

Spring Newsletter

Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

Townships Hire new CBO

On April 19, 2006 the Townships hired Mr. Ingram Loewe to fill the position of Chief Building Official. Ingram will work with us one day a week – Monday – and will help us to bring our building department into compliance with the new requirements of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Ingram can be reached at 613-586-1950. Although he is only at the office on Monday, please feel free to call and leave a message, he will get back to you as soon as possible.

Building permit applications are now available at the Township office, along with a document entitled "Homeowner's Guide to Building Permits". It details what a permit is, when you need one and how to obtain one. We also have available a complete list of requirements for an Occupancy Permit and required Building Inspections. These rules and guidelines are determined by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing through the Building Code and the *Building Code Act*. We have attempted to provide you with a brief outline of requirements so that you can plan accordingly. For best results contact our CBO in the planning stages of your project, before any drawings have been started in order to discuss the nature of your project and the extent of the plans that will be required.

Due to the requirements of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, fees for building permits and associated services will increase in the near future. We are in the process of determining a fair and equitable fee schedule for all. A public meeting will be held to address this in the near future. Date and time will be advertised when confirmed. If this is something that interests you – please plan to attend. (See related story on page 2.)

It's Election Year—Are you on the Voter's List?

2006 is the year for Municipal and School Board Elections—Are you on the Voter's List?

MPAC is a not-for-profit corporation funded by all Ontario municipalities. In addition to assessing all property in Ontario, MPAC is required to identify all eligible voters for municipal and school board elections and produce a Preliminary List of Electors for election purposes. Make sure that you receive and return a Municipal Enumeration Form. This is not the same as the Census form.

During May 2006, Stats Can is completing a Census. This is Canada wide and does not provide information to local municipalities or school boards for election purposes. MPAC and StatsCan do not share information collected from Ontario residents.

Although it is also important to return your Census form it will not ensure that you are on the voter's list. Returning the **Municipal Enumeration Form** will ensure that the correct information is included on the 2006 Preliminary List of Electors sent to all municipalities and school boards. You can contact MPAC at 1-866-296-6722 to confirm that your name and personal information are correctly recorded. (Related story on page 2)

May 2006

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Your Library Working for You!

Our Township Library now has DVDs available for borrowing. You are allowed 2 DVDs at a time for up to 4 days. (Drop off through office door after hours.)

The Library is open during regular office hours—M-F 8:30—4:00, Tuesday evening 6:00—8:30 and Saturday from 12:30—3:00.

Drop By and See What's
New For You!

Occupancy Permits and You!

Over the past couple of years mortgage companies, insurance companies and subsequently real estate companies have increasingly been requiring proof of Occupancy before renewing mortgages, insurance coverage or completing the sale of a house. An Occupancy permit is a certificate issued by a Building Official attesting to the fact that a building is fit for occupancy. It is incumbent on the home owner to notify the Building Inspector that a property is ready for an occupancy inspection (and in fact all inspections). In the past it was not common practice to request Occupancy Permits. Council feels that this issue needs to be addressed due to the in-

creased number of recent requests for permits. For those requiring an Occupancy permit, our policy is to have our current CBO complete an occupancy inspection free of charge, as this is something that should have been completed with the purchase of the original building permit. The Building Code has a list of criteria that must be met before an occupancy permit will be issued. A copy of this information can be obtained through our CBO or from the Township Office. Should anyone require additional information call Ingram Loewe, our CBO at 613-586-1950 or



the Office at 613-586-2526. Some items that will be checked include: - structure completed to the roof—walls are enclosed to the roof—walls enclosing the space to be occupied are completed—balcony guards and stair rails are installed—all fire separations and closures are completed on all storeys to be occupied—all required exits are completed and fire separated including all doors, door hardware, self-closing devices, balustrades and handrails—floors, halls, lobbies and required means of egress are kept free of loose materials and hazards... This is only a partial list—for a complete list please contact us.

In Case of FIRE (Don't Call 911)– Call us Instead

The Townships has a Volunteer Fire Service whose mandate is to “respond to all reported fires in the Townships and provide fire suppression and assistance up to the level of training provided to the wardens. The service is expected to control and extinguish small brush and grass fires and to prevent the spread of fire from vehicle and structural fires.” “The response efforts will vary according to the training of

the responders, the number of responders and the ability to obtain and deliver water to the fire scene.” “The service is not trained or equipped to fight vehicle

or structural fires or provide water in freezing temperatures.” Currently the Township is attempting to provide 911 service to the municipalities but as of yet, have not been successful. Should you spot a fire—please call the Office, any Councillor or any volunteer fire warden. A list of numbers is provided for you on the back of this newsletter.

Interested in becoming a member of our fire service... call our Chief Fire Warden Wilfred Lamure or Councillor Gibson for more information.

Election Year — Important Dates!

2006 is Election Year. This is your opportunity to exercise your franchise—to get out and vote or perhaps run for office? A member of a Municipal Council has two main roles—as representative of the people, and as creator of policy. Council is responsible for creating and implementing policy that provides the range and level of services that the people want and that the Municipality can afford. Is creating policy

and representing the interests of your neighbours for you? An important consideration, effective 2006, municipal office terms are now 4 years.

Friday, September 29, 2006 is Nomination Day. If you are considering putting your name in for nomination, make sure you do it between now and then.

Election Day is Monday,

November 13, 2006.

Make sure you come out and make your voice heard and your vote count. Selecting **your** representative is an important responsibility so make sure your name is on the voter's list.



Fire Season and Burning Permits



Fire season is upon us and so is the requirement for burning permits. (May 1–October 31) Daily Fire Permits are required for any burning within fire season. Permits are available at the main office or through our Chief Fire Warden, Wilfred Lamure for \$2 per permit per day. (401-0372)

A special consideration—weather forecasters are predicting an above average hot and dry season for 2006. Please use extreme care and caution when using any fire.

Conditions of a Daily Permit

All persons setting an open fire in the Townships of Head, Clara & Maria shall first obtain a fire permit from the municipality. The material to be burned shall be limited to wood, wood

by-product or grass. A person who has obtained a fire permit shall:

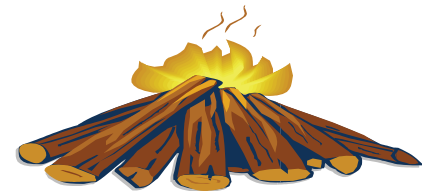
- Not permit more than 3 cubic metres of material to be burned at any one time;
- Ensure that the means of extinguishing the fire are available at the site at all times during the fire;
- Ensure that no person shall set any fire out of doors except in the presence of a competent adult person, and this person shall be in constant attendance at any burning operation;
- No person shall burn grass unless the area to be burned is less than .1 hectare (1/4 acre) in size and the flaming edge is less than 10 metres in length;
- No open air fire shall be maintained when the wind is in such direction or intensity so as to cause: a decrease in

visibility on any highway or roadway or a rapid spread of fire through grass or a brush area;

-No fire shall be set or allowed to burn between the hours of two hours after sunrise and two hours before sunset during the fire season.

All persons setting an open air fire shall: - be responsible for any damage to property or injury to persons occasioned by the said fire;

-be liable for the costs incurred by the fire fighters (including personnel and equipment) which are called in to extinguish a fire.



Garbage and Recycling—Disposal Site Hours

As a reminder—we are currently accepting recycled cans. Please place all cans in a clear plastic bag. You can then put them out with your regular garbage and we will pick them up or you can take them to the dump on your own and place them in the metal pile. Dump Hours will remain as set last Fall. Site Hours are as follows:

- Deux Rivieres-Tuesday—9:00–10:00
- Bissett Creek—Tuesday—12:30–1:30
Saturday—9:00–11:00

“Let’s all do our part to reduce, reuse and recycle!”

- Stonecliffe— Thursday—12:30–2:00
Saturday- 12:00–2:00

Pickup will continue as follows:

- Deux Rivieres -Tuesday—10:00–11:00;
- Bissett Creek—Tuesday—12:00–12:30;
- Stonecliffe—Thursday—11:00–12:00
- Mackey—Thursday—9:00–11:00.

Special Spring Cleanup Hours

Will apply to May 27, June 3 and June 10 ONLY to assist Deux Rivieres residents!

The Deux Rivieres site will be open Saturday from 8:00–9:30, Bissett from 10:00–11:00 and Stonecliffe from 12:00–2:00.

Veteran’s Plaque & Memorial

We would like to make mention of a special project that is in the works. Mr. Ernie Boudreau has initiated a drive to organize a memorial to show our respect and honour for those who served their country in WWI, WWII, the Korean War, or as peacetime personnel.

A memorial will be set up on Township property and will commemorate all Township residents who have served. Donations for this plaque and memorial are being accepted at the Township Office. To receive a tax receipt please make donations payable to

the Townships of Head, Clara & Maria specifying the Memorial Project.

Thank you to Mr. Boudreau for initiating a project that is long overdue and thank you to the group of volunteers who are working diligently to make his vision a reality.

Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, Ontario
K0J 2K0

Phone: 613- 586-2526
Fax: 613- 586-2596
Email:
twpshcm@webhart.net
CBO: 613-586-1950

PIT RUN POLICY

Council is reconsidering its position on the availability of Pit run to Township residents. Have you used Township pit run in the past couple of years? Would the removal of this service cause you concern? Please make your thoughts known to Council by calling the office at 586-2526 or sending an email to twpshcm@webhart.net.

We're on the web!

www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca

IN CASE OF FIRE CALL

During Office Hours M-F 8:30—4:00

Township Office 586-2526

Otherwise

<i>Terry/Nancy/Jeff Lamure</i>	586-2638
<i>Jim/Marlene Gibson</i>	586-2761
<i>Hans Froelich</i>	586-2368
<i>Bob Reid</i>	586-9384
<i>Darryl Francoeur</i>	586-9336
<i>Bill Gibson</i>	705-840-6278
<i>Fred Vickery</i>	586-2607
<i>Dave Foote</i>	586-2228
<i>Tom Garrison</i>	586-1930
<i>Dan Donnelly</i>	586-2733
<i>Pauline Perrin</i>	586-2387
<i>Jeff Juby</i>	584-3667

Disposal Sites and Key holders

Due to noncompliance with our Certificates of Approval with the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for our waste disposal sites, Council is requesting the return of all dump keys to the office by August 1, 2006. At this time the locks will be changed and access will be restricted. The MOE is quite serious about compliance and can and will issue hefty fines if we are found to be violating any of the conditions of our permits.

Council is currently considering alternatives to the existing access system. We would like to thank all of you who offered constructive suggestions. We are taking them into consideration. Council will advise of any decision as soon as possible. Again, we hear your concerns regarding bears and keeping your properties safe and we will certainly keep that in mind when making any decision. Safety of our residents and guests is of utmost importance to us as well. Have a safe and healthy summer.

Helpful Hints to Prevent Nuisance Bear Problems

Black bears are found throughout the forested regions of Ontario. Their diet consists mainly of berries, nuts, roots and insects.

After only one visit, bears can learn to associate human residences and campsites with readily available food. The majority of problems occur as a result of improperly stored household garbage but bears are also attracted to other sources. Bears will lose their natural fear of humans through repeated exposure in their search for food that people eat and may become nuisance bears.

Black bears are naturally timid and will avoid encounters with humans. However, **just because you see a bear does not mean it is a nuisance**

bear.

-If possible, store garbage in steel bear-proof containers.

If not, place trash in airtight containers someplace inaccessible to bears. -Put garbage out for pick-up on the morning of collection day. -Keep meat scraps in your freezer until collection day.

-Do not leave pet food outdoors at night. -Do not put meat, fish or sweet food in compost.

-Rinse containers before disposal and recycling. -Wash garbage containers frequently.



Black bears are highly intelligent. They quickly learn where food sources can be found and seek these out.

-Clean barbeques after use by burning grease off the grills and wiping any spills.

-Fill bird feeders in late Fall and empty them after mid-April.

-Pick all ripe fruit off trees and remove vegetables and fallen fruit from the ground.

-Use electric fencing to protect valuable trees, orchards, beehives, vegetable and berry patches.