



Otonabee-South Monaghan an OSM Township

P.O. Box 70, 20 Third Street, Keene, Ontario K0L 2G0

Tel: 705-295-6852 • Toll Free 705 area code only: 800-999-4861 • Fax: 705-295-6405
info@osmtownship.ca • www.osmtownship.ca • Facebook & Twitter @OSMTownship

NEWSLETTER

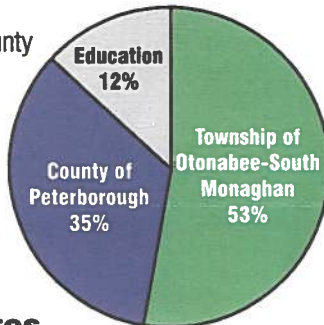
SUMMER/FALL 2026

Property Tax

Property taxes fund the Township, the County of Peterborough, and the school boards.

For residential ratepayers, the taxes collected by the Township are shared as follows:

- Township 53%
- County 35%
- Education 12%



2026 Final Tax Bill Due Dates

Friday, July 31 & Friday, September 25

Please note that a 1.25% penalty is imposed on unpaid balances on the 1st day of each month that the default continues. Township staff do not have the authority to waive penalties.

Flat rates for Area Services on the Tax Bill

Annual Rate for:

- ✓ Curbside Pick Up (island and vacant lands excluded) \$ 59.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ For owners of properties served by municipal water systems in Keene and Stewart Hall \$ 2,429.00 per household
- ✓ For owners of properties served by municipal sewer systems in Burnham Meadows \$ 1,258.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ Swimming Pool Surcharge in Keene and Stewart Hall \$ 124.00 per household
- ✓ Street Light Service Areas are rated by community area

Payments - Payment options are listed on the reverse side of your tax bill as well as on the Township website at www.osmtownship.ca under 'Payment Options' or please call or visit the Township office for more information. Pre-authorized payment plans are available. If paying through internet banking, please allow 2-3 business days for us to receive payment to ensure your payment is not received late. You can also pay by credit card online through Paymentus, a service fee applies.

Tax Relief for Low-Income Seniors and Low-Income Persons with Disabilities

You may qualify for tax relief for the amount of any increase in your property taxes over the previous year, to a maximum of \$200. You may be eligible if you are receiving a benefit under the Ontario Disability Support Program or are a senior receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and the subject property is your principal residence. This is a County of Peterborough program which is administered by the Township. Applications are available on www.osmtownship.ca and must be submitted by November 15, 2026.

Budget 2026

The 2026 **Total Township Budget** is \$16,395,652 which includes operating costs of \$9,570,918, capital plan projects of \$4,112,495 and \$2,712,238 provision for reserves to fund future infrastructure replacement. The 2026 **Total Township Tax Levy** is \$8,389,862 with the balance funded through grants, user fees, development charges, reserve transfers and other revenue. This results in a 5.43% increase in the Township property tax rate. Each property is impacted differently based on the assessed value determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and the property type. For more information about how your property is assessed, please visit the MPAC site at www.mpac.ca. To find out more about your particular property assessment, register online at www.aboutmyproperty.ca. Any assessment-related tax increases are identified on your property tax bill.

Fire Safety

Do you know that you do not need a burn permit to have a campfire in OSM Township?

Campfires are still required to follow the definition of the Open-Air Fires By-law 2022-50. Campfire – shall mean a fire having a maximum fuel volume of 0.5 metre x 0.5 metre x 0.5 metre height (1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet), that is set and maintained solely for the purposes of cooking food, providing warmth or recreational enjoyment and where:



- i) the site of the fire is on non-combustible material,
- ii) the fire is at least 3 metres (10 feet) from any flammable material,
- iii) the space above the fire is at least 3 metres (10 feet) from vegetation,
- iv) the fire is at least 4.75 metres (15 feet) from the property line,
- v) the fire is at least 4.75 metres (15 feet) from a structure, and,
- vi) the flame's length does not exceed 0.5 metres (1.5 feet) in height and 0.5 metres (1.5 feet) in diameter.

Burn permits can be obtained for agricultural fires and are required to be renewed annually. This can be done through the burn permit system:



<https://osm.burnpermits.com/>

or by calling the Fire Department Administration office – 705-295-6880.

When they are in effect, **Burn Bans** can be found listed on the township website, social media or by calling 1-888-505-3313 for a system message, if a ban is in place.

Only working **Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms** save lives.

Join us and be Saved by the Beep – Sept. 28, 2026

- Smoke Alarms are required on every level of your home, and outside all sleeping areas.
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms are now required on all levels in homes that have an attached garage, fossil fuel-burning appliance, or fireplace.
- 10-year sealed battery combination alarms will save you time and money.
- Test alarms monthly by pushing the test button to ensure they are still working.
- Follow manufacturer instructions for cleaning and replacement.
- Smoke and Carbon monoxide alarms are only good for 7-10 years, as listed in the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure you regularly test the alarms in your home and replace them as required.
- Plan and practice your Escape Plan. Know 2 ways out of every room in your home, and make sure you all know the same meeting place to go to once you are safely out. Then you don't think someone is still inside, or missing, when they are actually at a different location outside.



Plan for Every Season

Do you know that you need to be prepared for the first 72 hours of any emergency within your community?

Have an Emergency Preparedness kit and an emergency plan in place to keep you and your household safe during emergencies.

Sign up for Voyent Alert! to stay informed about emergency messages and day-to-day notifications issued by OSM Township for your home/cottage area:

<https://register.voyent-alert.com>

Notifications can be received through the mobile app, text/SMS, email or a voice call to a landline.

If you need assistance registering, please contact the Fire Department Administration office.



DEPARTMENTS

- Municipal Administration** - 705-295-6852 / 1-800-999-4861
- Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk**, Heather Scott Ext. 223
- Deputy Clerk**, Liz Ross Ext. 214
- Director of Finance/Treasurer**, Dane Smith Ext. 211
- Deputy Treasurer**, Stephen Whitmall Ext. 216
- Receptionist/Office Assistant**, Prudence Cameron-Jordan Ext. 213
- Tax Inquiries** - 705-295-6852
- Accounting and Tax Clerk**, Jessica Glendinning Ext. 210
- Building & Planning Department** - 705-295-6852
- Director of Building Services (CBO)**, Paul Monks Ext. 222
- Deputy Chief Building Official**, John Smallwood Ext. 231
- Planner**, Emily Baker Ext. 232
- Building Inspector**, Steve Wigboldus Ext. 212
- Building & Planning Assistant**, Christine Zurosky Ext. 233
- Parks & Recreation Department** - 705-295-6862
- Recreation, Parks and Facilities Manager**, Mike Nelson
- Recreation, Parks and Facilities Lead Hand**, Payton Crough

- Public Works Department** - 705-745-3595
- Director of Operations**, Craig Brooks
- Roads Foreman**, Ryan Sloan
- Dog Control** - 705-939-6791 / 1-866-709-6083
- Dog Control Officer**, Debra Haigh
- Fire and Emergency Services** - 705-295-6880
- Fire Chief/CEMC**, Chuck Parsons Ext. 217
- Fire Admin/Public Education/Fire Prevention Assistant** - Candace Hurlock, Ext. 215

COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Mayor** - Joe Taylor 705-295-4886, mayor@osmtownship.ca
- Deputy Mayor** - Bonnie Clark 705-295-4434, deputymayor@osmtownship.ca
- Councillor at Large** - Mark Allen 705-295-1544, atlargecouncillor@osmtownship.ca
- Councillor for Otonabee Ward** - Nick Powers 705-875-8245, otonabecouncillor@osmtownship.ca
- Councillor for South Monaghan Ward** - Terry Holmes 416-899-0740, southmonaghancouncillor@osmtownship.ca

Building Department

2024 Ontario Building Code Update

The new Ontario Building Code took effect on **January 1, 2025**. This update includes over 2,400 changes designed to align provincial standards with the National Building Code of Canada, reducing red tape and streamlining construction across the province.



Important: Sewage System Jurisdiction

Please note that the Township is now the sole authority for **Part 8 – Sewage Systems**.

Responsibility has transitioned away from Peterborough Public Health. For all inquiries or records regarding past and present sewage works, please contact our department directly.

Online Applications

We continue to offer a streamlined application process through **Cloudpermit**. You can submit and track all building and planning permits via the direct link on our Township website.

Planning a Project?

Whether you are renovating, adding a secondary suite, or starting a new build, we are here to help. Contact us at **705-295-6852 ext. 233** to discuss your project requirements and the permit process.

Do I Need a Permit?

Yes, you do for:

- New buildings & additions
- Secondary suites & garden suites
- Sewage systems & plumbing/HVAC
- Decks, garages, sheds & pools
- Tents > 60 sq. m



No, you don't for:

- Replacing roofing or same-size windows
- Replacing hot water tanks or furnaces
- Changing exterior siding/cladding
- Sheds under 15 sq. m (must meet setbacks)
- Demolishing farm-based agricultural buildings

Questions? Call us at **705-295-6852 ext. 233** before you start!

ELECTION: October 26, 2026

Ontario Municipal & School Board Election

Make sure you're ready to vote.

If you've recently moved, changed your name, or turned 18, your voter information may need updating. You can check your status, and update, add, or remove your information using the online Voter Registration tool until August 14, 2026.

Register or confirm your information here:

<https://www.registertovoteon.ca/>

After September 1, 2026, any changes must be made in person at the municipal office. 20 Third St., Keene.

 **Register to Vote**

Development Charges for 2026

The 2026 Township Development Charges under By-Law No. 2020-60 are as follows:

Residential (Single and Semi-detached) \$11,911.61

Non-Residential (per sq ft of building space) \$4.85

Note: The Township also collects development charges for the County of Peterborough, and the PVNCCDSB and KPRDSB school boards (not included in the above amounts).

STAY INFORMED

News & Notices

Watch for details on community events and recreational registrations by following us on Twitter and Facebook at @OSMTownship. All community news and events can also be found on our website at www.osmtownship.ca.

Running a community program or event? Submit the details to us by email at info@osmtownship.ca and your event may be promoted on our website, LED sign, Facebook or Twitter, provided it meets the Electronic Information (LED) Sign Policy.

Garbage and Recycling

OSM Transfer Station - 1594 Drummond Line, 705-749-2331

Hours: Mon. & Fri. 1-6 pm / Tues. 9 am – 3pm / Wed. 9 am – 6 pm / Sat. 9 am – 3 pm

Garbage Collection Inquiries/Missed Collection

Waste Connections Canada – 705-742-4268 or

Marilyn.jewer@wasteconnections.com

or Stephen.bye@wasteconnections.com



Clear Garbage Bag Program. Thank you to all residents for helping to make this program a continued success. The Township is very pleased to report that since the launch of the program there has been a significant decline in waste generation and a huge increase in recycling. Garbage can be left at the curb or can be taken to the Drummond Line Transfer Station for a fee in the following ways: 1) in a clear bag in a garbage container; 2) in a clear bag; or 3) in an opaque small grocery-size privacy bag to shield private items. **Garbage must be at the road before 7:00am to avoid missing collection.** For clear bag program details please see the Township website www.osmtownship.ca

Recycling Program – Circular Materials Ontario (CMO)

For missed Recycling Collection call Emterra Environmental at 1-888-597-1541

Remember the Big Three when recycling:

1. Have your blue boxes to the road by 7am.

2. Sort your materials into 2 boxes, Containers and Papers.

✓ Use as many boxes as needed, as long as Containers, and Papers are in separate boxes.

3. Keep recycling loose in Blue Boxes.

✓ Bagged recycling will not be collected.

Special Provisions for Individuals with a Medical Condition

The Application for Medical (Non-Hazardous) Waste Exception – Curbside Waste Collection can be found at www.osmtownship.ca on the Garbage page.

Public Works

Construction season for OSM Township's Public Works Department is well underway. Road construction on Matchett Line and Mahood Road has already started and will be completed by the end of July 2026. Road resurfacing will be taking place on Third Line between County Road 28 and County Road 2, as well as Villiers Line, south of County Road 2. Maintenance ditching will be occurring on sections of Providence Line, Second Line and Elmhirst Road. Regravelling will be taking place in late summer/fall on various OSM Roads.



Recreation, Parks and Facilities

Parks and Conservation Areas

Our Township is proud to offer several parks and playgrounds for residents to enjoy. Whether you're looking for a place for your children to play, a spot to connect with nature, or a perfect picnic location, we have something for everyone. Visit Our Revitalized Otonabee-South Monaghan Memorial Community Centre.

Summer Services:

- ✓ Ball Hockey – Sharpen your skills and enjoy the fast-paced action.
- ✓ Lacrosse – Join us for a game of Canada's national summer sport.
- ✓ Pickleball (drop-in) – Discover why this sport is quickly gaining popularity! Visit our website event calendar for dates and times!

Enhance your community presence by taking advantage of our public skating sponsorship and arena advertising opportunities. For more information, please call 705-295-6852.

Outdoor Sports Fields

Our Township is proud to offer a total of four baseball/softball diamonds and one soccer field, catering to a variety of athletic and recreational activities. Whether you're an aspiring baseball star or a soccer enthusiast, our facilities provide a great experience for players and spectators alike. With well-maintained fields located in beautiful park settings, our township is the perfect place to stay active while enjoying some friendly competition. For more information including locations and field availability, visit our website at www.osmtownship.ca

Community Halls and Events

Our township offers a variety of community halls perfect for hosting all sorts of events. Whether you're planning a wedding, a Jack and Jill, a corporate meeting, or a family reunion, our versatile spaces can accommodate your needs and make your event truly special.

Upcoming Summer and Fall Events and Updates:

- ✓ Public Skating –2026/2027 Season begins September 2026
- ✓ Minor Hockey Registration –Visit www.otonabeewolves.com for more information
- ✓ Youth Girls Hockey Registration –Visit www.keenewolverines.com for more information
- ✓ Otonabee Skating Club Registration – Visit www.otonabeeskatingclub.ca for more information

For more information including locations, booking details and availability, visit our website at www.osmtownship.ca