



Brockton Buzz Newsletter – April 2024 Issue

View this issue and past issues of the Brockton Buzz Monthly Newsletter on our website at Brockton.ca/Buzz.

Tax Installment Due Date–May 31, 2024

Any payment received in our office after the due date will be considered late and any outstanding taxes will be subject to penalty and interest charges as per the *Municipal Act, 2001*. Please allow 2 to 3 days for processing if you are paying through the online banking system of your financial institution. Visit Brockton.ca/Taxes for more information.

Possible Camera Installation at Walkerton Community Centre, Centennial Park Washrooms and Soccer Park Washrooms

The Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) is considering installing cameras inside the Walkerton Community Centre to be installed in the rafters of the arena to display footage of Walkerton Capitals Jr. C Hockey Team games. The camera would be focused on players on the ice, however there is a possibility that spectators would be recorded and appear on the broadcast through PJHLTV.ca.

The Municipality of Brockton is also considering installing cameras at Centennial Park (1 James Street, Walkerton) and the Bruce Power Soccer Park (50 Eastridge Road, Walkerton). These cameras will be located at the exterior of the washroom buildings at both parks to assist with security.

Comments or concerns related to installation of cameras for this purpose can be **emailed** to Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for consideration.



South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment Board Recruitment

As of April 1, 2024, the **Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019** is in place across Ontario. Under the CSPA requires there be an Ontario Provincial Police Detachment Board for each detachment that provides policing in a municipality or First Nations community. The South Bruce OPP Detachment Board established under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 replaces the previous Police Services Boards and governs municipalities in the South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment. The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Brockton, Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of Kincardine, and Municipality of South Bruce form the South Bruce OPP Detachment Board. The South Bruce OPP Detachment Board will be composed of 5 Council Seats, 2 Community Representatives and 2 Provincial Appointments for a total of 9 seats. Applications are now being accepted for the 2 Community Representatives. Visit the **Township of Huron-Kinloss website** to view this Board opportunity and learn more about how to apply. Brockton applications can be submitted to Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) by **email** or submitted in-person to the Municipal Office, 100 Scott Street, Walkerton. The due date to apply is April 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Early Investment in Education and Skills Grant

The Municipality of Brockton is once again offering the Early Investment in Education and Skills Grant aimed at supporting youth, continuing skills development, workplace training, youth enrichment and more. Brockton residents, businesses and schools are encouraged to apply before funding runs out.



Looking to upgrade your skills or participate in training? The Early Investment in Education and Skills funding program will pay for up to half the registration fees. Funding for this grant is offered by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. For more information and to apply for funding, visit Brockton.ca/EIES

Employment Opportunities

If you are passionate about providing the very best services in a municipal environment and are looking for a place to challenge yourself and grow, we want you on our team! Visit our **Careers webpage** for current employment opportunities.

Notice of Walkerton Watermain Flushing

As part of the ongoing maintenance of the Walkerton Water System, Veolia Water will be flushing the Walkerton distribution system throughout April and May 2024. This is estimated to take approximately one and a half (1 ½) months to complete. Residents are asked to run a cold water tap after the flushing has been completed in your area to discharge any discoloured water before use. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. If you have any questions please contact Veolia Water at 519-881-1474.

Half Load Restriction

During the Spring thaw (typically from March 1 to April 30) the Municipality enforces a reduced load season to protect roads from damage caused by heavy vehicles. Some Municipal Roads may become too soft and unstable to withstand the weight of a fully loaded truck, regardless of the axles. In an effort to reduce damage to the roads, the Municipality restricts vehicles to half loads (5 tonnes per axle) on all roads within the Municipality.



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates

Bruce County 2024 Household Hazardous Waste events will be held on June 1, 2024 and September 14, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Bruce County Transportation Yard, located at 94 Bruce Road 2. For more information, please visit Bruce County's Hazardous Waste webpage: www.brucecounty.on.ca/hazardouswaste

Sanitary Sewer Reminder

Residents connected to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System in Walkerton, please be cautious of the items you put down your sink or toilet. Do not put down the drain or flush any of the following items: food chunks, grease, cooking oil, hazardous chemicals, metal, glass, cloths, rags, napkins, any feminine hygiene products, paper towels, wipes, hair clippings or clumps, sand, or cat litter. Flushing these products can result in costly sewer backups and higher sewer treatment and maintenance costs.

Spring Landfill Hours

From April 1st to October 31st, the Brant Landfill is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Greenock Transfer Station is open on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All residents are encouraged to continue to use curbside pickup services. Visit Brockton.ca/LandfillSites for more details.

Winter Parking Restrictions

In accordance with Section 8 of the Municipality of Brockton's Consolidated Traffic and Parking By-Law 2020-052, no person shall park on any highway between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. inclusive during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April. Any vehicles in violation may be ticketed and towed at owner's expense. A reminder that it is illegal to deposit snow on sidewalks or roads.

Brockton Dollars

Brockton Dollars gift certificates are redeemable at participating stores, restaurants, and other commercial establishments in denominations of \$10, \$25 and \$50. Brockton Dollars can be purchased as gifts for friends and family, or be offered as acknowledgements to employees, while also supporting local businesses. They can be purchased from the Municipal Office at 100 Scott Street from Monday to Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or ordered in bulk through email. Businesses may redeem Brockton Dollars at the Municipal Office. If you're a Brockton retailer, service provider, or restaurant wishing to join the program, please contact Municipal Office at 519-881-2223.



Brockton's Community Engagement Website



The Municipality of Brockton reminds you to register to get involved on our community engagement website, buildyourbrockton.ca! This community engagement website invites feedback from the community on various projects such as our Development Charges Study, Water/Wastewater Master Plan, Budget Consultation 2024, Tennis Court Rehabilitation, and more!

Brockton Parks and Recreation Updates

Lobies Campground Reservations Now Open! Visit Brockton.ca/LobiesReservation to reserve your camp site today!



Summer Camps 2024 Now Open! Please visit Brockton.ca/SummerCamp for more information. Camps include options for ages 4-5 and 6-12, as well as Sports Camps, Swim Camps (Swimming Lessons and Camp all in one), Travel Camp and more!

Swimming Lesson Registration Opening April 10th! Please visit Brockton.ca/Pool to register.



Recreation Programs: Please visit Brockton.ca/RecreationPrograms for full details on exciting programs and opportunities within Brockton! Opportunities for Youth and Children include:

- **Yoga:** Pilates Yoga, Chair Yoga, and Restorative Yoga for all levels of experience.
- **Adult Fitness:** Spin, Total Body Sculpt, Kickboxing, Indoor Pickleball, The Indoor Walking Program
- **Youth Development:** Stemetics, Babysitting Courses
- **Youth Fitness:** Drop-in Dodgeball and Gym (Wednesday's), Drop-in Basketball (Thursday's)

Pet Fire Safety Tips

Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives but pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in our homes. View Pet Fire Safety Tips near the end of the April Brockton Buzz edition.



Solar Eclipse Safety

On Monday, April 8, 2024 Southern Ontario will experience a total solar eclipse. A total solar eclipse is a rare celestial event where the moon passes between the Earth and the Sun, casting a shadow on the Earth's surface. This moving shadow, called "the path of totality" will pass over many Municipalities in Ontario. Although not in the path of totality, Bruce County will still experience a partial eclipse of approximately 95%. View the Safety Sheet regarding the eclipse at the end of the April Brockton Buzz edition.



Did you know that it is not safe to view the eclipse without proper eye protection? Health impacts may include retinal burns, blurred vision, and loss of eyesight (immediate or delayed onset). There are no pain sensors in your retinas to tell you that your eyes are being damaged. Once symptoms begin, the damage is usually too late to reverse. Bruce County Health & Safety and Emergency Management have provided information and safety measures on the eclipse below.

Working During the Eclipse:

- While driving, avoid looking at the eclipse. Keep your eyes on the road to safely operate your vehicle to avoid collisions.
- Plan work activities around the timing of the eclipse, avoiding critical outdoor tasks during the peak of the event as much as possible.
- Bruce County advises staff to view the eclipse through live stream to avoid the hazards of viewing the live eclipse.
- Bruce County will not be providing ISO certified eye protection to workers.

Safety Precautions:






- Do not use regular sunglasses to look at the eclipse.
- Do not view the eclipse through a camera/phone lens, telescope, binoculars or any other optical device.

Alternate viewing strategies should be considered, such as a live stream at <https://www.timeanddate.com/live/eclipse-solar-2024-april-8>.

To safely view the eclipse, you will require approved eye protection adhering to the ISO 12312-2 international standard to prevent eye damage. Do not use the glasses if they are damaged and ensure they fully cover your field of vision. If you would like more information on how to remain safe while enjoying the eclipse, please visit the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada website at www.rasc.ca.

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Visit Brockton.ca/Subscribe to sign up and receive Brockton News, Calendar Events, and Emergency Alerts sent directly to your email. You can also [subscribe](#) to our [Brockton Business Newsletter](#) which features bi-monthly updates from the Municipality of Brockton and our partners in community and economic development. We also encourage residents to follow us on social media for regular updates! You can also download the Municipal App "Municipality of Brockton" created by Aptic Studios Inc. from the app store!

-  Facebook – [BrocktonON](#)
-  Instagram – [municipalitybrockton](#)
-  Twitter – [Mun_Brockton](#)
-  LinkedIn – [Municipality of Brockton](#)
-  YouTube – [Municipality of Brockton](#)

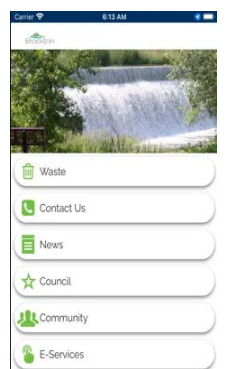


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Add Your Events to Brockton's Community Calendar

Make sure your 2024 events are featured on Brockton's free Community Calendar! Your event must be organized by a non-profit, or community organization and be held within Brockton.

The steps to adding your event are simple:

-  Visit calendar.brockton.ca and click on [Submit an Event](#).
-  Login if you have an account, or create one if it's your first time adding an event.
-  Add in your events, edit, and update your events from there

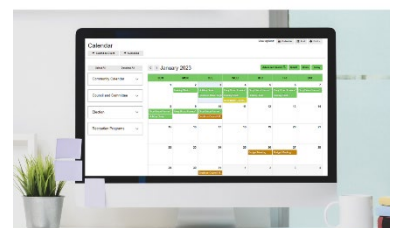
It's that simple! Each event is reviewed and approved before being added to the calendar, so it won't appear right away. Once your event is on the calendar, we may help spread the word through the Brockton Buzz newsletter, and social media.

If you're having any troubles, please let us know by calling 519-881-2223 or emailing web@brockton.ca.



Do you have an **upcoming event** in Brockton that you want to share?

Add your event to our website's **Community Calendar!**





Community Events

Brockton is where generations of people come together to play, celebrate and enjoy life.

- **Midwestern Ontario Rotary Music Festival**



The Midwestern Ontario Rotary Music Festival is April 15-23, 2024 in Walkerton, with a Highlights Concert tentatively planned for Saturday, April 27th. Come out and support students, musicians, choirs, dance groups, pianists, vocalists, and instrumentalists who share their passion for music during this event! Learn more by visiting the Midwestern Ontario Rotary Music Festival website: www.midwesternontariorotarymusicfestival.ca

- **County Towne Players Hilda's Yard Performance**

The County Towne Players in association with the Rotary Club of Walkerton are pleased to present Hilda's Yard by Norm Foster directed by Rebecca Reich to be performed at the Victoria Jubilee Hall (111 Jackson St. S, Walkerton) on Friday, April 12th at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 13th at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, April 14th at 2:00 p.m. matinee performance, Wednesday, April 17th at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 18th at 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 19th at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 20th at 2:00 p.m. matinee performance. Doors will open approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of each performance. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and are available at Victoria Jubilee Hall, A Delicate Edge, Holst Office Supplies, and Brown's Guardian Pharmacy. For more information visit the County Towne Players website: www.countytowneplayers.ca or visit the County Towne Players Facebook page.



- **Earth Day Parks Clean Up in Elmwood**

Join the Elmwood Chamber of Commerce for an Earth Day Parks Clean Up at the Elmwood Community Centre Park (38 Concession Rd 10) and Lion's Park at the Elmwood Fire Hall (Dirstein St. S) on Saturday, April 20, 2024 beginning at 9:30 a.m. Garbage bags will be supplied, and treat bags will be available for children.



- **Saugeen River Clean Up**

Help clean up along the Saugeen River Trail on Saturday, April 20th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Please meet at Memory Lane Park in Walkerton. Materials will be provided for volunteers cleaning up the trail.

- **Spring into Summer Craft and Vendor Market**

The Walkerton Agricultural Society is hosting a Spring into Summer Craft and Vendor Market on April 27, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Walkerton Agricultural Building #3. Entry fee: monetary donation - Foodbank donations are greatly appreciated. Contact Sandy Droefke for more information.



- **Join the Cargill Lawn Bowling Club!**

The Cargill Lawn Bowling Club starts in May on Mondays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Cargill Community Centre. Rain dates are on Tuesdays. A full membership is \$80 and a sub-membership is \$50. Contact Linda Folmer at 519-507-2377 or Michelle Napper at 519-366-2306 for more information.



- **Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival**

The Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival is taking place May 14-16, 2024 in Chesley. Registration information will be distributed through local school boards. The festival relies entirely on strong community support from organizations. The festival appreciates support through cash donations, products, in-kind services, or the dedication of volunteer time. Your support goes directly towards providing a unique educational experience for children focusing on water and the environment. If you are interested in sponsoring this event please contact the Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival Coordinator by emailing gbcwaterfestival@gmail.com.



South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Boat Safety

Think safety first on the water! The return of the nice weather means the pleasure crafts are returning to area waterways. The South Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is asking vessel owners to review these safety tips **before** you leave the dock:

- **Life jackets.** A proper sized life jacket is required for each person on board.
- **Competent operator.** It is a requirement to take a boating safety course and always carry your operator card with you.
- **Check and monitor the Marine Weather Forecast.** Conditions can change quickly particularly on larger bodies of water.
- **Sail plan.** Let someone know your planned route and estimated time of return. Time is of the essence in an emergency, it can make the difference between a rescue and a recovery.
- **Safety Equipment.** Required by law, requirements vary by type of vessel and size. Ensure you have the proper equipment on board each time you sail; it won't help you if it's left on the dock.
- **Charts and compass.** Be aware of local hazards, water levels, tides and know where you are at all times.
- **Fuel tank.** 1/3 to go, 1/3 to return, 1/3 in reserve.



South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Boat Safety (Continued)

- **Boat condition.** Check the hull, hoses, lines, clamps and the battery. Regular maintenance reduces the risk of a break down on the water.
- **Leave the beer on the pier.** Boaters caught drinking and boating in Ontario face similar consequences to drinking and driving on dry land. This includes power boats, canoes, stand-up paddle boards, kayaks, sail boats and personal watercraft.
- For more information on boating safety, check online at <http://www.boatingsafety.gc.ca>.

Working together, we can all have a safe boating season.

South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Crosswalk Safety

Safety Tips for Pedestrians

- Cross only at marked crosswalks or crossovers. Don't cross in the middle of the block or between parked cars.
- Make sure drivers see you before you cross. If the driver is stopped, make eye contact before you step into the road.
- Wear bright or light-coloured clothing or reflective wear, especially at dusk or when it's dark.
- At a traffic light:
 - Cross when traffic has come to a complete stop.
 - Begin to cross at the start of the green light or “Walk” signal, where provided.
 - Do not start to cross if you see a flashing “Do Not Walk” symbol or the light turns yellow. If you already started to cross, complete your crossing in safety.
 - Never cross on a red light.
 - Watch for traffic turning at intersections or turning into and leaving driveways.

Safety Tips for Drivers

Pay special attention to pedestrians as you drive. Here are some tips to follow:

- Always look for pedestrians, especially when turning.
- Watch for children. Drive slowly and cautiously through school zones, residential areas, or any other area where children could be walking or playing.
- Watch out for Community Safety Zone signs that indicate areas where public safety is a special concern, including the possibility of encountering pedestrians.
- Be patient, especially with seniors or pedestrians with disabilities who need more time to cross the road.
- Drive carefully near streetcar stops with islands or zones for passengers getting on and off. Pass them at reasonable speeds, and always be ready in case pedestrians make sudden or unexpected moves.

Safety Tips for Parents

Show your children how to cross a road safely. Teach them to:

- Stay to the side of the road, walking as far away from traffic as they safely can
- Stop at the edge of the sidewalk, and look both ways before crossing the road
- Take extra care on roadways that have no curbs
- Watch out for blind corners (for example, a car coming out of an alley may not see a child pedestrian about to cross)

Penalties for drivers

Failing to yield at pedestrian crosswalks, school crossings and crossovers	Up to \$1000	4 demerit points	None
Running a red light	Up to \$1000	3 demerit points	None
Failure to remain at scene of collision	Up to \$2000	7 demerit points	May result in imprisonment for up to 6 months and/or a 2-year driver's licence suspension

Fines double in **Community Safety Zones** near schools and public areas, which are clearly marked with signs.

Motorists face stiff fines and demerit points for crosswalk violations, but the consequences can be much worse if a pedestrian is hit by a vehicle.



Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

SMOKE ALARMS

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



FACT

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards

Solar Eclipse Safety

April 8, 2024

As the moon aligns perfectly between Earth and the Sun, parts of Ontario will experience temporary darkness. Use the advice below to stay safe during the eclipse.



Warning!

Looking directly at the uncovered Sun without protection can cause retinal burns, blurred vision, or loss of eyesight. There are no pain sensors in your retinas to tell you that your eyes are being damaged. Once symptoms begin, the damage is usually too late to reverse.

Quick facts

- 1 The eclipse is expected to start just after 2:00 p.m. EDT with a full eclipse from approximately 3:20 p.m. and move eastward. The specific time and duration of the eclipse will depend on your location. Areas outside the path of totality will observe a partial solar eclipse.
- 2 Historically, eclipses have prompted mass movements of people to prime viewing areas.
- 3 Check your municipality's website for service changes and local closures.
- 4 For more information about viewing the eclipse in Ontario, visit [Destination Ontario's website](#).

Travel tips

- 1 While driving, avoid looking at the eclipse. Keep your eyes on the road to safely operate your vehicle and avoid collisions.
- 2 Follow local directives and road signage as you travel on April 8. While travelling on highways, do not stop, take pictures, or get out of your car to view the eclipse.
- 3 Stay updated on road conditions before, during, and after the eclipse by visiting 511on.ca.
- 4 Expect increases in traffic and road congestion. Plan ahead, fill your gas tank, and have snacks, water, entertainment, and first-aid supplies on hand.
- 5 If travelling to view the eclipse, plan to arrive at your destination 24 to 48 hours ahead of time.

Eye safety



- 1 **It is not safe to look at the Sun without eye protection.** Looking at even a small sliver before or after the eclipse without eye protection can be harmful to your vision. Health impacts may include retinal burns, blurred vision, and loss of eyesight (immediate or delayed onset).
- 2 Glasses with specialized filters adhering to the **ISO 12312-2** international standard can be worn to prevent eye damage. Glasses should be inspected for wrinkles or scratches ahead of use and should not be used if damaged.
- 3 If appropriate eye protection is not available, alternative viewing strategies should be considered, such as an [eclipse box](#) or a live stream.

Visit the [Canadian Space Agency's website](#) for more information.



Ontario

