

April 21, 2016

Announcement to all Shebandowan residents

The Shebandowan Local Services Board and Shebandowan Fire Service would like to inform all residents that membership on the fire department has significantly reduced. Both the local services board and the fire department are taking efforts to increase membership within the department. If you are interested in becoming a firefighter please contact the fire chief, information is provided below.

As a result of low membership levels, the fire department's firefighting ability is being maintained at limited to exterior fire attack with no expected rescue.

More important than ever are fire prevention efforts that you can do on your own. Ensure that your home has working smoke alarms on each storey and outside all sleeping rooms. All occupants of the home should know their fire escape plan and practice it. If you or a family member become trapped in a fire it is unlikely that you will be rescued. Carbon Monoxide alarms are also required for homes with fuel burning appliances or an attached garage. Place a working carbon monoxide alarm outside each sleeping area.

Included with this announcement are information cards regarding home escape planning, smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and wood stove safety.

If you would like further information regarding the fire department please contact the following people:

LSB Chair David Harris
Cell: 632-7772
Email sheblsb@tbaytel.net

LSB member Butch Cunningham
Cell : 926-2005

Fire Chief Tracey Johnson
Cell: 627-8046
Email: shebfire@tbaytel.net

Beat the Silent Killer



**In Ontario, over
80% of all carbon
monoxide deaths
and injuries occur
in homes.**

Sources of Carbon Monoxide

Many Ontario households have, on average, 4–6 fuel-burning appliances that produce carbon monoxide.

These appliances include:

- Furnace
- Water heater
- Fireplace
- Portable Fuel-Fired Generators
- Dryer
- Barbecue
- Stove
- Portable Fuel-Fired Heaters

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Get an annual inspection for all fuel-burning appliances in your home.
- ☐ Visit **COSafety.ca** to find a registered fuel contractor near you.
- ☐ Check that outside furnace vents are not blocked.
- ☐ Never use a portable fuel-burning appliance or device in an enclosed space.
- ☐ If your home has a fuel-burning appliance or attached garage, install a carbon monoxide alarm adjacent to each sleeping area.
- ☐ If your condo or apartment building has a service room, carbon monoxide alarms must be installed in the service room and adjacent to each sleeping area of all condo/apartment units above, below and beside the service room.
- ☐ If your condo/apartment building has a garage, carbon monoxide alarms must be installed adjacent to each sleeping area of all condo/apartment units above, below and beside the garage.
- ☐ For added protection, install a carbon monoxide alarm on every storey of the home according to manufacturer's instructions.

Beat the Silent Killer



COSafety.ca
@TSSAOntario

ontario.ca/firemarshal



IS YOUR WOOD STOVE SAFE?

Improperly installed and maintained wood stoves and fireplaces can lead to dangerous conditions that put you, your family, and neighbours at risk.

FOLLOW THE RULES

When purchasing a new wood stove or fireplace insert, look for the mark of an accredited certification agency that ensures the product has been tested and meets established safety standards.

Check with your local building department and obtain any necessary permits prior to installing a wood stove, fireplace insert, or chimney. Always follow the manufacturer's installation instructions.

The Ontario Fire Code requires homeowners ensure their home heating appliances and chimneys are safe. This requires periodic inspections and maintenance.

See the back of this card for more information about safe wood heating.



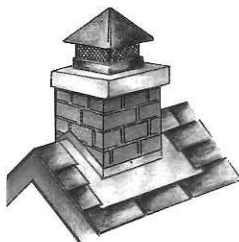
Tips for maintaining your wood burning appliance

INSPECT AND CLEAN YOUR CHIMNEY

Check your chimney and clear any obstructions at the start of the heating season, and make sure damper controls work properly to keep smoke and toxic gases from building up inside the home. Check chimneys and flue pipes often for creosote and soot build-up and clean to prevent a chimney fire. Your chimney may have problems you can't see. If in doubt, consult a WETT (Wood Energy Technical Training) certified chimney sweep.

CAP IT OFF

Maintain an appropriate chimney cap on top of your chimney to protect against damage from rain or snow. Spark screens should be inspected regularly to make sure smoke can vent properly.



CHECK STOVE PIPES AND CONNECTIONS

Ensure all joints in flue pipes are securely fastened with at least 3 screws. Where flue pipes are joined together, the small (crimped) end should point toward the appliance.

PROTECT FLOORS AND WALLS FROM HEAT AND SPARKS

Keep combustible materials a safe distance away from

wood stoves and fireplaces. Always use a properly fitting screen for your fireplace. Consult a WETT certified chimney sweep if walls get too hot.

BURN DRY WOOD

Burn properly dried, well-seasoned wood to reduce the risk of excessive creosote build-up from inefficient burning or smouldering fires. Store wood outdoors, stacked in an open area or shed away from the house or deck to provide good airflow that will assist drying.

REMOVE ASHES SAFELY

Allow ashes to cool fully before cleaning them from your fireplace or wood stove. Use only metal, non-combustible containers to remove ashes from the appliance. Take them outside immediately and store well away from buildings on a non-combustible surface.

INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

All homes with fuel-fired appliances should have a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm. Check with your fire department or municipal office regarding Building Code and municipal by-law requirements.

For more information, contact your local fire department.



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PLAN YOUR ESCAPE!



If a fire occurred in your home tonight, would your family get out safely? You may have only seconds to safely escape your home. Develop a **home fire escape plan** with everyone in your household using the tips on the back. ➡

Develop a home fire escape plan today... ...it could save your life tonight!

Install working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas of your home. *It's the law!*

Develop a home fire escape plan. Know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Sit down with everyone in your household and discuss how each person will get out of the home in a fire.

Practise your escape plan with everyone in your home. Make sure everyone can get out quickly.

Make sure everyone knows two ways out of each room, if possible. If the door of a room is blocked by smoke or fire, discuss an alternate escape route such as a window. Make sure all windows open easily. Security bars on windows should have quick-releasing devices so they can be easily removed.

Help those who need it! Determine who will be responsible for helping young children, older adults, people with disabilities or anyone else who may need assistance.

Get low and go under the smoke to the nearest safe exit. Most fire deaths are the result of smoke inhalation.

Choose a meeting place outside, a safe distance from your home. A tree, street light or a neighbour's home are all good choices. In case of fire, everyone should go directly to this meeting place to be accounted for.

Get out, stay out. Never re-enter a burning building. Once you have safely escaped, call the fire department from outside your home using a cell phone or from a neighbour's home.

**For more information, contact
your local fire department.
www.ontario.ca/firemarshal**



Smoke Alarm

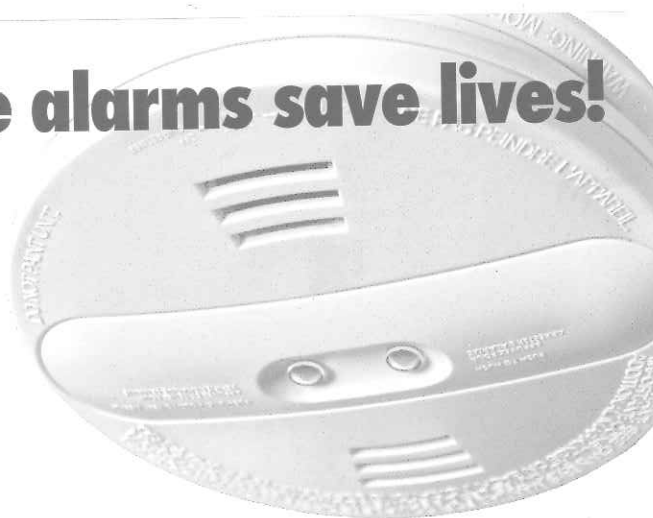
Pointers

*...to save
your life!*



Only working smoke alarms save lives!

- **Install in the proper locations.** Ontario law requires that working smoke alarms be located on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Avoid installing smoke alarms in or near kitchens and bathrooms, or near air vents, windows and ceiling fans.
- **Change the batteries once a year.** Install a new battery at least once a year or whenever the low-battery warning sounds. Test the smoke alarm after installing a new battery.
- **Test smoke alarms monthly.** Smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and upon returning home after an absence of more than a few days. If the alarm fails to sound when the test button is pressed, install a new battery.
- **Replace smoke alarms after 10 years.** Smoke alarms more than ten years old should be replaced with new ones.
- **Manage nuisance alarms.** If a smoke alarm frequently activates due to cooking activities or using the shower, do not remove the battery! Try moving the smoke alarm, purchasing a smoke alarm with a hush feature, or replacing ionization alarms located near kitchens with photoelectric alarms.
- **Always follow the manufacturer's instructions** for installing, testing and maintaining smoke alarms.
- **For information about smoke alarms,** visit www.ontario.ca/firemarshal or contact your local fire department.



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