



DURHAM WORKS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DURHAM REGION WORKS DEPARTMENT

Spring 2018

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National Public Works Week is coming!

Saturday, May 26

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Orono Depot

3585 Taunton Road, Orono

Come visit our newly renovated Works maintenance depot where children can explore our truck and equipment display, play games, visit a face painter and more!



..... Please bring a non-perishable food item to support local food banks.

For more information visit: durham.ca/npww

If you require this information in an accessible format or require accessible accommodation at the event please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3542. For accessible accommodation requests at the event in Orono, please provide a minimum 72 hours' notice prior to the start of the event.



Municipal election day is October 22.

See page 11 for more information.

It's cycling season

Are you ready for the cycling season? Cycling and walking are healthy travel options in Durham Region! Walk or ride your bike to work or to run errands for fun and exercise. Learn more about getting around Durham Region, by bike, visit the Cycle Durham website (durham.ca/CycleDurham). While you are there, register on the free Active Switch Community online tool. You could win a \$100 Sport Chek gift card in the month of May.



Nonquon Water Pollution Control Plant wins award

The Region's new Nonquon Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) servicing Port Perry, in the Township of Scugog, has been named Project of the Year for 2017 by the Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA) in the Environment, \$10 to \$50 million category.

This award promotes excellence in the management and administration of public works projects by recognizing an alliance among the managing agency, the consultant/engineer and the contractor.

Since the site is adjacent to the Nonquon River Wetlands, the team conducted natural environmental studies to minimize impacts to the habitat for birds and wildlife during and after construction, including the replanting of butter-nut trees and the protection of migratory birds. Regional staff worked with the Ontario Field Ornithologists during the planning stages of the project to ensure the Plant's lagoons could continue to be used by migratory birds as a beneficial stopping ground.



The Region of Durham has 11 water pollution control plants, 52 sanitary sewage pumping stations and 2,122 kilometres of sanitary sewers. To learn more about the Region's sewage treatment visit www.durham.ca/sewage.



Meet our Water Champions

Have you ever wondered where the water in your toilet, sink, shower, bathtub or laundry machine goes? Wastewater travels through an expansive network of sewers and pumping stations to your local water pollution control plant before being treated and released back out into the open water such as Lake Ontario.

Durham's Water Champion video series provides an exclusive behind the scenes look at wastewater treatment at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant in the City of Pickering. Wastewater operators explain how the plant performs and why they are proud to work there.

To watch our Water Champion videos and to see what the Durham Region Works Department does each day to provide and ensure water, one of our most important resources, is treated properly, visit durham.ca/sewage.






Don't forget to share this video with your friends, family and neighbours!

Beautiful gardens and less work

Want to spend more time enjoying a beautiful garden and less time maintaining it? It is possible and we have some suggestions to help. There are hundreds of plants: annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, vines and bulbs which deliver the beautiful colour you want and are very self-sufficient. The Region of Durham has created a Fusion Landscaping Guide for Homeowners to help you achieve the garden of your dreams.

The Guide offers garden plans and planning tips, as well as listings and photos of beautiful plants specifically suited to our climate. The Guide's garden planning tips include how to use walkways and structures to enhance your garden to make it your relaxation oasis.

The Fusion Landscaping Guide for Homeowners is your route to your dream garden.

Annuals	Perennials	Shrubs	Trees	Vines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marigolds • Salvia • Sunflower • Cosmos (below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black-eyed Susan • Lily • Sage • Iris (below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lilacs • Sumac • Saskatoon Berry • Potentilla (below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juniper • Pine • Green Ash • Silver Maple • Spruce (below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clematis • Virginia Creeper • Halls Honeysuckle • Trumpet Vine (below)
				

Seek out leaks

Water may be leaking in your toilet right now, silently wasting water and money. Household water leaks are a serious issue and toilets tend to be the worst culprits. In fact, studies across North America have found that more than 10 per cent of the water that arrives in your home is lost to leaks.

The Region's Works Department can help! We have free dye test strips that you place in your toilet tank and if the dye appears in the toilet bowl after a few minutes, you know you have a leak that needs fixing. The dye test strips also include helpful toilet maintenance tips.

Start saving water by checking your toilet with these free test strips.

To get your free dye test strips, call the Technical Support Division at 905-668-7711 (toll free 1-800-372-1102).



Durham Region making strides towards Vision Zero



Durham Region has joined a worldwide movement to work towards Vision Zero, with the bold goal of having zero road-related deaths and serious injuries in our region. The guiding principle of Vision Zero is that life and health cannot be exchanged for other benefits. Municipalities around the globe have had great success in improving road safety using the Vision Zero philosophy.

In 2017, approximately 1,500 people were injured or killed as a result of collisions on local and Regional roads in Durham. The Works Department's Traffic Engineering and Operations Division is working to set out targets, policies and actions to guide the Region and its road safety partners towards creating safer roads by reducing the number of collisions that result in fatalities and injuries.

The process began last year when Works staff engaged residents to get their thoughts on the most critical areas of safety. The top road safety emphasis areas identified by Durham residents were impaired driving, distracted driving, aggressive driving, speeding and school zones.

Regional stakeholders are now preparing an action plan to reduce the number or severity of motor vehicle collisions in each identified area. The resulting Strategic Road Safety Action Plan for Durham Region is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2018 for Regional Council consideration.

Please visit DurhamVisionZero.com for more information.

Durham Region's new Transportation Master Plan



Durham Transportation Master Plan

The Durham Transportation Master Plan (TMP) has been completed and endorsed by Regional Council in December 2017. The TMP identifies the transportation policies, programs and infrastructure improvements required to serve the needs of the Region to 2031 and beyond.

Planning for rapid transit on the Highway 2 and Simcoe Street corridors is a key component of the TMP. Rapid transit corridors will work in combination with a grid network of high frequency transit routes and other transit spines to continue to grow transit as an attractive travel choice for more people throughout the Region.

The plan recommends prudent investments in Regional road network expansion to accommodate population and employment growth and facilitate efficient freight movement across the Region.

The TMP also includes a strategy to accelerate progress on cycling projects that will help to improve connectivity between communities and make cycling more attractive for commuter and recreational travel.

You can read the new TMP and see additional background information at durham.ca/tmp.

Key recommendations to be completed by 2031:

- ▶ Complete key cycling connections with over 125 km of new cycling facilities along Regional roads
- ▶ Expand bus rapid transit in exclusive lanes on Highway 2 from the Toronto boundary to downtown Oshawa and on Simcoe Street from downtown Oshawa to Highway 407
- ▶ Provide high frequency network bus service on 165 km of major roads
- ▶ Build or widen 172 km of Regional roads
- ▶ Expand programs to support sustainable travel choices

Drivers and cyclists: keep a long distance relationship for safety

Motorists and cyclists have to work together to keep each other safe. Both have the same rights and responsibilities and must follow the same rules of the road. Keeping a long distance relationship helps ensure everyone will get to their destination safely.

Drivers are required to keep a distance of at least one-metre of open space between their vehicle when travelling alongside or passing cyclists. If not, they could face a \$110 fine. Additionally, the driver of a motor vehicle shall not pass a bicycle travelling in the same direction unless there is sufficient space to do so safely, waiting behind the cyclist until at least one-metre of open space is available.



Durham Region's Works Department has reviewed collision data from the past several years and identified intersections as one of the biggest safety risks for cyclist collisions. Nearly 20 per cent of drivers charged in cycling collisions failed to yield the right of way at an intersection. One quarter of cycling-related collisions at intersections involved a cyclist who disobeyed a traffic signal or lost control.

Remember, we all have a role to play to ensure everyone gets home safely. For more information visit durham.ca/traffic.



Apply for Road Permits easily at durham.ca

Did you know a permit is required to work or hold an event on a Regional road in Durham Region? The Region has created a new online permit application feature on durham.ca making it easier for residents and companies to apply for permits on Regional roads and to check the status of their applications. This new online permit application is for permits related to road occupancies, oversize/overweight loads, filming, special events and banners.

Learn more at durham.ca/permits

2018 Works Department Budget

Public works plays a role in the lives of all Durham Region residents in multiple ways, each and every day. From enjoying a glass of clean drinking water, brushing teeth and flushing toilets to setting their garbage at the curb, getting in the car and driving on a Regional Road—many of our daily routines are a little easier because of Durham Region's Works Department. These services are funded by the annual operating and capital budgets, approved by Regional Council.

Roads

Funding of \$33.4 million net of revenues and other recoveries will finance road related maintenance and operations including:

- ▶ \$14.7 million for winter road maintenance, roadside maintenance and the maintenance of storm sewers.
- ▶ \$6.6 million for the operation and maintenance of traffic signals and traffic control systems.
- ▶ \$12.1 million for engineering, depot operations and staff support.

The \$85.6 million (gross) in planned roads capital expenditures will finance road rehabilitation, reconstruction and expansion projects for road and bridge infrastructure.

Sanitary Sewerage

Funding of \$67.5 million net of revenues and other recoveries will finance sanitary sewerage system operations, including the operation, maintenance and repair of sewage pumping stations, water pollution control plants and sanitary sewers. The budget for these operations is net of York Region's share of costs related to the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant.

Total capital expenditures of \$75.9 million (gross) includes:

- ▶ \$12.0 million for restoration of sludge blending tanks at Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant with financing of \$9.0 million funded by York Region.
- ▶ \$9.8 million for new trunk sanitary sewers in the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax and the Municipality of Clarington.
- ▶ \$8.9 million in water pollution control plants and sewage pumping stations upgrades.
- ▶ \$7.8 million for sanitary sewer replacements/rehabilitation including work to be conducted in conjunction with the Regional and local municipal road reconstruction programs.
- ▶ \$5.1 million for upgrades and replacements of machinery and equipment at water pollution control plants and sanitary sewerage pumping stations.
- ▶ \$3.1 million for upgrades to the Regional Environmental Laboratory at Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant in the City of Pickering (\$1.55 million funded by York Region).

Water Supply

Funding of \$63.0 million net of revenues and other recoveries will finance water supply system operations, including water supply plants, water storage facilities and pumping stations. These funds also provide for the maintenance of water meters, fire hydrants and watermains.

Total capital expenditures of \$116.9 million (gross) includes:

- ▶ \$40.0 million for the expansion of the Newcastle Water Supply Plant.
- ▶ \$18.8 million for construction of the Seaton Zone 4 Reservoir and Zone 5 Water Pumping Station in the City of Pickering.
- ▶ \$14.7 million for the replacement of polybutylene water service connections.
- ▶ \$14.4 million for watermain replacements/rehabilitation including work to be conducted in conjunction with the Regional and lower tier municipal road reconstruction programs.
- ▶ \$9.2 million for new feeder mains in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, Town of Whitby, Municipality of Clarington and Township of Brock.
- ▶ \$3.9 million for upgrades and replacements of machinery and equipment at water supply plants and water pumping stations.

Waste

Funding of \$41.7 million net of revenues and other recoveries will finance waste management services including:

- ▶ \$15.1 million for the collection, processing and marketing of recyclable materials including Blue Box, Green Bin and other diversion programs.
- ▶ \$13.2 million for the collection and disposal of garbage, including operating costs for the Durham York Energy Centre.
- ▶ \$12.1 million to manage, promote and administer waste services throughout the Region.
- ▶ \$1.3 million for the implementation of a waste composition study, including processing and analysis.

The \$1.0 million waste capital program includes funding for the replacement of machinery and equipment at the Region's waste facilities.



Pressurized cylinders

Pressurized cylinders come in many shapes and sizes and have a variety of household applications including helium tanks, camping stove canisters and barbecue propane tanks to name a few. These cylinders hold compressed gas and present two serious disposal hazards. The pressurized cylinder itself as it has explosive potential, and the gases stored within the cylinder may be poisonous, flammable or explosive.

Pressurized cylinders are classed as household hazardous waste and are not accepted in any of the Region's curbside collection programs. Please do not put them in your Blue Box. Residents are encouraged to dispose of pressurized cylinders at a licensed drop-off depot. The Region operates four such depots, three located in the Region's Waste Management facilities in Oshawa, Scugog, and Brock, and one at the Miller Waste Systems facility located in Pickering. Residents can drop off household hazardous waste materials at any of the above locations free of charge during operating hours.

Residents can also use Stewardship Ontario's Orange Drop website (www.makethedrop.ca) to find out where hazardous waste (such as pressurized cylinders) can be taken for proper handling.



Late setout means no pick up



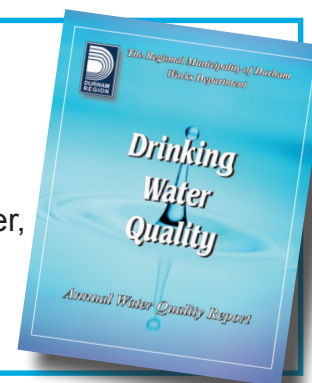
Setting your waste at the curb before 7 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day ensures that it will be collected. Waste collection drivers have designated routes to follow with daily expected completion times. Once they have completed a street, they cannot return to collect late set outs.

There is also no guarantee of your collection time because routes may change or be faster some weeks depending on the amount of waste set out. Therefore, if your waste is not out by 7 a.m. this may result in it not being collected as the truck may have already gone by.

Residents should be aware that the collection drivers collect one side and return to collect the other side later in the day.

Durham's Water Quality Reports

To view a copy visit durham.ca/water, or request a copy by email at works@durham.ca, or call 905-668-7711 ext. 3488.



Diversion remains our priority

With the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) processing garbage, one of the biggest questions we receive, is how this facility affects the Region's recycling and composting programs?

Maximizing diversion of resources from disposal remains our number one priority. We are dedicated to improving our diversion rates by continuing to invest in reuse, recycling and composting programs. The DYEC facility was designed to process the residual waste that is generated after our Blue Box, Green Bin and other diversion efforts. Through the Environmental Assessment Conditions of Approval, we are required to report to the Ministry of the Environment annually on our waste diversion programs.

The success of our diversion programs ultimately comes down to you. It starts with making smart purchasing decisions that result in less waste. It means the food you buy is not wasted and ensuring the waste you produce is properly separated into your green bin and blue boxes every week. There are many special waste events. We encourage you to use them.

The Region of Durham's By-law 46-2011 requires residents to properly sort their recyclables and compostables to keep them out of the garbage. If you do not have the tools (green bin/blue



boxes) to help you contact the Region's Waste Management Call Centre at 1-800-667-5671 or waste@durham.ca. As a resident of Durham Region, it's easy to recycle and compost.

Also consider donating or selling your unwanted items before throwing them away. If you're unsure about what goes where, refer to your waste collection calendar or use the online waste sorting tool (durham.ca/KnowBeforeYouThrow) to get more information.

Proper disposal of expired or unused medication

Every year, many families are faced with the challenge of how to dispose of medicines that are not entirely consumed. Prescriptions change, symptoms improve, and for some reason there's just a little bit of medication left. All these situations can leave people wondering what to do with the unused medicine.

In addition to Regional waste management facilities, you may drop off unwanted medications at a pharmacy near you.

The Health Products Stewardship Association administers the Ontario Medications Return Program, allowing unused medication to be safely disposed of at participating local pharmacies.



More than 90 per cent of Ontario pharmacies voluntarily participate in this collection network. Visit healthsteward.ca and enter your postal code to find the six closest participating pharmacies near you.

Proper disposal of unwanted medications protects our environment, our communities and our families. When disposing of medication at the pharmacy or waste management facilities, remember to take your containers and labels away with you. You should dispose of these containers and labels with personal identification information yourself.

The Health Products Stewardship Association also administers the Ontario Sharps Collection Program. To find out more about these programs you can visit www.healthsteward.ca.

Are you guilty of food waste?

Whether it's mouldy cheese, limp broccoli or long lost leftovers you've found in the back of your fridge, chances are you wasted food this week. However, you're not alone. We waste almost 40 per cent of the food we buy. When we throw away food, we're also wasting all the water, energy and other resources used to produce, package and transport food to our plates. While no one buys food with the intentions of throwing it away, most food waste wouldn't happen if we took the time to plan better and sharpen our food storage skills.

Remember to wash all fruits and vegetables thoroughly with clean water prior to consuming

Follow these simple food tips to help you reduce food waste and save money:

Apples: Store apples in the fridge to extend shelf life. For longer storage, store in a cardboard box.

Bananas: Store bananas on the counter away from other fruit. They give off ethylene gas, which speeds up ripening in other produce.

Berries: Before storing berries, remove any spoiled or crushed fruits, and store unwashed in an airtight container. Don't wash until ready to eat.

Butter, cream and milk: When storing butter, cream and milk in the fridge, don't keep it in the door because that area is often warmer than other parts of the fridge, and could make it spoil more quickly.

Cheese: Store cheese in wax paper, butcher paper, or parchment paper to allow it to breathe and not get mouldy. Store in a cold part of your fridge.

Flour: Keep in an airtight container in a cool, dark place. Flours, especially those with more oils and higher protein levels (like whole wheat) last longer in the fridge or freezer.

Herbs: Store herbs (other than basil) in the fridge upright in jars (stem down) filled with 1-2 inches of water. Herbs can be frozen by chopping and freezing in ice cube trays with olive oil.



We waste almost 40 per cent of the food we buy!

Mushrooms: Keep mushrooms in a paper bag in the fridge to avoid getting "slimy."

Onions: Store whole onions in a cool, dark place somewhere slightly warmer than the fridge. Onions cause potatoes to sprout, so keep them separated.

Potatoes: Store potatoes in a cool, dark place somewhere slightly warmer than your fridge. While apples cause most produce to spoil, apples can help keep potatoes from sprouting, so you may want to store them together in a cool place for long-term storage.

Tomatoes: Tomatoes can be frozen either raw or cooked. Tomatoes should be stored on the counter unless very ripe, at which point transfer them to the fridge. Tomatoes give off ethylene gas that causes other produce to deteriorate, so store them separately.

Durham Works

Durham launches new durham.ca

Durham Region is proud to bring residents the new durham.ca website after extensive community consultation and development. The new website is mobile-friendly and features accessibility improvements, news and emergency notifications, as well as public meeting and event calendars.

Residents will be able to quickly locate information on National Public Works Week, waste collection calendars, public works project information and more.

The new website has several new features, including:

- ▶ Regional Services Map and A-to-Z listing: users are able to access information for both municipal and Regional services
- ▶ Subscribe function: Residents are able to subscribe to news, notices and emergency alerts



- ▶ Event calendars: Users are able to access event calendars for public meetings, Regional events and more
- ▶ Search bar: Find what you need easily with the prominent search feature

Residents are encouraged to continue to share feedback on the new website by emailing YourOpinionCounts@durham.ca, or by using our online feedback form.



Municipal election day is October 22, 2018. Eligible voters are reminded that the Office of Regional Chair position will be on the 2018 municipal election ballots.

The Regional Chair represents about 673,000 residents; acts as head of Durham Regional Council and Chief Executive Officer of the Region; presides over all meetings of Regional Council and Committee of the Whole and is a member of all Regional committees; promotes and advances the Region's position on matters; represents Durham Region on various boards, committees and organizations; and performs other important duties.

In a municipal election, we can also vote for mayors, school board trustees, local and regional councillors. Contact your local city/town/township to learn more about voting methods, dates and locations. Your city/town/township will run the election. The Region will compile the results and announce who was elected as Regional Chair. Visit durham.ca to learn more.

Contact us

Durham's waste management facilities

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays

Acceptable materials:

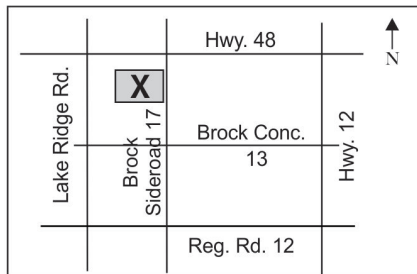
- appliances and furniture
- electronic waste - **FREE***
- household hazardous waste - **FREE***
- carpet and underlay
- drywall and wood
- scrap metal
- tires - **FREE***
- blue box recyclables
- cardboard
- garbage
- leaf, brush and yard waste
- plastic signs - **FREE***
- porcelain bathroom fixtures

* **Note** - Vehicles containing only items accepted free of charge are considered dedicated loads. Vehicles with both free and chargeable items are considered to be mixed loads.

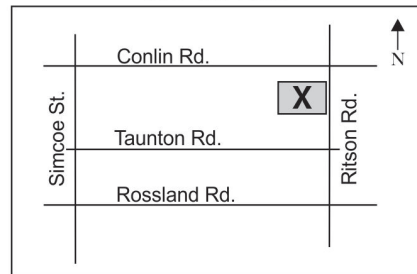
Waste disposal fees:

- \$5 flat rate for loads up to 40 kilograms
- \$1 for every 8 kilograms greater than 40 kilograms
- \$125 per 1,000 kilograms
- Payable by VISA, MasterCard or debit card

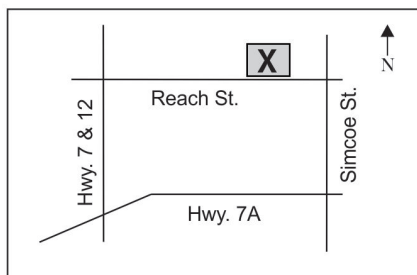
Brock Sideroad 17
Township of Brock
705-437-2933



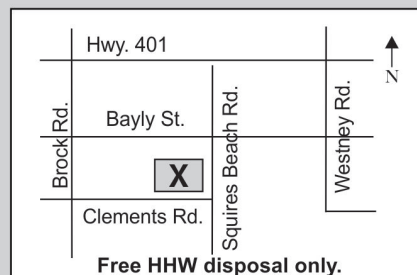
1640 Ritson Rd. N.
Oshawa
905-433-2050



1623 Reach St.
Port Perry
905-985-7973



1220 Squires Beach Rd. ★
Pickering
905-426-4222



★ Note: This privately operated waste disposal site contains a Regional household hazardous waste facility.

Durham Region Works Administration Office

605 Rossland Rd. E., P.O. Box 623, Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
905-668-7711 or 1-800-372-1102
durham.ca/works works@durham.ca

Durham Region Waste Management Centre

For information on waste management, including purchases of blue boxes, green bins and composters:
4600 Garrard Rd., Whitby, ON L1R 3K8
905-579-5264 or 1-800-667-5671 waste@durham.ca

Durham Region Maintenance Depots

- Ditch drainage, pot holes, snow clearing on Regional Roads
- Sewer back-ups and plugged sewer lines
- Watermain breaks
- Water meters (installation and servicing)
- Fire hydrants

Ajax/Pickering Depot - 905-683-1471

(Serving residents of Pickering and Ajax)

Oshawa/Whitby Depot - 905-655-3344

(Serving residents of Oshawa and Whitby)

Orono Depot - 905-983-5116

(Serving residents of Clarington and eastern Scugog)

Sunderland Depot - 705-357-3140

(Serving residents of Brock and northern Uxbridge)

Scugog Depot - 905-985-7170

(Serving residents of western and central Scugog, and southern Uxbridge)

Durham Region Traffic Operations

To report damaged or malfunctioning:

- Traffic control signals
- Traffic signs on Regional Roads
- Guardrails
- Pavement markings

905-666-8116 or 1-866-786-8116 trafficdispatch@durham.ca

After hours emergencies

(Regional roads, water and sewer)

905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104

Stay up to date on Regional news and programs!



RegionofDurham

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2834.