MUNICIPALITY OF

South Bruce Tax Bill Newsletter

Taxes

2025 Due Dates for Taxes:

- March 26 & May 28, 2025

- August 27 & October 29, 2025

Payment Methods:

In Person: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at 21 Gordon St E, Teeswater (Cash, Cheque, Debit) **Drop Box:** Mildmay – Mac's Milk (Cheques Only) & Teeswater – Municipal Office (Cheques Only)

Mail: PO Box 540 Teeswater ON NOG 2S0

Pre-Authorized Payment: Both Monthly and Due Date available (forms available at Municipal Office, Mac's and

Municipality of South Bruce Website).

Banks: At most Chartered Banks and Credit Unions, in person, by telephone, internet or bank machines.

Late Payments will be subject to penalty of 1.25% on the 1st day of each month.

<u>Property Tax Sale:</u> Current Legislation of the Municipal Act, 2001, whereas any part of two years of tax arrears, on the following year the Treasurer may register a Tax Arrears Certificate against Title to the property. A Tax Arrears Certificate registered under this section shall indicate the land described in the certificate will be sold by public sale or public tender if not paid in full within one year of registration.

<u>Moving:</u> Please provide your full mailing address to the Municipality if you move or if your current address is incomplete on your tax bill. Returned mail is still subject to penalty and interest charges, and tax sale. Country properties need more than just RR#.

Important Contacts:

MPAC: 1-866-296-6722

OFA Grey-Bruce: 519-364-3050

AGRICORP (Farm tax class): 1-888-247-4999 or contact@agricorp.com or www.ontario.ca/farmtax

<u>Farm Property Owners:</u> Under current taxation policy, farm properties meeting eligibility requirements will be identified for Farm Property Class and be taxed at 25% of municipal residential tax rate. Existing farm owners purchasing new farm land, or new farmers should contact Agricorp to apply for Farm Property Tax Class.

<u>Demolition or Fire:</u> It is your responsibility to notify the Municipal Office Tax Department if you demo any buildings, or loss by fire. A s357 form is required to be completed to adjust assessment if applicable.

<u>Building Permits:</u> If you have recently renovated or constructed a new home or building, you will receive a Supplemental Tax Bill during the year for the new assessment once MPAC assesses the value. These are in addition to your regular tax bill. The following year it will be all on one bill.

MPAC Assessments: When MPAC mails you your Property Assessment Notice, go to www.mpac.ca and login to 'About¬MyProperty'. Use your roll number and access key on your assessment notice to see how MPAC has assessed your property and buildings. If you have not received an assessment notice in the past five years from MPAC you should contact MPAC to see if they have your correct mailing address and ask for your access key.

Payments for Invoices, Registration, and Other Fees

<u>Municipal Office:</u> Cash, cheque or debit.

<u>If Paying by Online Banking:</u> Do not use your property tax account to pay other invoices. Set up a new vendor by searching for South Bruce Accounts Receivable (wording varies by bank). Use your 5-digit 'customer number' (not your invoice number) on the top of your invoice or statement.

In order to make sure payment is applied to the correct customer account, you must include a description in your e-transfer. The following items must be included in the message: customer name, customer number, invoice number, and description of what the payment is for (i.e burn permit, dog tag, gymnastics). This will ensure that if an e-transfer is received showing a different or missing first and last name, the payment is able to matched to the invoice information.

Economic Development

2024 saw great business growth in South Bruce! We welcomed 8 new businesses, 3 businesses with new owners and 3 milestone anniversaries. South Bruce Council has also approved housing development opportunities which could create 800+ units within 4 new residential developments in South Bruce. Check out where these developments are located on our 3D mapping tool on our website: www.southbruce.ca/Explore.

New residents to South Bruce will receive our newly branded Welcome Package to make them feel at home quicker with information on what South Bruce has to offer & where to find it! Did you recently move to South Bruce and are renting? Please come to the Municipal Office or call us 519-392-6623 to receive your welcome package!

Our South Bruce Downtown Revitalization Program will be launched on February 10th, 2025 for financial incentives for upgrades to your buildings and businesses. More info: www.southbruce.ca/Revitalization.

Bruce County's Spruce the Bruce grants are now open for façade improvements, signage, marketing etc. More info: www.southbruce.ca/Grants.

For any economic development inquiries or to be added to the email list to receive information on resources, grants and investment opportunities, contact: Rhonda Niesen at 519-392-6623 ext. 241 or e-mail rniesen@southbruce.ca.

Stay tuned for our South Bruce business networking evening in the Fall.

Tourism

New members are always welcome! We are hosting 3 events this year.

- Great Canadian Dueling Pianos Concert on April 5th tickets available at: www.visitsouthbruce.ca/events.html or the Municipal office.
- South Bruce Vintage Tractor Tour is June 15th.
- Flavours of South Bruce Dinner is on July 13th.

Program Registration and Facility Rental

Municipally-run program registration and facility rentals have moved to a new online location. To visit the registration and rental webpage please visit:

- <u>www.southbruce.ca/Register</u> or
- <u>www.southbruce.ca/Rent</u>

If you need help getting started please check out www.southbruce.ca/UniverusGuide for more info.

Public Works

<u>Load Restrictions:</u> During the spring thaw (typically from March 1 to April 30) the Municipality enforces a reduced load season to protect roads from damage caused by heavy vehicles. Some Municipal roads may become too soft and unstable to withstand the weight of a fully loaded truck, regardless of the axles. In an effort to reduce damage to the roads, the Municipality restricts vehicles to half loads (5 tonnes per axle) on all roads within the Municipality.

<u>Garbage & Recycling Collection:</u> Please set your curbside garbage and recycling out by 7:00 am on your collection day for pick up. Visit our website at <u>www.southbruce.ca/GarbageandRecycling</u> for more information on what is recyclable curbside and additional items accepted at our landfills. These include styrofoam, corrugated cardboard, electronics and household batteries, clothing, film plastics, agricultural plastics, and more.

<u>Missed Collection?</u> Residents who have concerns with their garbage or recycling or had a missed collection are asked to contact:

Recycling -Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling (1-800-794-9770)

Garbage -Bruce Service & Rentals (1-800-536-5175)

<u>Household Hazardous Waste Collection:</u> Collection event – located at the Mildmay Shop (169 Bruce Road 3) is scheduled for August 9, 2025 from 8 am–12 pm

Streetlights: Notice a streetlight out? Please report to the Public Works Department 519-392-6623 Ext. 243.

<u>Important Reminder:</u> Residents Connected to Municipal Sanitary Sewer System, please be cautious of the things you put down your sink or toilet. Do not put the following items down the drain, sink or toilet: Bulky food; grease, cooking oil, or hazardous chemicals; metal, glass, cloths, napkins or rags; feminine products; paper towels or wipes; hair clippings or clumps; sand or cat litter. It is always best practice to never put anything other than dirty water down the drain or toilet.

Formosa Residents with Grinder Pumps: If you observe an alarm or light on your grinder pump, please contact the Public Works Department at 519-392-6623 or if after hours contact Veolia at 519-889-2419

<u>Municipal Drains/Drainage:</u> If you have a Municipal Drain that requires a clean out, maintenance or repairs, please contact the Municipal Office as soon as possible. This work requires approval from the local Conservation Authority and Department of Fisheries and Oceans and we are seeing these approvals take up to 18 to 24 months. Additional tiling and connections to existing Municipal Drains requires review and authorization from the Drainage Superintendent prior to any work being completed.

Clean Yards

The Municipality would like to remind residents that yards must be kept clean. This includes keeping garbage in sealed containers and grass cut to under 6 inches in height. This helps keep our communities free of unwanted pests such as mice, mosquitoes, and ticks. The full Clean Yards By-Law can be found on our website or at the municipal office.

Licenses

<u>Lottery Licences:</u> Anyone having a raffle of any kind must get a raffle Licence. Lottery Licenses can only be given out to a Charitable Organization or Service Club.

<u>Marriage Licenses:</u> Marriage Licences are available at the municipal office for \$125. You can download the application form from the Municipal website. Please call the municipal office to set up an appointment.

CAO Message - It All Starts Here

The Municipality proudly launched the first in a series of three videos highlighting what makes South Bruce a unique and attractive place to live and invest. South Bruce has approved several residential developments over the last year, and we are excited to promote South Bruce as a place to start your family and/or business.

We are enthusiastic about fostering economic growth. This year we will accomplish key infrastructure projects that support this growth. These include upgrades to water and sewer lines in Mildmay, and the finalization of the Teeswater wastewater treatment plant expansion project, among others.

As we review and update our strategic plan in 2025, we consider the evolving needs of our community with an emphasis on sustainable growth, active community engagement, and fostering collaboration. We are dedicated to supporting business development and the ongoing revitalization of our downtown areas.

The Municipality of South Bruce publishes this newsletter twice a year to keep our residents informed about important matters regarding the municipality's finances, programs, services, and more. The newsletter serves as a brief overview of the municipality and I encourage you to visit our website at www.southbruce.ca for additional details. Additionally, you can follow South Bruce on social media or subscribe to our "Stay up to date" email list to receive the latest municipal updates.

South Bruce is a special place with amazing people, and I encourage you to support the Municipality in our housing and investment attraction efforts by sharing what you value about South Bruce with friends, family and the rest of the world.

Together, let's ensure a vibrant and prosperous future for generations to come. It all starts here!

Warm Regards,

Leanne Martin.