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*Township
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Media Release

For Immediate Release

May 8, 2020 (2:00 p.m.)

May 8, 2020 Update from Mayor Burrow A Reminder to Cottagers during the COVID-19 Pandemic Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley, Ontario

The Township's Emergency Control Group met again today to monitor the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and discuss adjusting any municipal responses and messaging where needed.

All Township municipal buildings, libraries and playgrounds/sports fields remain **closed to the public** until further notice. **Bellamy Park also remains closed to any seasonal camping at this time.**

As the weather warms, it's recognized that Cottagers will be soon be reattending their cottages properties to open them up for the season. Cottages offer an enjoyable get away and retreat. During this pandemic, the Provincial government has provided some directives to cottagers that the Township wishes to echo. **The Township is encouraging cottagers to be respectful in doing the following:**

- Have only one household attend the cottage (avoid co-mingling of households);
- Bring your own groceries and supplies with you to the cottage so you will be self-sufficient there, without needing to venture out;
- When enjoying any common areas and talking with your neighbour, continue to respect the 2 m (6 ft.) physical distancing practice and;
- Avoid gatherings of more than 5 persons;
- Seek approval for any open burning/campfires by applying for a Burn Permit.

The burn ban has just been lifted today and Burn Permits must be obtained prior to having any open burning. Burn Permits can be obtained immediately by applying at ek.burnpermits.com. If you do not have internet access, you must

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apply for a Burn Permit by contacting the Fire Department at 613-498-2460 during office hours Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and you must speak with a staff member in order to gain permit approval (leaving a message **does not** constitute approval). Fines will be levied for open burning without a permit.

As a reminder, although Township offices are closed to the public, staff are attending the offices on a rotating basis and continue to work remotely to serve you. The tax due date (that was extended for the first instalment) is May 22, 2020. Council continues to meet virtually and further meeting information is available at the Township's website.

It is imperative whether we are at home, at the cottage, or at work, that we all stay committed to practicing physical distancing, frequent hand washing, and all of the other health official directives to continue to limit the spread of COVID-19.

The Township's website www.ektwp.ca continues to be updated to offer COVID-19 information and links to reliable sources of information. As a reminder, anyone experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 (such as a fever, cough, difficulty breathing), should reach out to the local Health Unit at 613-345-5685 or call Telehealth at 1-800-797-0000. Please do not call 911 unless it is an emergency.

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