



November 2021

Water Bill information BULLETIN

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

Looking for fun events?

Visit our website at www.wasagabeach.com to learn about fun events happening in the town of Wasaga Beach.

You can also follow our Wasaga Beach Events Facebook page.

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.

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

Fall is always a busy time in Wasaga Beach.

At town hall, we are working on the 2022 draft budget. Staff have presented the first draft to council. They have taken the feedback and are working on the second draft. There is still much to do.

You can follow the budget process by watching our meetings online and by reviewing our budget updates on the town website.

The public will have a chance to share its thoughts about the budget at a public meeting on Dec. 14. Watch our website for more details closer to the date.

I am happy to report that we have retained a firm to work with the town on creating a new municipal brand. Scott Thornley and Company Inc. will work with the municipality to create a brand that reflects all the positive aspects of Wasaga Beach.

It is also my pleasure to share that we are working with SHS Consulting and Urban Metrics to create the West Wasaga Secondary Plan. The plan will result in a coordinated and comprehensive approach to future land use, transportation, servicing, and other needs at the western end of our community, from the roundabout to the town boundary.

Work on the twin-pad arena and library project continues and daily we hear from people who are excited about this new facility. As the building takes shape, we will share photos and video of the structure so please look for them in the months ahead.

Are you decorating the outside of your house for the holidays? We want to hear from you. Feature your home on our self-guided Christmas Through Town tour. We held the



tour for the first time last year and it was well received. If you wish to participate in the 2021 version, contact our events staff by e-mail at events@wasagabeach.com. Participants will have their home highlighted on our web-based tour map.

Our Santa Claus Parade is Saturday, Nov. 27, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. It will be great to once again be able to celebrate this annual Christmas tradition. I know I look forward to seeing people along the parade route and at the RecPlex afterwards.

In closing, stay safe and I look forward to updating you again soon.

Sincerely,

Nina Bifulchi,
Mayor.

Caterpillar population declining, says County of Simcoe

A County of Simcoe report on the LDD infestation has determined the caterpillar population is declining.

As a result, staff are recommending no further action on the matter at this time.

The last two summers the caterpillars have stripped leaves from trees and left behind the results of their munching.

The Invasive Species Centre is encouraging people to scrape off LDD egg masses from trees. They are running a contest with prizes to encourage participation. Visit www.invasivespeciescentre.ca to learn more.



The man from the North Pole will be in town at the end of November.

The Wasaga Beach Santa Clause Parade is Saturday, Nov. 27, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The parade will make its way along Dunkerron Avenue and Mosley Street, ending at the RecPlex.

Please join us for this great Wasaga Beach tradition.

Remember to dress appropriately for the weather, bring your mask, and observe physical distancing.

Town announces Senior of the Year

The Age Friendly Community Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that William (Bill) Hooper is the Senior of the Year for 2021.

“On behalf of council and town staff, as well as our committee, I want to congratulate Mr. Hooper on this tremendous recognition and thank him for his contributions to our community,” Mayor Nina Bifulchi said.

For several years, Hooper has worked tirelessly as a volunteer with the Wasaga Beach Ministerial Food Bank, often dedicating the equivalent of a full-time job to the cause.

Highly regarded by his fellow volunteers, Hooper, in his role as buyer, has proved resourceful, searching daily to find the best deals, thus stretching the available funds, keeping shelves stocked, and ensuring safe storage of food to avoid waste.

He has often delivered food to home-bound clients, spending time talking with them, boosting their spirits, and providing encouragement.

Hooper has also shown great empathy and kindness by assisting food bank clients with other challenges in their lives, directing them to resources and supports.

He has been a role model to others, recruiting, encouraging and guiding volunteers as well as being a strong advocate, talking to individuals and groups to heighten community awareness of food insecurity and the importance of the food bank, and has assisted with fundraising efforts.

Furthermore, he has participated in the leadership team as secretary, as a member of the board of directors and as ministerial liaison.

In summary, Hooper is the epitome of a volunteer. His energy, dedicated work ethic and caring heart are an inspiration to all.



William (Bill) Hooper is Wasaga Beach's Senior of the Year.



2022 draft budget update

In October, council started work on the 2022 draft budget.

Right now, we are looking at a 2.15 percent increase. For a home assessed at \$450,000, this represents a \$56 increase over 2021 or an extra \$4.67 per month.

The total operating budget for Draft 1 is \$44-million, compared to \$42-million in 2021. The operating budget covers the day-to-day expenses required to deliver services to residents. These costs return year after year and include items such as staff wages, office supplies, repairs and maintenance, insurance and utilities.

The capital budget is \$56-million, compared to \$54-million in 2021. The capital budget supports long-term investments such as infrastructure and facilities. Road repairs, new sidewalks, investments in new buildings are all considered capital expenses.

There are significant budget carryover items from 2021 to 2022, the largest related to the twin-pad arena and library project – which involves a combination of financing, reserves, and fundraising. Construction on the project started in September and will be complete in 2023.

The town has substantial funds in its reserve accounts, established over the years to support infrastructure investments. Now the municipality is drawing down these reserves to help fund a variety of projects that will contribute to maintaining and enhancing the overall quality of life in Wasaga Beach.

See Budget Update 1 and 2 on our website to learn more.

Work on the budget continues throughout November and a public meeting on the draft budget is Dec. 14.

Watch our website for updates.

