

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2025

Township of Oro-Medonte Terminates State of Emergency Following Historic Ice Storm

In consultation with the Township's Emergency Management Team, Mayor Greenlaw has terminated the Township's State of Emergency, which was declared on Sunday, March 30, 2025, in response to a historic and wide-spread ice storm, which significantly impacted Oro-Medonte. The declaration activated the Township's Emergency Management protocol, allowing for rapid decision-making, access to additional resources, and streamlining emergency response efforts. The declaration of a Significant Weather Event remains in effect, as the Township's Operations team continues to work, to address remaining debris and roadside hazards.

Although power was restored to the majority of Township residents and businesses last week, the volume of debris and hazards that remained on shoulders of Township roads, in ditches, and in public spaces continued to strain clean-up 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 will take time, as the Township focuses on recovery efforts.

With lifting the emergency declaration, the Township will also be discontinuing the 24/7 Storm Helpline through 211, and the Neighbours Helping Neighbours Program effective today. Questions regarding emergency response can be directed to the Township at (705) 487-2171. Please note regular support services provided through 211 remain in place.

Mayor Greenlaw commented that "the strength and support of our community was exceptional throughout the duration of the ice storm. On behalf of members of Council and staff, thank you to the numerous individuals, businesses, community groups, and partners, that selflessly stepped up from the onset of the storm to help. To Oro-Medonte residents and businesses, your patience, compassion, resilience, and genuine willingness to help each other is truly remarkable. As we continue with recovery efforts, we will do so together, with the same understanding and support that got us through very challenging times. Finally, thank you to our media partners who worked diligently to get key information to the Oro-Medonte community and beyond. We are grateful for your responsiveness, professionalism, and kindness."

Township roads and operations crews continue to work tirelessly, as they have from the onset of the storm with clean-up efforts. Parks and trails are starting to re-open, but residents are reminded to be mindful while enjoying these spaces due to some debris which remains in place. Please exercise caution when driving on Township roads, and give crews room to work.

Updates will continue to be provided through oro-medonte.ca/icestorm and the Township's social media channels.

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For media requiring additional information, please contact:

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