



www.wasagabeach.com

January 2020

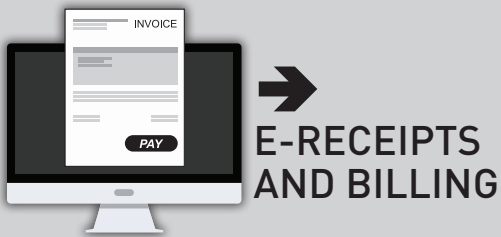
Water Bill information BULLETIN

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 2019. 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.



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

Happy New Year!

And welcome to the start of the 2020s.

I hope you had a great holiday season with family and friends.

This is going to be a remarkable year for our community and a spectacular decade as Wasaga Beach continues moving forward.

By the end of the 2020s, our town will be home to significant new commercial development, as well as residential growth.

Over the course of the decade, the beachfront will be redeveloped and thriving, well on its way to achieving its full potential.

New schools and enhanced public transit, greater choice in housing stock, greater medical services, and more fulsome entertainment opportunities, including the casino and its related amenities, will be a part of Wasaga Beach.

In other words, we will have a more complete community for us all to enjoy – a place that even more people will choose to visit each year.

Growth is good for our community and our economy. It means new jobs, stronger buying and saving power, additional tax revenue to help pay for services, new ideas, and generally speaking a better quality of life.

Our Official Plan, which we are in the process of updating, will determine where and how we want to grow in the years ahead. Please share your views with us as we work our way through this exercise.

Two significant projects we will work on in 2020 are the new library and twinpad arena, which will share space at 544 River Rd. W. Town council approved the projects and the site last year. Throughout this year, we will work on the design and prepare for the construction phase. We do not know a specific opening date yet, but we are aiming for 2022.



In addition, this year, we plan to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for town-owned land at the beachfront. Last year, we went through a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) process and following a rigorous review identified six firms for the RFP phase. It will be exciting to see what development plans these companies have in mind.

In December, your council approved the municipality's 2020 budget. I am extremely proud of council and our staff for all of the hard work that has gone into creating the budget. The result is a responsible financial plan for the year ahead and beyond.

In 2020, we are making significant investment in all service delivery areas, positioning us to better meet the needs of our growing community. I encourage you to review the budget item in this newsletter to learn more.

Serving as your mayor is a great honour and 2019 marked my first full year in the role. Thank you for placing your trust in me. I must also thank my council colleagues for the tremendous effort they put into their role. As well, I want to commend our staff for the diligent manner in which they work to implement council's vision.

Again, Happy New Year and please accept my best wishes for 2020.

Sincerely,
Nina Bifulchi, Mayor.

Water conservation rebates are available!

The Town of Wasaga Beach has a water conservation rebate program.

When you install a low flow or dual flush toilet you are eligible for a \$70 rebate.

Residents who install a rain barrel can get a \$30 rebate.

Please note that only property owners on municipal water are eligible for the rebate. You can find rebate forms at www.wasagabeach.com or pick one up at town hall at 30 Lewis St.

Applicants must include copies of receipts indicating that they purchased the particular item. Completed forms and supporting documentation can be presented at town hall.

The rebate will be applied to your next water bill.

Meeting agendas

Visit our website at www.wasagabeach.com to learn about upcoming meetings of council and committees.

You can even subscribe to receive notifications of new agendas ready for viewing.

Our website also includes minutes of past meetings.

Questions about a meeting? Call our Clerk's Department at 705-429-3844 ext. 2224.

Town council approves 2020 budget

On Dec. 17, 2019, members of council approved the municipality's 2020 budget.

The budget reflects significant investment in all service areas.

The increase to the municipal portion of the tax rate is 3.79 percent. But when the prior year county and school board tax rates are factored in the total tax rate increase is approximately 2.09 percent.

The town's total budget for 2020

2020 rate increase for water and wastewater

At its council meeting on Dec. 17, 2019, council passed a bylaw for a 2.2 percent increase on the base rates and a 3.5 percent increase on the consumption rates. This increase will mean an additional \$12.84 per year for the average user [depending on your consumption patterns you may experience a higher or lower increase]. A copy of the Water/Wastewater Study and the public presentation is available on our website at www.wasagabeach.com or by contacting the deputy treasurer at deputytreasurer@wasagabeach.com. The town's rates remain at the low end of comparable municipalities in Simcoe County.

is \$74-million. Of that amount, \$41-million is for the operating budget and \$33-million is for the capital budget, funds that support a variety of infrastructure initiatives.

The total average 2020 household tax bill is \$3,269 for a home assessed at \$326,517. Of this amount, the town receives \$1,832. Based on the balance, \$526 is for the school board and \$911 for the County of Simcoe.

Visit www.wasagabeach.com to learn more about the budget.

Convenient credit card payments

Through the town's website using PlastiQ (third party), you can pay your property tax and/or water/wastewater bill by Visa, Mastercard, or American Express.

There will be a service fee of 2.5 percent applied by the servicer provider, PlastiQ.

Please note that there are several low or no-cost means of paying your bill with The Town of Wasaga Beach. These include equal payment plan, telephone banking, mailing a cheque, or placing a payment in our drop box.

Senior of the Year Award nominations now open

Nominations are now open for our Senior of the Year Award.

Nominees must be at least 65 years of age and have contributed to the Wasaga Beach community or in a location beneficial to Wasaga Beach residents.

For full details on eligibility and the nomination process visit our website at www.wasagabeach.com.

Nominations will be accepted until 2 p.m. on Feb. 28, 2020. Completed nomination forms can be returned to the Wasaga Beach Public Library at 120 Glenwood Dr.

Wasaga Beach Events 2020

 Wasaga Beach Events |  @WasagaEvents
events@wasagabeach.com | 705.429.3844 x 2202 | www.wasagabeach.com

Snowman Mania Feb. 14-17

Easter Eggstravaganza April 11

Wasaga's Finest Citizen Awards May 9

For full details see the Special Events section on www.wasagabeach.com.

Sign up today

Join our mailing list to receive our monthly e-newsletter.

The Monthly Report will be sent directly to your e-mail inbox.

Visit www.wasagabeach.com and click on the "Subscribe to Newsletter" link in the upper right corner of our webpage.

Follow the instructions and you will receive The Monthly Report roughly every 30 days.

The report contains information about council decisions, town programs, activities, a message from the mayor, and much more.

Water Billing Schedule:

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