



Waves

A publication for the citizens and communities of the Municipality of Lakeshore.

February/March 2025

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Mayor’s Message

Council and I are proud to present the 2025 Budget. Our deliberations took a critical and comprehensive look at the entirety of Lakeshore’s financial picture, and we made several difficult decisions. We continue to face significant financial challenges, including the ongoing impact of inflation as well as pending costs outlined in the Water and Wastewater Master and Fire Master Plans. In light of those pressures, the focus was on delivering value and limiting the impact on taxpayers.

We’ve delivered another budget

that is below the rate of inflation. I would like to thank my fellow Council members, Team Lakeshore for their fantastic work on the Budget, as well as to all the residents who shared their feedback.

Our list of capital projects, totaling over \$36 million, will see neighbourhood-enhancing investments in communities across Lakeshore. Stoney Point/Pointe-aux-Roches residents will see investments in their community park, and an accessible kayak launch system is coming to Belle River. We’re replacing and connecting sidewalks and trails

to improve walkability and safety. Larger investments include \$2.9 million for road resurfacing, \$1.14 million for surface treatments, and several multimillion-dollar investments in our water and wastewater systems.

However, one budget is not an answer to the challenges we face. We will continue to look to community partners and upper levels of government for support in achieving our goals. While we are still early into 2025, I look forward to sharing important news about these opportunities soon.

Together we are Lakeshore.

2025 Budget

On Thursday, January 23, 2025, Council approved Lakeshore’s 2025 Budget. The approved tax rate increase will add \$54 per year (\$4.50 per month) to the municipal portion of property tax bills. County of Essex and school board levies will add an additional \$55 per year (\$4.58 per month).



\$54 | 2.91%
Lakeshore tax rate increase



\$109 | 2.93%
Blended tax rate increase



\$92
Combined yearly increase
(including municipal, school board, county, and garbage rates)

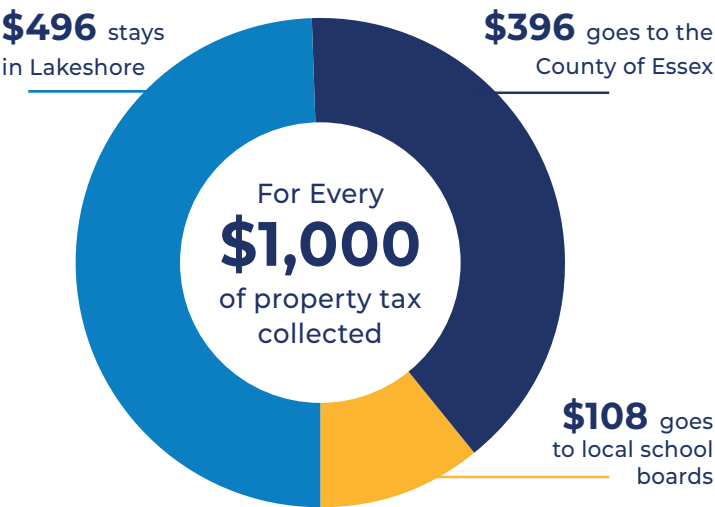


\$75 | 9.00%
Combined wastewater rate increase (based on average usage)



\$29 | 4.00%
Combined water rate increase (based on average usage)

Where Your Tax Dollars Go



Major Capital Projects:

- Comber Watermain Replacement
- Rochester Watermain Replacements
- Stoney Point Community Park Construction
- County Road 22 Sanitary Trunk Upgrades
- 2025 Bridge Rehabilitation Program
- Lifecycle Asphalt Replacement
- Fire Truck Replacement Program

Go Paperless with E-billing

Property tax and water account holders can now opt for paperless billing by receiving bills via email.

This money-saving and eco-friendly approach offers you access to your billing details online, wherever you are. Sign up online at Lakeshore.ca/Ebilling

County Road 22 Reconstruction Public Consultation Centre No. 2

The County of Essex and the Municipality of Lakeshore are preparing to make major enhancements to the County Road 22 corridor between I.C. Roy Dr. and West Belle River Rd.

We want to hear your comments and feedback!

Join us at the Public Consultation Centre No. 2, date and location of the event will be announced soon.

Stay up-to-date, learn more about the project, and share your feedback online at: CountyofEssex.ca/CR22

Lakeshore Town Hall Renovations Reminder

While Town Hall will be closed for a period of time, Lakeshore will continue to provide the same high-quality, in-person service that you are used to. All Town Hall services are now temporarily moved to the:

- **Atlas Tube Recreation Centre (ATRC)**, 447 Renaud Line Rd, Belle River, ON.
- Services will be available Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Dog Tag Program Discontinued



Lakeshore has discontinued its dog tag program as of January 1, 2025. All other animal control services and related by-laws remain in effect.

Dog owners are no longer required to purchase a municipal dog tag every year. However, owners are still required to ensure their dogs are identifiable, either through a tag with up-to-date contact information or a microchip.

Commercially available dog tags can be purchased at pet stores or online and must include the dog's name/contact number. Microchips are available through veterinary clinics or the Windsor/Essex County Humane Society. For more info and to read the full report, visit Lakeshore.ca/DogTags

2025 Tax Bills

Lakeshore issues two bills each year. Bills will be mailed in January and June, with two installments each. Supplementary bills will be mailed between July and November, with two due dates separate from the installment dates below. **Due Dates:**



- February 28, 2025
- April 30, 2025
- July 31, 2025
- October 31, 2025

Upcoming Recreation Events

Family Day Free Activities

Join us on **February 17, 2025**, at the Atlas Tube Recreation Centre for Family Day Celebrations! Enjoy FREE, basketball, pickleball, preschool play, skating, and swimming. Call **519-728-2700** or visit Lakeshore.ca/Recreation to reserve your spot.

March Break Drop In Programs

Looking for a fun way to stay active over the March break? Check out our March Break Drop In activities at Lakeshore.ca/DropIn

Summer Camp Registration

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 9:00 AM

Connect With Council

To find a schedule of upcoming Council and committee meetings, current and past agendas, minutes and livestreams, visit Lakeshore.ca/Council

Lakeshore.ca/Connect

519-728-2700

419 Notre Dame Street
Belle River, ON N8L 0P8

Follow us online to stay up-to-date!

