

Signage strategy and implementation plan

In 2023 Severn will continue to renew our Township signage. New signage that aligns with our updated logo and brand will help drive economic prosperity. New, vibrant signs will point visitors and residents towards attractions, businesses, and municipal points of interest. The new signage will promote Severn as a warm and welcoming community of communities and distinguish the area from nearby municipalities. A portion of the costs associated with the project are supported by the County of Simcoe's Economic Development Funding Program. Follow us on social media to stay updated on this and other projects and programs.

Need a location for your next event?

We have a variety of parks, beaches, and sports fields as well as facilities and community halls available for rent. You can rent these facilities for recreation and sports events, receptions, dances, showers, banquets, and more.

If you are interested in renting the Lake. St. George Community Centre or the Matchedash Heritage Community Centre, please contact those organizations directly.

Visit severn.ca/communitygroups.

Community centres

- Coldwater Community Centre
- Washago Community Centre

If you would like to rent the Coldwater Community Centre or the Washago Community Centre, you will need to complete the Rental Permit and submit it by email. Visit severn.ca/facilities to access the application, and to view fee information and other available rentals.

Submit your event to our Community Calendar

Our Community Calendar is designed to support local events by informing residents and visitors of what's happening in Severn throughout the year. These events are listed directly on severn.ca. Submit your event to be included in 2023 Community Calendar at calendar.severn.ca. Email us at communications@severn.ca with any questions.

News and Notices

We provide information about our municipal projects, programs, and services through a range of methods and channels, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, severn.ca, and email. You can subscribe to Severn's News and Notices to stay informed at severn.ca/subscribe.

Walk your ward.



Photography challenge

A picture can speak a thousand words. This year, we're challenging you to share your photographs on social media that represent your community. Get outside and **#walkyourward**. Visit your favourite places and discover new ones. Find your ward at severn.ca/wards.

Share the places you love in Severn and celebrate what makes our community special.

Winter road maintenance

Help ensure roads in Severn are cleared safely and efficiently this winter. Please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ Don't park on the road during snow plowing operations
- ✓ Don't deposit snow on the road without written permission from the Township
- ✓ Keep mailboxes clear of snow to allow the plow driver to see them
- ✓ Promptly remove garbage bins from the road allowance following collection

Seasonal overnight parking restrictions

To help clear the way for our snowplows, seasonal overnight parking restrictions are in effect from December 1 to March 31. On-street parking is prohibited on all roads from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Visit severn.ca/parking for details.

Get help clearing snow

Through Snow Angels Canada, you can request assistance to have snow cleared during winter months. If you'd like to volunteer as a Snow Angel, you can find neighbours or community members in need of assistance.

How it works:

1. Register at snowangelscanada.ca.
2. Create a post detailing your needs (e.g., driveway, roof clearing).
3. Search for and contact volunteers in your area.

Is the nearest fire hydrant clear of snow?

In an emergency, every second counts! Help keep fire hydrants accessible over the winter. If there's a fire hydrant near your home, you can assist by clearing snow in a one-metre radius around the hydrant so it can be easily located if needed.



Severn Bulletin

January 2023

Due date

Interim property taxes are due in two installments on **March 8** and **May 8**.

Payment options

Pre-authorized payments

Pre-authorized payment plans allow you to set up automatic withdrawals from your bank account. Sign up for pre-authorized payments at severn.ca/taxes.

Cheque

Pay by cheque (to Township of Severn) by mail (PO Box 159, Orillia Ontario L3V 6J3) or drop box (1024 Hurlwood Lane, Severn).

Banking

Pay through online or telephone banking, or in person at a financial institution.

Receipts

Please let us know if you'd like a receipt and provide your email or mailing address.

Paperless billing

Sign up for e-billing for water, sewer and property taxes at severn.ca.

Property assessments

Your property assessment and the property taxes you pay are not the same thing. Property assessments are determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), not by municipalities.

Municipalities set municipal tax rates and collect property taxes on the assessed values to pay for municipal services.

Your property taxes for 2023 will continue to be based on your 2016 assessment value. This means your property assessment remains the same as it was for the 2022 tax year, unless there have been changes to your property, such as:

- new construction or renovation
- changes to your property's classification
- all or part of your property no longer qualifies to be tax exempt

This is not a complete list of changes that may affect your assessment. Learn more on the MPAC website at mpac.ca.



Phone: 705-325-2315

Email: info@severn.ca

severn.ca



Administration Office: 1024 Hurlwood Lane, Severn
Mailing address: PO Box 159, Orillia, Ontario L3V 6J3

Phone: 705-325-2315
Email: info@severn.ca

Meet your 2022 to 2026 Council

Township of Severn is governed by a seven-member elected Council. Council consists of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and five elected Councillors representing each ward. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are also Councillors for the County of Simcoe. Visit severn.ca/council to read more about your Members of Council.



Mayor Mike Burkett

Mike was first elected as Mayor in 2010, and this term will be his fourth, making him the municipalities' longest consecutive serving Mayor. Mike is known for his warm personality, collaborative approach, and personal attention to the issues raised by the community. Contact Mike at 705-345-2337 or email mburkett@severn.ca.



Deputy Mayor Judith Cox

Judith is a longtime resident of Severn who lives in Coldwater. With 28 years of previous council experience; 10 as Councillor and 18 as Deputy Mayor, Judith has the experience needed to work for all residents of the Township and is committed to listening and finding solutions that result in real change. Contact Judith at 705-345-2336 or email jcox@severn.ca.



Councillor Mark Taylor, Ward 1

Currently in his sixth term as Councillor, Mark has extensive experience serving on a variety of local and regional committees and boards on behalf of Severn. Councillor Taylor has represented Ward 1 since 1999 and believes a strong Ward 1 will help Severn succeed. Contact Mark at 705-345-7629 or email mtaylor@severn.ca.



Councillor Dan Janssen, Ward 2

Dan has been elected to his first term. Councillor Janssen's interest in politics stems from his 20-year career at one of Canada's largest employers and seeing how his skills were able to create positive change. Dan looks forward to supporting his community while encouraging smart development and responsible economic growth. Contact Dan at 705-345-8209 or email djanssen@severn.ca.



Councillor Phil Brennan, Ward 3

Phil has been a resident of Severn since 2013 and a member of Council since mid-2022. Acclaimed in the October 2022 election, Councillor Brennan is excited to serve for a second and full term and is committed to remaining authentic and accountable to residents and stakeholders. Contact Phil at 705-345-5778 or email pbrennan@severn.ca.



Councillor Wanda Minnings, Ward 4

Councillor Minnings has lived in Westshore since 2016 and has long been a passionate advocate for her community. Wanda values the consideration of equity in the decision-making process and has a strong position that resources and opportunities must be fairly distributed within our community to meet the needs of all. Contact Wanda at 705-345-7297 or email wminnings@severn.ca.



Councillor Jim McIntyre, Ward 5

Councillor McIntyre has been a champion for Severn since his 2020 appointment to Council, and he is looking forward to serving a full four-year term after his acclamation in the 2022 election. Jim credits the unique contributions of each member to Severn's success. He believes Council will need to lean into those strengths to achieve its goals. Contact Jim at 705-345-0056 or jmcintyre@severn.ca.

Watch Council meetings live or on our YouTube channel

You can watch the live stream of the following meetings:

- Council (first Wednesday of the month)
- Corporate Services Committee (fourth Wednesday of the month)
- Planning and Development Committee (third Wednesday of the month)

Visit our Council Portal page at severn.ca/portal to view agendas and minutes, or to determine meeting dates and start times. You can watch recordings of past meetings on our YouTube channel (@severnontario).

Presenting to Council

If you have an issue you'd like to speak about or present to Council, or to a board or committee, you'll need to request a delegation. Visit severn.ca/delegation to complete the form.

Our year in review

We wanted to start the new year looking back on some of what we achieved over the past year. Here's a quick look at our services and accomplishments.



Administration and Finance

9,411 registered properties
1 Municipal Election
4,373 total votes cast
31% voter turnout
213 by-law infractions issued¹
114 parking tickets issued¹
144* news releases
3.8k online subscribers
16 Council meetings
11 Corporate Services Committee meetings



Parks and Recreation

1 Recreation Master Plan completed
11 public parks and
30km of the Uthoff Trail maintained
4.1k hours of facility rentals²



Water and Sewer

\$1.5M in infrastructure investments
550ML* of wastewater processed
500ML* of drinking water produced
6 WTDS and **3** WWTS operated



Planning and Development

1 Official Plan (draft) approval
5.5k* inquires received
475 building permits received²
2.1k building inspections²
11 Planning and Development meetings
400* septic system inspections
96 new dwelling units²
\$70M construction value of permits²



Fire and Emergency Services

65 volunteer firefighters
400 emergency response calls
5.5k hours attending emergency calls
16k total volunteer hours
300 building inspections completed
1 new Rescue Vehicle



Public Works and Roads

\$7M in road renewal projects
\$2.5M in parkland development
1.1k* inquiries and service requests
416km of roads maintained

WTDS = Water Treatment and Distribution System
WWTS = Wastewater Treatment and Collection System

k = thousand
m = million
km = kilometres
ML = megalitres

* Refers to the average per year

1. Number of by-law infractions and tickets from January 1 to August 31, 2022
2. Numbers represent data from January 1 to November 1, 2022

