



August 2024 Newsletter

Public Works, Water & After-Hours Emergencies

Public Works and Water Department hours are 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday to Friday, excluding holidays

For after hours drainage, roads and animal control problems, please call 519-769-2010

For after hours water and sewer problems, please call OCWA at 519-868-0034

Members of Council:

Mayor Grant Jones - mayorgjones@southwold.ca
Deputy Mayor Justin Pennings - deputymayorpennings@southwold.ca
Councillor John Adzija - councilloradzija@southwold.ca
Councillor Sarah Emons - councilloremons@southwold.ca
Councillor Scott Fellows - councillorfellows@southwold.ca

Township of Southwold Council and Staff would like to welcome our newest members to the team Christie Kent, Planner, and Mike Taylor, Manager of Environmental Services. We would also like to thank all of the students that joined us in the office, Public Works, Parks and Facilities, Water Departments and GIS Departments this summer!

Building Permits

The Southwold Building Department would like to remind all property owners of the importance of obtaining the necessary permits for your construction or renovation projects. It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that all required inspections are scheduled and that permit files are completed and properly closed. Adhering to these regulations not only ensures the safety and legality of your projects but also helps to avoid potential complications when selling or refinancing your property. Properly closed permits can save you from unexpected delays and expenses in the future, safeguarding your investment and providing peace of mind. If you have questions about permits, we are here to help. The best way for us to provide you with thorough information is by email. When contacting us, please include your address and a description of your needs. Visit our website for more information: www.southwold.ca/building

By-Laws

Please remember that there are regulations in place regarding yard maintenance in many areas throughout the Township, requiring residents to keep their properties tidy and free from overgrown vegetation and debris. Additionally, please be aware that keeping livestock in residential zones is prohibited, this include backyard chickens. Your cooperation in following these by-laws helps maintain the quality of life in our Township. For a complete list of by-laws and more detailed information, please visit our website:

<https://www.southwold.ca/en/municipal-office/by-laws.aspx>

Mark your Calendars

Southwold 175!

The Township will be celebrating 175 years as a Township in 2025. The Southwold 175 Planning Committee is planning an event and we want to hear from you. Scan the QR code to complete the survey!



Southwold Young @ Heart Dinners

Thanksgiving Drive-thru Dinner October 10.

Christmas Drive-thru Dinner December 12.

More details on the dinners will be available soon.

Remembrance Day Service

This year's Remembrance Day Service will be both in-person and virtually broadcast on Sunday, November 10th, 2024.

Follow the Township of Southwold's Website and social media for upcoming announcements.

Important Tax Dates in 2024

**Final property tax installments are due by Friday,
August 30th & Thursday, October 31st**

Collection Reminders

Curbside by 7:00 am

125 litres/28 gallons max size
44lb weight limit

Rural - 6 bags bi-weekly
Urban - 3 bags weekly
Yard waste & large items not
accepted

Sort recyclables



Green Lane Landfill Public Liaison Committee

Invitation for area residents to apply for a public member position

For more information and/or an application form please contact the Secretary at PLCsecretary@hotmail.com or call 519-633-3800 (evenings)

2024 TAX BILL INFORMATION

Penalty - A penalty of 1.25% for the entire month will be added on the first day taxes are past due and every month thereafter in which default continues in the year 2024. Interest will be added commencing January 1, 2025 at a rate of 1.25% per month on the first of each month. Payments are applied first to penalty and interest and then to the oldest taxes outstanding until account is current. The tax department has no authority to waive or alter a penalty and/or interest charge for any reason.

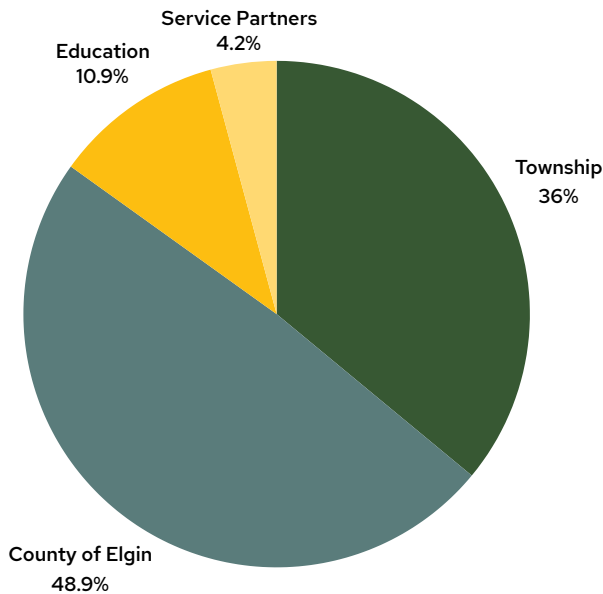
Failure to receive a Tax Bill does not excuse a taxpayer from responsibility for payment nor relieve them of liability for penalty for late payment.

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION – The amount of assessment and the name and address of the person assessed as shown on the face of the Tax Bill are in accordance with the Assessment Roll compiled in 2023 and updated where applicable to date by the Municipal Property Assessment Office. The Township of Southwold is required by statute to send out its Tax Bills strictly in accordance with the information appearing on the Assessment Rolls. It is important that any changes of ownership or tenancy or matters affecting property valuation be called to the attention of the Treasurer and the Municipal Property Assessment Office, at: Westmount Mall, Unit 252, 785 Wonderland Road South, London, Ontario N6K 1M6. For more information regarding assessments phone 1-866-296-6722. Unless this is done, a new owner may not receive a Tax Bill.

2024 Tax Rates

Residential	.01400646
Farmland	.00325208
Commercial	.02923138
Commercial Vacant	.02923138
Large Industrial (Occupied)	.04413073
Large Industrial Vacant	.04413073
Industrial (Occupied)	.03656130
Industrial Vacant	.03656130
Pipeline	.02308052
Managed Forest	.00350161

Share of Residential Tax Rates



To calculate property taxes for a Residential property assessed at \$255,000:
 Current Value Assessment multiplied by Tax Rate Equals
 Property Taxes
 $\$255,000 \times 0.01400642 = \$3,571.64$

- 36% of the residential property tax bill funds Township services
- 48.9% funds County of Elgin
- 4.2% funds Service Partners (OPP, Conservation Authorities)
- 10.9% funds Education

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Please retain the final tax bill for your 2024 Income Tax Return. **NO DUPLICATES OF TAX BILLS WILL BE ISSUED.**

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGETED FOR 2024

Public Works Facility Construction	\$4,836,000
Public Works Fleet & Equipment	
Replacements	\$1,270,000
Parks Projects	\$119,000
Talbotville Fire Station Construction Project	\$3,750,000
	<u>Road Projects</u>
Lawrence Road Rehabilitation	\$365,000
Gravel Road Improvements	\$500,000
Bridges & Culverts	\$430,000
Boxall Road Rehabilitation	\$220,000
Granular Road Conversion	\$300,000
Magdala Road Rehabilitation	\$230,000

911 Signs

It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain their 911 sign. There is a \$50.00 fee for a replacement 911 sign if repairs are not possible. Please check your sign on a regular basis to ensure that the sign is clear of trees, bushes and weeds to enable emergency responders to read your sign.

Drainage

All maintenance required on Municipal Drains must be reported on the Drain Maintenance request form. Forms are available at the Township Office and on the website (southwold.ca). Please provide as much information as possible for identification of the drain and location of the repair site. A hand drawn or GPS map and a marker by the repair site would greatly assist our staff in the field.

Saturday September 28, 2024, is Test Your Smoke Alarm Day!

As part of Test Your Smoke Alarm Day, all Ontarians are encouraged to learn more about smoke alarms, fire safety, and home fire escape planning, which can save the lives of you and your loved ones. Most importantly, we want you to test your smoke alarms!