

Public Notice

Declaration of Significant Weather Event – O. Reg 239/02

December 23, 2022 12:10 p.m.

Environment Canada has issued a [Winter Storm Warning](#) across Simcoe County, which indicates a major winter storm with the potential to produce significant snowfall, precipitation, high winds and slippery road conditions. As a result, the Township of Oro-Medonte is declaring this Significant Weather Event under [O. Reg 239/02](#) effective December 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. until further notice.

As per the Ontario Municipal Act, a municipality may declare a significant weather event when a weather hazard, either forecast or occurring, has the potential to pose a significant danger to users of the roadway in which they have authority. This declaration suspends the standard timelines required for municipalities to meet their winter maintenance objectives prescribed by the Provincial regulation.

Environment Canada is advising all individuals to postpone any non-essential travel until conditions improve. During the significant weather event, motorists, pedestrians, and residents are advised to use extra caution as the Township may not be able to meet its maintenance standards for roads and sidewalks due to the conditions and prioritized service needs. With potential power outages, streetlights may also be impacted.

The declaration will not change how or when the Municipality performs its winter maintenance operations. However, it may take staff longer than usual to bring the roads and sidewalks back to a state of repair. Snow removal priority will be given to arterial and collector roads. Roads crews are plowing and responding to downed trees on Township roadways. Strong winds and snowfall may cause road conditions to change rapidly. Public safety is the Municipality's top priority; should conditions become unsafe, road closures may be necessary.

Please visit the Township of Oro-Medonte website [Winter Storm - Oro Medonte \(oro-medonte.ca\)](#) for updates and/or follow Township of Oro-Medonte on Twitter at [Twp. of Oro-Medonte \(@TwpOroMedonte\) / Twitter](#), Facebook at [Township of Oro-Medonte | Facebook](#) and Instagram at [Township of Oro-Medonte \(@oromedontetwp\)](#).

Notice will be provided when the Declaration of Significant Weather Event has been removed based on the Township's ability to achieve the requirements of maintenance standards.

To report emergencies or downed power lines please call 9-1-1.

To report trees on Township roadways, road related concerns, drainage or flooding please contact 705-487-2171 and follow the prompts.

Shawn Binns
Director, Operations and Community Services