

Municipal Election October 26, 2026



Register to vote or check if you are on the Voters List

You can now register to vote in both provincial and local elections all in one place. Confirm, update, or add your information to the Register for provincial, municipal, and school board elections.

Visit elections.on.ca.

Candidate Information Session

Serving on Council is a meaningful way to shape the future of your community—but it's a role that comes with complex responsibilities and thoughtful decision-making. Council members tackle important issues, engage with diverse perspectives, and sometimes navigate challenging or controversial matters, all in the best interest of residents. If you're considering running for Council, we encourage you to explore the helpful resources available at severn.ca/elections. You're also invited to attend our Candidate Information Session on **April 23, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, at our Administration Office. In-person and virtual attendance options will be available. Learn what it takes to serve and see if this opportunity is right for you. Visit severn.ca/elections.

Short-term rentals in Severn: Public Meeting on April 30

Severn does not currently licence short-term rentals (rentals under 28–30 days). While platforms like Airbnb and Vrbo offer homeowners extra income and travellers unique options, short-term rentals must still follow Severn's Good Neighbour By-laws, including noise, parking, zoning, open-air burning, and fireworks rules.

Council is exploring potential licencing and enforcement options. A Public Meeting will be held on **April 30 at 6:00 p.m.** at our Administration Office to gather community input. More details will be shared in early 2026. Learn more at: severn.ca/str.

Visit severn.ca for municipal updates

The municipal website is where you can find important information about our projects and services. **Severn.ca** is mobile-friendly and designed for our community. Subscribe to our Events Calendar, receive News and Notices to your inbox, and get informed of any emergency at severn.ca/subscribe.

Winter road maintenance

Help ensure roads in Severn are cleared safely and efficiently this winter.

Please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ Don't park on the road during snow plowing operations
- ✓ Don't deposit or pile snow on the road, this dangerous for road users
- ✓ Keep mailboxes clear of snow to allow the plow driver to see them
- ✓ Promptly remove waste bins from the road allowance following collection

Make life easier with our online services

Did you know you can handle many municipal services from the comfort of your home? Our online services are quick, convenient, and available 24/7.

Visit our website to:

- book a building inspection and save time
- download the Building Permit Guide to help your project go smoothly
- file a by-law complaint—whether it's noise, parking, or other concerns
- purchase your 2026 fire permit
- register for Recreation Programs, including Mini & Me Yoga, Adult & Seniors Yoga, Free Weights, Tiny Fun Arts & Crafts, and more
- submit a service request for road repairs, localized flooding, or other municipal needs

If you need assistance, we're here to help—email customercare@severn.ca or call 705-325-2315.

Tax Clinics in Severn to be offered by Information Orillia

Information Orillia, in partnership with the Township of Severn, will offer low-cost/donation-based income tax preparation services for low-income individuals and households, as well as members of the community who may be facing barriers or need additional support, in March 2026. Clinics will be held at the Washago Community Centre (4361 Hamilton Street) and the Coldwater Community Centre (11 Michael Anne Drive). Clinic dates and times will be shared online and will also be available by contacting Information Orillia at 705-326-7743 or visiting their website at informationorillia.org.

Is the nearest fire hydrant clear of snow?

In an emergency, every second counts! Help keep fire hydrants accessible over the winter. If there's a fire hydrant near your home, you can assist Severn Fire and Emergency Services by clearing snow in a one-metre radius around the hydrant so it can be easily located if needed. For more fire safety tips visit severn.ca/firesafety.



Severn Bulletin

January 2026

Due date

Interim property taxes are due in two instalments on **March 8** and **May 8**.

Payment options

Pre-authorized payments

Pre-authorized payment plans allow you to set up automatic withdrawals from your bank account every month or on due dates. Sign up for pre-authorized payments at severn.ca/taxes.

Cheque

Pay by cheque (to Township of Severn) by mail (PO Box 159, Orillia Ontario L3V 6J3) or drop box (1024 Hurlwood Lane, Severn).

Banking

Pay through online or telephone banking, or in person at a financial institution. Please use the 19-digit roll number found on your tax bill (numbers only, no hyphens or spaces) and select Severn Township or Township of Severn as the payee.

Register for a new eServices account

Easy online payments

Once registered, you will be able to easily view, pay, and manage bill payments online anytime and anywhere.

You will find detailed instructions on how to register for your eServices account on the back of your property tax bill. Register at eservices.severn.ca.

Need help?

Please reach out to our Customer Care Team directly at 705-325-2315 or email customercare@severn.ca for one-on-one support.



Administration Office: 1024 Hurlwood Lane, Severn
Mailing address: PO Box 159, Orillia, Ontario L3V 6J3

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2026 Budget

Breakdown

In November, Council approved the 2026 Budget.

It incorporates the following priorities:

- maintain or enhance levels of service
- ensure community safety and wellbeing
- responsibly manage municipal assets

The Township's 2026 Budget was approved with a 5.88% net tax increase over 2025 rates. When combined with the County of

Simcoe's approved tax increase of 3.5%, a 1.95% increase to policing services, and a 0% increase in education rates, residents can expect to see a 3.92% blended tax increase on their 2026 property tax bill.

For an average home in Severn assessed at \$340,000*, the approved blended rate amounts to a \$130.24 increase over 2025 levels, or \$10.85 per month, with a total tax bill of \$3,455.68 in 2026.

Visit severn.ca/budget for details.

Highlights

Although the Township keeps just 46 cents of every property tax dollar collected, we are committed to using those funds responsibly and effectively to support our community.

Keeping our community moving

An investment of \$2.83 million in road renewal will improve sections of:

- Bayou Road
- New Brailey Line
- Narrows Road
- South Sparrow Lake Road
- Uhthoff Line

Our Roads Needs Study continues to guide long-term planning and prioritization of road projects.

Learn more at severn.ca/plans.

In addition, design work will be completed to explore options for improved function and performance on:

- Burnside Line and Division Road
- Goldstein Road
- Hamilton Street
- Menoke Beach Road

Protecting our residents and volunteers

Severn Fire and Emergency Services will invest \$600,000 in a new fire pumper to replace an aging vehicle. This essential piece of equipment will transport both firefighters and water to emergency scenes and support critical firefighting operations. An additional \$128,000 will be invested to help ensure firefighters have the tools and protective gear they need to work safely and respond effectively during emergencies.

Delivering water and wastewater services you can rely on

More than \$550,000 will be invested in maintaining safe drinking water and strengthening Severn's water and wastewater infrastructure. Following Council approval of the Servicing Master Plan in 2025, the project will move into the implementation phase, including detailed design, review, evaluation, and potential construction of water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needed to support future growth.

Enhancing community spaces

Investment in Severn's recreation assets continues with improvements that include:

- a new disc golf course at Washago Centennial Park
- new benches at Ian Chrichton Park
- upgraded pathways in Marchmont and Ardtrea Parks
- baseball diamond improvements at Coldwater Fairgrounds and Timberline Parks

A Master Plan for Bass Lake Woodlands Park is currently underway, with opportunities for public input planned for early 2026.

Planning for the future

Delivering high-quality service remains a top priority for the Township. To ensure we can meet community needs now and into the future, \$365,000 is being invested in modernizing our municipal services through digital solutions.

Visit severn.ca/budget for more details.

Did you know?

Township of Severn keeps 46 cents of every property tax dollar collected. The rest goes to the County of Simcoe, education and policing. Our annual budget helps us deliver services and infrastructure that people use every day. It also ensures we provide value for money and that your tax dollars are spent wisely.

Services for your tax dollars



New recreation programs

Looking for attend Yoga, Zumba, or art classes for you or a member of your family? Learn about our new adult, senior, and youth programs at severn.ca/recprograms.

Big summer fun is coming to Severn in 2026!

Get ready for brand new summer kids camps launching in Severn in 2026! Thanks to support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, these exciting camps will run Monday to Friday in Coldwater and Washago throughout July and August.

Children ages 4 to 12 will enjoy action-packed days filled with arts and crafts, sports, theme days, and plenty of opportunities to make new friends and create great memories — all in a safe and welcoming environment. Stay up to date on camp announcements and registration dates by subscribing to our News and Notices at severn.ca/subscribe.

