



## Changes to Collections

Starting January 5, 2026, garbage collection will be automated using the black bins recently delivered to residents. Collection remains weekly on your usual collection day. Please place bin at the curb by 7 a.m. with wheels away from the road.

Recycling is now handled by a third party and no longer managed by the Township. For any questions, collection problems or to receive a bin, contact Miller Waste at [area2@millerwaste.ca](mailto:area2@millerwaste.ca) or **1-888-852-2374**.

### 2026 Collection Calendar

Want to know the dates for special collections for the year? Download the 2026 Collection Calendar at [Russell.ca/waste](https://Russell.ca/waste) or get a printed copy at Town Hall.

You can also register for our email reminders at [Russell.ca/subscribe](https://Russell.ca/subscribe).

### Important dates:

- Christmas Tree Drop Off (December 26 to January 4)
- Automated Garbage Collection (black bins) starts the week of January 5



## Message from the Mayor

As 2025 comes to a close, I want to thank everyone who helped make this a remarkable year for Russell Township. Thanks to the dedication of Council, staff, our provincial and federal partners, and the ongoing support of residents, we achieved historic success in securing \$27.4 million in external funding that will shape our community for years to come.



This year marked a milestone as we welcomed the Premier of Ontario for the first ever official visit to Russell Township. During that visit, the province announced \$10 million in support of our new recreation complex — a project that began construction in the summer of 2024 and is now well underway. Once complete in fall 2026, it will become a major gathering place for our entire community.

Over the past year, we also received \$9.6 million for upgrades to Notre-Dame Street and nearly \$8 million in additional funding for roadway improvements on Route 300 and in the 417 Industrial Park. These investments mean safer roads, better access, and improved opportunities for residents across our township.

Financially, we continued to lead with discipline and care. Despite rising costs and an uncertain economic climate, Council and staff worked together to deliver a responsible budget for the upcoming year — one that balances today's needs with tomorrow's priorities, invests in infrastructure, saves for the future, all while respecting the taxpayers.

Our progress this year reflects teamwork, collaboration, thoughtful decisions at the Council table, hard work from staff, and the continued trust of residents. Every decision we make — from roads to recreation — is about keeping Russell Township a place where families thrive, neighbours connect, and everyone belongs.

I'm proud of what we've accomplished together, and I'm excited for what's ahead in 2026. On behalf of Council, I wish you and your families a joyful holiday season and a healthy, happy New Year.

Mike Tarnowski, MBA  
Mayor, Russell Township

## Shop Local This Holiday Season!

Browse our  
Online Business Directory  
at

[Russell.ca/directory](https://Russell.ca/directory)



## Holiday Hours

### Town Hall Hours

December 24 – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
December 25 & 26 – Closed  
December 29 & 30 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
December 31 – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
January 1 & 2 – Closed

### Sports Dome

December 24 – 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
December 25 & 26 – Closed  
December 27 to 30 – Regular Hours  
December 31 – 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
January 1 – Closed  
January 2 – Back to Regular Hours

### Bowling Hall / Arenas

December 20 to 23 – Holiday Schedule  
December 24 to 26 – Closed  
December 27 to 30 – Holiday Schedule  
December 31 to January 2 – Closed  
January 3 to 4 – Holiday Schedule  
January 5 – Back to Regular Hours

Visit [Russell.ca/Arenas](https://Russell.ca/Arenas) and [Russell.ca/bowling](https://Russell.ca/bowling) for our holiday hours.



## Winter Parking

From November 1 to April 1, there will be no nightly on-street parking ban. Instead, street parking restrictions are alert-based throughout the winter. This means that residents can park on the street overnight unless a Winter Parking Ban Alert is issued.

An alert will be issued by 2:00 p.m. when freezing rain or 5 cm or more of snow is in the forecast restricting on-street parking from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. These alerts are sent to our subscribers by email, posted on social media (Facebook, Instagram and X) and displayed on our four LED Boards.

Important: To be notified, please register for parking ban alerts at [Russell.ca/Subscribe](https://Russell.ca/Subscribe).

During a winter parking ban, you can park at one of four designated parking areas between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

- Camille Piché Community Centre, in front of the skate park (8 Blais Street, Embrun)
- Richelieu Park, west side (159 St-Moritz Terrace, Embrun)
- Russell park-and-ride parking lot, east side (1st Avenue, Russell)
- Duncanville Park, north side (1141 Concession Street, Russell)

For more information on overnight parking, visit [Russell.ca/parking](https://Russell.ca/parking).

# Get on the voters list today.

## Election 2026

There will be a municipal election in October 2026. Do you want voting on election day to be quick and easy? Update your information in advance! Visit Elections Ontario's Voter Registration site [www.registertovoteon.ca](https://www.registertovoteon.ca) to confirm, update or add your information for provincial and local elections in Ontario.

## Be Informed on YOUR Township!

Receive information as it comes out. Subscribe to our email alerts at [Russell.ca/subscribe](https://Russell.ca/subscribe).

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, X or LinkedIn.



@MunRussellTwp





# Winter and Spring Programs

Be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to register for our Winter and Spring Programs, including the March Break Camp! Registration opens for adult programs on January 7 at 9:00 a.m. and for youth programs on January 12 at 9:00 a.m. Remember, this registration period is exclusively for residents! Visit [Russell.ca/Programs](http://Russell.ca/Programs).



## New Service: Registration of Death and Burial Permits

The Clerk's Office now offers the service of Registration of Death and Issuance of Burial Permits. This service supports families, informants, and funeral professionals in meeting the legal requirements following a death in Ontario

The fee for a Registration of Death and Burial Permit is \$35 for funeral homes within the Township of Russell and \$40 for those outside the Township.

Our team is committed to providing clear guidance and respectful assistance during this difficult time. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact the Clerk's Office at [clerk.greffe@russell.ca](mailto:clerk.greffe@russell.ca).

For more details, visit the Registration of Death and Burial Permits page at [Russell.ca](http://Russell.ca).

## Winter Reminders

1. Move your basketball net off the street. It should not be within the road allowance.
2. Keep snow on your property, and don't push it into streets, onto sidewalks, or in ditches (as per the Highway Traffic Act).
3. Your garbage and recycling bins need to be visible on your driveway, and not on the street, shoulder, or sidewalk.
4. Clear a space to the left of your driveway to prevent snow from being pushed back in when the plow passes.
5. Keep fire hydrants clear of snow for emergency services.
6. Keep your distance from snowplows!
7. When plowing an intersection, the truck needs space to back up.
8. Respect winter parking restrictions.
9. Winterize your mailbox by installing a barricade to protect it from the force of snow thrown by the plow blade.



Photo: Heather Wright Beatty

# Fire Safety Starts at Home This Winter

In Ontario, most residential fires happen between December and March. This is often linked to home heating and neglected appliances.

Heating systems like furnaces need regular maintenance. Please make sure your furnace is working safely and inspected by a certified technician to prevent fire and carbon monoxide risks.

If you use a wood-burning stove, have it cleaned and checked by a WETT-certified technician prior to use each year. Most home insurance plans have specific conditions in place about yearly maintenance.

Starting January 1, 2026, new Ontario Fire Code rules for carbon monoxide (CO) alarms will take effect. Follow the Township and Fire Services on social media for updates.



**New Program:** Russell Township Fire Services will offer a Red Cross Standard First-Aid & CPR C course in January and February. Each course includes an 8-hour online portion (completed before class), and two 4-hour in-person sessions. More info on registration will be shared on social media, or contact [fire-dept@russell.ca](mailto:fire-dept@russell.ca)

- **Course 1:** Online starts Jan 5.  
In-person: Thurs Jan 22 & 29, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- **Course 2:** Online starts Feb 2.  
In-person: Thurs Feb 19 & 26, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.



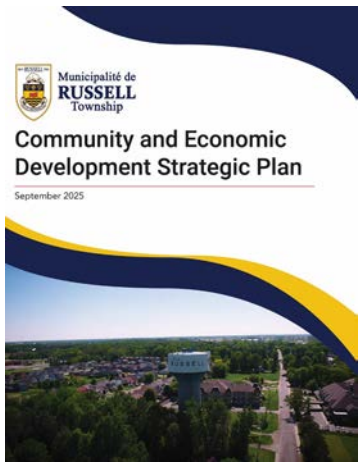
Mun **RUSSELL** Twp  
**SERVICE DES INCENDIES**  
**FIRE SERVICES**

## Strategic Plan for Our Community's Future

The Township of Russell has adopted a new Economic and Community Development Strategic Plan to guide its actions over the next five years. This plan is built around two main pillars:

- Economic development, to attract investment, support local business growth, and create jobs;
- Community development, to enhance residents' quality of life as the population continues to grow.

This plan provides a clear vision to ensure a prosperous and dynamic future for our Township. To read the full plan, visit our website at [Russell.ca/ECDStrategicPlan](http://Russell.ca/ECDStrategicPlan).



## Be Prepared for Winter Storms

Winter storms cause more fatalities in Canada than tornadoes, thunderstorms, lightning, floods and hurricanes combined. Heavy snowfall and ice can make roads dangerous and disrupt power.



### Prepare your kits

- Home: Add extra blankets, warm clothes, and multiple ways to stay warm during outages.
- Vehicle: Include blankets, candles in a can with matches, extra clothing/footwear, small shovel, ice scraper/snowbrush, salt/sand, antifreeze, jumper cables, and tow ropes.

### Check on vulnerable people

Look after older family members, neighbours, or friends, especially those who are ill or disabled. If you are able, provide supplies to keep them warm and hydrated.

### Stay informed

- Monitor local weather and forecasts.
- Check Ontario511 for road conditions.
- Check school boards for cancellations.
- Check your municipality for snow removal and emergency information.

## Thinking about building an accessory dwelling unit?

Here's what you should know: Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) — also called coach houses or secondary units — are small, self-contained homes on the same property as your main house. They can be part of the main house or in a separate building, like a backyard unit.

ADUs are generally allowed on certain types of properties, including detached, semi-detached, duplex, and townhouse homes. They can provide flexible and affordable housing options, such as space for family members or rental income. They also help add gentle density and more housing choices in our community.

Before starting construction, homeowners must make sure their property qualifies, has proper water and sewer services, and meets all municipal regulations.

For more information or to find out if your property is eligible for an ADU, contact the Planning Department at [planning@russell.ca](mailto:planning@russell.ca) or 613-443-3066.

