

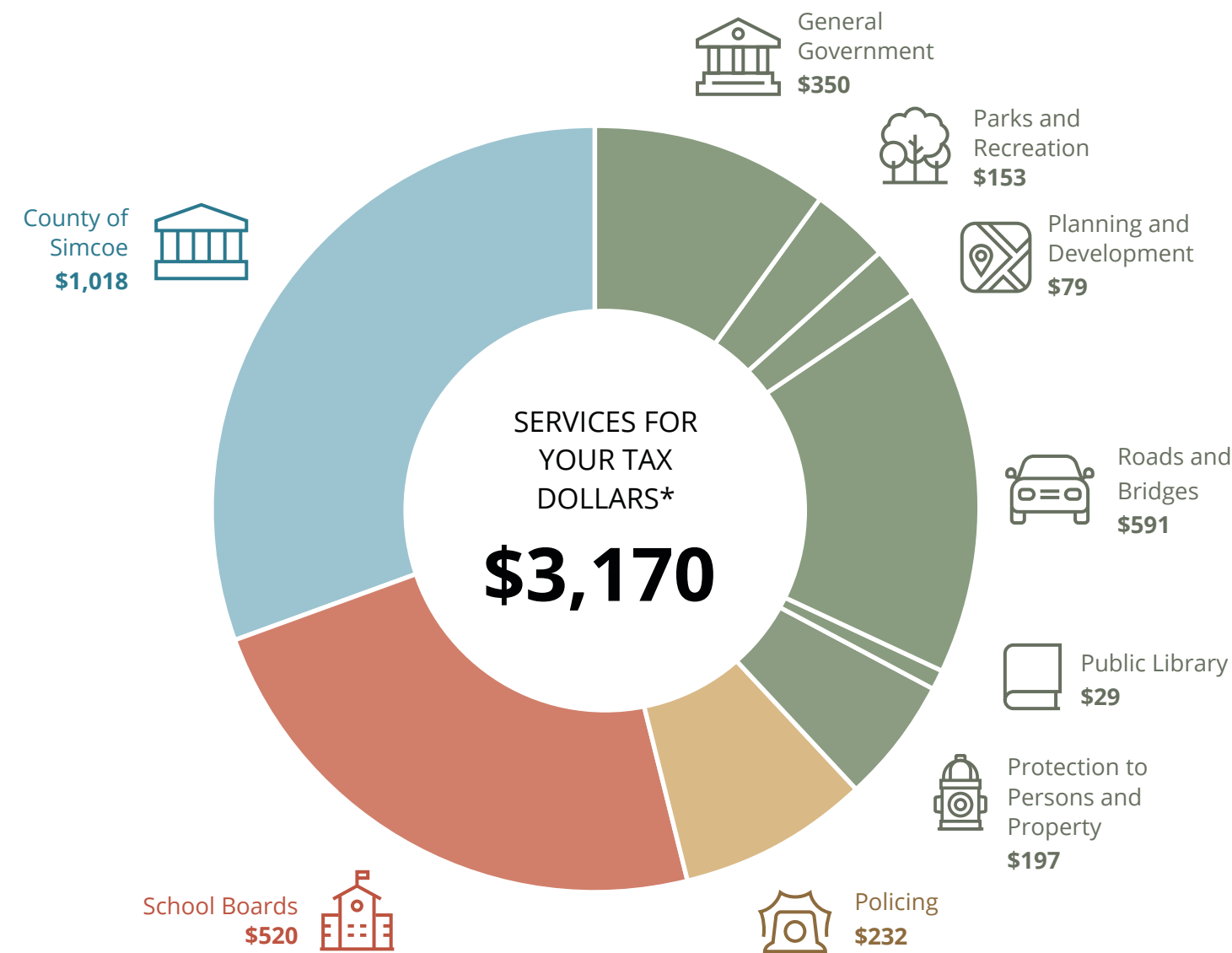
Did you know?

Finance is responsible for the collection of property taxes, water and sewer billing, and other revenues. Township of Severn keeps **0.44 cents** of every property tax dollar collected. The rest goes to County of Simcoe (**0.32 cents**), education (**0.17 cents**) and policing (**0.07 cents**).

2024 Budget breakdown

Our annual budget helps us deliver services and infrastructure that people use every day. It also ensures we provide value for money and that your tax dollars are spent wisely. With a 2.93% increase in the blended tax rate for 2024, the average single-family home in Severn with an assessed value of \$340,000 will pay an additional \$90.14.

For more information about Township of Severn's 2024 Budget or upcoming projects, visit severn.ca/budget.



Have your say on the future of recreation

We're asking for your feedback on the vision for future recreation programming and services. By sharing your thoughts, you'll help us understand what matters most to you and how we can enhance recreation experiences for our community. Whether it's suggesting new activities, identifying areas for improvement, or highlighting your favourite spaces and places, every opinion counts.

All residents are encouraged to complete the survey before the deadline of July 10.

Take the survey at: severn.ca/haveyoursay.

New evening drop-in pickleball

This is a fun, non-instructional drop-in program indoors at the Coldwater Community Centre (11 Michael Anne Drive). Registration is not required. Equipment is provided if needed.

When: June 13 to September 5

Day: Thursdays

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fee: \$2.50

View a complete schedule at severn.ca/pickleball.



New multi-use sports courts now open in Marchmont and Washago

The new courts located at Marchmont Community Park (2049 Avery Lane) and Washago Centennial Park (3376 Quetton Street) are open for use.

The courts are intended for basketball, pickleball, and tennis only.

The courts are open from dawn until dusk and court use is on a first come, first serve basis.

Please observe a one hour play limit when others are waiting and be courteous and kind.

If you have any questions or comments about the new courts email recreation@severn.ca or call 705-325-2315 x236.



Severn Bulletin

June 2024

Due dates

Property taxes are due in two instalments on **August 8** and **October 8**.

Payment options

Pre-authorized payments

Pre-authorized payment plans allow you to set up automatic withdrawals from your bank account every month or on due dates. 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. Please use the 19-digit roll number found on your tax bill (numbers only, no hyphens or spaces) and select Severn Township or Township of Severn as the payee.

Receipts

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

About the new E-Services portal

The launch of the portal will be multi-phased. When complete, our community will have access to online billing and payment options for water, sewer, and tax bills, as well as many more modernizing features. After the launch of all online options, users will be able to purchase a permit or licence, and pay for recreation programs, facility and/or ice rentals all on the E-Services portal. Thank you for your patience as we transition to this new and improved system.

Register for a new E-Services account

You will find detailed instructions on how to register for your E-Services account on the back of your tax bill.

There is a unique sign-up key and customer code on the back of your tax bill that you will need to enter to create your account at eservices.severn.ca. Questions? Email taxes@severn.ca or call 705-325-2315 x225.



Phone: 705-325-2315 severn.ca



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

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

severn.ca



Get involved in your community

Find ways to offer feedback and stay up to date on the latest news and notices.

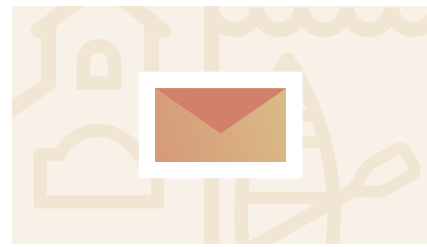
Have your say



Provide your input on a variety of municipal services and programs. We're committed to community collaboration and value your feedback.

► severn.ca/haveyoursay

Stay informed



Subscribe to our news and notices and follow us on social media so you never miss an important update.

► severn.ca/stayinformed

Report a concern



If you have a concern about roads, streetlights, or a by-law infraction, please report your concern and we'll follow up.

► severn.ca/reportaconcern

We're always planning for the future. Help us develop services that meet your needs and provide your feedback and input on our variety of programs, services and plans. We're committed to providing programs that serve our community.

Learn more or subscribe to project updates at: severn.ca/news.

✓ Servicing Master Plan

The Plan will include a complete technical and asset performance analysis to identify service gaps and future water, wastewater, and stormwater service needs. Visit severn.ca/smp.

✓ Economic Development Strategy

We've prepared an Economic Development Strategy and have hired our first Economic Development Officer. Learn more at severn.ca/eds.

✓ Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

The plan identifies accessibility barriers and prioritizes and sets out a plan to remove barriers over a five-year period. Visit severn.ca/accessibility.

✓ Roads studies and reports

In order to ensure that we're providing quality road networks and infrastructure, we have updated our Roads Needs Study. Learn more at severn.ca/plansandstudies.

Building and construction

We issue building permits and provide building inspections to help with your next building and renovation project. Follow these important steps to plan your construction project:

1. plan your project in advance
2. connect with our staff
3. hire a professional designer

4. get the proper approvals
5. hire building professionals
6. book your inspection online
7. get final approval
8. enjoy

Visit severn.ca/building or contact us at 705-325-2315 x224 or building@severn.ca for more information.

Fire permits

Fire permits are required for all open-air burning in Severn. Our Open-Air Burning By-law regulates the issuing of fire permits, the size of fires and materials you can burn within an open-air fire.

Fire permit fees vary depending on the size and type of fire. It costs \$25 for an annual fire permit and \$75 for a one-time agricultural fire permit.

You can apply for your fire permit online at severn.ca/firepermits. If you don't have internet access, you can contact us at 705-325-2315 x242 to request a fire permit.

You can only burn clean and dry wood with either permit. You're not allowed to burn leaves or garden waste in an open-air fire. Instead, you can dispose of yard waste through the County's of Simcoe's yard waste and leaf pick up program.

Always keep fire safety in mind. Check the fire danger rating before starting a fire. We've placed signs throughout the community to show the current fire danger rating.

You can also contact us at 705-325-2315 or fire@severn.ca for more information.

"Whether in the backyard of your home, the cottage or at a campground, make fire safety a priority. Open-air burning, especially if left unattended, can become difficult to control and result in a serious widespread fire. Supervise the fire at all times and keep a pail of water or garden hose nearby."

— Ritch Lowell, Fire Chief

What do the fire danger ratings mean?

LOW: Burning is permitted

MODERATE: Burn with caution.

HIGH: Extra care should be taken, with a recommendation of no burning. Severn may issue a municipal-wide fire ban.

EXTREME: No burning of any kind is allowed. A total fire ban will be issued by the Township.

FIRE BAN: When the fire ban is in place, no burning of any kind is permitted. Fireworks are also not allowed.

Subscribe to fire danger rating updates at severn.ca/firerating.

Traffic calming

We're dedicated to maintaining and improving our road network. That also includes ensuring our roads are safe for all users. Traffic calming aims to prevent high-speed rushed driving by 'calming' motorists using visual cues that influence drivers to pay more attention and to change their driving behaviours.

How can I learn more?

We use signal lighting, Black CAT radar devices, radar feedback signs, flexible posts, children silhouette roadside signs, and other methods to help reduce speeds. Find out more at severn.ca/slowdown.



BBQ safety

Few things can match the fun and enjoyment of a barbecue with family and friends. Practice sensible, safe barbecuing and your get-together will be a sizzling success.

Test for leaks

At the start of the BBQ season, do this three-step safety check of your BBQ:

CLEAN: Use a pipe cleaner or wire to ensure burner ports are free of rust, dirt, spider webs or other debris.

CHECK: Examine the hose leading from the tank to the burners. Replace if cracked or damaged.

TEST: Find leaks by applying a 50/50 solution of water and dish soap to propane cylinder connections and hoses. If bubbles appear, tighten the connection and/or replace the damaged parts and retest.

Light it right

Take these steps when starting a BBQ:

1. open the hood
2. turn on the gas release valve on the tank
3. turn on the grill controls or heat settings
4. take a step back
5. push the igniter button

If there's no igniter button, insert a long match or BBQ

lighter through the side burner hole first, then turn on the heat control knob. If the burner doesn't ignite right away, turn the gas off and wait five minutes, keeping the hood open, before repeating the steps.

Keep it safe

BBQs are approved for outdoor use only. They produce carbon monoxide, a poisonous gas that can lead to unconsciousness and even death. Never use or store propane cylinders inside any structure, including garages.

Learn more at severn.ca/bbqsafety and follow us on social media for more fire safety tips.