

## **Huron-Kinloss Newsletter Summer/Fall 2025**

Township of Huron-Kinloss P.O. Box 130, 21 Queen Street, Ripley, Ontario NOG 2R0 Phone: 519-395-3735 Toll Free: 844-395-3735 Fax: 519-395-4107 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

www.huronkinloss.com | info@huronkinloss.com | Follow us on Facebook

## **Updates**

#### **Test Your Drinking Water Regularly**

If your home uses a private well or surface water, test it for bacteria at least three times a year – especially after heavy rain, spring thaw, or system work. Free testing kits are available from Public Health Ontario. Drop off your sample close to the scheduled courier day for best results. Call 519-376-9420 or visit www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca.

#### **Local Drop off Locations:**

Walkerton Community Centre

- Monday to Friday before 12:30 p.m.
- Kincardine Library
  - Tuesday 10 a.m. 8 p.m.

Wingham & District Hospital Lab

Monday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

#### **Municipal Election 2026**

The next municipal election is in October 2026. You can now manage your information for provincial, municipal, and school board elections in one place. Visit vreg.registertovoteon.ca to confirm or update your voter info. For school board support changes, go to mpac.ca/schoolsupport.

## **Back Forty Bites**

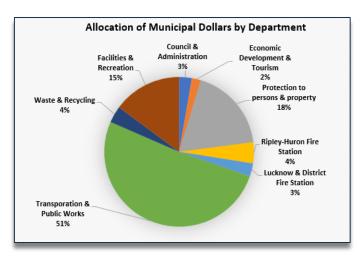
Hungry for something real? Dig into Back Forty Bites – a new eat local campaign, where farm-fresh meets fork-ready, in the heart of Huron-Kinloss. Come hungry, get to know our chefs, meet the producers and uncover the delicious secrets of the Back Forty – one bite at a time. Learn more at: https://secretsofthebackforty.com/back-forty-bites/

## **Ripley Dog Park**

The Ripley Dog Park is now open at 59 Park St. behind the Ripley Soccer Fields! Please be sure to follow the dog park rules.

#### 2025 Budget

The Township of Huron-Kinloss Council approved the 2025 Budget on March 17, 2025. The 2025 budget contains \$11.9 million in operating expenditures and \$7 million in capital expenditures. After revenues and transfers from reserves are applied, the Township must levy \$11,479,035; an increase of \$675,615, or 6.25% over the 2024 levy. To raise these funds, the residential tax rate will be set at 0.0075800; a 4.75% increase over the 2024 tax rate.



### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes are calculated using the assessed value of your property and multiplying by the combined tax rates for your property class. The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) determines property assessment for all properties in Ontario. Information on how your property is assessed, including comparable properties, is available by visiting www.aboutmyproperty.ca.

The increase to the municipal portion of the tax bill for 2025 is \$34.37 for every \$100,000 in assessment. According to MPAC the average current market value of a residential single-family home in the Township of Huron-Kinloss is \$266,435.

Combining the municipal, county and education taxes, the average\* home paid a total of \$3,671.29 in property tax for 2024. For 2025, that amount will increase by \$156.67 to \$3,827.96; an overall increase of 4.27%. \* Based on assessment data from MPAC, your assessment may be more or less than the average.

### **Payment Options**

The due dates for the 2025 Final Property Tax Levy are September 2, 2025, and December 1, 2025. Payment Options:

- In Person at the Township Office, 21 Queen St., Ripley (Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.). Drop box available for cheques only.
- By Mail to P.O. Box 130, 21 Queen St., Ripley, ON N0G 2R0.
- Pre-Authorized Payments (monthly or quarterly): Sign up or view terms of agreement at huronkinloss.com. Written notice required 10 business days before any banking changes.
- Through Your Bank via internet, telephone, teller, or ABM.
- Online via PaySimply using credit card, PayPal, or Interac e-Transfer. Details at huronkinloss.com.

## **Electronic Tax Bills**

The Township offers electronic delivery of property tax bills. Visit www.huronkinloss.com/tax-e-billing/ to learn more and sign up to receive your property tax bills by e-mail.

## **Receipts or Reprints**

Retain your Final Tax bill for income tax purposes. Previous year receipts and reprints of tax bills can be obtained for a fee as per the current Consolidated Rates & Fees By-law.

#### **Water and Wastewater Fees**

The Township collects user fees to meet the current and future needs of the water and wastewater systems. The annual water service rate for users of municipal water will increase by \$5.00 to \$500.00. The waterworks distribution rate will increase by \$10.00 to \$250.00. The rates for users of the Lucknow and Ripley sewer systems have increased by 5.5% to \$580.00 and \$475.00, respectively.

## Safety & By-Law

#### **Clean and Safe Yards**

Help keep our community healthy and attractive by

following the standards in Huron-Kinloss' Clean and Clear Yards By-law No. 2023-60. The by-law covers grass and weeds, landscaping, grading, pools, and prohibits noxious weeds, garbage, derelict vehicles, hazardous trees, unsafe buildings, and health or safety hazards. Read the by-law: <a href="https://huronkinloss.com/town-hall/by-laws">huronkinloss.com/town-hall/by-laws</a> Report concerns: <a href="https://huronkinloss.com/live-here/by-law-enforcement">huronkinloss.com/live-here/by-law-enforcement</a>

#### **Working Smoke Alarms**

Only working smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms can save lives. These essential devices provide early warnings in an emergency, giving you and your family precious time to escape. Be sure to test your smoke and CO alarms every month and replace the batteries as needed. A few seconds of effort could make all the difference in a life-threatening situation.

#### **Noise By-Law**

Persons having a function where loud noise will occur after 11 p.m. will need to apply for an exemption to the Noise By-Law by completing the on-line exemption form and submitting it to the Clerk at least 6 weeks prior to the event. Please include the location, expected number of people, and reason for the noise.

## **Public Works**

#### **Blue Box Collection Changes**

As of January 1, 2026, Blue Box programs in Ontario are moving to a new collection system that is fully funded and operated by producers of recycling materials. The new collection system will make recycling easier by standardizing what can be recycled across Ontario.

Homeowners will see minimal changes with curbside collection continuing as usual. Some small changes include:

- Corrugated cardboard and additional materials will be accepted in your blue box.
- Public depots for cardboard and recycling will be removed from Point Clark, Ripley, Lucknow, and the landfills.

Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) properties will no longer receive curbside recycling collection. These properties must now arrange their own recycling services. The Township is exploring potential solutions and invites feedback from ICI property owners. For more information and to complete a short survey, please visit <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/nnv1/10.2007/">https://doi.org/10.1007/nnv1/10.2007/nnv1/10.2007/nnv1/10.2007/</a>

#### **Managing Leaves**

Reduce natural waste going to the landfill by mulching leaves into your lawn, insulating flower/vegetable gardens, or composting them for future use. If you would like to receive large quantities of leaves, please call the Township to arrange.

Alternatively, the Township offers Yard Waste Depots open 24/7 in Ripley and Lucknow until mid-November, bagged Leaf Collection Service in early November, or large load leaf dumping at the landfill. See our website under Live Here/Garbage and Recycling for details.

## **Water Management**

To have your water turned off for the season, please give the Water Operating Authority (OCWA) 48 hours' notice. Preferred days are Wednesday to Friday. Call the Township Office to schedule.

Fall hydrant flushing is part of routine maintenance and may cause low pressure or discoloured water. If this occurs, remove faucet screens and flush your system for about 20 minutes to restore quality.

#### Roads

Construction will continue into the fall in the following locations:

- Lucknow: Gough St reconstruction (Aug–Oct) includes new water services, storm sewer upgrades, paving, curbs, and sidewalks. Local traffic only. Gough St bridge closed for rehab (Aug). Inglis St sidewalks replaced from Gough to Campbell (Sept–Oct).
- Point Clark: Spruce, Cedar Close, and Ash St repaving and storm sewer work (Sept–Oct).
   Winnebago Rd and Tyendinaga tentatively scheduled for re-paving (Oct).
- North Lakeshore: Boiler Beach Rd now has noparking zones on the west side to improve traffic flow and safety (enforced by by-law).
   Three culverts to be replaced for better drainage (Sept).

## **Lakeshore Drinking Water Servicing Master Plan**

Notice of Study Commencement: Huron-Kinloss is exploring a new water storage facility to support current and future needs in the Northern Lakeshore Area (west of Lake Range Dr, from Concession 8 to Saratoga Rd). An Environmental Assessment will help identify the best location with minimal impact. Visit <a href="https://www.haveyoursayhk.com">www.haveyoursayhk.com</a> for more information.

## **Huron-Kinloss Sports & Recreation**

#### **Ripley-Huron Community Centre**

Looking for a fun game of hockey? A Sunday morning ladies' league is available for women 25 and older. Huff n' Puff senior men's hockey is also back on Monday and Friday mornings. Sponsored public skating takes place Saturdays at 4:00 p.m., and Parent & Tot/Senior Skates run weekday mornings from 9:00–10:00 a.m. For more information, contact <a href="mailto:recreation@huronkinloss.com">recreation@huronkinloss.com</a>.

## **Lucknow & District Sports Complex**

In Lucknow, there will be sponsored public skating on Sundays from 1:00-2:00 p.m. and \$5 skate and shoot on Fridays at 4:00 p.m. Learn to Skate registration is open, and forms can be completed at <a href="https://www.lucknowrec.ca">www.lucknowrec.ca</a>.

# Connect With Us Huron-Kinloss Phone Directory

Municipal Office	519-395-3735
Toll-Free Municipal Office	844-395-3735
Huron Landfill	519-395-3500
Ripley-Huron Community Centre	519-395-2909
Lucknow & District Sports Comple	ex 519-528-3002
Point Clark Lighthouse	519-395-2494
Point Clark Community Centre	519-395-3676
Ripley Library	519-395-5919
Lucknow Library	519-528-3011
Water Inquiries	519-395-3735
By-Law After Hours	1-866-299-5199
Public Works After Hours	1-866-299-5199
Open Air Burning Notification	1-800-511-9911

#### **Stay Connected**

Want to know what's happening in Huron-Kinloss?

- View <u>council meetings</u> and <u>community events</u>
- <u>Subscribe</u> to Council Highlights, Township news, or the <u>HK Connects</u> eNewsletter
- Engage with Township projects

Visit <u>huronkinloss.com</u> or <u>HaveYourSayHK.ca</u> to explore calendars, subscribe to updates, and get involved.