



Volunteers are the heart of our community – they make East Gwillimbury a better place. Town Council is still considering appointments – please submit your application this week.

Here are some of the opportunities:

- community safety
- environment
- heritage
- santa claus parade
- trails
- business development
- community recreation
- youth
- physician recruitment
- Civic Square events
- accessibility
- library

If you can help, please visit us at [eastgwillimbury.ca](http://eastgwillimbury.ca) and click on the "Committee volunteers needed" item under Our Town News. Or you can call Deputy Clerk Fernando Lamanna at 905.478.4282 ext 1240.

## SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

In order to help Town staff clear sidewalks during the winter months, please remember that it is unlawful to park a motorized vehicle over a sidewalk or footpath.

Also, we ask that you keep curbing, flower boxes and other items at least 30cm (1 foot) back from the sidewalk. Our snow removal equipment might come into contact with closer items causing damage to the machinery.

## EAST GWILLIMBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Learn to make Paper Piercing Cards

Ann Bennington teaches you this faux embroidery technique to create beautiful cards to send or frame.

January 26, 2011 @ Holland Landing Branch, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$6.00, bring an embroidery needle

Check out all the details at our website at

[www.eastgwillimbury.ca/library](http://www.eastgwillimbury.ca/library)

Pre-register at 905-836-6492

## THINKING GREEN!



What do you do with the ashes from your wood burning fireplace? Ash created from wood is derived from plant material and contains most of the essential nutrients that healthy soil requires to allow for strong plant growth. Wood ashes can

also be used to maintain a neutral condition in your compost pile and can repel insects, slugs and snails from your plants. Safely collect and store ashes from your wood burning fireplace and evenly spread them on your soil or compost piles prior to tilling in the spring. You can help maintain the health of your soil and garden by using this natural source found in your own home.

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Committee of the Whole Council met on Monday, January 17th and considered the following matters. These will be brought forward to the next Council meeting for adoption.

### Strategic Plan

Council and staff met to update the Town's strategic plan. First developed in 2005, the plan guides most decisions of Council by connecting actions with the five pillars of the plan:

- protecting and enhancing the environment
- providing & advocating for quality programs and services to the community
- investing in municipal infrastructure
- managing growth to ensure a sustainable community
- supporting a municipal organization focused on excellence

Under these pillars are 84 strategic directions that guide the Town in providing leadership for its residents. In the review process, Council members brought the results of thousands of resident conversations during the recent election campaign to ensure the needs and opinions of residents were central to the plan. An updated plan will be brought forward, likely toward the end of March. To view the current strategic plan visit [eastgwillimbury.ca](http://eastgwillimbury.ca) and follow the links Town Hall > Departments > Chief Administrative Officer > Strategic Plan.

### Holland Landing Conservation Area master plan

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is leading the development of a master plan for Holland Landing Conservation Area. A public workshop is targeted for March to identify issues, then another open house will take place later in the year to review the draft plan. Town staff will participate in this initiative and future public meetings will be advertised.

### Development application fees

Council approved in principle changes to development fees. Staff will consult with the development community and will also conduct a public meeting to provide information and to collect comments. These fees recover all costs incurred by the Town for processing development applications.

### Telecommunication towers

Council endorsed a proposal from Rogers Wireless to install two towers: one on Mount Albert Road and another on Bales Drive. Residents who have expressed concerns about these towers will receive further information.

### York Region projects – coordination is essential

The Region presented updates on four environmental assessment projects. The Bathurst Street project between Green Lane and Graham Sideroad is being designed, with permit approvals ongoing. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2012, with a projected two-year completion schedule. Work planned for 2nd Concession includes widening to 4 lanes between Green Lane and Doane Road, with an elevated crossing over the railroad and the East Holland River. A public workshop is tentatively scheduled for February 1st. The Region continues to study the need to realign Doane Road between 2nd Concession and Leslie Street, with three options under consideration. Further analysis will be undertaken, and a public workshop will be held in March to review progress to date. Modifications to Queensville Sideroad are planned to improve access to the extended Hwy. 404. Following environmental assessment and detailed design, construction could begin in 2013. Council noted it is essential that the Region coordinate all projects with the major construction work proposed to extend the York Durham Sewage System north along 2nd Concession.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE COLONY TRAIL STORMWATER POND RETROFIT

A Public Information Centre will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011, to present the engineering plans and construction details for the proposed stormwater management pond retrofit at the intersection of Colony Trail Boulevard and Stonehill Boulevard in Holland Landing. The proposed pond aims at improving water quality using innovative approaches, which will include an engineered wetland. The project is a cooperative effort between Environment Canada's Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund, The Town of East Gwillimbury and The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. Subject to funding approval, construction of this project is planned to commence in the summer/fall of 2011.

The event will be held in the Holland landing Room in the East Gwillimbury Civic Centre, 19000 Leslie St. and you are invited to drop in anytime between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Preliminary design drawings will be on display and representatives from the Town of East Gwillimbury, the Consulting Engineer and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority will be available to answer questions and provide information. Should you be unable to attend the Public Information Centre and have questions regarding this project, please contact Don Allan, Manager of Development Engineering, Town of East Gwillimbury at 905-478-3819, or email: [dallan@eastgwillimbury.ca](mailto:dallan@eastgwillimbury.ca).