



May 2019

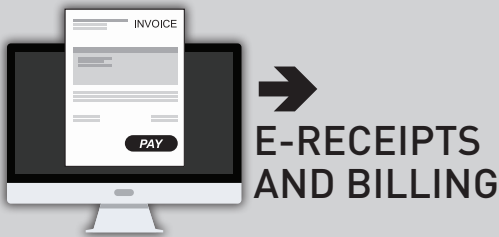
Water Bill information BULLETIN

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 March and April. 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

This is an exciting time to be a resident of Wasaga Beach.

In early April, Gateway Casinos and Entertainment Ltd. announced its Wasaga Beach casino will be built on property south of the Beachwood Road roundabout.

The best part of this announcement is the creation of roughly 150 new jobs. For a small town like ours, this is a tremendous jolt for local employment.

On top of this, the town will receive a dependable revenue stream from the casino. The amount will be anywhere from \$1.5-million to \$2-million annually.

For our community this is good news.

I am also happy to tell you that at the end of March your council approved the town's 2019 budget. (See related item in this newsletter).

We are investing almost \$24-million in capital projects this year. This includes funding for bridges, roads, water and sewer, parks and recreation, and more.

Two projects I will highlight are the library and the arena. We have set aside funds for the design work of both structures.

On a related note, we have shortlisted sites for a new library and arena.

For the library, we now have a list of seven potential sites.

For the arena, we have a list of six sites.

We hope to share more about these two projects soon. Your council is committed to building these facilities during this term of council.

Council and town staff are also busy determining how best to proceed with development of our beachfront lands.

Council has directed staff to look at options to divest the property. This includes creating parcels that are large enough to support large-scale development rather than a piecemeal approach. We will provide additional updates to you as we go forward. Ultimately, we want to revitalize this integral part of our community.



Council is supportive of a Festival Square on these lands, as it will create a gathering spot for us all.

As well, a vibrant and successful beachfront is key to developing our economic competitiveness.

We are going to achieve all of this in an equitable, fair, and transparent fashion.

Wherever I travel in Wasaga Beach, I get a real sense of optimism from the people who speak with me.

I can tell you that this council is placing the needs of our residents first by prioritizing services and community assets that affect the people living here.

Our focus as your representatives is simple: Serve our residents, support our community, build our economy, and lead for tomorrow.

By working together, we are moving Wasaga Beach forward.

Sincerely,

Nina Bifolchi,
Mayor.

Get your parking pass

Parking permits are now available for the 2019 year. A residential parking permit is designed to offer access to municipal parking lots at a cost of \$22.60 (one pass per property). For more info, call our municipal bylaw office at 705-429-2511.

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.

Water turn on

Do you need the water turned on at your home or cottage? Please contact Public Works - h.kenney@wasagabeach.com or call 705-429-2540 ext. 2305 to make an appointment.

Seniors expo returns in June

The annual Seniors Information and Active Living Expo will take place Wednesday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the RecPlex, 1724 Mosley St.

More than 50 exhibitors will showcase their expertise and services.

There will also be door prizes, light refreshments, and an address by Mayor Nina Bifolchi.

As well, the annual Senior of the Year Award will be presented.

Admission to the expo is free.

For more information, e-mail: wasagabeachseniors@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

May 11 - Wasaga's Finest Citizens Awards

May 18 - Summer Launch Event

May 26 - Pet Valu® Walk for Dog Guides

June 15 & 16 - Waterfront Festival

June 21 & 22 - Wasaga Cruiser's Fun Run

July 1 - Canada Day!

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

YOU CAN PAY ONLINE

You can now pay your water bill and tax bill online by visiting www.wasagabeach.com. Click on the "Pay Tax and Water Bills" link at the bottom of our main page and follow the instructions. It's hassle free and your payment is made within two to three business days. If you have questions, call the Treasury Department at 705-429-3844.

Open Fires By-law

The Town of Wasaga Beach would like to remind its residents and visitors of the "open fires" by-law.

Property owners are not required to obtain a permit, however, the by-law rules must be followed to ensure fire and health safety.

- Only dry seasoned firewood shall be burned (no rubbish or yard waste).
- Smoke from the fire is your responsibility; do not allow smoke to interfere with others enjoyment of their property.
- A fire shall only be set in an outdoor burning device complete with a spark

arrester.

- Fire shall be less than 1 metre in diameter and ½ metre in height.
- A minimum of 4 metres from any combustible material must be maintained (i.e. structures, fence, trees etc.).
- Each fire shall be supervised by a responsible adult with access to adequate means of extinguishment (i.e. garden hose, bucket of water etc.).

Failure to adhere to these rules may result in fines or the removal of your burning privileges. The full open fires by-law can be found on www.wasagabeach.com.

Town council approves 2019 budget

Council approved the 2019 budget on March 26.

For 2019, the tax rate increase is 2.91 percent on the municipal portion of the tax bill. The impact of the increase on the average assessed home in Wasaga Beach is \$51.92.

The total operating and capital budgets is \$64 million, an increase of \$9 million when compared to the 2018 budget.

The budget for operating expenditures is \$40.1 million. The operating budget

earmarks funds for the hiring of additional staff in strategic areas across multiple departments to improve the level of service provided to our residents.

Funds are also set aside to work with developers in building projects in our community that meet council's priorities of providing more affordable housing and diversifying the tax base.

The budget for capital expenditures is \$23.8 million, with the largest portion of this going towards roads and bridges (\$10.6 million).

For full details, see the Budget section of www.wasagabeach.com.

After-hours medical clinic now six days a week

The Wasaga Beach After-Hours Medical Clinic is now open six days a week.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

the clinic is open 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday the clinic is open 10 a.m. to noon.

The clinic is located at 14 Ramblewood Dr., Unit 202. For more information, see www.wasagabeach.com.

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

* 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.