

## Holiday Schedule



## Holiday Schedule 2025 Family Day

City of Orillia administrative offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17, 2025, for Family Day. This includes:

- **Orillia City Centre:** 50 Andrew St. S.
- **Municipal Operations Centre:** 20 James St. W.
- **Wastewater Treatment Centre:** 40 Kitchener St.
- **Waste Diversion Site:** 100 Kitchener St. (open Tuesdays to Saturdays)
- **Water Filtration Plant:** 200 Bay St.

### Hours of operation for other City facilities/services include:

- **Orillia Transit/OWLS:** No service on Monday, Feb. 17.
- **Orillia Recreation Centre (255 West St. S.):** Open 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Rotary Place (100 University Ave.):** Open regular hours. Drop-in skating times may vary.
- **Barnfield Point Recreation Centre (500 Atherley Rd.):** Open regular hours.
- **Leacock Museum (50 Museum Dr.):** The Leacock Museum is closed for the winter season with the exception of special programs and events. Call 705-325-2196 or visit [leacockmuseum.ca](http://leacockmuseum.ca) for information about current opportunities.
- **Orillia Opera House (20 Mississauga St. W.):** The Box Office is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and three hours prior to ticketed events. Tickets are available 24/7 at [orilliaoperahouse.ca](http://orilliaoperahouse.ca).
- **Orillia Public Library (36 Mississauga St. W.):** Closed on Sunday, Feb. 16 and Monday, Feb. 17.
- **Orillia Farmers' Market (36 Mississauga St. W.):** The Market will be running as regularly scheduled. Visit [orillia.ca/ofm](http://orillia.ca/ofm) for details.
- **Orillia Youth Centre (9 Front St. S.):** Closed on Monday, Feb. 17.

### Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

Due to the Family Day Holiday, there will be no garbage, recycling, green bin or yard waste collection on Monday, Feb. 17. Collection will be delayed by one day. Items must be at the curb by 7 a.m. to ensure collection. The regular collection schedule will resume on Monday, Feb. 24, 2025.

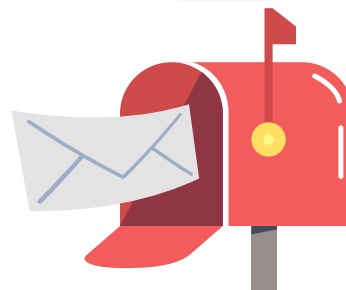
Please note that the County of Simcoe holiday waste collection schedule does not affect City of Orillia residents. For more information call 705-325-3522 or visit [orillia.ca](http://orillia.ca).

## Notice to Taxpayers

### 2025 Interim Tax Bills for the City of Orillia have been mailed.

Installment dates are **March 15, 2025, and May 15, 2025**. If you have not received your bill, please contact the Finance Division at 705-329-7239. Failure to receive the tax bill does not relieve the property owner from payment of taxes or liability for penalty for late payment.

Payments can be made at most financial institutions. To take advantage of our Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Plan, please visit [orillia.ca](http://orillia.ca).



### Notice

## Linda Pearce Named Orillia's 2024 Citizen of the Year

Linda Pearce is Orillia's 2024 Citizen of the Year, as named at a special presentation during the Council meeting on Feb. 10, 2025.

Pearce was described by her nominators as selfless, caring, and an incredible role model for others. Nominators also pointed to Pearce's continued dedication, providing gift baskets for Easter, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Christmas, and throughout the year. Her generosity has been shared with those in the community through numerous organizations, including The Sharing Place, Couchiching Jubilee House, and many more.

The 2024 Citizen of the Year panel included former winners Derick Lehmann, Cam Davidson, Marci Csumrik, and Fred Larsen, as well as OrilliaMatters editor Dave Dawson, Pure Country 106 Morning Host Carey Moran, and Orillia Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Allan Lafontaine. Nominations for the 2024 Citizen of the Year Award were accepted between Dec. 14, 2024, and Jan. 20, 2025, with nominators encouraged to provide letters of support highlighting the nominees' accomplishments from the past year.

## Scam Alert: Fake Parking Ticket Text Messages

We've received reports of fraudulent text messages claiming to be from "Ontario Parking" about outstanding infractions. Please be aware that the City of Orillia does NOT send text messages about parking tickets.

- ✗ Do not reply to these messages.
- ✗ Do not click on any links in these messages.
- ✗ Do not provide personal or payment information.

The City of Orillia notifies residents of parking violations through physical ticket on vehicles followed by mailed notices. If you have a question about the status of a parking ticket, please contact 705-325-2299 or [parking@orillia.ca](mailto:parking@orillia.ca).

If you receive a suspicious message, report the message as junk or forward the message to 7726 (SPAM on most keyboards) and delete the text. This will alert your cellular provider to open an investigation on the contents of the message.

### Community



### Parking



## Council Endorses Plans for Future Boundary Expansion and Official Plan

City Council 

Orillia Council took significant steps toward shaping Orillia's future growth and development during a special meeting of Council on Feb. 4, 2025.

Decisions included setting a minimum average density target for strategic growth areas and advancing policy directions for the City's new Official Plan.

### Boundary Expansion

**What Was Approved:** As part of its boundary expansion planning process, Council approved the establishment of a minimum average density target of 47 units per net hectare. At the same time, Council also decided to seek 195 gross developable hectares through the municipal restructuring process to expand Orillia's municipal boundary to accommodate growth to the year 2051 and beyond.

The approved density target means that Orillia will grow more efficiently within its current boundaries, reducing the footprint of new development while maintaining a small-town feel. This also reduces the amount of land originally identified within the surrounding municipalities of Severn and Oro-Medonte as potential areas for a future boundary expansion.

The process to finalize the boundary expansion involves ongoing collaboration with neighbouring townships, Simcoe County, and Indigenous communities.

**Next Steps:** The City's consultants will now begin Phase 3 of the Technical Land Evaluation, identifying the most suitable areas for the boundary expansion. The findings will be presented to the public for feedback before final approval.

### Official Plan Review

**What Was Approved:** Council endorsed in principle the 31 policy directions outlined in the Stage 2 Policy Directions Report for the Official Plan review and update. These policies will shape Orillia's growth, covering housing, transportation, climate resilience, and more.

**Next Steps:** The first draft of the Official Plan, incorporating the endorsed policy directions, will be presented to Council later this year, with adoption targeted for 2026.

### How to Stay Involved

Residents and other interested parties will have opportunities to share their input as the City continues with this process. A public open house will be held to review draft maps for the boundary expansion, and additional updates will be shared on the City's website and through public communications.

Learn more and sign up to receive updates by email as both projects progress at [orillia.ca/officialplan](https://orillia.ca/officialplan).



Important Dates

## Upcoming Meetings

**Monday, March 3: Regular Council**

**Monday, March 24: Public Meeting of Council re Planning Matters, Special Council re Tax Appeals and Regular Council**

Meetings will be held in-person in the Council Chamber and may also be held electronically in accordance with Section 238 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001. Meeting start times will be noted on the agendas when published.

A portion of these meetings may be held in Closed Session. Members of the public who wish to attend Council Chamber during the open session portions of these meetings are welcome. Regularly scheduled City Council meetings may be streamed live on the City of Orillia's YouTube channel. Full agenda packages and streaming links are available at [orillia.civicweb.net](https://orillia.civicweb.net).

For further information, contact us at 705-325-1311 or [councilservices@orillia.ca](mailto:councilservices@orillia.ca).

## Job Opportunities

**Finance Summer Student**

Corporate Services Department  
Closing: Feb. 14, 2025

**GIS Technician (Summer Students)**

Development Services and Engineering Department  
Closing: Feb. 14, 2025

**Project Manager**

Development Services and Engineering Department  
Closing: Feb. 14, 2025

**Supervisor of Financial Accounting and Audit**

Corporate Services Department  
Closing: Feb. 17, 2025

**Collection/Distribution System Operator**

Environment and Infrastructure Services Department  
Closing: Feb. 21, 2025

**Seasonal Enforcement Officer II**

Development Services and Engineering Department  
Closing: Feb. 21, 2025

**Sport Coordinator**

Corporate Services Department  
Closing: Feb. 28, 2025

**Park Maintenance (Contract)**

Environment and Infrastructure Services Department  
Closing: March 14, 2025

For all positions available, including duties and qualifications, visit [orillia.ca/employment](https://orillia.ca/employment).

Events 

## 'Orillia Landscapes' Art Exhibit Reception: Feb. 15

The City of Orillia and the Orillia Museum of Art & History (OMAH) invite members of the public to a special reception celebrating the "Orillia Landscapes" art exhibition, hosted in the new Green Room Gallery at the Orillia Opera House (20 Mississauga St. W.).

The event takes place on **Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** and offers something for all ages. Families and children are especially encouraged to attend, with interactive activities designed to engage younger guests in the world of art.

Featuring 23 works of art by 18 artists from Orillia and beyond, the exhibition offers a captivating collection of perspectives. The exhibition is on display at both the Green Room Gallery and the Stack Gallery at the Orillia Recreation Centre (255 West St. S.), with unique pieces at each facility. For more information about the exhibition, visit [orilliamuseum.org/APPC](https://orilliamuseum.org/APPC).

Waste Collection 

## WHAT GOES WHERE

Wondering when your next garbage collection day is or how to properly dispose of pet waste? We've got an app for that!

The Recycle Coach app allows residents to search from thousands of waste items using the "What Goes Where" search tool – it takes the guesswork out of sorting waste. Residents can also easily access their collection schedule and set up reminder notifications for their collection day.

Residents can download the Recycle Coach app on the App Store or Google Play Store, visit the City's website at [orillia.ca/waste](http://orillia.ca/waste).



## Clear Garbage Bags and Garbage Tag Program

All garbage bags placed at the curb require a City of Orillia garbage tag. Additional tags can be purchased in sets of five for \$15 (\$3 each) from Orillia City Centre (50 Andrew St. S.), the Waste Diversion Site (100 Kitchener St.), online through the OrilliaNow portal at [orillia.ca/now](http://orillia.ca/now), and at select retail stores.

Garbage must be placed in clear bags. Up to two small shopping bag-sized, opaque privacy bags can be placed within the clear bag. Garbage containing more than 10 per cent recycling box and green bin/yard waste materials will not be collected.

For more information, visit [orillia.ca/waste](http://orillia.ca/waste).



Winter Control 

## Track when local roads are plowed with the Orillia Snowplow Tracker

Available online at [orillia.ca/plowtracker](http://orillia.ca/plowtracker) and on the OrilliaNow portal at [orillia.ca/now](http://orillia.ca/now).



## Overnight Parking Restrictions in Effect Until April 15

[orillia.ca/parking](http://orillia.ca/parking)



Community 

## February is Black History Month

The City of Orillia proudly joins the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada in proclaiming February 2025 as Black History Month.

Black History Month is a time to reflect on and celebrate the profound contributions of Black Canadians to our community and country. This month provides an opportunity to honour the individuals who have shaped our society, enriched our culture, and contributed to the ongoing fight for equality and justice. While we celebrate these achievements, we also recognize that there is still much work to be done in the pursuit of equality and inclusion for all.

The City is proud to support Black in Canada, a powerful production presented by Arts Orillia and the Orillia and Area Black Community Association. This special event highlights the stories and experiences of Black Canadians and celebrates their enduring impact on our society. To learn more about the event and purchase tickets, visit [artsorillia.ca/seasonandprograms](http://artsorillia.ca/seasonandprograms).

To learn more about the history, achievements, and stories of Black Canadians, as well as a list of local events and resources, visit [orillia.ca/blackhistory](http://orillia.ca/blackhistory).



Opportunity 

## Request for Proposals: Refreshment Vehicles

Applications open until Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.

Orillia's waterfront parks are a hub of activity during the summer months and are enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. The City has four spaces available for on-site mobile food services within designated spaces at the City's waterfront parks (three spaces at Centennial Park and one space at J.B. Tudhope Memorial Parks) from mid-May to mid-October. The City will provide water and electricity hookups at each location.

**Deadline:** Feb. 14, 2025, at 2 p.m.

Visit [orillia.ca/tenders](http://orillia.ca/tenders) for details.

Events 

## A Leacock Love Story Valentine's Tour

Stephen Leacock's house in Orillia was a labour of love. He built it for his wife, Beatrix. Unfortunately, Beatrix did not live to see it completed. Something did survive though... Discovered during restoration inside Stephen's bedroom closet were Beatrix's final letters.

Guests are invited to see the original letters up close and hear the romantic story in detail. Visit [leacockmuseum.ca](http://leacockmuseum.ca) for tickets!

**Offered:** Feb. 14 and 15, 2025, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

## Valentine's TEA

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a friend or partner at the Leacock Museum's Valentine's themed high tea! Enjoy a three-tiered food selection prepared by Krew Catering with unlimited tea while seated in the living room and dining room of the historic Leacock home. Tickets also include a self-guided tour of the Leacock Museum.

**Offered:** Feb. 16, 2025, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Visit [leacockmuseum.ca](http://leacockmuseum.ca) for tickets and more information.

Transit 

## Free Teen Orillia Transit Pass Renewal

**Current cards expire Feb. 28, 2025.**

Attention parents and teens with free teen transit passes from the City's 2024 pilot program – it's time to renew your free pass.

All pilot program teen transit passes will expire on Feb. 28, 2025. Council has made the free pass a permanent program as part of the 2025 Budget process and as a result, teens can renew their pass for the long-term. The new expiration date will be based on the cardholder's ID and set to the day before the cardholder's twentieth birthday.

Renewing the teen transit pass is simple and can be done in person at the Orillia City Centre (50 Andrew St. S.) or the Orillia Public Library (36 Mississauga St. W.). Online renewals are not available.

**Key Renewal Details:**

- ID is required for renewal. This can include a birth certificate, passport, driver's licence, Ontario photo ID card, or health card.
- The renewed pass will be added to the existing cOnnect Pass transit card.
- All cOnnect Passes must be registered online at [orillia.usetransit.com](http://orillia.usetransit.com). Cards not registered to an account cannot be renewed.

For more information on how to register or renew your cOnnect Pass, visit [orillia.ca/transit](http://orillia.ca/transit).

## Bright Minds Corporate Innovation Challenge

Registration open until Feb. 28 for Lakehead, Georgian students.

Student innovators from Lakehead University and Georgian College are invited to solve real-world municipal challenges through advanced, technology-driven solutions as part of Fuel Innovation's Bright Minds Corporate Innovation Challenge.

Teams of two to three students will collaborate to develop innovative solutions to address challenges identified by City of Orillia staff. Participants can form teams within their college or university or collaborate across institutions. The challenge will be released on **Feb. 28, 2025, at 5 p.m.** and runs until **March 5, 2025**.

Learn more and register at [orillia.ca/innovation](http://orillia.ca/innovation).



## K. Valerie Connor Poetry Competition Now Open

The Leacock Museum is inviting submissions for the tenth anniversary of the K. Valerie Connor Poetry Competition. In memory of former volunteer Valerie Connor, the contest is open to amateur poets of all ages who currently reside in Ontario.

Entrants are invited to submit up to three poems in their applicable age-based category: Adult (18+), Intermediate (13 to 17), and Elementary (12 and under). An entry fee of \$10 per poem is required for the Adult category, and \$5 per poem for the Intermediate category. Submissions to the Elementary category are free. A total of \$2,350 in cash prizes will be awarded this year, with a top prize of \$1,000. This competition is made possible due to the generous support of the Connor family.

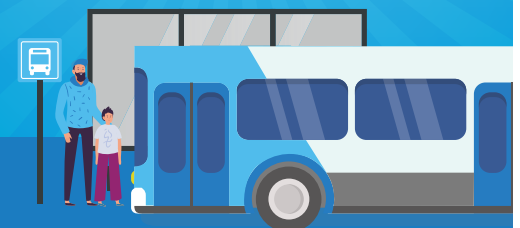
Poems must be original and unpublished and can be about any topic or theme. Entries must be between two and 250 words and submitted by May 28, 2025. Visit [orillia.ca/poetrycontest](http://orillia.ca/poetrycontest) to complete the submission form and to see full rules and regulations.



## Free Transit Days:

March 12 • April 22

June 5 • Nov. 26



[orillia.ca/transit](http://orillia.ca/transit)