



January 2018

Water Bill information BULLETIN

Town of Wasaga Beach | 30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach, ON | (P) 705-429-3844 | (F) 705-429-6732

Enclosed is your water bill for the months of November and December 2017. If your water bill indicates a balance forward, it's important to note that interest has been calculated to the current billing date. Interest will be applied at 1.25% on the first day of each month thereafter. For your convenience, your water bill can be paid in the comfort of your home through online banking.

Please contact the Water Clerk at (705) 429-3844 ext. 2245 if you experience any of the following:

- If the property was **occupied** during this billing cycle but both the **Previous and Current Read are the same**.
- If the current bill reflects 'Flat Rate Residential' water/sewer rates.



E-RECEIPTS AND BILLING

Now when you visit Town Hall to make a payment you can receive your receipt via email. Ask a Customer Service Representative for further details.

The town is also offering paperless water and tax bills.

Sign up for e-billing and receive your bills via e-mail. If you would like to sign up for this option please e-mail ebilling@wasagabeach.com and include the following:

- 1 The subject line should state the municipal property address, starting with the street name. For example, Main Street 123.
- 2 The body of the e-mail should state your name and phone number.
- 3 The e-mail must come from the e-mail address you want the bill sent to.

If you have questions, call us at 705-429-3844.

Message from the Mayor

I'll start by wishing you a Happy New Year. I hope you had a pleasant and relaxing Christmas season with family and friends. It's nice to have the opportunity to come together and enjoy each other's company during the holidays.

As you know, Christmas is about giving and I could not be prouder of our community. Each and every year I have the joy of witnessing more and more the giving spirit of our residents. We truly are an amazing community, full of folks caring for each other.

This was an extra-special Christmas in our family. Earlier in the year we celebrated the birth of our grandson, Lincoln, and we were reminded once again of the magic of Christmas.

I'm pleased to tell you that in December council's committee of the whole approved the 2018 municipal budget. The budget is slated for ratification at the Jan. 30 council meeting.

The town's operating budget is \$37-million and the capital budget is \$15-million. Wasaga Beach residents will see an estimated 2.97 percent increase on their municipal property taxes. The average homeowner with a property assessed at \$320,000 will see an increase of \$62.79 to the municipal portion of their annual tax bill.

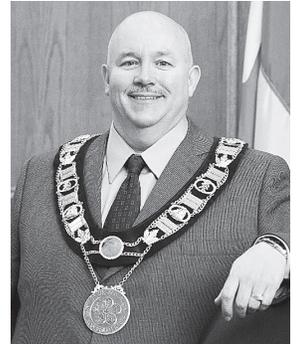
Of that increase, \$14.13 is due to an increase in assessment and \$48.66 is due to the municipal tax rate increase.

With the county and school board tax rate portions decreasing by an estimated 3.17 percent, the town was able to increase the municipal portion of the tax rate from two percent to 2.97 percent to help build reserves.

For an average home the increase to total taxes is estimated at \$57.04 per year, which is less than the municipal portion of the increase, reflecting the remaining decrease associated with the county and

education tax rate portions.

The decision to place more money in our reserves was done with good reason.



The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) grant we receive each year is now decreasing because the town is becoming more urbanized.

The 2018 grant is \$2.5-million compared to \$2.9-million a year ago. Staff found \$215,000 in savings to help offset the decrease in funding for 2018, plus \$207,000 through taxation, but the shortfall will continue in the years ahead. Council and staff will have to continue to address this loss of revenue.

Major capital investments include \$6-million for roads and bridge projects, \$3.2-million for water and sewer projects, \$2.5 million for the design of the new community hub (arena, indoor recreation space, cultural space and library) and \$450,000 for parks' projects. Additional funds have also been earmarked for enhancements to community events such as Easter Extravaganza, Jazz in the Park, the annual Christmas tree lighting, and the Santa Claus Parade.

A total of \$2.8-million is budgeted for the implementation of the downtown project in 2018. The creation of a new downtown has been an ongoing priority this term of council. The goal is to create a community hub, additional shopping choices, and condominium-style housing options. Once complete, the development will generate additional tax revenue that will benefit the community for generations to come.

Council also earmarked \$843,000 for the Beachfront Management Board budget. These funds will be used to operate and maintain the buildings, property and the beach area at Beach Area One.



Follow us on social media

If you use Facebook and Twitter then please follow us for accurate information about the Town of Wasaga Beach. On Facebook, you can find our page by searching for "Town of Wasaga Beach," and on Twitter our handle is @WB_Media. We share information almost daily.



In print

Each week the Town of Wasaga Beach publishes information in The Sun newspaper. Please make a point of reviewing the town pages. You'll find information about meetings, tender notices, programs, and much more. The information changes weekly so please review each edition.



On the web

Our website can be found at www.wasagabeach.com. On the site you'll find all kinds of information, including agendas, how to reach members of council, news releases, contact details for departments, and schedules for town sanctioned community events. There's also a link to Rogers Television, where you can watch recorded council meetings. Check the site regularly to stay up-to-date on the town.



YouTube

Our Coordinated Committee meetings, and our Committee of the Whole meetings, are available for viewing on our YouTube channel. Search "Town of Wasaga Beach" to find the channel and the meeting you wish to watch.



Call us!

Need help with something related to the town? You can call us and one of our customer service representatives will direct you to the right department. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff can be reached by telephoning 705-429-3844.

The budget is a sound financial plan for the year ahead. It reflects careful and thoughtful discussions about council's priorities. I want to thank council members and staff for the hard work they put into creating this roadmap.

I want to take a moment now to remind residents to please keep an eye on elderly neighbours and shut-ins. The winter can be a long and cold period in our community, making it hard for some to get out and about. A friendly face at the door, or a quick telephone call, can be of great benefit to those in need.

For those who enjoy the outdoors at this time of year, the town has a terrific event coming up. Snowman Mania, our annual winter carnival, takes place

Feb. 16-19. You'll find full details on the events section of our website at www.wasagabeach.com.

This year will no doubt be a very important year for our community as we move forward to make our town the best it can be. We will no doubt face some challenges in doing so but I am confident if we all work together we will be proud of our accomplishments.

In closing, I want to say how honoured I am to serve as your mayor. It is truly a privilege to work on your behalf each and every day.

Sincerely,

Brian Smith
Mayor.

Water Billing Schedule:

Due Date:	Billing Period:
mid-April 2018	January – February 2018
mid-June 2018	March – April 2018
mid-August 2018	May – June 2018
mid-October 2018	July – August 2018
mid-December 2018	September – October 2018
mid-February 2019	November – December 2018

** Please note where the set due dates noted fall on a holiday or weekend the payment due date is defined as the next business day.*

Wasaga Beach Events 2018



Wasaga Beach Events |



@WasagaEvents

events@wasagabeach.com | 705.429.3844 x 2202 | www.wasagabeach.com

Feb. 16-19

Snowman Mania takes place. The Friday Night Kick-Off is at the RecPlex from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with Rebekah Stevens and Little Bones – Tribute to Tragically Hip. There will also be fireworks. Saturday features the Nancy Island Club Brunch, Chili Cook Off, Saints and Sinners Craft Beer Tasting, family activities and much more. Sunday fun includes the Wasaga Beach Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, President's Choice Super Dogs, Wasaga Paintball Laser Tag, YMCA free family swim and much more. And don't miss Monday's activities. For all the details see www.wasagabeach.com.

March 31

Easter Eggstravaganza takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the RecPlex, 1724 Mosley St. Celebrate Easter with the Easter Bunny, an egg hunt, community barbecue, tons of exciting kids' activities, and lots more. For more information, call 705-429-3844, ext. 2203 or e-mail sec@wasagabeach.com.