



March 2022

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 January and February 2022. 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

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.

Mayor's Message

Our latest edition of the Information Bulletin contains some great content for your review.

This includes an item about Statistics Canada's 2021 census data, which confirms Wasaga Beach is a desirable place for people to live. In fact, we are one of the fastest growing communities in the country.

Our population now sits at 24,862 as of 2021 – that's almost 7,500 more people than a decade ago. These numbers are reflective of the record-breaking building activity happening in our town. I talk to new residents all the time and there is a theme to why they have settled in Wasaga Beach: quality of life, affordability, our beautiful waterfront and trails, access to schools, good health care, and our proximity to area communities. If you are one of our newer residents, welcome to the beach. We are glad you made your home here.

Also in the bulletin is an update on the arena and library project. I encourage you to check it out and look for our monthly video updates online. They are available on our website and our social media channels. These updates feature Chris Roos, our director of recreation, events and facilities. The updates provide an overview on the building activity and contain some great aerial shots of the site.

This month's Information Bulletin contains an update on the Simcoe County District School Board's plans for Wasaga Beach, including details about our new elementary school and a high school.

We also share with you in this edition details about our new Climate Action page on www.wasagabeach.com. The page highlights all of the steps we are taking at the town to be more environmentally friendly. For example, did you know we offer e-billing and online payment options? Did you know that in 2015 we invested approximately



\$2.5-million in new energy efficient LED streetlights? I encourage you to visit the page for a closer look at what we have done. In addition, the page contains links to related resources. We are proud of the steps we have taken and we look forward to implementing future changes that support our environment.

Another item in this edition is about our new election information page on the town's website. Our clerk administers the page, which contains important details about voting in this October's municipal election. The page also has information related to running for office.

At the Town of Wasaga Beach, we are fortunate to have great people working for us. Recently, the town recognized some of these special individuals. Look for related photographs in this edition. One photo is of public works staffers who received employee service awards. Congratulations to each recipient. The other photo spotlights the women in our organization. We took the picture for International Women's Day on March 8.

Finally, I want to mention the 'What's Happening' calendar on our website. The calendar is a great way to see what's upcoming in terms of events in our community. Staff add items to the calendar regularly. You can even sign up to have calendar updates delivered directly to your e-mail inbox. You can

Continued on page 2



Visit our new climate action page

The Town of Wasaga Beach takes climate change seriously. In May 2021, council passed a resolution declaring a climate crisis in the community.

Through the resolution, council directed staff to share information about what the town is doing to mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

Our new webpage provides details about the steps the town has taken to date. It will also contain information about future initiatives, plus other helpful material. Please visit the page periodically, as we will add new information as warranted.

Find the page on our website at www.wasagabeach.com.

Mayor's Message continued...

also stay on top of events by following us on social media and by watching for our updates on the town page in The Wasaga Sun newspaper.

Stay safe, take care of each other,

and I look forward to updating you again soon.

Sincerely,
Nina Bifulchi,
Mayor.



Elementary school in '23 and high school for '29-'30

Jodi Lloyd, chair of the Simcoe County District School Board, appeared before council on Feb. 24 to provide an update on the board's plans for Wasaga Beach.

Lloyd outlined the status of the new elementary school in the Sunnidale Trails subdivision, slated

to be open in September 2023, and confirmed that the board is hoping to have a high school open in Wasaga Beach for the 2029-2030 school year.

See the Feb. 24 edition of Wasaga Beach Council Highlights on our website for full details – including a link to the video of Lloyd's presentation to council – and check out the High School Q&A on our website for additional information.

2022 ONTARIO MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 24, 2022

ON THE LIST
TO VOTE?
HAVE YOUR SAY!



VISIT VOTERLOOKUP.CA



211 can help

Are you looking for information about programs and services in the community?

Check out www.211ontario.ca online or

telephone 2-1-1.

211 is a trustworthy source for information and services to deal with life's challenges.

You can access 211's services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

2022 election information page now available

The Town of Wasaga Beach's 2022 municipal election webpage is now active.

"The page is a one-stop location for people to access information about the municipal election," said Dina Lundy, director of legislative services and returning officer for the Town of Wasaga Beach. "We encourage everyone to visit the page, and subscribe to receive further updates as the year progresses. If anyone has questions, we are here to help."

The municipal election is Oct. 24. Voters will have the opportunity to cast a ballot in-person or online for the following offices:

- Mayor
- Deputy mayor
- Five councillor positions
- School board trustee

The town's election webpage currently contains information on the following subjects:

- Key dates
- Election methods
- Elected positions
- Voter requirements and information
- Candidate and campaign requirements

As well, the page includes a link to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's website www.voterlookup.ca, where people can confirm or update their electoral information, add an elector name to an address, and change their school board support.

Twin-pad arena and library construction continues

Building work on the twin-pad arena and library project at 544 River Rd. W. continues.

Steel for the frame of the building recently arrived on site.

The project remains on time and on budget.

Each month, we provide a video update on the construction process.

You can review the videos on our website under the 'Twin-pad arena and library' page on www.wasagabeach.com.

Fundraising for the project continues as well.

Recently, the Anstey family donated \$10,000 to the project.

The donation is in memory of Doug Anstey, one of the original partners who built the Wasaga Stars Arena in the early 1970s. Privately constructed, the town purchased the facility in 1977.

In recognition of the family's donation to the new arena and library, the town will name a change room for Anstey, a well-known local plumber and realtor, and former town councillor from 1981 to 1985, who passed away in 2006.

"The construction of the current arena in the 1970s allowed Doug's kids and grandkids to participate in minor hockey and figure skating in our own local arena. We look forward to Doug's great-grandchildren having the same opportunity in the new twin-pad arena in our growing town," the family said in a statement. "We've kept Doug's memory alive through Wasaga Beach Minor Hockey with the 'Doug Anstey Most Dedicated Player Award' and we are pleased to make this donation in his name as we know he would be honoured to be a part of the next generation of skating in Wasaga Beach."

For more information on fundraising opportunities, visit www.wb-legacy.ca.



Mayor Nina Bifulchi, Councillor George Watson, and Councillor Stan Wells met with three generations of the Anstey family. The family has donated \$10,000 to the twin-pad arena and library building project.

Look for our new digital recreation guide



Our new digital recreation guide is now available online.

Look for it on our website at www.wasagabeach.com.

Get all the information you need to access fun and interesting programs.

Learn about our easy online registration option.

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.

Sign UP today!

Make sure you are on the list to receive our monthly e-newsletter. The newsletter will arrive in your e-mail inbox. Get the latest on council decisions, municipal programs and services.

To sign up for the monthly newsletter visit: www.wasagabeach.com

Census shows Wasaga Beach one of Canada's fastest growing communities

Newly released census data from Statistics Canada shows Wasaga Beach is one of the fastest growing communities in the country.

"We are not really surprised as we have had steady growth over the last few years," Mayor Nina Bifulchi said. "We believe people want to live here because we are an affordable and safe place to live."

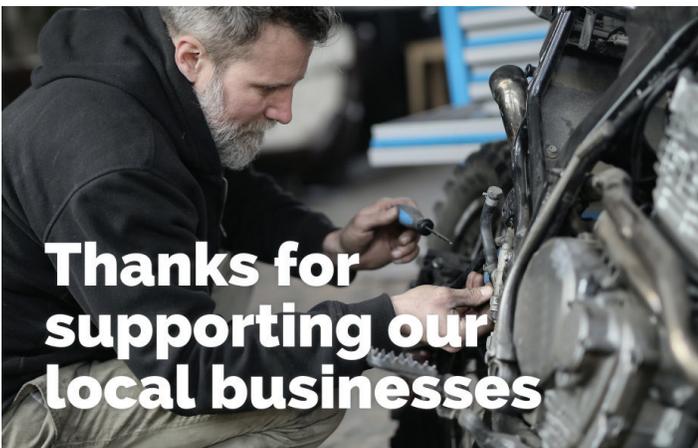
In addition, Bifulchi said a number of other factors contribute to making the community a desirable place.

"We have a growing number of housing choices, great schools and good access to health care, a public transit system, a beautiful waterfront, hiking trails, recreation facilities, good water and sewer infrastructure, we are close to larger urban centres and our overall cost of living, including property taxes and water rates, is low," she said.

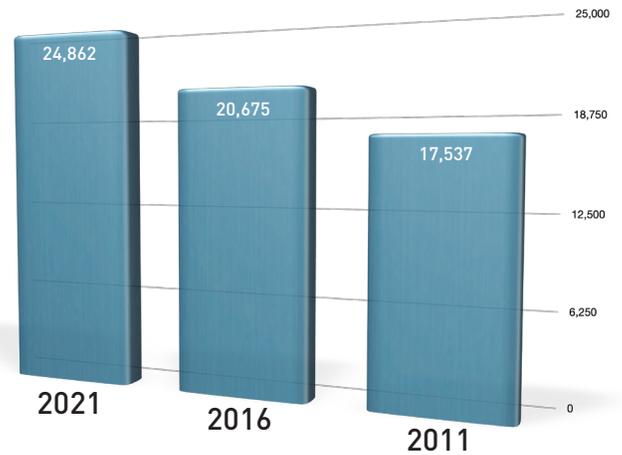
On top of this, the town is planning for the future through projects such as the new twin-pad arena and library, the redevelopment of town-owned land at the beachfront, and a number of other projects that are in the planning stages.



On Feb. 28, Mayor Nina Bifulchi and chief administrative officer George Vadeboncoeur presented Public Works staff with employee service awards for five, 10, 15, 20, and 30 years of service. Congratulations recipients and thank you for the great job you do delivering services to our community.



At a glance



The town is achieving a population threshold that is attractive to new entrepreneurs, evidenced by the number of businesses that are opening. In the west end, Gateway Casinos and Entertainment continues construction of its new facility.

"We look forward to further releases of census data in the months ahead as this will help paint an even more detailed picture of our community," Bifulchi said.



March 8 was International Women's Day. Women play an integral role in our organization. Our mayor and deputy mayor are women, we have women in department leadership roles, and we have women working in various other positions. Outside of their roles with the town, these women are awesome moms, wives, girlfriends, daughters, and community volunteers. Some even find the time to run their own businesses. Thanks to all for the work they do.

Convenience 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.