Building Department

Bylaw No. 32-2002
Being a By-law to require the fencing of privately owned outdoor swimming pools

“Swimming Pool” means any structure, basin, chamber or tank containing any artificial body of water for swimming, diving or recreational bathing;
a) has a depth of more than 24 inches at any point, and;
b) has a surface area of more than 108 square feet..."

It is the intent of this By-law to provide for fences that eliminate or deter easy climbing by children or others. Fences that can be used similar to a ladder shall be unacceptable. The owner of every private outdoor swimming pool in the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry shall, prior to the filling of such pool, erect and maintain a fence completely enclosing the pool.

Septic System & Plumbing
The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry is now responsible for Septic System and Plumbing function.
Approval must be obtained from the Morris Turnberry Chief Building Official before a building permit is issued.

From the Desk of the Mayor:
The 2013-2014 Winter season will be remembered for its severely cold, harsh, snowy days and its longevity. I am sure we are all looking forward to the spring weather that is on its way.
Here are a few highlights of recent development at Morris-Turnberry. The Roads department took delivery of a new all wheel drive Grader in October. This has proved to be a very important and timely acquisition with the severity of the road conditions experienced this winter. Many thanks to our operators for their endless hours spent to keep our roads safe for travel. Morris Turnberry was accepted as a delegation at the ROMA/OGRA conference by the Parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance Steven Del Duca. The Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry felt that it was imperative to inform the Ministry of Finance of the Implication the reduction of Provincial transfers (OMPF Funding) will have on rural Municipalities when compounded with additional costs such as the Proposed OPP Billing Model for 2015. We believe this information was well received and an eye opener for the Ministry. Morris Turnberry has now taken back the responsibility for inspections and approvals for both plumbing and septic systems. These are both issues dealt with under the building code and have become part of the services handled by our Building Department. Steve Fortier, our CBO will be more than pleased to oversee this function for our businesses and residents whether it is for a complete new development (new Build), upgrade or replacement of a system. This will be a much more efficient and cost effective method to deliver these services.
An application to the Rural Economic Development Fund (RED) program has been made to assist with the costs of the required studies needed for market ready industrial land in conjunction with the Wingham area Industrial land strategy. Also, application has been made to share in the cost of updating our Municipal Website. This would create a much more user-friendly connection with Morris-Turnberry and include additional information such as the New Business Directory. We are hopeful for a positive outcome for both applications. The final draft of the Consolidated Zoning Bylaw for Morris-Turnberry should be available in April. At that time, a meeting will be held for public input. I encourage you to be part of the process and attend the public meeting, when we are able to set a date.
I believe it is part of my duty as Mayor of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry to keep the Municipality moving forward in a thoughtful progressive manner. I look forward to hearing your comments and concerns to help move us in that direction in the future.

Mayor, Paul Gowing
**2014 TAX NOTICE**

The interim bills are based on the annualized 2013 taxes, however, your 2014 assessment is shown on the billings. You should have received the new four year phased-in assessment from MPAC in Fall, 2012 and during the four year period you will only receive additional notice from MPAC if there is an amendment to your assessment. If you disagree with your assessment, you have until **March 31st**, of the current tax year to file a Request for Reconsideration (free of charge) or to make an official appeal to the Assessment Review Board (fees are applicable). Both of these forms are available at the Municipal office or contact MPAC at 1-866-296-6722 or Fax at 1-866-297-6703 or online at [www.mpac.ca](http://www.mpac.ca)

**PENALTY & INTEREST CHARGES ON TAXES**

Any payment received in the Municipal Office after the due date will be considered late and as such the outstanding taxes will be subject to the penalty and interest charges as per the Municipal Act. In accordance with section 347 of the new Municipal Act, all payments received for arrears will be paid according to the length of time the taxes have been owing. The penalty and then arrears will be paid before the most recent taxes.

**Farmland Assessment**

It is the responsibility of any ratepayer who owns farmland to ensure that such lands are coded in order that they are taxed at the reduced farmland tax rate. FT is the farmland 25% code. Check your coding on your property tax bill and assessment notice. For further information call the Municipal office or OMAF at 1-800-469-2285.

**THE FOLLOWING METHODS OF TAX PAYMENTS MAY BE USED:**

**WE NOW HAVE INTERAC; WHICH INCLUDES DEBIT, VISA, MASTERCARD AND AMEX**

- In person at the Municipal office – Cheque, Cash and/or Interac
- By Mail, PO Box 310, 41342 Morris Road, BRUSSELS, ON N0G 1H0
- By Post dated Cheque
- Preauthorized monthly payment can be set up by providing a VOID cheque
- Telephone Banking service is available through one of the Chartered banks listed below:
  - CIBC 1-800-465-2422
  - Bank of Montreal 1-800-363-9992
  - T-D Bank 1-800-983-2265
  - RBC Financial Group (Royal Bank) 1-800-769-2511
  - Credit Union Central of Ontario “see individual branch”
- Internet Banking services are available through one of the Chartered banks listed below:
  - CIBC [www.cibc.com](http://www.cibc.com)
  - Bank of Montreal [www.bmo.com](http://www.bmo.com)
  - T-D Bank [www.tdcanadatrust.com](http://www.tdcanadatrust.com)
  - RBC Financial Group (Royal Bank) [www.rbc.com](http://www.rbc.com)
  - Credit Union Central of Ontario “See individual branch”

**Council Meetings:**

Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7:30pm and are held in the Council Chambers at 41342 Morris Road, Cty Road 16. If you wish to speak to Council, please contact Nancy Michie, Administrator Clerk-Treasurer.

**ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE ADVERTISED ON THE MUNICIPAL WEBSITE AND IN THE LOCAL PAPERS.**

**MUNICIPAL WEBSITE**

On the website you will find:
- By-Laws
- Landfill Information
- Building Department Information
- Agendas, Minutes of Council Meetings
- Plus much, much more

**Reminder to Dog Owners**

DOG TAGS ARE NOW DUE AND A LATE PAYMENT CHARGE WILL BE APPLIED AFTER APRIL 25, 2014.