

The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

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For Immediate Release **RE: UPDATE surrounding COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus)**

Township of Bonnechere Valley – March 23, 2020 - The Township of Bonnechere Valley's Emergency Management Group met by teleconference today to review the current situation concerning additional service changes surrounding COVID-19. We expect people who have travelled to self-isolate to protect the health and safety of our community.

All the Township buildings continue to remain closed to walk-in traffic.

- Payments for water and taxes can be made by utilizing the afterhours drop box at the municipal office, via online or telephone banking and/or visiting your location banking institution, or via mail.
- Dog Tag purchases will be extended to a date to be determined and the early bird rate will continue to be honoured.
- The need for garbage tags and/or a waste cards are not required for collection or when you attend any of our municipal waste sites.

In addition, the Chief Murphy has enacted a Level 1 Fire Ban ending any burning of brush. Small campfires are still permitted at this time. This is being done in response to the Covid-19 outbreak to reduce non-emergency calls and limit contact for our firefighters. We have a response protocol in place strictly for the fire ban. Emergency calls will have the normal response. Other townships throughout the county have also implemented bans so please refer to your township's website or social media account prior to any burning.

Not all social distancing activities need to happen indoors. Spring is just about here, and it is now the perfect opportunity to gain a greater appreciation of the nature you have in your own backyard and relieve stress. Take a walk in the park, but please remember that, all municipal playground equipment is off limits until further notice.

A group of community minded people who wanted to help during this difficult time have developed a Facebook page called "It Takes a Village: Eganville and Area Help Network. The Township of Bonnechere Valley is providing assistance for those who do not have a social media account. We will take phone requests for help from the public and post them on their behalf to this community Facebook page. We will post the location and task required. Whoever is available to do it will be put in touch directly with the person needing assistance. Please be advised that Freshmart, Conway's and Pharmasave are offering delivery if they can wait. As more delivery services are available please post here or we can share.

Mayor Jennifer Murphy wants to thank the residents of Bonnechere Valley, "This is all about increasing social distancing and our community, staff and residents are dedicated to ensuring everyone's safety during this time and I am so proud of all the measures being taken."