



## **For Immediate Release**

Minden, Ontario  
Thursday April 2, 2020  
1:30 PM  
Release #20-21

## **Subject: Minden Hills COVID-19 Additional Service Provision Reductions Update**

A reminder that all Township facilities remain closed to the public, until further notice. Administrative call answering services will remain available between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM Monday to Friday, 705-286-1260 x 200 or [admin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:admin@mindenhills.ca).

Please provide your name, contact information (phone and/or email) and a clear and brief message regarding the reason for your call.

The public can be assured that essential services will be maintained as much as possible.

**We are asking the public to restrict inquiries to Township priority requests only and please understand that it may take longer to reply to messages as Staff handle increased phone and email inquiries.**

We are also asking the public for their patience during this time and to observe our request to contact the Township for municipal related inquiries by the following methods only:

Telephone: 705-286-1260 x. 200

Email: [admin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:admin@mindenhills.ca)

**Please do not call or email the various Departments or their related extensions or submit inquiries though the Minden Hills website Contact Us form.**

### **ADDITIONAL SERVICE PROVISION REDUCTIONS:**

Please refer to the list below for **NEW and/or UPDATED** service provision reductions.

For a complete list of all Township service provision reductions, please go to:  
<https://www.mindenhills.ca/covid-19-information/>

## **Burn Permits**

From April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> each year, Burn Permits are required to burn approved materials between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, as per By-law 19-57 for the Regulating of Open Air Fires.

Due to the current requirement for social/physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Minden Hills Fire Department, along with the other fire departments in Haliburton County, have suspended the issuing of Burn Permits, until further notice. This

is in conjunction with the Township's continuing effort to keep the community safe by implementing community-based measures to limit exposure to risk for the public, Township employees and volunteers.

The public is reminded that, as per By-law 19-57: No person shall start a fire, outdoors for burning untreated wood products, leaves and brush, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM without a permit. Any person that sets a fire within the restricted time without a permit shall be responsible for all fees, fines and costs incurred by the fire department.

## **Property Assessment Values and Assessment Review Board**

The Request for Reconsideration (RfR) deadline is usually March 31<sup>st</sup> of the applicable taxation year. However, given the emergency declared by the Province of Ontario, pursuant to the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and regulations made thereunder, the **Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, (MPAC)** has announced that the RfR deadline for the 2020 taxation year will be 16 days after the emergency is lifted. <https://www.mpac.ca/>

For information regarding **Assessment Review Board** deferrals and timelines, please refer to the Board's website **under News and Updates**: <https://elto.gov.on.ca/>

## **Public Parks, Playgrounds and Boat Launches**

In accordance with the *Ontario Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, the following Township maintained seasonal public parks, playgrounds and boat launches are CLOSED, effectively immediately, until further notice:

- Panorama Park
- Rotary Park
- Bissett Beach
- Lutterworth Park
- Furnace Falls
- Skateboard Park, Tennis Courts and Shuffle Board Courts
- Peck Street Boat Launch
- Downtown Public Dock (located on Water Street, along the Gull River)

A reminder that the Minden, Lochlin and Irondale Community Centres remain closed, including the children's playgrounds at each of these locations.

Signage and/or barricades will be placed at all affected locations.

All other municipally maintained public boat launches will remain open at this time. When accessing these locations, ensure that you are practicing social/physical distancing with a minimum of 2m (6 feet) between yourself and other members of the public.

## A Reminder Regarding our Waste Sites (Landfills)

A reminder of reduced services at waste sites to the acceptance of bagged garbage and household recycling only was undertaken in response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

The Township of Minden Hills is urging residents to avoid waste sites as much as possible, in order reduce the number of individuals on site at any given time.

### **Do not attend waste sites unless you have accumulated 3 full bags of garbage**

When attending waste sites, please adhere to the following:

- **Do not** bring passengers to waste sites unless you need physical assistance unloading your vehicle or have no other arrangements made for watching a dependant (child, elderly, etc.).
- **Do not** cross any physical barriers put in place at each site.
- **Do not** approach attendants for assistance unless you are in physical distress.
- **Do not** attend the site with any materials beyond bagged household waste and recycling.
- **Do not** enter the site attendant's shelter or bring food or beverages for the site attendants.
- **Do not** exit your vehicle with the exception of unloading your vehicle at the household waste bin and recycling bins.
- All communication with site staff shall be completed through the window of your vehicle, and shall be limited to discussions regarding the disposal of your waste.
- When you have exited your vehicle, ensure that you are practicing social/physical distancing with a minimum of 2m (6 feet) between yourself and members of the public.

Any person verbally harassing or abusing site staff and/or failing to comply with the above requirements or regular waste facility rules/regulations **will be** suspended from attending the site for the remainder of the Provincial and Municipal declared COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency.

Please remember that these are **temporary** measures put in place to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and **a return to normal operations will require the immediate and full cooperation of the public.**

The Township of Minden Hills encourages social and physical distancing measures as a way to minimize COVID-19 transmission in the community. This means minimizing close contact with others during this outbreak. The health and safety of the community is our priority and we will continue to provide updates as information becomes available to us. We encourage everyone to visit our website at [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca), as well as the following websites, for up to date news and information:

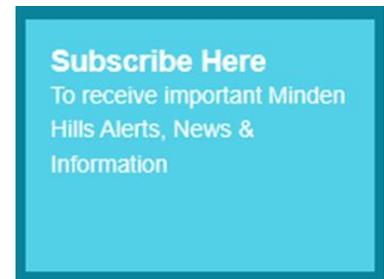
- Public Health Ontario - <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources>

- Ministry of Health - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus?amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;qid=95944921>
- Health Canada - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html?amp%3Bamp%3Bamp%3Bamp%3Bqid=96637021>
- County of Haliburton - <https://haliburtoncounty.ca/covid-19/>

Thank you for your understanding as we work toward keeping our community safe and healthy.

To receive important information and updates, including in the event of an emergency, please ensure that you are subscribed to the Minden Hills website. Do this by simply clicking the **Subscribe Here** button, located at the bottom of the Minden Hills website, and complete the following:

- Name and email address
- Select any or all of the options listed to receive notifications.
- You will receive a confirmation email thanking you for subscribing.  
IMPORTANT: Check your spam folder if you do not receive the confirmation email.



The Municipality will continue to communicate all information by means of media broadcasting and media releases to radio stations, local newspapers and our website.

For Municipal Emergency contact after hours call: 1-866-856-3247

For Emergency Services call: 911

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**Contact Information:**

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