



September 2019

# Water Bill information BULLETIN

Town of Wasaga Beach | 30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach, ON | (P) 705-429-3844 | (F) 705-429-6732

Enclosed is your water bill for the months of July and August 2019. If your water bill indicates a balance forward, it's important to note that interest has been calculated to the current billing date. Interest will be applied at 1.25% on the first day of each month thereafter. For your convenience, your water bill can be paid in the comfort of your home through online banking.

Please contact the Water Clerk at (705) 429-3844 ext. 2245 if you experience any of the following:

- If the property was **occupied** during this billing cycle but both the **Previous and Current Read are the same**.
- If the current bill reflects 'Flat Rate Residential' water/sewer rates.



## E-RECEIPTS AND BILLING

Now when you visit Town Hall to make a payment you can receive your receipt via email. Ask a Customer Service Representative for further details.

**The town is also offering paperless water and tax bills.**

Sign up for e-billing and receive your bills via e-mail. If you would like to sign up for this option please e-mail [ebilling@wasagabeach.com](mailto:ebilling@wasagabeach.com) and include the following:

- 1 The subject line should state the municipal property address, starting with the street name. For example, Main Street 123.
- 2 The body of the e-mail should state your name and phone number.
- 3 The e-mail must come from the e-mail address you want the bill sent to.

If you have questions, call us at 705-429-3844.

## Message from the Mayor

Another great summer is winding down in Wasaga Beach.

For the most part, we had warm weather and I hope that trend continues for a bit longer as we slide into fall.

Wasaga Beach has always been about fun and there was certainly fun things to see and do this summer.

For example, in June we had the Waterfront Festival as well as the Wasaga Cruisers Fun Run. In July, we enjoyed Canada Day festivities, the Wasaga Beach Midway, the Not So Pro Volleyball Tournament, and the Food Truck Festival. During August, we had Ribfest, the 5K Foam Fest, Ships and Sails at Nancy Island, and the Georgian Triangle Music Festival.

Our All-Ages Outdoor Community Concert and Barbecue, held Aug. 24 at the Youth Centre during the Georgian Triangle Music Festival, was another great opportunity for residents to come together. I thank everyone who helped make the barbecue and concert possible.

As well, we had some wonderful ongoing events throughout the summer. These fun opportunities included Movies in the Market, Jazz and More in the Park, and Music in the Market.

I also know from chatting with residents and visitors that many enjoyed boating on the bay and in the river, hiking and cycling on our beautiful trails, and golfing on our local courses.

In September, we will see the return of



Stonebridge Wasaga Beach Blues from Sept. 13-15. This annual tradition features some truly fantastic blues musicians. I hope you will make time to attend. On behalf of council, I want to thank the organizers for all of the work that goes into putting this event together.

On Sept. 21, please join us for our next Conversation in the Park networking session with council. The session will run from noon to 2 p.m. at Nancy Island Historic Site. These gatherings are a great opportunity to chat one-on-one with members of council.

I am pleased to tell you that over the summer months we saw the conclusion of some significant investment projects, including The Jim Ramage Tennis Court Reconstruction Project in Wasaga Sands and the River Road West Reconstruction Project. Our new Second Street Boat Launch was also completed.

In September, the Main Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project started. This \$6.1-million investment will see a complete refurbishment of the bridge, originally constructed around 1960.

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## Convenience credit card payments

Through the town's website using Plastiq (third party), you can pay your property tax and/or water/wastewater bill by Visa, Mastercard, or American Express.

There will be a service fee of 2.5 percent applied by the servicer provider, Plastiq.

Please note that there are several low or no-cost means of paying your bill with The Town of Wasaga Beach. These include equal payment plan, telephone banking, mailing a cheque, or placing a payment in our drop box.

## Bus route to Barrie now running

On Aug. 6, the County of Simcoe launched its new Barrie, to Angus, Stayner, and Wasaga Beach route.

The route runs weekdays between Allandale Station in Barrie and the Real Canadian Super Store in Wasaga Beach.

The fare is \$6 one way.

For full details, see the LINX transit section of [www.simcoe.ca](http://www.simcoe.ca).

## Call us to arrange water shut off

If you are a seasonal resident and wish to have your water turned off, please contact the Public Works Department to schedule an appointment. To book an appointment, call 705-429-2540, ext. 2305 or e-mail [h.kenney@wasagabeach.com](mailto:h.kenney@wasagabeach.com).

For water shut off, please drain your pipes and ensure the water meter is completely drained. It is strongly recommended that a professional, licensed, insured plumber be obtained to winterize your residence.

Note the owner of the property must be present during the water shut off or town staff will not proceed with the work.

## Water conservation rebates are available!

The Town of Wasaga Beach has a water conservation rebate program.

When you install a low flow or dual flush toilet you are eligible for a \$70 rebate.

Residents who install a rain barrel can get a \$30 rebate.

Please note that only property owners on municipal water are eligible for the rebate. You can find rebate forms at [www.wasagabeach.com](http://www.wasagabeach.com) or pick one up at town hall at 30 Lewis St.

Applicants must include copies of receipts indicating that they purchased the particular item. Completed forms and supporting documentation can be presented at town hall.

The rebate will be applied to your next water bill.

*Mayor's Message continued...*

We continue to work on site selection for a new library, as well as a new arena, and I hope to be able to tell you more about these two projects later this fall.

Soon we will start work on the 2020 budget. Staff and council will work closely together to identify investment priorities for next year. You are welcome to attend our meetings or you can watch them on our YouTube channel. We will also host a public meeting on the budget so you can provide your input.

As always, it is an honour to serve as your mayor and I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you again soon.

**Nina Bifulchi is mayor of Wasaga Beach.**

## Strong start to 2019 building season in Wasaga Beach

Building activity in Wasaga Beach for the first half of 2019 is the highest it has been for that period in the last three years.

"Our development community, as well as smaller contractors and private citizens, are feeling good about the opportunities here and they are moving forward with significant investment," said Danny Rodgers, director of Building and Development Standards for the Town of Wasaga Beach.

To date this year, the town has issued 322 building permits, compared to 207 for the same period last year and 284 for 2017.

Permits issued for single-family dwellings sit at 66 this year, while the number of permits for town house units is 124. Residential additions and renovations account for an additional 45 permits to date.

The value of construction sits at \$55-million

so far in 2019 and the town anticipates a strong second half of the year as additional residential development projects start.

"Wasaga Beach is an attractive and affordable place to be if you are raising a young family and it's equally appealing if you are retired. These two demographics are driving the building activity we see in town," said Rodgers.

Mayor Nina Bifulchi agrees.

"Our community offers a wonderful quality of life and we know that is one of the key reasons people choose to settle here," Mayor Bifulchi said. "Our council will continue to invest in services and amenities that maintain and enhance our town. We are moving Wasaga Beach forward through investments in our arena, library, public transit, roads, parks and trails."

Mayor Bifulchi noted the town expects to see substantial new building permit activity in the years ahead as the redevelopment of town-owned land at the beachfront takes place.

## Work on Parks and Trails Master Plan starting

The town is investing \$89,885 to create a Parks and Trails Master Plan.

The plan will provide a framework to manage and sustain parks, trails, and open space in a cost-effective, proactive manner.

The plan will guide the municipality for the next decade.

Public engagement on parks and trails is now taking place. Take our survey at [www.letstalkwasagabeach.ca](http://www.letstalkwasagabeach.ca).

Monteith Brown Planning Consultants Ltd. will handle the master plan project.

## Main Street Bridge project getting under way

The town is investing \$6.1-million on the rehabilitation of the Main Street Bridge.

Council awarded the project to Dagmar Construction, following a competitive process. This is the same company that refurbished the Schoonertown Bridge.

The Main Street Bridge was constructed around 1960. The scope of the rehabilitation work includes patching, waterproofing, paving of the concrete deck, refacing and widening sidewalks, upgrading concrete abutments, as well as new street and navigation lighting.

Work on the bridge started after Labour Day.

Construction completion is anticipated by June 2021.

## Water Billing Schedule:

Due Date:	Billing Period:
mid-April	January – February
mid-June	March – April
mid-August	May – June
mid-October	July – August
mid-December	September – October
mid-February	November – December