. N. for \$210,000. This is one of the few if not the only vacant, serviced, industrially zoned properties in the Town. With a dedicated Economic Development Officer now in place, the Town can concentrate efforts on the re-sale and development of that property.

## Town’s 2017 Audited Financial Statements

The Town of Parry Sound approved its December 31, 2017 audited financial statements at its Council meeting on September 4, 2018. The financial statements are publicly available at the Town’s website [www.parrysound.ca/financialstatements](http://www.parrysound.ca/financialstatements) or by contacting the Town Office.

## Public Works Updates

Emily Street reconstruction is complete. Fowler Construction completed the work in June of this year. Work included a total road reconstruction with bike lanes, new underground works. The Town received partial funding for this project.

Prospect/Waubee Reconstruction is progressing. Weeks Construction is completing Prospect Street and easement this year, with Waubee Street work to be done in 2019. Work is progressing very well.

The retaining wall at the corner of Gibson Street and Logan's Lane is being replaced this year.

Various roads are being repaved, including Hanna Road and a section of River Street.

Sidewalk repair work is planned for Bowes Street between Forest Street and Albert Street.

Wastewater staff are conducting fog testing in the entire sanitary serviced area to track down Inflow/Infiltration, with the goal to reduce the amount of storm water connections into the sanitary system, in hopes to reduce the amount of high levels and bypasses. This is a long-term process and will require cooperation from the residents and businesses.



## 2019 Budgeting Schedule

The Town of Parry Sound 2019 Budgeting Schedule was approved by Council on June 5, 2018 .

Meeting	Date
Budget Binders Available to Council and the Public	December 11, 2018
Budget Review Meeting 1 (Overview)	January 15, 2019
Budget Review Meeting 2 (Operating and Capital)	January 29, 2019
Budget Review Meeting 3 (if necessary)	February 12, 2019
By-law to Establish Budget Estimates	February 19, 2019

The Town adopted a Budget and Financial Controls Policy in July 2015. The policy, updated on October 4, 2016, provides guidelines for annual budget preparation and reporting. It sets 75% of the Ontario CPI as at July 31 for the year prior to the budget year (or the budget year's wage increases in the collective agreement) as the low end of the range for tax rate increase and 200% of the Ontario CPI as the high end of the range. Under the guidelines in this policy, staff will be working to prepare the 2019 operating and capital budget that incorporates the Town's prevailing strategic priorities, and present the budget to Council within the above timetable.

All meetings in the budgeting process are open to the public and are being held at the Town Office located at 52 Seguin Street. Budget documents will be available on the Town's website [www.parrysound.ca/annualbudget](http://www.parrysound.ca/annualbudget) or by contacting the Town Office.

# Water Meters

Since August 2015 the Town has had a new water and wastewater by-law that governs the provision of services and how usage is billed for. One of the more significant changes is the requirement for water meters, specifically on residential properties.

## So what's the big deal? Why are water meters so important?

There are various advantages regarding the use of water meters:

- Save money. Pay only for the water you use. It's a fair way to charge for water and wastewater;
- Become aware of water consumption, which encourages water conservation;
- Help identify water leaks.

## What is a water meter?

A water meter measures the amount of water a home or business uses. Like a hydro meter it measures how much you use **but** unlike a hydro meter **it does not record the time of consumption**. The Town uses water meter readings to calculate water and sewer bills.

## Do I have to install a water meter?

The town currently has two types of accounts: metered and flat rate. For those flat rate accounts, the Town's by-law requires that a water meter is installed:

- If you have a newly constructed residential property;
- Within three months following the closing date on the sale of a residential property;
- If you are a commercial business owner;
- If you are a landlord and own a multi-unit dwelling (3 or more dwelling units).

If none of the above applies to you, you can voluntarily install a water meter. However, please note that once an account is metered, it cannot go back to a flat rate account. The initial cost of installing a water meter may seem high, but for some households it could result in overall monthly savings.

## How much does it cost to have a meter installed?

There are two costs involved in water meter installation.

### 1. Water Meter Purchase Cost

The purchase price the water meter depends on the meter size. The current rates for the two smallest water meter sizes are:

Meter Description	Water Meter Cost	HST	Total
5/8" T10 E-Coder	\$396.61	\$51.57	\$448.18
3/4" T10 E-Coder	\$439.95	\$57.20	\$497.15

# Water Meters cont.

To pay for a water meter, you may choose one of the following two options:

- Pay for the meter when you purchase it; or
- Spread the payments over twelve equal payments, with an interest rate set at Scotiabank's prime lending rate.

## 2. Installation Cost

The Town does not install water meters for residents and businesses. The installation of a water meter is your responsibility, and the cost depends on the rates that a plumber may charge. The Town advises that a licensed plumber be used.

### How do I get a water meter?

The Town Office maintains a stock of water meters on site. Once you know the size of water meter you need, you can come to the Town Office to purchase one.

The Town Office is located at 52 Seguin St, Parry Sound, and can be reached at 705-746-2101.

### Some water saving tips:

- Check all toilets, pipes and taps/faucets for leaks
- Install water saving showerheads and ultra-low-flush toilets
- Take shorter showers
- Never use your toilet as a wastebasket
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Fully load your dishwasher
- Wash full loads of clothes
- Don't over-water landscaping
- Water your lawn or garden in the morning or late in the evening
- Adjust sprinkler so that they don't water the sidewalk or street
- Don't water your lawn on cool, rainy or windy days
- Use drip irrigation systems

### Did you know....

...that the water and sewer flat rate per residential dwelling unit in 2018 is \$127.74/month?

That same amount on a residential water meter would pay \$81.53 per month, and \$0.01214/gallon after using 1,000 gallons. A residential metered customer would have to use up to 4,800 gallons of water per month before reaching a fee of \$127.74.

### But how much water is 4,800 gallons?

An average bathtub (23" wide, 15" deep to the water level and 54" long) can hold about 67 imperial gallons of water. To reach 4,800 imperial gallons of water, you would have to fill the tub approximately 71 ½ times.

## Snowbirds Air Show

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, under the threat of rain, the clouds temporarily cleared and the Canadian Armed Forces Snowbirds performed an outstanding air show on the Town's waterfront.

We would like to thank our sponsors:

### Gold: \$5,000

Desmasdon's Marine  
ReMax – John Sallinen  
Georgian International  
Scotiabank  
Muskoka Woods Camp  
Parry Sound North Star  
Moose FM 103.3 Parry Sound

### Silver: \$2,500

Comfort Inn Parry Sound

### Bronze: \$1,000

Lakeland Power  
Township of Carling  
Township of the Archipelago  
Discount Car Rentals  
Dave Garagan and Bobby Orr, BOHF

### Lead Organizing Municipalities & Partners:

Town of Parry Sound     \$10,000  
Seguin Township         \$5,000  
Honorary Lieutenant-General Richard Rohmer  
Parry Sound Area Municipal Airport Staff & Commissioners  
Ontario Provincial Police  
Canada Coast Guard  
Carling Rescue  
McDougall Fire Dept.  
Parry Sound Fire Dept.  
Seguin Fire Dept.  
Parry Sound EMS  
Public Works, Parks & Recreation & By-law staff  
A special thanks to our Point-of-Contact James Massie  
And, of course, the Canadian Armed Forces Snowbirds!



We are pleased to report a net surplus of \$4,469 that will be donated to the West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation.





# Winter Parking



It's almost that time of year again to start thinking about snow.

The Town of Parry Sound By-law Department would like to remind everyone that parking on the municipal roads or within the municipal parking lots is not permitted between 3:00 am-7:00 am from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Town of Parry Sound 2018 Municipal & School Board Elections

The next Municipal and School Board Election will be held on Monday, October 22, 2018. Voting for this election will once again be conducted solely through electronic voting. Internet and Telephone Voting is quick, reliable and secure, as well as an accessible, convenient and an environmentally-friendly way to vote.

A Voter Instruction Letter (VIL) will be mailed to all electors on the Voters' List in mid to late September, providing you with a Personal Identification Number (PIN) which will allow you to vote 24 hours/day for 14 days, from **Tuesday October 9th at 10am to Monday October 22nd at 8pm**, from any touch-tone telephone or any device connected to the internet. If you do not receive a VIL by the end of September, call the municipal office at (705) 746-2101 and ask for an Election Official.

### Are You On The Voters' List?

To ensure you receive a Voter Instruction Letter (VIL), please confirm that your name, address and date of birth are included on the Voters' List. **The Voters' List will be available to the public starting September 4th, 2018** hard copies will be available at the Parry Sound Public Library and the Parry Sound Fire Hall or you can call the office and ask for an Election Official to check the list for you. Please note that due to a potential postal strike all 2018 election procedures have been significantly advanced in order to provide VIL's to those who are currently on the list before the postal strike may commence. If you need to be added or your information is incorrect you will need to attend the municipal office, with ID to get on the list. However, we will not be able to provide you with a ballot until after September 26, 2018.

Further election information is available on our website at [www.parrysound.ca/election](http://www.parrysound.ca/election).

## Façade Improvement Program

In 2017 the Town of Parry Sound reintroduced the Façade Improvement Program. The purpose of the program is to allow business operators & commercial building owners the chance to improve the face of their building. The program provides up to 50% matching dollars for the approved projects.

For 2018 Council approved an increase in Façade Improvement Program funding to \$40,000. Applications were received and reviewed by a committee, funding was allocated as follows:

Applicant	No Ordinary Days 93 James Street	Bearly Used Books 15-17 James Street	Sound Ideas Audiology 10 Bowes Street	Parry Sound Bikes 25 Mary Street
Council Approved Grant	\$18,606.61	\$6,100.00	\$2,875.00	\$12,418.39

## Service Line Warranty of Canada - Optional Warranty Programs

The Town of Parry Sound entered into a marketing agreement, by By-law, with Service Line Warranty of Canada (SLWC) in December of 2016. The optional warranty programs on offer are for protection of a homeowner's water line, waste water line and in-home plumbing and drainage.

The marketing agreement calls for 3 letters to go to homeowners each year (for 3 years) outlining a specific warranty program each time. Receiving further information by SLWC or signing up to one or more of the programs is strictly **optional**. Some homeowners may already be covered under their own insurance so it's a good idea to check. However, some homeowners may not be able to get coverage for protection of their water line, waste water line and in-home plumbing & drainage. This program simply provides Parry Sound homeowners with options for this kind of warranty protection on what could be costly repairs should damage occur. Once a homeowner is signed up on the program all repairs are done by local businesses and the costs are covered by the warranty program.

The first round of letters that went out the fall of 2017 went to those homeowners who had provided their permission to receive the letters with the SLWC information. Those letters were personally addressed to the homeowner. The second round of letters that went out in July 2018 were not personally addressed but addressed only to "Home Owner".

If you would like more information about this marketing partnership and these optional programs, please visit the Town of Parry Sound website at [www.parrysound.ca/warrantyprograms](http://www.parrysound.ca/warrantyprograms)

## Traffic Tickets and other Provincial Offences

It's easier than ever to find information about most tickets and fines issued under the Provincial Offences Act.

You can now go online to:

1. **Find out the status of your case** (including court dates)
2. **Find out how to pay your ticket or fine**

You'll need the location code (3060) and offence number (top right) printed on your ticket. If you've been issued a summons, you'll need your case number.

[Ontario.ca/ticketsandfines](http://Ontario.ca/ticketsandfines)



Alternate formats available upon request.