



## The Corporation of the Town of Spanish

### PUBLIC NOTICE - #4 COVID-19 VIRUS

April 28, 2020

Dear Residents:

We hope everyone is doing well. On behalf of Mayor Bishop and members of Council, we thank you for doing your part to help flatten the curve. Please continue to practise physical distancing -

#### **What is physical distancing?**

- Physical distancing means keeping our distance from one another and limiting activities outside the home.
- When outside your home, it means **staying at least 2 metres (or 6 feet) away from other people** whenever possible.

#### **Also, be sure to:**

- Wash your hands with soap and water thoroughly.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cough and sneeze into your sleeve or tissue. Dispose of tissue immediately and wash your hands.
- Keep surfaces clean and disinfected.
- Stay home unless absolutely necessary.
- If you have been out of the Country and are returning home, you must isolate yourself for at least a two week period for precaution and to limit the risk of exposure to other persons
- For more information, visit [www.Ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://www.Ontario.ca/coronavirus) or [www.algomapublichealth.com](http://www.algomapublichealth.com)
- **Vulnerable Persons:** It is recommended that all persons **over the age of 70** as well as those that are **immunocompromised** or living with **chronic disease** do not leave their homes unless absolutely necessary until further notice.

Although the municipal office remains closed to the public for the time being, staff is available to assist you by phone, 705-844-2300 or email, [info@townofspanish.com](mailto:info@townofspanish.com)

The **North Shore Health Network (NSHN)** in partnership with the **Algoma Health Unit** opened two **Covid-19 Assessment Centres**, one in Blind River and one in Thessalon. The centres are located near the emergency department entry of the hospitals. The NSHN Covid-19 Assessment Centres will screen and assess individuals who are experiencing symptoms from the **Spanish to Echo Bay** area. The centres will be open 7 days a week by appointment only, walk-ins are strictly prohibited.

Community members with potential COVID-19 symptoms who feel they need to be assessed for COVID-19 must fill out an online form <https://www.nshn.care/covid19> or call the Blind River or Thessalon centre. Once screened the centre will then book an appointment.

Call 1-705-356-2265 or 1-888-425-0321, extension 2661 for the Blind River site or extension 2662 for the Thessalon site.

## **Be mindful of your mental health and the mental health of others.**

The current circumstances, which for many include significant disruption to our daily lives, can be very stressful and can impact our mental health. Below are some links to mental health services.

Connex Ontario <https://www.connexontario.ca/about-us> provides free and confidential health services information for people experiencing problems with alcohol and drugs, mental illness and/or gambling. They are funded by the Government of Ontario.

BounceBack ® <https://bouncebackontario.ca/> is a free skill-building program managed by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). It is designed to help adults and youth 15+ manage low mood, mild to moderate depression and anxiety, stress or worry. Delivered over the phone with a coach and through online videos, you will get access to tools that we support you on your path to mental wellness.

If you have children, here's the link to the Kid's Help Phone. <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>  
Of course, they have texting and live chat options too!

If you have children or other family members in post-secondary, introduce them to Good2Talk. <https://good2talk.ca/>

**Garbage and Recycling:** Regular service continues. Be sure to have your garbage out by 6 a.m.

**Curbside pick up** takes place on Fridays as usual. In order to ensure the safety of staff, loose garbage will not be collected. Be sure to tie your bags.

**Recycling-** Please do not dispose of Kleenex, paper towels and other items that are not recyclable. Your recycling will not be picked up if any of these items are included in your recycling.

### May Garbage & Recycling Schedule

Friday, May 1	Curbside pickup and Commingle Recycling
Friday, May 8	Curbside pickup and Fibre Recycling
Friday, May 15	Curbside pickup and Commingle Recycling
Friday, May 22	Curbside pickup and Fibre Recycling
Friday, May 29	Curbside pickup and Commingle Recycling

### Municipal Landfill Site

The Municipal Landfill will be opened to the Public beginning Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of October, as follows:

Friday	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Saturday	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Tuesday	4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

- All landfill usage will be monitored to ensure that there is no gathering of persons that could put the public or staff at risk.
- Please remain in your vehicle and await direction from staff.
- Individuals will be responsible for placing their own waste in the designated areas assigned by staff. Staff will not be assisting with the removal of waste from your vehicle/trailer.
- The removal of any item(s) from the landfill is strictly prohibited and will result in the loss of this service.

**Spring Clean Up Day** will **not** be held this year, however **Amnesty Days** will be held on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> during regular hours. Tipping fees will be waived except for building and construction materials.

The Spanish Landfill site is for the use of residents of the Town of Spanish or Serpent River First Nation only. Please be prepared to prove residency by providing a driver's license or current tax bill when attending the site.

At their regular meeting held by teleconference on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Spanish passed a resolution **waiving penalty and interest charges on property taxes and public utilities** for the period April 1 – August 31, 2020. You will continue to receive your invoices as usual and are encouraged to keep your payments current. Payment arrangements will also be entertained. Please contact Pam at [pamlortie@townofspanish.com](mailto:pamlortie@townofspanish.com) or 705-844-2300, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**A reminder to be careful what you flush - Wet wipes, paper towels and facial tissues can clog pipes**

We would like to remind residents not to flush wet wipes of any kind. Despite what some packaging says, wipes are not flushable. Paper towels and facial tissues also do not belong in the toilet. These items cannot be flushed because they do not break down like toilet paper does.

**Municipal Marina –**

We have been receiving several calls about the marina. Marinas are only included on the essential services list to the extent where the marina is necessary to enable individuals to access their primary place of residence, and as such the Spanish Marina and launch are currently closed to the public. Please check the Town's web-site for updates on the status of the marina.

**Safe Disposal of Needles Found on the Ground** – Please talk with your children about what to do if they come across a used needle on the ground. Advise them not to touch it and to let an adult know right away. If you find needles on public property, call the municipal office at 705-844-2300 to arrange for pickup and proper disposal by staff. If you find a needle on your property, wearing gloves and using a pair of tongs, pliers or tweezers, pick up the needle with the needle pointing down and away from you. Place the needle in a hard plastic container, like an empty coffee container or water bottle that you can close tightly. These containers can be dropped off at the municipal office during regular hours for safe disposal.

**NEED HELP APPLYING FOR THE Canada Emergency Response Benefit?  
Contact Employment Solutions 1-888-356-2836**

## What is the Vulnerable Persons Registry?

A **free, voluntary and confidential** registry for persons at greater risk during an emergency or disaster. A **secure registry** that provides key information (vulnerabilities) to local Emergency Management Coordinators in order to improve safety during a **Large-Scale Emergency**.

**Who Should Register?** Any resident living in an eligible area **without 24-hour support** who experiences severe difficulty with any of the following?

**Mobility, Vision, Hearing, Developmental, Cognitive, Mental Health or Requires electricity for life-sustaining equipment such as: oxygen, dialysis or ventilators**

Visit [www.sooovpr.com](http://www.sooovpr.com)

Contact the VPR Coordinator at: 1-866-353-0697  
or the Municipal Office at 705-844-2300

## ALGOMA DISTRICT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD PROGRAMS: Algoma Shelter Assistance Program (ASAP)

*Financial assistance to help prevent homelessness through various means of support. Do not need to be on assistance to qualify. Special circumstances as a result of COVID19 will be considered. Application is available at all ADSAB offices and Online. Complete and submit to the office to apply.*

ENG – ASAP Application <https://www.adsab.on.ca/en/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/HS-Algoma-Shelter-Assistance-Program-Application-EN-2019-07-26.pdf>

FR – ASAP Application <https://www.adsab.on.ca/fr/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/HS-Programme-d%E2%80%99aide-au-logement-d%E2%80%99Algoma-2020-01-15.pdf>

ASAP Poster and ASAP Pamphlet – attached (ENG & FR)

## Housing (Rent Subsidies)

*Apply for Housing and Rent Subsidies within the Algoma District. Application is available at all ADSAB offices and online. Complete and submit to the office to apply.*

Rent Geared to Income Housing Application (ENG) <https://www.adsab.on.ca/en/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/HS-RGI-Application-EN-2020-02-11.pdf>

Rent Geared to Income Housing Application (FR) <https://www.adsab.on.ca/fr/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/HS-RGI-Application-FR-2020-02-11.pdf>

## LEAP – Algoma Power Customers

*Help with payment of Algoma Power Utility Arrears. This program is also available for Hydro One Customers. Must apply through the ADSAB Office*

For more information or for a LEAP application, please contact:

Algoma District Services Administration Board [www.adsab.on.ca](http://www.adsab.on.ca) or toll-free 1-866-847-9953