



Invitation to Meet Me

We invite you to participate at the Meet Me event on Thursday, July 9, 2026, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Yahoo Park (8 Blais Street in Embrun).

This community gathering will include food & beverage kiosks, non-profit & health organizations, local music, craft breweries, face painting, inflatable structures, fire safety, outdoor fun, etc.

Take part in activities at the Township's booths and get a chance to win prizes! Fun for the whole family! Admission is free. For more information: Russell.ca/MeetMe.



Message from the Mayor

Building for Today, Preparing for Tomorrow

Summer in Russell Township brings renewed energy to our community. It is a season to enjoy time with family and friends, buy local produce, support our farmers, visit our summer markets, and make the most of our parks, green spaces, and trail network across the municipality. It is also a time to celebrate the strong agricultural roots that continue to shape our community.



Just a sampling of the events taking place across our municipality includes the Kin Club's Poutmaster Fishing Derby, the Embrun Optimist Lobster Fest, Canada Day celebrations, the Township's Meet Me event taking place at Yahoo Park, Embrun's Ribfest and music festival, and of course the Russell Fair. There are so many opportunities to come together and enjoy all that the season has to offer, and I look forward to seeing many of you out in the community throughout the summer.

As we enjoy everything summer brings, important work is also continuing behind the scenes and on the ground across our municipality. While construction can bring temporary inconvenience, this work is necessary. It reflects a responsible approach to maintaining and improving the roads, underground services, and public infrastructure that residents rely on every day.

We have also been fortunate to secure record provincial funding, along with important support from our county partners, to advance key projects. These investments are helping us address infrastructure needs in a smart, fiscally responsible way while continuing to plan for the long-term strength of our municipality.

On behalf of Council, I wish you and your family a safe, enjoyable, and memorable summer.

Mike Tarnowski, MBA
Mayor, Russell Township



Open House Event for Seniors

Save the Date – August 27

The Seniors' Advisory Committee is getting ready to host a summer Open House Event for Seniors on August 27 and will be inviting local services, businesses, and community organizations to take part. The event will feature information kiosks showcasing programs, supports, and resources available to seniors in Russell Township. Seniors are encouraged to save the date and look for more details to come in the Event Calendar at Russell.ca/calendar.

The 2026 Municipal Election is October 26, 2026

The Voting Period will be held October 21 to 26, 2026. You can vote anytime online or by phone starting October 21 at 9:00 a.m. ending October 26 at 8:00 p.m. Find out more information, including how to register as a candidate at Russell.ca/elections.



Do you want voting on election day to be quick and easy? Update your information in advance! Visit Elections Ontario's Voter Registration site RegisterToVoteON.ca to confirm, update or add your information for provincial and local elections in Ontario.

Get on the voters list today.

RegisterToVoteON.ca
1.866.242.3025

Recreation Complex Update

Still on Track for Fall 2026

Construction of the Township of Russell's new Recreation Complex continues to move forward, and we are pleased to confirm that the facility remains on track to open in the fall of 2026. This major community investment is taking shape and will soon become a central hub for recreation, sport, and community life in Russell Township.

Once complete, the Recreation Complex will include:

- Three NHL size ice rinks, designed to support hockey, figure skating, recreational programs, and tournaments.
- An aquatics facility, including a 25-metre pool with 6 lanes dedicated for swimming programs, as well as a leisure pool to serve residents of all ages.
- A multi purpose community centre, offering flexible space for programs, events, and gatherings.

This new, modern facility will support the needs of our growing community and enhance opportunities for active living, recreation, and connection across the Township.

As we look ahead to the opening of the Recreation Complex, the Township will also begin exploring the future of several existing recreation facilities in the community. This work will focus on understanding long term needs and opportunities, and public engagement opportunities will take place over the summer, giving residents a chance to share ideas, priorities, and feedback.

Residents are encouraged to follow the Recreation Complex project page for the latest updates, photos, and project milestones at Russell.ca/RecreationComplex. We look forward to continuing to share progress as we move closer to opening day.

Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Russell Township and The Nation Municipality are collaborating on a proposed Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant to support sustainable growth in both communities. With populations projected to increase by roughly 50% over the next 20 years, existing wastewater systems in Embrun and Limoges are expected to reach capacity by 2032. By taking a regional approach, the municipalities aim to develop resilient, cost-efficient infrastructure that protects the environment, maximizes public investment, and ensures essential services keep pace with growth. This joint initiative demonstrates a forward-thinking, collaborative strategy for managing long-term infrastructure needs.



We invite you to watch a bilingual video on the subject at Russell.ca/WastewaterPlant.



Summer Construction Projects

Follow Municipal511.ca for road closures and detours.

By the Township of Russell



- Phase 2 of the storm sewer reconstruction on Notre-Dame Street. Follow Russell.ca/NotreDameSt for more details and progress on the project.
- The 2026 paving list is available at Russell.ca/paving.
- Infrastructure@russell.ca

By the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR)



- Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of St-Guillaume Street and Route 300. Temporary road closures are planned during construction, which is scheduled to be completed at the end of fall 2026.
- TravauxPublics@prescott-russell.on.ca



Fast-Track Your Small Residential Projects!

From May 4 to September 2, apply for a 48-hour building permit for small residential projects like decks, sheds, or minor residential renovations.

Submit your application before noon on Mondays. Permits will be issued by Wednesday morning, as long all information is provided, and the proposal complies with the Ontario Building Code and municipal zoning bylaws.

For more information, visit Russell.ca/Building or email inspections@russell.ca.



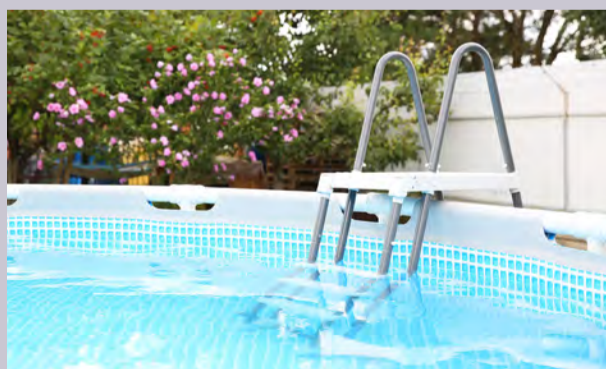
Public Pool

Visit the Russell Centennial Public Pool this summer! We offer public swim time every day. The schedule is available at Russell.ca/pool.

Proper Bin Placement

To ensure your green and black (charcoal) bins are picked up, ensure proper positioning:

- Wheels facing away from the street.
- Leave at least 2 feet (60 cm) of space between your bins, recycling boxes, or other obstacles so the truck can safely pick them up.



Pool Permits

Are you planning on installing a pool or spa in the near future? Pools and spas with the capacity of 18 inches of water or more require a permit.

Learn more about what is required at Russell.ca/PoolPermits.

Trail Use Reminders

For everyone's safety and enjoyment, please remember that gas powered and electric motorized devices or vehicles are not permitted on the New York Central Recreational Trail. The only exception is electric scooters used for mobility purposes and users must ensure that their device is approved by Health Canada as a medical mobility device.

E bikes are allowed only when powered by muscular (pedal) power—use of motors on e bikes is not permitted on the trail. Thank you for helping keep the trail safe, accessible, and enjoyable for all users.



Fire Safety and Summer Events

As summer begins, Russell Township Fire Services will be out in the community. We invite residents to come see us at Meet Me on July 9th in Embrun or at the Russell Fair August 13 to 16.

Throughout the summer, we remind residents to follow local fire safety regulations to help keep our community safe.

Open Air Burning: All open air burning requires a fire permit to be issued at least 24 hours before burning begins. Permits are \$40 and can be obtained at Russell.ca/Fires or in person at 225 Industriel Street in Embrun.

Fire Bans: Fire bans are instituted whenever conditions of safety are a concern, No burning is allowed if a fire ban is in place. It is your responsibility to verify if a fire ban is in place. You can subscribe to receive alerts at Russell.ca/subscribe.

Campfires: Allowed if they meet the following requirements:

- The fire is no larger than 0.5 cubic metres.
- The fire is at least 4.5 metres away from property lines, buildings, brush and wooded areas.
- Campfires are not permitted in front yards.
- A person 18 years of age or older is supervising the fire at all times.

Fireworks: You can set off consumer fireworks (family fireworks) on your property between sunset and 11:00 p.m. on the following days:

- The day before, the day of, and the day after Victoria Day and Saint-Jean-Baptiste
- Two days before, the day of, and two days after Canada Day



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Summer Thunderstorms: Be Prepared, Stay Safe

Summer thunderstorms are common and can form quickly. Some storms can be severe, causing damage, wildfires, and power outages. Strong winds, lightning, and heavy rain are typical, and in some cases hail, powerful downbursts, or tornadoes can occur. Most storms last about an hour, but stronger storms can continue for several hours.

Preparing ahead of time helps protect your family and your home. Have an emergency kit and a family emergency plan that considers children, older adults, pets, and anyone with specific health needs. Learn about colour coded weather alerts and know where to take shelter. Stay informed through trusted sources such as the WeatherCAN app, local radio or television, and the Alert Ready system.

Protect your home by using surge protectors, trimming trees, securing outdoor items, and checking your roof and chimney. For heavy rain, make sure drains are clear, your sump pump works properly, and your foundation is in good condition.

If a thunderstorm watch or warning is issued, seek shelter right away, especially when thunder follows lightning within 30 seconds. Stay cautious after the storm, as hazards may still be present.



Planning 101

What is an Official Plan?

The Township of Russell's Official Plan primarily guides and directs the use of land within the Township's four Villages (Embrun, Russell, Limoges, and Marionville) and the 417 Industrial Park. The United Counties of Prescott and Russell's Official Plan guides and directs the use of land outside of these areas of the Township of Russell.

What is a Zoning By-law?

While the Official Plan sets out the general policies for future land use, the Zoning By-law is the main implementation tool guided by the Official Plan. The Zoning By-law states exactly how land may be used, where buildings and structures can be located, the types of buildings that are permitted and how they may be used, lot dimensions, and more.

When do I need planning approval?

The Zoning By-law is usually reviewed during the building permit process. However, some types of development may need extra approval from the Planning Department. If a project does not follow the Zoning By-law or the Official Plan, it may also need approval from the Committee of Adjustment or Council. In these cases, the Township's Planning Department must receive and review the required applications before a building permit can be issued.

How can I learn more?

If you believe you may require planning approval or would like to learn more, please visit the Planning Department's various webpages detailing the Zoning By-law, Official Plan, planning applications, as well as the Frequently Asked Questions page for common questions and answers. Contact the Planning Department at planning@russell.ca or 613-443-3066.