



Public Statement from Mayor Greenlaw Regarding 2025 Ice Storm

Friday, April 11, 2025

Although some neighbouring communities and the County of Simcoe have terminated their State of Emergency, the Township of Oro-Medonte remains under a declared State of Emergency. The primary reason is due to the volume of debris and hazards that remain on shoulders of Township roads and in public spaces, which continue to strain resources.

The number of downed trees, debris, and powerlines, which in many cases required extensive work from Hydro One to repair, resulted in additional debris on top of what had already fallen. Fully cleaning-up the Township's 700 kms of roads is a significant undertaking, and the Township's top priority is health and safety.

Township roads and operations crews continue to work tirelessly, as they have from the onset of the storm fourteen (14 days) ago, to clean-up Township roads, parks, and trails. The picture is much different today than it was on March 30th, with the majority of roads open for travel. However, despite roads being open, there is still debris and hazards on roadways and on shoulders, and in ditches that require attention. We are also in the process of getting all Township parks and trails open. At this time, for your safety, all Township parks and trails remain closed due to hazards, including overhanging broken tree limbs and branches. The public is being advised to exercise caution when driving on Township Roads.

Clearing and Disposal of Brush and Debris

Similar to your organics, recycling, and garbage collection, the County of Simcoe is responsible for yard waste (brush etc.). Please review information provided by the County of Simcoe regarding brush clean-up and collection resulting from the ice storm here – [County of Simcoe Brush Clean-up](#), or visit simcoe.ca/icestorm. Options are in place to help you with disposal.

Please do not place brush or debris onto Township roads. To conduct this large-scale clean-up as efficiently as possible, the Township needs to continue with its duties while minimizing interruptions. We understand how difficult and overwhelming cleaning up your property is, and genuinely thank you for your patience, understanding, and cooperation, as roads and operations crews continue crucial work, to return Township roads to the condition we are all accustomed to.

Neighbours Helping Neighbours Program

Through a partnership with 211 and Odyssey Medical, the Township has established a program to connect community members for the purpose of providing help to each other.

If you are in a position to offer help and support, it is a meaningful way to care for your community, and connect with those around you. If you are able to help with things such as yard clean-up, running errands, or other expertise, [please complete this short form](#), or call 211 directly to get connected and added to a list of available resources.

If you require help (yard clean-up etc.), please call 211 to be matched with individuals in the community that are able to provide help.

24/7 Storm Helpline for Oro-Medonte Residents Still in Place

At this time, the Township's 24/7 storm helpline through 211 for Oro-Medonte residents remains in place. If you require assistance, please dial 211 to be connected to resources that can answer your questions, and direct you to the Oro-Medonte storm helpline.

Accurate and Timely Information

The best source for information regarding the ice storm is the Township's website by visiting oro-medonte.ca/icestorm. Information is also provided on the Township's social media channels:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twp. of Oro-Medonte \(@TwpOroMedonte\) / X](#)
- [Township of Oro-Medonte \(@oromedontetwp\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

The Township is continuing to actively work with all levels of government (Local, Provincial, and Federal) to seek support as we navigate our way out of this natural disaster.

The strength and support of our community has shone through during the darkest of times over the past couple of weeks. Acts of help, compassion, and selflessness are truly touching – there are many wonderful stories to be told and heard. I recognize there are also stories that are heartbreaking with personal devastation.

Without a doubt, the ice storm of 2025 has made history. After the clean-up is done, preparedness plans are put in place for future weather events such as this, and we have time to take a step back, I am confident we will all agree that our collective community came out of this historical event stronger and closer together.

Mayor Randy Greenlaw