

The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

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For Immediate Release RE: UPDATE surrounding COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus)

Township of Bonnechere Valley – April 8, 2021 – The Ontario government has reinstated a state of emergency across the province. We want to remind residents there is a stay-at-home order in effect amid surging coronavirus cases. This means only leave home for essential purposes such as food, healthcare, exercise, or work.

The Township will be locking its doors to the Public to encourage everyone to stay home from Thursday April 8th to Thursday May 6th, 2021. Our staff directory on our website at <https://www.bonnecherevalleytwp.com/council-and-staff/municipal-staff-contact/>

Township of Bonnechere Valley would like to inform our residents on how this order affects you in Bonnechere Valley.

- All services will be maintained, and you will be able to make an appointment at the Township Municipal Office for essential purposes such as planning, payments, building permits, lottery licenses, marriage licenses or commissioning of documents.
- Payments for water and taxes can be made by utilizing the afterhours drop box at the municipal office, via online or telephone banking and/or visiting your location banking institution, or via mail.
- All curbside garbage and recycling collection for Village Residents will continue as normal. Meaning that garbage tags are required on all bags placed at the curb to ensure that they will be collected. If you require garbage tags, please make an appointment to obtain them from our office or alternatively you can purchase them at the Eganville Freshmart, Papa Ron's Discount Store and the Village Discount Variety Store.
- All waste sites are open and operating. ***Please note:** that all of the Waste Sites are still operating on winter hours. The change from winter hours to summer hours does not take effect until after the long weekend in May. A reminder that you require a waste site dump card to visit any of our sites. Again, they can be obtained from our office via an appointment.
- Construction Demolition materials and Bulky Items such as furniture and mattresses and tires (must be off the rims) are accepted at the Sno Drifters Waste Site. Included in your March tax bill there is a FREE Voucher for use at the Sno Drifters Waste Site exclusively. This voucher permits up to 550 kg's for FREE. If your load weighs over this amount then you will be responsible to pay the amount over and above this weight. ***Please note:** that the **only** method of payment at the Site is cash. The FREE Voucher is **only** given out to properties which have a dwelling or building on the property. We no longer give vacant parcels of land free vouchers as they do not accumulate bulky items or construction materials.

In addition, the Chief Murphy has enacted a Level 1 Fire Ban ending any burning of brush. Small campfires are still permitted at this time. This is being done to reduce non-emergency calls and limit contact for our firefighters. We have a response protocol in place strictly for the fire ban. Emergency

calls will have the normal response. Other townships throughout the county may or may not have implemented bans in their respective areas so please refer to your township's website or social media account prior to any burning.

At Bonnechere Union Public Library their hours have not changed! You can still walk through their doors; however, you cannot touch any items on the shelves. We encourage you to call, email, or place a hold via our catalogue, and they will contact you when your items are ready! They have a quick turnaround time and dedicated staff that are ready and willing to help!

In-house programming and Makerspace bookings are all suspended until further notice. You can use their public computers, print/fax/scan items, and come to the desk to pick up your things.

If you would like access their new and improved Seed Library, simply contact them with what kind of seeds you are looking for and they will look for you. For updates visit the library's website at www.bonnechereupl.com or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BonnechereUPL/>.

Not all social distancing activities need to happen indoors. Spring is just about here, and it is now the perfect opportunity to gain a greater appreciation of the nature you have in your own backyard and relieve stress. Take a walk in any one of our parks and/or check out the Recreational Geology Trail.

A few weeks after COVID-19 initially started a group of community minded people who wanted to help during this difficult time have developed a Facebook page called "It Takes a Village: Eganville and Area Help Network. This page has 955 members and continues to grow. It was initially designed to help people in the community understand COVID-19 was about and how to cope with it. However, it has evolved into much more than a "help" network, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/56650438088224>.

Another valuable resource that we want our residents to check out is www.bvcovid19.ca website as this site also offer excellent information on our community. There are many links on the site for Emergency Health & Safety information, along with mental health information.

It is the law. Stay home, stay safe, save lives. Learn more at www.Ontario.ca/covidresponse

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