



• where agriculture and industry meet •

## Vision Statement

A future with growing, sustainable communities and a diverse economic base resulting in more people, more jobs and more housing.

## Greetings from the Reeve

The RM of Morris council met early January of 2019 to discuss and establish strategic priorities for the year. Council discussed the importance of budgetary constraints and we concluded our session in full agreement that tax impacts should be kept to an absolute minimum and any increases must be aligned with inflationary increases.

Council has managed to achieve many of their goals for 2019.

- Drain management program was successfully completed and we have been able to make some progress on the 2020 plan.
- The gravel and road maintenance program followed the plan from previous years.
- Roadside mowing was a challenge especially this fall because of the wet weather conditions.

Two new major initiatives were implemented in 2019:

- We were able to work with Valley Fiber and complete cable installation in the communities of Rosenort and Lowe Farm. All residents and businesses in these communities now have access to high speed internet service. Wireless internet service should be available to all other residents and businesses in the RM of Morris early in 2020.
- The second major project for council was the decision to expand the Rosenort Industrial Park. 80 acres of land south of the existing site was purchased and we will begin the process of establishing sub division this year and industrial lots should be available for sale in 2021.

Your council meets twice a month to review operations and respond to concerns of our citizens. We are always aware of the fact that our elected responsibility is to serve our community in a fair, effective, and cost efficient manner. Council understands that they serve the residents and electorate of the Municipality of Morris.

On behalf of Council I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve and improve our communities.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas with a focus on family and friends. Enjoy the Holidays.

**Ralph Groening, Reeve**

## CAO Report

### ARE YOU PREPARED?

After the thanksgiving weekend storm in October we have had a number of discussions about being 'ready' in the event of another event. Part of being ready is to ensure that you have an adequate supply of food, water, etc. Emergency planners are telling us that everyone should be capable of 'taking care of themselves' for at least the first 72 hours (3 days).

I along with some other Municipal Staff recently attended a 'Business Continuity Planning' workshop. It was an interesting day and a good exercise to participate in. For those of you in our municipality that are operating businesses we would encourage you to develop a 'Business Continuity Plan' for your business. Business Continuity consists of comparing 'All that you do' versus 'All that you must do'. The presenter talked about 'Must do, Could do, Should do'.

If there would be businesses interested in a workshop presentation we would be able to coordinate such a workshop if there is enough interest. Please notify us at the Administration Office if you are interested.

We are approaching the end of 2019 and now are starting to plan for 2020. Hopefully we will be able to avoid any flooding in 2020!

On behalf of myself and the Rural Municipality of Morris Staff we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

**Larry Driedger, CMMA, CAO**

Serving the communities of  
Sperling, Aubigny, Rosenort,  
Riverside, McTavish, Silver Plains,  
Lowe Farm, Kane and Sewell since  
1880.

## Public Works Report

**Drainage:** The 2019 drainage program has finished with an extra 3 miles done. Due to the extremely wet fall, dirt spreading wasn't possible.

**Roads:** Gravel roads have shaped up nicely, dirt roads have also shaped up nicely on frost.

**Snow Clearing:** I'd like to remind rural residents to avoid pushing on or blowing snow onto road allowances, this can be dangerous for snow clearing equipment travelling at high speeds.

As for urban residents, please remove your parked vehicles from the streets during snow clearing operations. Parked vehicles on the street not only slow down clearing equipment, but also leave large amounts of snow on the road after the car is dug out. This is both an inconvenience and is dangerous to everyone.

With everyone's assistance during the winter season it will help to provide efficient and safe winter maintenance.

As Public Works Manager, I would like to give a big thank you to the Public Works Staff.

Wishing everyone the best in the New Year!

**Paul Robert, Public Works Manager**

[paul@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:paul@rmofmorris.ca)

### How to Prepare for a Manitoba Emergency

Living in Manitoba winter storms, flooding, power outages, wind and ice storms are a very real possibility. It is expected by all levels of government that people will be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours of an emergency. Here are some things you can do pre-storm to help you be self-sufficient.

- Have an emergency kit including:
  - 2L of water per person per day & water for your pets for 3 days
  - Non-perishable foods that can be eaten cold and a manual can opener (eg. granola bars, jerky, canned vegetables, tuna, etc.)
  - Wind-up or battery operated radio (with extra batteries)
  - First aid kit
  - Candles & matches (in a proper candle holder)
  - Generator
  - Cash
  - Blanket & warm clothes
  - Emergency plan
  - And many more!
- Check on your friends and family
- Invite people into your home if you have an alternate heating source during a power outage
- Go to the following links for tips, risks, kit supplies, and much more
  - <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-en.aspx>
  - [https://www.hydro.mb.ca/safety/storms\\_and\\_floods/#winter](https://www.hydro.mb.ca/safety/storms_and_floods/#winter)

### Fire Chief / Building Inspector Report

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

It has been a busy year for me in both my position as Building Inspector and Fire Chief. Our three fire halls have responded to over seventy calls this year and over fifty building permits have been issued.

If you are planning a building project in the spring, feel free to contact me for permitting requirements or other information regarding building in the municipality.

With the winter upon us, I recommend that residents who use wood for heating ensure that their woodstoves or fireplaces are in good working order and that the chimneys are being cleaned annually by a WETT certified professional. Also, I strongly suggest that each household have a 72 hour emergency kit consisting of food, water, blankets, medications, portable radio, flashlight and batteries as well as a non-electric method of cooking (ie: Coleman stove). Given that a major winter storm may also cause power outages and delay emergency responders, purchasing a portable generator should also be considered. Please think about taking these precautions to protect your families during snow events.

I wish each and every one of you a happy, safe and prosperous 2020!

**Trevor Dackow, Bldg. Insp. / Fire Chief**

[trevor@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:trevor@rmofmorris.ca)

**In the case of a boil water advisory please follow the instructions below:**

To avoid purchasing water bottles, and prior to the service interruption, water users can store tap water in clean containers for drinking water purposes and should fill the bathtub for flushing water during the outage.

Due to flushing of lines after the water service resumes, water users may experience a sputtering water flow, discoloured or dirty water. This is normal and should resolve after a few minutes of running your cold water tap.

**All water should be brought to a rolling boil for at least one minute before it is used for:**

- **Drinking and ice making**
- **Preparing beverages, such as infant formula**
- **Preparing food**
- **Brushing teeth**

It is not necessary to boil tap water used for other household purposes, such as laundry or washing dishes. Adult and older children that are able to avoid swallowing the water can wash, bathe, or shower. Young children should be sponge bathed. If boiling is not feasible, an alternate and safe supply of water should be used.

To avoid burn injuries from hot water, caution should be taken. Please keep young children away from boiled water, and place kettles and pots away from counters and stove edges. **Notices will be posted to our media.**

**R.M. of Morris Media**

Please take the time to visit our website and check out our upcoming events.

We would like to include as many community events as possible, so please forward information to Jennifer at the R.M. of Morris office by calling 204-746-7300 or send her an email at [jennifer@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:jennifer@rmofmorris.ca)



Water Works Emergency Line:  
204-746-7300

Animal Control Officer John Derksen:  
204-746-0593

**Quick & Easy Billing and Receipts**

- Sign up for emailed utility billing to receive your bill quicker. Email [marley@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:marley@rmofmorris.ca), or go to our website and apply online! (Not available for tax bills)

- Emailed receipts are an option when paying **any** bill to the RM of Morris; to set it up please email [jennifer@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:jennifer@rmofmorris.ca).

If you would like to sign up for email notifications please email [jennifer@rmofmorris.ca](mailto:jennifer@rmofmorris.ca).

You will **not** be sent every update and notice that we publicize, only important notices such as boil water advisory notices and other important notices that affect large areas or the entire municipality.

Please note that email notifications will be sent out during regular office hours only. You may refer to our Facebook page for after hours notices.

**PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION AMONGST YOUR NEIGHBOURS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY.**

**How to Find a Water Leak in Your House**

1. Check your water meter. If **any** of the dials are moving and you know for sure that no water is being used in your house, you have a leak somewhere. If you have a meter with a digital screen, shine a bright light at the face to activate the screen. If you see a number other than zero on the flow rate screen, you have a leak somewhere. You can also take a reading on your meter before you leave the house for 1-2 hours and again when you return. If the meter has changed and the house was empty, you have a leak somewhere. For a final confirmation, shut off your main shut off valve under your meter. If all the activity above stops, you have a leak somewhere in your house.
2. Check your toilets. They are the main source of leaks and can be very hard to see. You will sometimes be able to see water running down the sides of the bowl or even hear water running or dribbling. A good test to try is adding some dark food coloring to your toilet tank, then wait a half hour or so and see if that coloring has made it to the bowl.
3. Check the pressure relief valves and drain valves on your hot water tank. You will find them at the top and bottom of your tank.
4. Look for leaky shower heads and faucets
5. Look for water damage around sinks and faucets. The leak may be hidden from view at a joint or connection hidden from sight.

When leaving your house for long periods of time please remember to turn off your water. This prevents the lines from freezing in the winter and any possible water leaks or issues with the line.

**Recycling Pick Up**

-  Rosenort & Lowe Farm
-  Sperling, Riverside, Rosenort & Aubigny
-  Holiday...CLOSED

January 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	<del>17</del>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

April 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	<del>13</del>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## Upcoming Council Meetings

- Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Mar 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Apr 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Landfill Hours and Price List

DAYS	Rosenort 204-746-0417	Low Farm 204-746-4337
Monday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Tuesday	9am - 4:30pm	1pm - 5pm
Wednesday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Thursday	9am - 4:30pm	10am - 8pm
Friday	9am - 4:30pm	CLOSED
Saturday	9am - 4:30pm	9am - 3pm
Sundays & Holidays	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>FEES</b>		
5 Bag Max.		\$7.00
Half Ton Truck or Small Trailer		\$14.00
One Ton Truck (min. rate)		\$35.00
Scale per Tonne		\$35.00 <small>(not accepted at Low Farm)</small>
Fridge (Freon removed)		\$35.00
Asphalt Shingles per Tonne (not mixed)		\$35.00

Rates effective July 1st, 2018.

### Recycling Depot Bin Locations:

- Aubigny (30187 PR 246)
- Sperling (2 New St)
- Sewell (18133 Recksiedler Rd)
- Low Farm Landfill (24059 Rd 5W)
- Rosenort Landfill (NE 9-6-1E)

RECYCLING ONLY. NO GARBAGE PLEASE.



PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVENT THAT the Public Utilities Board of Manitoba has given approval to the following utility rates effective January 1, 2020.

Commodity Rates per one thousand gallons of water

	2019 Rates	2020 Rates	2021 Rates	2022 Rates
Urban water consumption	\$ 17.96	\$ 19.01	\$ 19.07	\$ 19.14
Sewer charge	\$ 1.75	\$ 1.99	\$ 2.23	\$ 2.47
Urban deficit recovery rate rider	\$ 3.61	-	-	-
Rural water consumption	\$ 10.78	\$ 13.00	\$ 15.03	\$ 17.05
Rural deficit recovery rate rider	-	-	-	-
Bulk water consumption	\$ 23.01	\$ 21.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 22.00
Sewer only charge	\$ 5.25	\$ 38.39	\$ 41.03	\$ 43.67
Urban quarterly service charge	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.48	\$ 20.96	\$ 21.44
Rural quarterly service charge	\$ 27.30	\$ 20.48	\$ 20.96	\$ 21.44

Accounts shall be billed quarterly, and will be due and payable not less than twenty-one days after the date of billing. A late payment charge of 1.25% per month shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

In the event that an Account remains outstanding the Account will be transferred to the realty tax account of the property in respect to which the water account is unpaid, to be collected as ordinary realty taxes.

For a complete copy of By-Law No. 1732/2018 please visit our website at: [rmofmorris.ca](http://rmofmorris.ca)

## Council Contact Information

<b>Reeve Ralph Groening</b> Email: <a href="mailto:ralph.groening@rmofmorris.ca">ralph.groening@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-5394
<b>Deputy Reeve Rick Giesbrecht</b> Email: <a href="mailto:rick.giesbrecht@rmofmorris.ca">rick.giesbrecht@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-5355
<b>Councillor Stan Siemens</b> Email: <a href="mailto:stan.siemens@rmofmorris.ca">stan.siemens@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-5818
<b>Councillor Barry Fraese</b> Email: <a href="mailto:barry.fraese@rmofmorris.ca">barry.fraese@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-5824
<b>Councillor Scott Siemens</b> Email: <a href="mailto:scott.siemens@rmofmorris.ca">scott.siemens@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-4749
<b>Councillor Mervin Dueck</b> Email: <a href="mailto:mervin.dueck@rmofmorris.ca">mervin.dueck@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 746-5010
<b>Councillor Shane Kroeker</b> Email: <a href="mailto:shane.kroeker@rmofmorris.ca">shane.kroeker@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Cell: (204) 209-0375
<b>CAO Larry Driedger</b> Email: <a href="mailto:larry.driedger@rmofmorris.ca">larry.driedger@rmofmorris.ca</a>	Office: (204) 746-7300

## Payment Options

- 1) Online Banking** – You may process your payments online if your bank is set up for such. Please be sure to choose the **RM of Morris**, not the Town of Morris as a payee. Always allow 5 business days for your bank to process payments to ensure it is received by its deadline. We **DO NOT** deal with TD Bank.
- 2) Pre-Authorized** – Forms are found in our office. Please bring a void cheque if signing up. Both utility and tax bills may be paid this way.
- 3) At Our Office** – We accept cash, cheque and debit only. Cheque payments can also be sent in the mail. We **DO NOT** accept credit cards.

## *RM of Morris Holiday Hours*

*Office – Closed: Dec. 24, 25, 26 & Jan. 1*

*Open: Dec. 23, 27, 30 & 31*

*Rosenort Landfill – Closed: Dec. 25, 26 & Jan 1*

*Open: Dec. 23, 27, 28 & 30*

*regular hours. Dec 24 & 31 9am – 1pm*

*Low Farm Landfill – Closed: Dec. 24, 25, 26, 27,*

*30, 31 & Jan 1*

*Open: Dec 21, 28, Jan. 2 & 4  
regular hours.*

*The R.M. of Morris Council and Staff wish  
you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year!*