

Town Crier, May 21, 2016

Stratford Town Crier

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedules

RETAIL CLOSINGS ON VICTORIA DAY

Shoppers and merchants are reminded that under the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, Victoria Day – Monday, May 23, 2016, is among the holidays when most stores must be closed.

The *Retail Business Holidays Act* provides limited exceptions for retail outlets that may be open, including stores that sell handicrafts and book or magazine stores that are less than 2,400 square feet with a maximum of three employees, pharmacies under 7,500 square feet, flower shops and gas stations. Stores may also remain open in locations established as tourist areas by specific municipal by-laws. Businesses should contact their municipal offices for information.

Minimum fines for opening businesses on prohibited days of retail operation are \$500 for the first offence, \$2,000 for a second offence and \$5,000 for a third or subsequent offence. Retail outlets may be fined up to \$50,000 or the total amount of gross sales for the holiday, whichever is greater.

Stratford's designated tourism season is May 1 to November 12 each year and includes the Victoria Day Holiday.

Stratford City By-law 149-92 permits certain retail establishments in Stratford that meet the tourism criteria established by the Province and that provides goods and services primarily to tourists in Stratford, may open for business on Victoria Day under the following provisions:

- The retail business establishment does not open prior to 10:00 am and does not remain open after 4:00 pm;
- The number of persons engaged in the serving of the public does not at any time, exceed four (4);
- The total area used for serving, selling or displaying goods or services to the public inside the establishment is less than 278.71 m² (3000 square feet).
- Certain larger retail business establishments listed in Schedule "A" to By-law 149-92 as amended, may also open on Victoria Day between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm

Enforcement of the *Retail Business Holidays Act* in Stratford is the responsibility of Stratford Police Services.

To find out which retail operations are exempted by the Act, call the Ministry of Consumer Services toll-free at 1-800-889-9768. For more information visit www.sse.gov.on.ca

FIREWORK SAFETY – Victoria Day and Canada Day

City of Stratford Fireworks By-law 73-2006 provides that fireworks can only be set off on Victoria Day and Canada Day **between 8:00 pm and 12:00 midnight**. In the event of weather conditions such as rain, fog, smog or wind on Victoria Day or Canada Day, fireworks may be set off the day before or the day after Victoria Day or Canada Day.

Sale of Fireworks - Fireworks can be sold in Stratford only for a period of 14 calendar days prior to Victoria Day and Canada Day.

Fireworks may not be set off:

- On any city street or highway.
- In any park or other public place.
- In any building or vehicle.
- In areas containing dead undergrowth or trees.

Firecrackers - which are different than fireworks, cannot be sold or set off anywhere in Stratford.

When setting off Fireworks, always:

- Use fireworks outdoors only;
- Choose a clear, open area;
- Check wind direction and speed;
- Always have an adult present;
- Have water handy;
- Read and follow label directions;
- Keep spectators away from launch area;

Special Events and Community Events: Residents may apply to the Stratford Fire Department for a permit to set off fireworks for special events or community events. Contact the Fire Department at **519-271-3212** for details.

MARKET SQUARE OPEN HOUSE

The Public is invited to an Open House scheduled for Wednesday June 1, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the City Hall Auditorium regarding the Market Square Development. GSP Group will make a presentation at the Open House regarding their design concept. The GSP presentation is scheduled for 6:30 pm and there will be opportunity for questions and comments from the public about the GSP design.

NOTICE – RAKING OF WINTER SAND

Reminder to residents from the Infrastructure & Development Services Department that during the months of April and May, winter sand that has accumulated can be raked to the edge of the road or the street gutter. Please help street sweeping operations by spreading the sand out in the gutter area. Please do not place the sand in large piles in the gutter or along the road, as the piles can restrict water flow and be a traffic hazard.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS - DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all property owners in accordance with the WEED CONTROL ACT OF ONTARIO, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Municipality of Stratford are destroyed by June 1, 2016 and throughout the season, the Municipality may enter upon said lands and cause the noxious weed or weed seeds to be destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes as set out in the Act.

In the interest of public health, the noxious weeds requiring eradication include Giant Hogweed, Ragweed and Poison Ivy. Other noxious weeds requiring eradication include European Buckthorn, Thistles, Jointed Goatgrass, and others as designated under the above Act.

Enquiries and complaints should be directed to Infrastructure & Development Services at 519-271-0250 ext. 345

EXTENDED SATURDAY HOURS - CITY OF STRATFORD LANDFILL

Beginning Saturday, May 7, 2016 and continuing until Saturday, September 24, 2016, the City of Stratford Landfill will be open an additional hour on Saturday mornings. The new hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Saturday time change is also applicable to the Recycling Depot and Household Hazardous Waste events. For more information, please visit our website www.stratfordcanada.ca or call 519-271-0250 ext. 279 during business hours.

VICTORIA DAY WASTE SERVICES SCHEDULE

LANDFILL SITE HOURS - closed Monday May 23rd, 2016

CURBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEDULE

There will be no change in the Recycling Collection program on Monday May 23rd, 2016. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00am on collection dates.

GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

There will be no change in the Garbage Collection schedule on Monday May 23rd. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00am on collection dates.

LEAF AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

There will be no change in the Garbage Collection schedule on Monday May 23rd. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00am on collection dates.

For further information telephone 519-271-0250 ext. 279.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

In most households, you will find some leftover cleaners; oil based paints, pesticides, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and/or prescription medicines. If these leftovers are not handled properly, they can be hazardous. These products are commonly used to make our modern lives easier, but when they are not handled with care, they can be harmful to our health and the environment.

Don't forget your Compact Florescent Light bulbs!

Bring in your Hazardous waste to the City of Stratford Landfill site located at 777 Romeo St. South. Materials will be accepted at the landfill Friday, May 27th 8:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday, May 28th, 8:00am - 12:00pm.

CITY WIDE TREASURE HUNT

Friday May 27th - Sunday May 29th

“One persons' garbage is another ones treasure”

City residents are invited to take part in a Treasure Hunt to promote waste reduction.

Any resident who wishes to recycle any unwanted household items should place them at curbside starting at 4:00pm on Friday May 27th. Other residents can come by and remove any items they would like.

REMEMBER - All unclaimed material must be removed from curbside by 3:00pm on Sunday May 29th.

QUESTIONS? - Call 519-271-0250 ext. 279

LEAF AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Leaf and yard waste collection will only be collected in the following forms:

- 110 L Kraft paper bags
- Certified compostable bags
- Re-useable container with label attached

Clear Plastic Bags are NOT accepted and will be left at the curbside.

Leaf and Yard waste is accepted at the landfill depot during regular landfill hours.

The next Leaf and Yard Waste collection weeks are:

May 23-27

June 6-10

June 20-24



EVENING HOT MEAL PROGRAMS IN STRATFORD—OPEN TO ALL—DROP IN

May 23	The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street	5:15 pm
May 27	Zion Lutheran Church, 201 Erie Street	5:00 pm
May 30	The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street	5:15 pm

Additional Weekly Meals at The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street. Breakfast is served every Thursday morning at 8:30 am. Seniors' Lunch 60 years and older is served every Wednesday at 11:30 am.

MEETING SCHEDULE

May 24	Committee of the Whole In-camera Session	6:30 pm	Council Chamber
May 24	Regular Council and Standing Committees	7:00 pm	Council Chamber
May 25	Infrastructure, Transportation & Safety Sub-committee	4:30 pm	Council Chamber
May 26	Planning and Heritage Sub-committee	Cancelled	Council Chamber

Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-Camera sessions. Agendas can be accessed from the City's website or may be picked up from the City Clerk's Office the Friday before the scheduled meeting. Also, check the City's website for the Sub-committee, Standing Committee and Council Meeting Schedules, Agendas, and Advisory Committee Schedules as the schedule is subject to change. The Town Crier is also posted on the City's website.

Telephone: 519-271-0250 www.stratfordcanada.ca TTY: 519-271-5241