



# Township of Wainfleet

*"Wainfleet - find your country side!"*

## NEWS RELEASE

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### INFORMATION UPDATE

For Immediate Release – March 23, 2020

#### Wainfleet Coronavirus COVID-19 - Update

**Wainfleet, ON** – The Township of Wainfleet's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues to be partially activated in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Niagara Region.

#### **CLOSURES:**

All Township buildings continue to be closed to the public, though Township staff are still operating using telephone, digital capabilities and online presence as much as possible. Essential services still being provided by pre-screened appointment only. Closures are currently planned to remain in effect until April 5, 2020.

#### **UPDATES**

In response to the dynamic growth of the COVID-19 pandemic, Wainfleet's Emergency Control Group (ECG) is taking additional steps to minimize exposure for the public and staff, as well as ensuring business continuity in the Township by introducing additional measures in several areas, including:

#### **Playgrounds:**

- 1) Reminding residents that while playgrounds in the Township remain open, outdoor play equipment and spaces are not being disinfected and cannot be guaranteed virus-free.

#### **Cemeteries and Funerals:**

For the safety of the public and staff, please be aware that we have implemented the following procedures:

- 1) We are performing only essential interments — our top priority is to those families who have experienced a death (we request deferral of non-essential interments to a later date);
- 2) We are selling plots only for essential purposes until further notice;
- 3) We are establishing a limit of 2 family members to attend during the sale of plots for an essential interment; and
- 4) We are asking that only immediate family members attend essential interments.

- 5) Effective March 12, 2020, the Ontario Government declared a State of Emergency and advised that all large gatherings must be restricted to 50 persons or less. We will be strictly enforcing this at all of our locations and will be implementing a "safe distance protocol" for employees and the public. This means that our employees will have no direct physical contact such as handshakes and hugs and they will observe a 6-foot separation distance where possible.

## INFORMATION

### *What you can do:*

- Stay home if you're not feeling well.
- Wash your hands with soap and water thoroughly and often. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cough and sneeze into the crook of your arm or a tissue. Dispose of tissue immediately and wash your hands.
- Keep surfaces clean and disinfected at work and at home.
- Use email for municipal services instead of visiting a service counter.
- Frequently visit the Township's website, along with the [regional](#), [provincial](#) and [federal](#) government websites for the latest information.

For more information, the following government websites have the best available information:

Township: <http://www.wainfleet.ca/government/town-hall/covid-19>

Niagara Region: <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/covid-19/default.aspx>

Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

Email is the preferred means of contacting the Township at this time. For information, please contact:

### Key department contacts

Operations, Cemetery  
905-899-3463 ext. 235

[cstewart@wainfleet.ca](mailto:cstewart@wainfleet.ca)

Protective Services  
905-899-3463 ext. 221

[tmclachlan@wainfleet.ca](mailto:tmclachlan@wainfleet.ca)

Planning  
905-899-3463 ext. 226

[eshacklette@wainfleet.ca](mailto:eshacklette@wainfleet.ca)

Finance  
905-899-3463 ext. 276

[smayne@wainfleet.ca](mailto:smayne@wainfleet.ca)

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For more information, contact:

Lee Gudgeon  
Emergency Information Officer

905-899-3463 ext. 243  
Township of Wainfleet

