



# SEGUIN TOWNSHIP

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[www.twp.seguin.on.ca](http://www.twp.seguin.on.ca)

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## SPRING 2004 NEWSLETTER

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### **Seguin Township Committees:**

Seguin Council has established several new committees of Council for 2004, in addition to those previously established, and Council is pleased with the interest shown by the public in seeking appointment to these Committees. Committees provide very valuable input to Council and the Community on many different services and areas of municipal responsibility. New Committees established for 2004 include the Finance Committee, the Official Plan Steering Committee and a Roads Committee. For more information on Township Committees, including contact information and the Chair of each committee please consult the Township website.

### **Lake Partner Program:**

The Ministry of Environment and Energy (M.O.E.E.) has established a program called "The Ontario Lake Partner Program" which monitors Ontario's recreational lakes in partnership with cottagers and residents. The goal of the program is to create a valuable, long-term database to evaluate the nutrient status of Ontario's inland lakes. The lakes' nutrient status reflects land use changes in the watershed and assists in M.O.E.E.'s efforts to conserve and protect inland lakes. Volunteers are required to take water samples which are then analysed by M.O.E.E. and the data recorded. To volunteer, all you have to do is call M.O.E.E. at 1-800-470-8322 or e-mail [lakepartner@ene.gov.on.ca](mailto:lakepartner@ene.gov.on.ca) and they will provide additional instructions and your Lake Partner kit. Seguin Council requests that anyone who is a volunteer participating in this program to please advise the Seguin Township Environmental Committee, as well as provide them copies of any data collected.

### **2004 Budget and Assessment Update:**

In November, all property owners would have received notification from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) of the new valuation of your property as at June 30th, 2003 and it is intended that MPAC will be updating property values on an annual basis. This value replaces the 2001 value which was used for calculating your taxes in 2003 and this new value will be used as the basis for calculating your taxes in 2004. For Seguin, current value assessment for 2004 has increased an average of 19.86 % over 2003. Individual properties will have experienced increases in current value assessment which are both larger and smaller than this.

Preliminary budget discussions for 2004 have already taken place and staff are working diligently to try and realize savings in operating budgets for 2004. This will be a tremendous challenge as new legislated requirements and the significant uncontrollable increases in items such as insurance, fuel and hydro will have to be budgeted appropriately. Area levies will also increase as Seguin property values have increased more than area municipalities, which will result in Seguin being responsible for a larger share of budgets for area services such as social services and public health. The Finance Committee will be involved in the budget process for 2004.

**DON'T FORGET TO KEEP UP WITH NEWS AND EVENTS IN SEGUIN TOWNSHIP  
BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE AT [www.twp.seguin.on.ca](http://www.twp.seguin.on.ca) !**

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## **Fire Insurance Premiums:**

Seguin Fire Services completed a Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) in September 2003 which was a comprehensive study of Fire Department operations, equipment and Staffing carried out by Insurance Underwriters. Seguin Fire Services achieved excellent test results and the fire department was found to be able to move a large enough quantity of water to place Seguin in the top 10% of Fire Departments, Province-wide. Insurance underwriters use the results of this test to determine fire insurance premiums for their clients.

The Water Shuttle Accreditation which Seguin Fire Services has received can translate directly into savings in fire insurance premiums for residential property owners within an 8 km range of a Fire Hall or commercial property owners within a 5 km range of a Fire Hall. The Fire Department recommends that property owners meeting these distance requirements contact their Insurance Company to make sure that the appropriate ratings are being applied to their premiums.

## **Waste Management:**

All owners of non-vacant Residential property in Seguin were mailed, in December, two magnets for use in 2004 to dispose of certain large bulky items at the Christie Landfill site, free of charge. Take your magnet to the Christie Landfill Site, during regular operating hours, and there will be no charge to dispose of: white goods (refrigerators, stoves, large and small appliances), brown good (furniture, mattresses, TV's and computers), brush and leaves. Please consult the flyer which accompanied the magnets for additional information on waste disposal or check out our website!

Seguin Township Council is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the entire waste system in an effort to make improvements. There are significant costs associated with users disposing of waste improperly at the various transfer sites. Please ensure that only household garbage and recyclables are disposed of at these sites. Disposal of furniture, equipment and construction and demolition debris MUST be done at the Christie Landfill. Disposing of waste improperly costs you significant tax dollars.

## **Rankin Lake Road - Update:**

The reconstruction of Rankin Lake Road commenced in September 2003 and is well underway with blasting activities, drainage and road base improvements. We have scheduled the second phase of the project to commence in May 2004 with a 6 to 8 week completion anticipated.

### **SEGUIN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL - Contact Information**

**Reeve:** David Conn

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**Ward 1 - Councillor Bill Jameson**  
409 Highway 518, RR #3, Parry Sound  
P2A 2W9  
(705) 746-5004

**Ward 2 - Councillor Doug Graham**  
342 Hwy 518, RR #3, Parry Sound  
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**Ward 3 - Councillor Lorne Campbell**  
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**Ward 4 - Councillor Doug Sainsbury**  
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**Ward 5 - Councillor Everett Jacklin**  
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**Ward 6 - Councillor James Swift**  
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