

For Immediate Release

Municipality of Brockton's Updated Response to COVID-19

Brockton, ON, March 31, 2020 - The Municipality of Brockton declared a State of Emergency on March 23, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Declaration of Emergency will allow the Municipality to make use of all tools at its disposal to protect the health and well-being of residents and businesses, including accessing any provincial funding that may become available in the future.

A Special COVID-19 Issue of the Brockton Buzz Newsletter will be mailed to all Brockton households this week to ensure everyone remains informed. Brockton is a resilient and caring community, and it is important to remember that we are In It Together!



Community Information Sheet

If you need assistance dealing with COVID-19, we have created a [Community Information Sheet](#) with information about available services, health questions, assistance for seniors or people with compromised immune systems, and the local pharmacies, grocery stores, and restaurants offering home delivery or take-out services. A PDF copy of the Community Information Sheet is available on our website [Brockton.ca/COVID19](https://www.brockton.ca/COVID19).

Notice of Special Council Meeting

The Council of the Municipality of Brockton will hold a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of establishing electronic meeting procedures and amending the Procedural By-law, ratifying decisions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other urgent business. This meeting will be conducted electronically, and livestreamed to the Municipality's [YouTube Channel](#).

Office and Facility Closures

The Brockton Municipal Office is closed to the public until further notice. The Drop-Off Box will be available for residents to drop off documentation and payments. The Drop-Off Box is checked regularly by staff. Residents wishing to obtain building permits can drop off documentation at the Municipal Office Drop-Off Box, or email or call Building Department staff. Lottery licensing services are currently suspended. Marriage licensing is postponed, but will be reviewed by staff on a case-by-case basis. Commissioner of Oath services are currently suspended.

The Brockton Child Care Centre is closed to the public until further notice.

The Recreation Office is closed to the public until further notice. All outdoor recreational amenities, including playgrounds, sports fields, basketball and tennis courts, picnic areas, outdoor community gardens, park shelters and facilities are also closed until further notice. Greenspaces in parks and trails would remain open for walkthrough access but individuals must maintain the safe physical distance of at least two metres apart from others. All recreational and leisure programs, including private bookings have been postponed until further notice.

The Walkerton Business Improvement Area and the Brockton Visitor Information Centre are closed to the public until further notice.

The Bruce County Public Library has closed the Walkerton and Cargill Library Branches until further notice.

Waiver of Penalty and Interest Charges on Tax Bills Until June 2020

The Municipality of Brockton will waive penalty and interest charges incurring on unpaid balances for April, May and June for the two interim property tax due March 31, 2020 and May 29, 2020. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Fact Sheet has been created to assist with any clarification, and is available on our website [Brockton.ca/COVID19](https://www.brockton.ca/COVID19).

Utility Billing

All water bills will continue based on individual consumption and By-Law 2020-018 – Water Service Rates and Charges. The due date for water bills remains unchanged (March 31, 2020 for the West side of Walkerton and Chepstow and April 30, 2020 for the East side of Walkerton and Lake Rosalind). A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Fact Sheet has been created to assist with any clarification, and is available on our website [Brockton.ca/COVID19](https://www.brockton.ca/COVID19).

Recycling Collection

Curbside recycling services have resumed for all residents as per the usual schedule starting March 31, 2020. Staff and Council thank residents for holding on to their recyclables until a safe and responsible solution was found by the Municipality of Brockton. The Walkerton Recycling Report (MTO Yard) will be closed to the public, however, cardboard recycling and styrofoam drop-off are still available.

Garbage Collection

Garbage/household waste collection will continue as normal.

Landfill Sites

The Greenock Landfill is closed to all residents to accommodate staff health and safety. Greenock Landfill staff have been transferred to the Brant Landfill to maintain landfill service in rural areas. The Brant Landfill and Walkerton/Hanover Landfills remain open. As of April 1, 2020 the Brant Landfill is open on Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Bag Tags

Bag tags are required and residents are encouraged to purchase multiple tags when out getting necessities such as groceries and gas. Bag tags can be purchased for \$2.00 each at the following locations:

- Brant Landfill Site – 57 Concession 8, Elmwood
- Cargill Country Variety – 205 Main St, Cargill
- Junction 4 & 19 – 1584 Bruce Road 4, Walkerton
- Circle K – 189 10th St, Hanover
- Circle K – 13553 Bruce Road 10, Hanover
- Paisley Freshmart – 436 Queen St N, Paisley
- Towne Convenience – 420 Durham St E, Walkerton
- Walkerton Valu Mart – 1200 Yonge St S, Walkerton
- Walkerton Foodland – 125 Durham St E, Walkerton

Burn (Fire) Permits

The Municipality of Brockton is asking residents to refrain from having recreational or agricultural fires until April 10, 2020 or pending further notice. We request residents do their part to reduce the number of calls that our firefighters respond to. This will limit the exposure of our volunteers so they are available for emergencies. Contact Brockton's Fire Chief at 519-881-2223 Ext. 300 for any further clarification.

Further Information

The Municipality of Brockton will continue to obtain information and updates from the County of Bruce, The Grey Bruce Health Unit, the Province of Ontario and other health agencies and will provide new information to residents when available. The Municipality of Brockton will continue to take all steps necessary to maintain essential services for our residents and local businesses. Please visit [Brockton.ca/COVID19](https://www.brockton.ca/COVID19) for updated information for residents and [Brockton.ca/BusinessRecovery](https://www.brockton.ca/BusinessRecovery) for updated information about businesses, or call the municipal office at 519-881-2223.