



# MESSENGER

[www.mississippimills.ca](http://www.mississippimills.ca)

A FREE Quarterly Newsletter from the Municipality of Mississippi Mills

Fall, 2024

## Truth and Reconciliation



The Mississippi Mills Youth Centre, in partnership with the Municipality, held a Candlelight Vigil at Riverfront Park to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Clockwise from top left: Indigenous musician and storyteller David Finkle; Olivia Holmes was one of several youth displaying some of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action; The Seven Gifts bathed in candlelight.

**Municipal Updates**  
Page 2

**Events**  
Page 3

**Recreation**  
Page 6

# Updates from the Municipality



## Big Thanks to our Summer Students!

The Municipality welcomed nearly 20 students over the summer!

Students gained new skills and valuable experience across many different municipal departments, including Recreation and Culture, Tourism and Economic Development, Administration, Roads and Public Works, Planning and

Building, as well as the Mississippi Mills Public Library.

While we've bid them farewell, we thank our students for all their hard work over the summer.

Interested in working with us and making a difference in your community? Watch our website and social media channels in the spring for application opportunities for 2025.

## Know Where Our AEDs Are - It May Save a Life

We all know an electric shock can be dangerous, but did you know it can also save a life when used correctly through an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)? AEDs can bring a stopped heart (cardiac arrest) back to life by sending an electric pulse through one's chest, "resetting" the heart beat.

The Municipality has purchased and distributed new AEDs to community hubs:

- The lower level of Almonte Old Town Hall
- Mississippi Mills Childcare Services on State Street
- The Roads and Public Works Building on Old Perth Road
- The Cedar Hill School during regular operating season (Spring to Fall)\*

\*In the off season, this AED will be moved to the Pakenham Arena upper hall.

## Did You Know?

**You can get your tax and water bills directly in your email inbox!**

Simply sign up on our website [mississippimills.ca](http://mississippimills.ca), under Municipal Services > Property Taxes.

It's easy, free, and you reduce paper.

Scan to sign up



**You can also pay your bill through your online bank**

Search "Mississippi Mills", choose "Mississippi Mills (TWN) – Taxes" and use the full roll number as your account number

## We're Modernizing Our Financial Methods

As seen in the promotion above, the Municipality has been encouraging residents to go paperless via e-billing, direct bank transfers, and more. Soon, the default method of receiving tax information will be electronic, starting with new residents who move to Mississippi Mills.

We strongly encourage all residents to make the transition at their earliest convenience. This transition to electronic methods will reduce processing times in the Finance Department, ultimately reducing the tax burden of residents through efficiencies.

**Note: The Development Services and Engineering Department is located at Almonte Old Town Hall (14 Bridge Street).** Please do not go to the Municipal Office for building permits, planning applications, or Building and Planning inquiries.



# What's Up Mississippi Mills?

- OCT. 18-20 FALL BOOK SALE**
- OCT. 25-26 FALL BOOK SALE**
- OCT. 31-1 MMYC HAUNTED HOUSE**
- NOV. 2-3 CHRISTMAS IN THE VALLEY ARTISAN SHOW**
- NOV. 30-1 CHEERFULLY MADE HOLIDAY MARKET**
- DEC. 6 LIGHT UP THE NIGHT**
- DEC. 7 PAKENHAM SANTA CLAUS PARADE**
- DEC. 8 ALMONTE CHRISTMAS PARADE**
- DEC. 14 KINTAIL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS**
- FEB. 17 FAMILY DAY MOVIE AT OLD TOWN HALL**

Subscribe online to our event calendar! For more information about these events: [www.mississippimills.ca/events](http://www.mississippimills.ca/events)

**THIS IS THE LAST PAPER ISSUE OF THE MM MESSENGER**  
To continue receiving this newsletter, please subscribe to page updates online: [www.mississippimills.ca/newsletter](http://www.mississippimills.ca/newsletter)

## Holiday Spirit Comes Alive in Mississippi Mills December 6-8

Embrace the magic of the holiday season in Mississippi Mills December 6-8 with three days of festive fun as we welcome Santa Claus for the entire weekend!

The ever popular 29th annual Light Up the Night wintry open-air concert returns on Friday, December 6. Almonte's Mill Street will close to vehicles and thousands will fill the downtown core for an evening of holiday music, emceed by Ottawa Valley's own singer, songwriter and entertainer, Gail Gavan. Sing along to your favourite Christmas tunes, hear from some puppet friends, and watch in amazement as The Snow Queen and her Twinkle Fairies wave their magic wands to bring Santa Claus to town. Stick around after the concert for a magical fireworks display!

The following day, Saturday, December 7, it's time for the Pakenham Santa Claus Parade. The parade leaves the Stewart Community Centre at 1 p.m. sharp. Be sure to bring food or money donations for The Hunger Stop – Lanark County Food Bank. The Pakenham & District Civitan Club will be collecting during the parade.

On Sunday, December 8, it's Almonte's time to shine with the annual Christmas Night Parade at 5 p.m. It will be a twinkly celebration with plenty of sparkling lights and music! The parade ends at the John Levi Community Centre where the Almonte Lions Club will be providing hot dogs and hot chocolate. Don't forget our skates for the free public skate!

\*Paper copies will continue to be available upon request at the Municipal Office.

# A community hub: Mississippi Mills Public Library



Mississippi Mills Public Library - Pakenham Branch

**Pakenham Branch**  
128 MacFarlane Street  
(613) 624-5306

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**Almonte Branch**  
155 High Street  
(613) 256-1037

## Its More than Books! Discover How the Public Library Connects Community

Remember when the library was a space for reading and researching? It still is, actually, but better! It's also a safe space for young parents, community groups, youths, older adults, and everyone in-between. The Mississippi Mills Public Library (MMPL) offers a whole plethora of services and events at its two locations within the Municipality - the Pakenham Branch and the Almonte Branch. You might be surprised by the untraditional programming they offer.

Let's say that your grandchild gets you an iPad Air this holiday season - the sixth generation iPad Air comes with a 10 Gbit/s USB-C port, a Smart HDR 4K rear camera, Bluetooth

5.0 for seamless AirDropping... What does this all even mean? The MMPL can help you better understand new technology through their **Tech Tutor** service. Simply call a branch to register for an one-on-one session with a tech tutor who will help guide you through any questions or difficulties you're having with your unfamiliar technology.

The MMPL is also a space for infants and their parents/caregivers/grandparents. Every Wednesday at the Almonte Branch is **Baby Time** - a fast-paced half hour of tummy tickles, songs and bouncy rhymes. Babies and parents have time to socialize afterwards, sharing common

experiences or advice with each other. Apparently some libraries are full of fun giggles instead of silence.

In terms of borrowing, the library has a few other interesting things; **museum passes, snowshoes, laptops, skate passes, electricity usage monitors (Kill A Watt), radon testing kits, projector and screen**, and so much more. Simply put, if you ever need something specific, try the library before making a purchase.

We don't have the space to describe all of the MMPL's services, so here's a sample:

- **Coffee Time Drop-in**
- **Learn to 3D Print**
- **Monthly Films**
- **Author Talks**
- **Spanish Conversation Groups**
- **French Conversation Groups**
- **Audiobooks through Libby**
- **Home Delivery**
- **Travelogue - Travel Stories Conversation Group**

This fall season, come inside to warm up, socialize, make connections, and solve problems. For more, visit [www.missmillslibrary.com](http://www.missmillslibrary.com)

# Keeping you and your home safe Mississippi Mills Fire Department

The majority of fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms, says the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

We understand that false alarms can be disruptive to your lives. During this year's Fire Prevention Week, we shared tips on how to make alarms work for you and your life.

The Ontario Fire Marshal highly recommends alarms with a pause feature. These alarms are one of the safest ways to enjoy your cooking, showering, or whatever other activity you may be doing that occasionally trips the smoke alarm.

By using the pause feature just before starting your activity, you can temporarily silence the alarm without disconnecting the power source. The alarm will go back to protecting you and your home after the set period of time. Check your alarm to see if yours has this feature, and consider upgrading if it doesn't.

Don't leave your survival to chance - when purchasing a smoke and carbon monoxide alarm, make sure you buy an alarm that meets Canadian standards.

Look for one of these logos on the alarm itself (not just on the package): **CSA, cUL, or cETL.**



If purchasing a new alarm with a pause feature isn't an option, consider moving around some of your alarms. If your alarm is activating often during your everyday activities, you may have placed it too close to your bathroom, window, ceiling fan, or heating and cooking appliances.

Moving the alarm a short distance away can make all the difference.

As a reminder, it is required by law for every home in Ontario to have a working smoke alarm on every storey (including basements) and outside all sleeping areas. Failure to comply can result in a \$360 ticket or fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals or \$100,000 for corporations.

It is the landlord's responsibility to ensure their rental properties comply with the law. If you are a tenant of a rental property and do not have the required number of smoke alarms, contact your landlord immediately.

It is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm in any way.

Questions regarding alarms may be directed to the Fire Department Administration by calling **613-256-2064 ext. 704** or by email:

[fireprevention@mississippimill.ca](mailto:fireprevention@mississippimill.ca).

For more information, visit [www.mississippimills.ca/fire](http://www.mississippimills.ca/fire)

**EVERY SECOND COUNTS**  
**SIGN UP NOW!**  
REGISTER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RESIDENCE SO THAT FIREFIGHTERS KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN THEY ARRIVE ON SCENE

Community Connect

## Holidays: The Season of Careless Fires

The holidays are time to gather with friends and family, to have a great big feast, and celebrate our culture. The holidays are also when fires are more likely to occur. This season, the Mississippi Mills Fire Department wants to highlight the need to remain vigilant during holiday festivities.

- If you have a tree indoors, make sure it is well watered to prevent dryness (trees can soak up to four litres a day!)
- Keep an eye on those who may be intoxicated. Refrain from cooking while intoxicated.
- Place candles in sturdy holders, and keep away from anything flammable (beds, trees, table cloths, etc.)

# Get active! Recreation Programs

## Summer May Be Over, But There's No Shortage of Recreational Fun!

Maintain the summer momentum with these recreational programs. Fall brings back community favourites like hockey, badminton, and shuffleboard. For full details on programs, visit [www.mississippimills.ca/recreation](http://www.mississippimills.ca/recreation).



**Pick-up Hockey**  
Ages: U13 to U21

A national favourite pastime, the Municipality offers pick-up hockey in Pakenham and Almonte. Full equipment is required.

**Almonte:**  
**When:** Oct. 1 to March 18

- Tuesdays, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. (U18 and U21)
- Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. (U13 and U15)

**Where:** John Levi Community Centre, 182 Bridge St

**Pakenham:**  
**When:** Oct. 1 to March 18

- Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. (U13 and U15)
- Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. (U18 and U21)

**Where:** Stewart Community Centre, 112 MacFarlane St

**Cost:** \$5 per session

**More information:**  
[www.mississippimills.ca/hockey](http://www.mississippimills.ca/hockey)



**Five Span Strong**  
Ages: 5-15

Five Span Strong is a seasonal recreational fitness program teaching children the value of movement, breathing, playing and community.

**When:** January 16 to March 28, Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Stewart Community Centre, Pakenham

**Cost:** \$35 (one day a week) or \$70 (two days a week)

**Registration:**  
[5SpanStrong@gmail.com](mailto:5SpanStrong@gmail.com)



### Skating

The Municipality has a variety of skating sessions, in addition to our pick-up hockey sessions.

**Almonte:**  
*Parents and Tots*  
**When:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*Seniors*  
**When:** Wednesdays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

*Public Skating*  
**When:** Sundays 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**Pakenham:**  
*Public Skating*  
**When:** Fridays 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Cost:** For prices, please visit [www.mississippimills.ca/skating](http://www.mississippimills.ca/skating)



### Volleyball

In addition to our adult leagues, we now have a youth league!

**Youth Volleyball:**  
**When:** January 21 - April 19

- Tuesdays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (grades 6 to 8)
- Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (grades 9 to 12)

**Where:** Holy Name of Mary Catholic School, Almonte

**Cost:** \$40 resident \$55 non-resident

**Registration:**  
In-person at the John Levi Community Centre, January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. First come, first serve.



**Yoga**  
Ages: All ages

Come stretch your muscles with us in Pakenham!

**When:** Wednesdays, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. October 2 to December 4 January 8 to March 12 March 26 to May 28

**Where:** Stewart Community Centre, Pakenham

**Cost:** \$80 per 10 week session

**More information:**  
[www.mississippimills.ca/yoga](http://www.mississippimills.ca/yoga)



### Line Dancing

Ages: All ages

Come out for line dancing with a great group of people. Always lots of fun!

**When:** Thursdays, October 3 to June 12

**Where:** John Levi Community Centre - upper hall

**Cost:** \$10 per class or \$95 in advance per seasonal session

**More information:**  
[www.mississippimills.ca/line-dancing](http://www.mississippimills.ca/line-dancing)



Red Cross Babysitting Course OCT. 19

Promo Code: Almonte\_Baby

[www.SafetyTreeCanada.com](http://www.SafetyTreeCanada.com)



## 20+ Parks for All Seasons

Mississippi Mills is home to **20+ parks** (and four trails)! These parks play a crucial role in the community, offering unique amenities and often acting as a "third place" for youth, adults and older adults alike - in all seasons. Some of our parks include:

**Appleton Bay Park (Appleton)**  
This park features a boat launch, providing access to a 10 km section of the Mississippi River that is popular for fall paddling, boating, and fishing.

**Augusta Street Park (Almonte)**  
In the summer, this park is a go-to for its BMX track, but in the winter, volunteers join together to maintain an outdoor skating rink at Augusta Street Park!

**Gemmill Park (Almonte)**  
If you're looking for a fun place to toboggan, check out the hill behind the John Levi Community Centre in Gemmill Park! On snow days, there is FREE public skating at the John Levi Community Centre, next to the park. Watch our social media channels for details.

**Clayton Taylor Park (Clayton)**  
Turtles, birds, fish... So much wildlife! This park is known for a scenic waterfront, worth the drive for those visiting from elsewhere. With a boat launch available, this park makes another great location to start an autumn paddle adventure.



# Gearing up for the cold months: Fall and Winter Reminders

## Annual Fall Leaf & Yard Waste Collection Dates

We make impressing your neighbours with your clean yard easy. There's no need to hassle taking your yard waste to the dump - we'll come to you!

This fall's leaf and yard waste curbside collection is happening on November 19 to 21, 2024. Check out the table to see when we'll be in your area.

### Tuesday, Nov. 19

- West side of Almonte

### Wednesday, Nov. 20

#### Hamlets/Villages of

- Appleton
- Blakeney
- Clayton
- Pakenham

#### Subdivisions

- Pakenham Golf Course
- Oakland Cres (Booth)
- Fairway Cres
- Julie Anne Cres
- Spruce Cres
- Senator (Torok, Emerich)
- Heather Cres (Carl Lee, Duncan)

### Thursday, Nov. 21

- East side of Almonte

#### Subdivisions

- Whitetail Ridge
- Greystone/Stonehome Cres

**PLEASE NOTE** that areas outside of the regions mentioned above are not collected curbside.

## Winter Parking Restrictions Start December 1

You may already be aware that winter parking restrictions start on December 1 of each year, but did you know that it's possible for restrictions to take place before and after the annual restriction period?

In addition to no street parking and no parking in Municipal lots between the hours of 1:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. between December 1 of any year to March 31 of the following year, restrictions are in place on any days outside of the period mentioned above when snow or freezing rain is forecasted, and for an additional four days after an event where snow has accumulated.

If your street hasn't been plowed after snowfall, it's best to not park on the street overnight until it has been plowed. Keeping the roads clear of parked cars overnight helps our crews quickly and cleanly plow our streets.

## A Cozy Wood Stove for the Cold Winter

A building permit is required for all wood stove installations. Your permit application package will require a completed three-page building permit application form (found on the building department webpage), installation guide by



## - NOTICE -

### Water Main Flushing

Sept. 30 - Nov. 1 (Almonte)

This annual maintenance program is designed to remove the sediment that has accumulated in the water mains to maintain good water quality.

## Other Reminders

### Tuesday, Oct. 15

Municipal RV Disposal Station closes for the season.

### Saturday, Nov. 2

Howie Road Waste and Recycle Depot closes for the season.

the manufacturer, and a layout/floor plan/sketch of the proposed location showing the size of hearth, distances and clearances to wall and combustibles, and chimney routing. Stay warm, stay safe.

# Get involved! Grants and Community Engagement



## Municipal Budget in the Spotlight

Get a sneak-peek into municipal departments and their spending - the Municipality has been publishing bi-weekly articles (spotlights) on our website, social media, and newsfeed, showcasing proposed capital spending for 2025.

Did you know that the Municipality is responsible for maintaining over 360 km of road? In Budget 2025 Spotlight #2, we discussed the Roads and Public Works Department and their planned capital projects. Spotlights are ongoing until December,

so please keep an eye out for them on our channels!

The Municipality also ran a budget survey during the month of August. The survey received an overwhelming response from 328 participants - almost double the amount of responses compared to last year. The findings from the survey were presented to Council on October 8. Agendas for meetings can be found at [events.mississippimills.ca/council](https://events.mississippimills.ca/council)

For more on the budget, visit [www.mississippimills.ca/budget](https://www.mississippimills.ca/budget)

## Water Wastewater Infrastructure Master Plan

Out through your taps and in through your drains. Have a say in the master plan that'll guide "How We Flow." Until October 24, the Water Wastewater Master Plan is in its 30-day public review period. During this period, residents are encouraged to read through the document and to send any feedback to [info@mississippimills.ca](mailto:info@mississippimills.ca).

Initiated as part of MM2048, a large-scale review of many of

the Municipality's departments and services' master plans, the Water Wastewater Infrastructure Master Plan (dubbed "How We Flow") will guide the development of water and wastewater servicing. Completed by J.L. Richards & Associates, this master plan addresses the demand infrastructure will face in the coming 25 years as Mississippi Mills grows.

## Focus Groups: Rural Villages and Rural Vitality

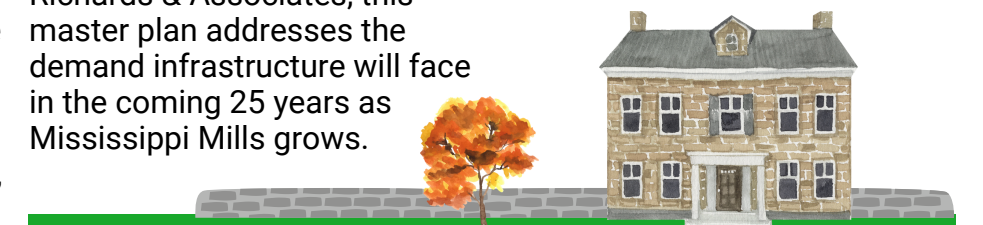
If you consider small village charm important and the vitality of the rural area an asset to Mississippi Mills, this one is for you.

Let us know how you think we should preserve and enhance the rural landscape while also fostering sustainable economic development and community well-being. By working together, we can approach growth in a balanced and just way.

For more information, visit [www.mississippimills.ca/OPA28](https://www.mississippimills.ca/OPA28) and look out for consultation in early 2025!

## Heritage Grants: Preserving Character

Did you know the Municipality offers a **Heritage Building Restoration Grant** as well as a **Heritage Tax Refund** for properties designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. Discover more by contacting the Planning Department today - [mplanner@mississippimills.ca](mailto:mplanner@mississippimills.ca).





# Resources for you

## Can't keep up with rent?

We can help if you are at immediate risk of losing housing or are homeless.

613-267-4200 ext. 2140  
Housing Assistance Program (HAP)

## Help starts here

Get resources for:

- Mental health
- Employment training
- Homelessness
- Newcomers
- And more



## 1-800-267-5960

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, call our 24/7 crisis line



You deserve to be heard. We're here to listen.

Call or Text

9-8-8

Suicide Crisis Helpline



## Food Aid

Here are different options for getting food aid in Mississippi Mills



**The Hunger Stop**  
(Carleton Place)  
613-257-8546



**A Meal For All**  
(Almonte)  
hello@amealforall.ca



**Community Pantry**  
(Almonte)  
155 High St.

**NEED A RIDE TO GET FOOD?  
We'll take you there!**

To get a ride: **613-264-8256** 

Mississippi Mills

## By-Law Enforcement

responds on a complaint-driven basis.

Residents with concerns are encouraged to file a formal complaint with the Municipality.

- Parking* ▪ *Property Standards* ▪ *Noise*  
*Yard Maintenance* ▪ *Signs*  
*Animal Control* ▪ *Zoning* ▪ *And more*

Call 613-256-2064 ext. 507



or  
Report Online  
mississippimills.ca



# Getting information during An Emergency



88.1

LANARK LEEDSTODAY.CA

LOCAL NEWS FIRST



## Radio

88.1 MHz (FM) "MyFM" is the designated as the radio station for emergency information throughout Lanark County. In the event of an emergency, tune to 88.1 MyFM for official updates and emergency announcements. It is highly recommended to have a hand-cranked radio as part of your emergency kit.

98.7 FM "Valley Heritage Radio" is community run, also providing crucial information to the Ottawa Valley.

## Social Media

The municipal website and social media channels will be updated as information becomes available. Please note that these channels are not monitored 24/7.

### Other media channels:

- Mississippi Mills Fire Dept.
- OPPEast
- Leeds, Grenville and Lanark Health Unit
- healthunit.org

Have you familiarized yourself with the

LANARK COUNTY

## Emergency Preparedness Guide?



KNOW THE RISKS MAKE A PLAN GET A KIT

## Information on Power Outages

The Municipality is served by two power operators:

- The Ottawa River Power Corporation (within Almonte)
- Hydro One (outside of Almonte)

Follow each on their social media and website for updates on power situations, including planned outages and outage maps.

### Websites:

- [www.hydroone.com/](http://www.hydroone.com/)
- [www.orpowercorp.com/](http://www.orpowercorp.com/)



OPP Non-Emergency Line: 1 888 310-1122 TTY: 1 888 310-1133

# RIDE THE MISSISSIPPI MILLS LT

ONLY  
**\$2**  
ROUND TRIP

Get picked up & dropped off  
**anywhere**  
in Mississippi Mills, to alternating  
weekly **Thursday routes** in  
**Almonte** and **Carleton Place**



## Almonte

Every **first** and **third Thursday**

<b>Mississippi Mills Public Library (Almonte Branch)</b>	10:00	10:45	11:30
<b>Almonte General Hospital</b>	10:10	10:55	11:40
<b>Shoppers Drug Mart</b>	10:20	11:05	11:50
<b>The Independent</b>	10:25	11:10	11:55
<b>Tim Hortons</b>	10:35	11:20	12:05

## Carleton Place

Every **second** and **fourth Thursday**

<b>Mississippi Mills Public Library (Almonte Branch)</b>	10:00		12:25
<b>FreshCo</b>	10:20	11:05	11:50
<b>Tim Hortons</b>	10:25	11:10	11:55
<b>Walmart</b>	10:30	11:15	12:00
<b>Giant Tiger</b>	10:35	11:20	12:05

[lanarktransportation.com](http://lanarktransportation.com)

[www.mississippimills.ca/RideTheLT](http://www.mississippimills.ca/RideTheLT)

**“Ride the LT” by Lanark Transportation is now in Mississippi Mills!**

Residents - including youths and older adults alike - can now register to Ride the LT for their weekly shopping needs.

TO BOOK, CALL:  
**1-877-445-5777**  
Or **613-264-8256**

*\*Please book by Wednesday at 10 a.m.*

  
**LANARK  
TRANSPORTATION**  
Accessible, caring, personal transport.