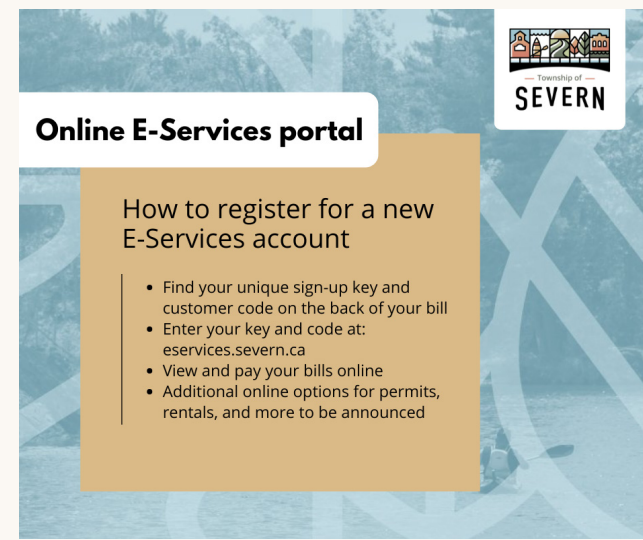


Agri-tourism and On-Farm Diversification workshop

Council approved our first Economic Development Strategy in 2024 aimed at fostering a robust, diversified economy while supporting tourism, local businesses, and community growth. We'll be hosting a free workshop at the Coldwater Community Centre on Tuesday, February 25 to help primary producers learn about the planning process, the Ontario Building Code, and Ontario Fire Code items that need to be considered when expanding their business offerings. There will also be sessions about funding, developing a business plan, and insurance needs. Learn more and register at severn.ca/workshops.



Online E-Services portal

How to register for a new E-Services account

- Find your unique sign-up key and customer code on the back of your bill
- Enter your key and code at: eservices.severn.ca
- View and pay your bills online
- Additional online options for permits, rentals, and more to be announced

What is E-Services and why sign up?

There are several reasons to sign up for an E-Services account, including:

- Access to your tax and utility bills 24/7
- Pay bills online anywhere and anytime
- View payment history
- Register for recreation programs, kids camps and more (coming soon!)

Register at eservices.severn.ca.

Have your say on the Coldwater Fairgrounds Master Plan

Township of Severn is developing a Master Plan for the Coldwater Fairgrounds that will guide the development, enhancement, and management of the property for the next 10 to 15 years. The plan will serve as a strategic road map to make sure that this recreational space aligns with the evolving needs of our community. You can have your say by attending one of two open houses or by completing the survey at severn.ca/fairgrounds.

Visit severn.ca for municipal updates

The municipal website is where you can find important information about our projects and services. [Severn.ca](https://severn.ca) is mobile-friendly and designed for our community. Subscribe to our Events Calendar, receive News and Notices to your inbox, and get informed of any emergency at severn.ca/subscribe.

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

Reminders for cart collection

The County of Simcoe is responsible for waste, recycling, and organics collection in Severn.

When setting out your carts in winter:

- Shovel a flat spot at the end of your driveway or curb
- Place your carts with two feet of space all around
- Place carts within eight feet of the road
- Don't place carts behind or on top of snowbanks

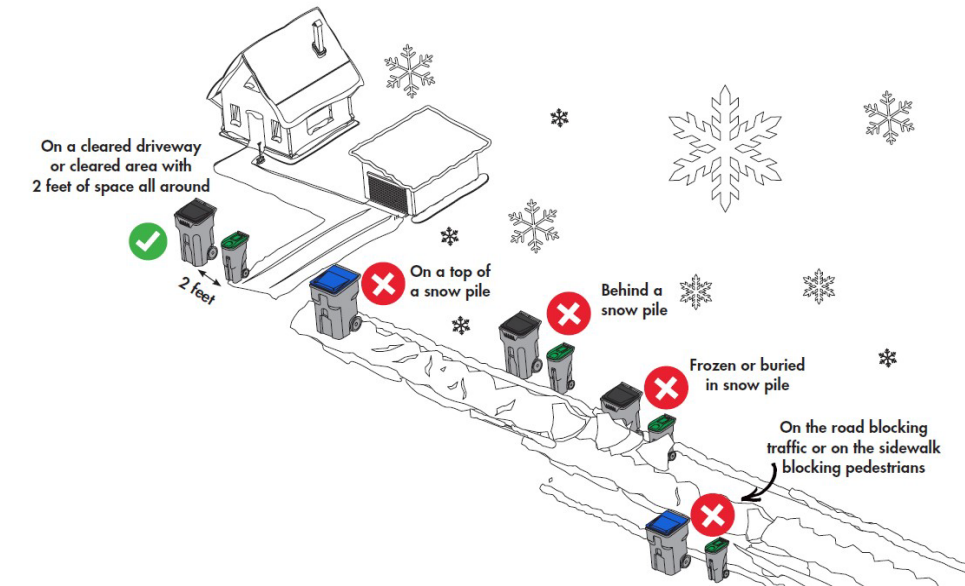
Simcoe County Collects app

Download the Simcoe County Collects mobile app to receive collection notifications for your address at simcoe.ca/waste.

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 Severn Fire and Emergency Services by clearing snow in a one-metre radius around the hydrant so it can be easily located if needed.

For more fire safety tips visit severn.ca/fireprevention.



Severn Bulletin

January 2025

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 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.

Register for a new E-Services account

Easy online payments

Once registered, you will be able to easily view, pay, and manage bill payments online anytime and anywhere.

You will find detailed instructions on how to register for your E-Services account on the back of your property tax bill. Register at eservices.severn.ca.

Need help?

Please reach out to our Customer Care Team directly at 705-325-2315 or email customercare@severn.ca for one-on-one support.



Phone: 705-325-2315

Email: customercare@severn.ca

severn.ca

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

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

2025 Budget

Breakdown

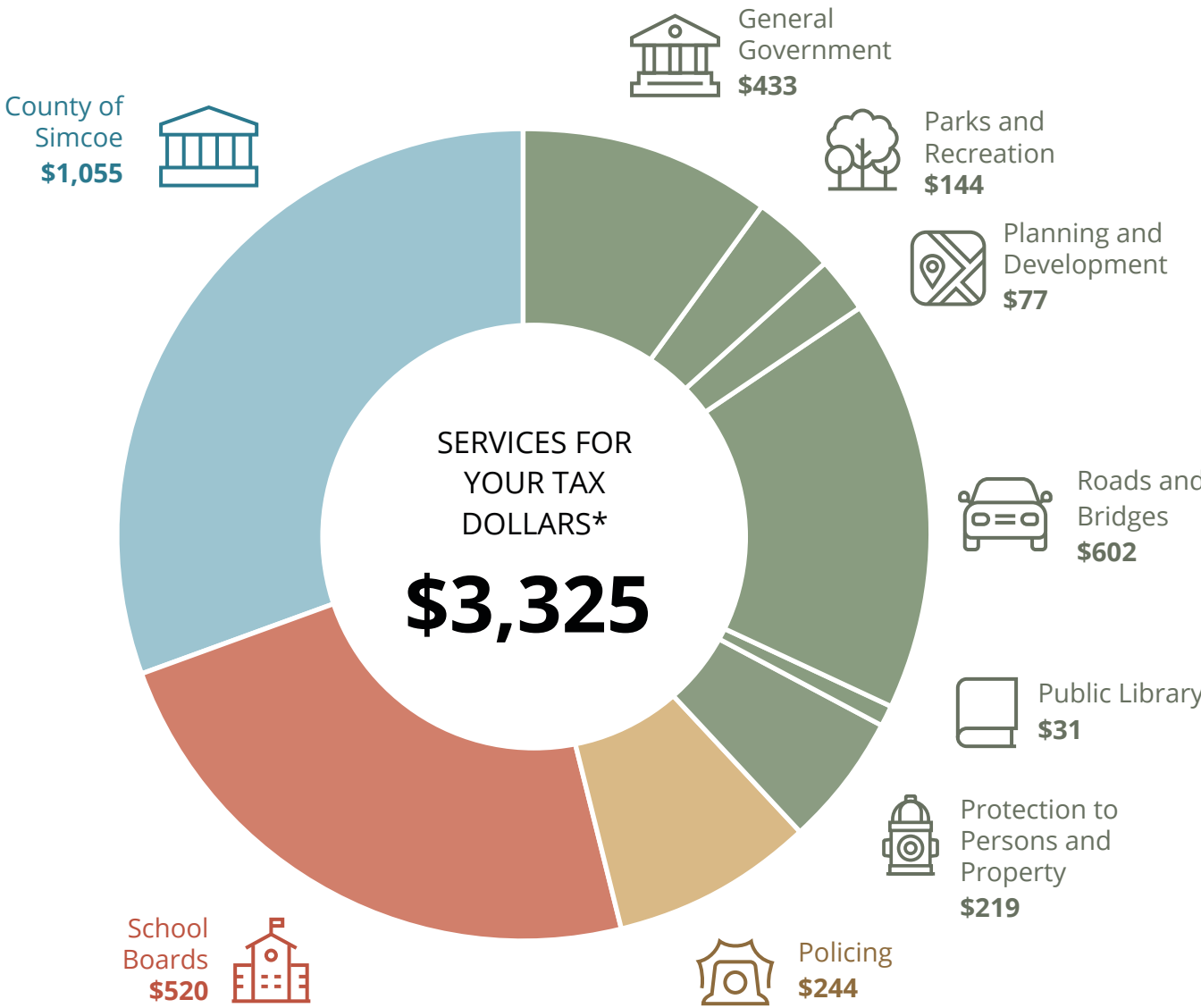
In December, Council approved the 2025 Budget. It incorporates the following priorities:

- Enhance levels of service for residents
- Ensure community safety and wellbeing
- Responsibly manage municipal assets

The Township's 2025 Budget was approved with a 7.53% net tax increase over 2024 rates. When combined with the County of

Simcoe's approved tax increase of 3.625%, a 5.4% increase to policing services, and a 0% increase in education rates, residents can expect to see a 4.88% blended tax increase on their 2025 property tax bill.

For an average home in Severn assessed at \$340,000*, the approved blended rate amounts to a \$154.76 increase over 2024 levels, or \$12.90 per month, with a total tax bill of \$3,325 in 2025. Visit severn.ca/budget for details.



Highlights

Although we only keep 45 cents of every property tax dollar collected, we work hard to ensure that money is spent wisely.

Keep our community moving

An investment of \$3.54 million in road renewal will improve sections of:

- Bayou Road
- Crescent Bay Road
- Foxmead Road
- Gray Street
- Narrows Road
- Sturgeon Bay Road

Another \$830,000 will support the redesign of the Burnside Line and Division Road intersection and allow for upgrades to the Claresbridge Lane Bridge.

Our Roads Needs Study provides us guidance for road projects. Learn more at severn.ca/plans.

Designs will be completed to identify options to improve the function and performance of:

- Fesserton Sideroad
- Menoke Beach Road
- Goldstein Road
- Hamilton Street

Enhance community parks and spaces

Investment into our recreation assets continues with \$55,000 for ball diamond enhancements in Coldwater and at Marchmont Community Park. Uthhoff Trail resurfacing will take place with support of a grant from the County of Simcoe, and

new park signage will beautify outdoor spaces throughout Severn. To advance the recommendation from the Port Severn Property Feasibility Study, \$45,000 has been allocated to complete concept designs for the Port Severn Park project.

Protect our citizens and volunteers

Severn Fire and Emergency Services has received over \$35,000 in grant funding that will support cancer prevention measures for municipal firefighters. Dangerous chemicals can attach themselves to turnout and bunker gear and our new extractors are an important step towards properly handling gear and making the job safer for our firefighters. Another \$98,000 will allow for the purchase of needed equipment, including specialized tools to neutralize electric vehicle batteries.

Produce safe drinking water

Over \$760,000 will be invested into the production of safe drinking water, with over \$1 million earmarked for improvements to our water and wastewater infrastructure.

Plan for the future

This budget accounts for a new Water Rates Study, the Coldwater Fairgrounds Master Plan, and continued work on the Servicing Master Plan, the Coldwater Wastewater Treatment Plant study, and the Ward Boundary Review. These plans and initiatives provide a road map for our community's future needs and growth. You can get involved by visiting severn.ca/haveyoursay.

Did you know?

Township of Severn keeps 45 cents of every property tax dollar collected. The rest goes to the County of Simcoe, education and policing. 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.

Services for your tax dollars



New recreation programs

Looking for attend Yoga, Zumba, or art classes for you or a member of your family? Learn about our new adult, senior, and youth programs at severn.ca/recprograms.

New summer kids camps coming to Severn in 2025

We'll be running brand new summer kids camps in 2025! Thanks to funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation these new camps will run from Monday to Friday in July and August. Our camps will strive to create a safe environment for children to enjoy a variety of activities including arts and crafts, sports, and theme days with a focus on making friends and having fun. Camps will be offered in Coldwater and Washago for children 4 to 12 years of age.

Stay up to date on camp announcements by subscribing to our News and Notices at severn.ca/subscribe.