



The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

For Immediate Release

RE: Beaches Open, Level 1 Fire Ban, Municipal Office Reopening, Waste Site Fees, Drive-thru COVID-19 Testing

Township of Bonnechere Valley – June 5, 2020 – Beach season is upon us, and there are plenty of people wondering if beaches in Bonnechere Valley are open at this point of the pandemic. The answer is: yes, beaches are open to the public, in the same way that parks are open for the general use. The playground equipment and the Eganville Splash Pad are still **not** open for use.

So long as visitors adhere to physical distancing, they're free to sunbathe, play some frisbee, and even dip their toes in the water. The usual rules apply; maintain a two metre distancing between individuals. Please also take note that water testing has not been conducted on any of our area water bodies. Social gatherings of more than five people are prohibited, as per provincial orders, unless everyone is from the same household.

Bonnechere Valley continues to be under a Level 1 Ban, meaning no permits will be issued for open air burning. During this Ban fire works are not permitted at this time. Campfires are still allowed however the Bonnechere Valley Fire Department is stressing the importance never leave a campfire unattended.

On Monday, June 8th the municipal office will be open to the public. There is a new method of visiting the office, we will only allow 2 people in the building at a time while another 2 people will be asked to wait outside for their turn. Others will need to wait in their vehicles. All planning and building matters as well as marriage licences will only be done by appointment.

Beginning July 1, 2020 you will once again need to purchase garbage tags for curbside pickup and the green (dump) cards to visit any of our sites, the Household Hazardous Waste Depot will be open at Sand Road, and Penalty/Interest will be applied to all taxes and late payments.

Drive-thru COVID-19 testing will continue for another two weeks. Thanks to the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, mobile test stations will be set up at a variety of location in the county. If you would like to be swabbed, please pre-register through the RC VTAC (1-844-727-6404). Bring your health card and drivers licence with you so that they can confirm your identity and please wear a mask. If you do not pre-register you will need to register in the parking lot.

Dates for the Eganville location are: Saturday, June 6th, Wednesday, June 10th, and Wednesday, June 17th from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Eganville Arena Parking Lot (178 Jane Street, Eganville).

We would like to acknowledge all our local businesses who have continued to stay open and adjust their ways of conducting business during COVID. They are our BV heroes!

The next press release will be released on Friday, June 12th, 2020 at 10 am.

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