

# Waves

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

January/February 2026

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## Mayor's Message: 2026 Budget Approved

I am pleased to announce that Lakeshore's 2026 Budget has been approved at 1.76%.

The Budget is truly a Lakeshore-wide process which culminates in a document that guides investments in projects and services which will improve our communities for years to come.

I'd like to thank Council for their thoughtful input and constructive debate, staff for their expertise and management of the Budget, as well as all

the residents and community partners who reached out to us with their input.

This year's deliberations took a line-by-line approach to find opportunities for savings on behalf of taxpayers. We are thrilled to deliver a Budget below the rate of inflation while continuing to invest in our services and our communities.

The steps taken throughout the process reflect the voices of residents of Lakeshore's

communities, and I am confident that the Budget represents our collective desire to keep more money in the pockets of our taxpayers.

You can read the full document on our interactive digital Budget App, which is online at [Lakeshore.ca/BudgetApp](https://Lakeshore.ca/BudgetApp)

## 2026 Budget

On Thursday, December 4, 2025, Council approved Lakeshore's 2026 Budget. The tax rate increase will add \$33 per year (\$2.75 per month) to the municipal portion of property tax bills. The County of Essex levy will add an additional \$34 per year (\$2.83 per month).

\*School board rates were not available as of publication.



**\$33 | 1.76%**

Lakeshore tax rate increase



**\$67 | 1.76%**

Blended tax rate increase  
(Lakeshore and County of Essex\*)



**\$73 | 1.81%**

Combined yearly increase  
(including municipal, county, and  
garbage rates)



**\$86 | 9.00%**

Combined wastewater rate  
increase (based on average usage)



**\$31 | 4.00%**

Combined water rate increase  
(based on average usage)

### Where Your Tax Dollars Go

**\$395** goes to  
the County of Essex

**\$496** stays  
in Lakeshore

**\$110** goes  
to local school  
boards

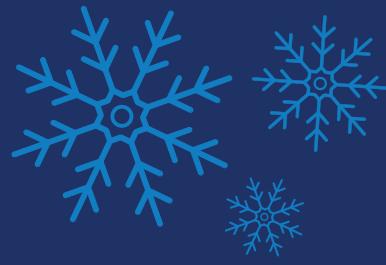


### Budget Highlights:

- Stoney Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Design
- \$9.2 million for road work, including reconstruction, asphalt resurfacing, surface treatment, and gravel road conversion.
- Amy Croft Widening and Intersection Improvements at Manning Rd
- Watermain replacements in Lighthouse Cove
- Scott Sideroad watermain connection
- Splash pad improvements at Lakeview Park, jet ski docks at Belle River Marina, and tennis/pickleball court replacement at Leffler Park
- Added funding to complete CWATS EC Way 100 Cycling Trail
- New funding for Community History and Identity Project

## Help Keep Lakeshore Safe this Winter

Lakeshore is reminding residents of the importance of keeping our roadways clear so our staff can safely and effectively remove snow. Please ensure garbage and recycling bins, basketball or hockey nets, as well as any other items, are not left on the road. **Do your part to keep roadways, our staff, and your family safe this winter.**



### Stay Up-to-Date on Council Meetings

Find upcoming 2026 Council and committee meetings, current and past agendas, minutes and livestreams, at [Lakeshore.ca/Council](https://Lakeshore.ca/Council)

### Family Day Celebrations FREE Activities

Join us on February 16, 2026, at the Atlas Tube Recreation Centre for Family Day Celebrations!

Enjoy FREE, basketball, pickleball, preschool play, skating, and swimming. To reserve your spot, call **519-728-2700** or visit [Lakeshore.ca/Recreation](https://Lakeshore.ca/Recreation)

### Upcoming Tax Bills

Lakeshore issues two bills each year (Interim and Final). Bills will be mailed in January and June, with two payment due dates each:

- **February 27**
- **April 30**
- **July 31**
- **October 30**



Supplementary tax bills are also issued when a new home is built or renovated, or the property's land use changes.

### Changes to Recycling Collection

Starting in January 2026, recycling collection will no longer be a municipal responsibility. Circular Materials will be the new administrator across Ontario and they have hired Green For Life Environmental Inc. (GFL) to provide curbside recycling collection. Collection info in the 2026 Collection Calendar remains the same. Residents must have their recycling out by 6:00 AM. For more info, visit [CircularMaterials.ca/Lakeshore](https://CircularMaterials.ca/Lakeshore)

### Upcoming Election Reminder

Lakeshore's Municipal Elections are coming up in 2026!

#### Election Day is October 26, 2026

Stay tuned for updates, voter information, and advanced voting dates at: [Lakeshore.ca/Elections](https://Lakeshore.ca/Elections)

### Notice a Problem in Lakeshore? Report It!

Lakeshore encourages residents to submit problems and issues they encounter with public infrastructure. Problems can be submitted via the online form at [Lakeshore.ca/ReportAProblem](https://Lakeshore.ca/ReportAProblem) or by calling **519-728-2700**. For issues outside of regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM), call 519-728-2700 and follow the automated prompts.



### Have Your Say

Sign up for surveys and learn about community engagement opportunities online at [Lakeshore.ca/Engage](https://Lakeshore.ca/Engage)

Follow us online to stay up-to-date!



**Lakeshore.ca/Connect**

**519-728-2700**

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