



# Otonabee-South Monaghan an OSM Township

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

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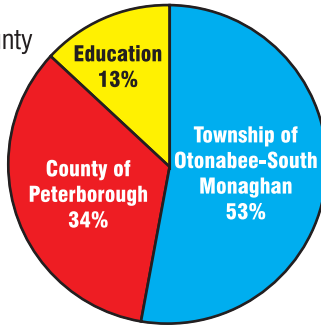
# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER/FALL 2025

## Property Tax

Property taxes fund the Township, the County of Peterborough, and the school boards. For residential ratepayers, the taxes paid to the Township are shared as follows:

- Education 13%
- County 32%
- Township 53%



## 2025 Final Tax Bill Due Dates

Friday, July 25 & Friday, September 26

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) \$ 57.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ For owners of properties served by municipal water systems in Keene and Stewart Hall \$ 2,381.00 per household
- ✓ For owners of properties served by municipal sewer systems in Burnham Meadows \$ 1,221.00 per household and/or unit
- ✓ Swimming Pool Surcharge in Keene and Stewart Hall \$ 121.00 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](http://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](http://www.osmtownship.ca) and must be submitted by November 15, 2025.

## Budget 2025

The 2025 **Total Township Budget** is \$14,048,222 which includes operating costs of \$9,042,531, capital plan projects of \$2,826,500 and \$2,179,190 provision for reserves to fund future infrastructure replacement. The **2025 Total Township Tax Levy** is \$7,784,963 with the balance funded through grants, user fees, development charges, reserve transfers and other revenue. This results in a 5.2931% increase in the Township 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](http://www.mpac.ca). To find out more about your particular property assessment, register online at [www.aboutmyproperty.ca](http://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 flames 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, 2025

- Smoke Alarms are required on every level of your home, and outside all sleeping areas.
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms are required outside all sleeping areas 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 year, 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 Whitnall Ext. 216

**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

**Public Works Department** - 705-745-3595

Director of Operations, Craig Brooks

**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 Officer, Cara Wood 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

The Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan Building Department has some new changes for 2025. The Ontario Building Code 2024 came into effect on January 1, 2025, and presents over 2400 changes from the 2012 Ontario Building Code with the goal of reaching harmonization among Provincial Codes and the National Building Code of Canada (NBC), one of the desired goals is to reduce red tape and construction barriers.



The Township is now the authority having jurisdiction over Part 8 – Sewage Systems. Any past works related to sewage systems is no longer with the Peterborough Public Health Unit. Please contact the building department for any questions you may have regarding your sewage system.

The Building Department continues to offer the On-line Cloudpermit process for all building permit application and planning applications. A direct link to make an application through Cloudpermit can be found on the Township website. When considering a renovation, alteration, change of use, addition, new build, swimming pool, or adding a secondary suite please call the Building Department at 705-295-6852 extension 233 to discuss the details of your project. We can answer questions and provide direction related to the building permit process; and provide the requirements for your application.

### Building permits are required for the following:

- New residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings
- Residential, industrial, commercial and institutional additions, renovations, or alterations.
- Secondary dwelling units, garden suites, additional residential units.
- On-site sewage systems.
- Change of use to existing buildings.
- New plumbing and/or HVAC systems, and alterations/expansions to existing plumbing and/or HVAC systems.
- Private swimming pool enclosures and public swimming pools.
- Accessory structures: garages, decks, sheds, gazebos, porches, etc.
- Solid fuel burning appliances: Wood burning stove, pellet stove, etc.
- Tents greater than 60 sq m (646 sq.ft.) in ground area (including multiple tents).
- Demolition of part or whole structures

### Building permits are not required for the following:

- Replacement of existing finished roofing materials.
- Replacement of existing, same-size windows and doors, hot water tank, furnace equipment replacement.
- Replacing exterior finish cladding materials.
- Utility shed under 15 sq.m (161 sq.ft.) but must conform to zoning setbacks.
- Demolition of a agricultural building located on a farm.

For a more complete list and additional information visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca).

## Development Charges for 2025

The 2025 Township Development Charges under By-Law No. 2020-60 are as follows:  
Residential (Single and Semi-detached) \$11,479.87  
Non-Residential (per sq ft of building space) \$4.68  
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).

## 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](http://www.osmtownship.ca).

Running a community program or event? Submit the details to us by email at [info@osmtownship.ca](mailto: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.

**STAY INFORMED**

## 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](mailto:Marilyn.jewer@wasteconnections.com)

or [Stephen.bye@wasteconnections.com](mailto: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](http://www.osmtownship.ca),

The County of Peterborough website ([www.ptbocounty.ca/recycling](http://www.ptbocounty.ca/recycling)) has a Searchable Waste Portal to find information regarding recycling and garbage collection schedules as well as a recycling and disposal information tab that will assist you in finding the appropriate place for your recyclables.

### 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](http://www.osmtownship.ca) on the Garbage page.

## 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

Are you looking for a place to enjoy your favourite recreational activities? Look no further than our newly revitalized Community Centre! We are excited to offer a variety of programs to keep you active and engaged.

### 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!

### As we transition into fall/winter, the ice will be back in for:

✓ Public Skating: Glide across the ice in a fun and family-friendly environment.

✓ Hockey: Whether you are part of a team or just looking for a pick-up game, we've got you covered.

✓ Curling: Experience the strategy and excitement of curling with friends and family

### 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 wellmaintained 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](http://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 – 2025/2026 Season begins September 2025

✓ Minor Hockey Registration –

Visit [www.otonabeewolves.com](http://www.otonabeewolves.com) for more information

✓ Youth Girls Hockey Registration –

Visit [www.keenewolverines.com](http://www.keenewolverines.com) for more information

✓ Otonabee Skating Club Registration –

Visit [www.otonabeeskatingclub.ca](http://www.otonabeeskatingclub.ca) for more information

For more information including locations, booking details and availability, visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca)