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Local Students Compete in GIS StoryMap Contest

In recognition of GIS Day, held annually in November, Bruce County and Grey County collaborated to offer a GIS contest for local schools. GIS Day celebrates the power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) — a scientific framework for gathering, analyzing and visualizing geographic data to help us make better decisions.



November 30, 2022

Grade 7 and 8 students across Bruce and Grey counties competed in a GIS Day contest, where three finalists were recognized for their outstanding work in solving real-world, local geography issues using the GIS platform.

In recognition of [GIS Day](#), held annually in November, Bruce County and Grey County collaborated to offer a GIS contest for local schools. GIS Day celebrates the power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) — a scientific framework for gathering, analyzing and visualizing geographic data to help us make better decisions.

The contest, sponsored by Esri Canada and Bruce Power, challenged students to answer one of two questions in the form of an ArcGIS StoryMap, produced using the cloud-based GIS platform named ArcGIS Online. With over 420 students from 17

classrooms at nine schools — five in the Bluewater District School Board and four in the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board — students worked in teams to collectively submit 98 StoryMaps for judging.

To share their passion and career paths—and inspire students about geography and real-world applications of GIS, staff from Bruce Power, Municipality of Kincardine, Town of Saugeen Shores, and Bruce and Grey Counties formed a Bruce-Grey GIS Day Organizing Committee, serving as expert support for classrooms throughout the contest period and as judges.

Top finalists and contest winners were announced at a virtual awards ceremony on Wednesday, November 30.

First place and winner of ArcGIS software license, mobile device charger, Bruce Power toque, and \$50 Visa prepaid card:

Bruce and Grey County by Cash Masse and Ewan Dennison

Second place and winner of ArcGIS software license, mobile device charge, and \$50 Visa prepaid card:

Welcome to Saugeen Shores by Johnny Ballard and Ben Charbonneau

Third place and winner of Bruce Power Toques and water bottles:

More Than Just A Town by Olivia Abbot, Tatum Schmitt and Beckett Haugh

Finalists:

Bruce and Grey County by Cash Masse and Ewan Dennison

Experience Saugeen Shores by Emma Redmond and Victoria Buckland

Great Tourist Activities in Saugeen Shores by Cash Robbins

Kincardine la place pour des touristes by Mya Lamont and Adelyn Haase

More Than Just A Town by Olivia Abbott, Tatum Schmitt and Beckett Haugh

Saugeen Shores Tour by Summer Reiley, Addison Kaake and Chloe McKinnon

Saugeen Shores Tourist Locations by Anthony Protasenko and Carter McGillivray

Things For Teens To Do In Owen Sound Area by Tamati Douglas, Wyatt Fry and Kai Bonterre

Tourism in Grey and Bruce County by Maangly Jani and Goutham Pasumarthi

Welcome to Saugeen Shores by Johnny Ballard and Ben Charbonneau

“GIS is an important tool we use to make decisions, in business, in government, and for how we navigate our lives. Local students showcased just how powerful the GIS platform can be in helping to navigate changes in our local communities. Congratulations to all finalists,” says Justin Kraemer, GIS Coordinator at Bruce County and member of the Bruce-Grey GIS Day Organizing Committee. “Thank you to all teachers involved who welcomed GIS in classroom instruction, helping students build skills in mapping, data management and analysis. And thank you Mr. Cory Munro of Saugeen District Senior School for his tireless support in making the contest a reality.”

[Learn more about the contest](#) and [view all contest entries](#).

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[Corporate Services](#)

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[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)

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COMMUNITY INFORMATION



[Notice of Loss/Injury Claim](#)

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Home > Bruce County Public Library Participates in The Forest of Reading Program

Bruce County Public Library Participates in The Forest of Reading Program

Bruce County Public Library is bringing Canada's largest recreational reading program to Bruce County on December 1. The Forest of Reading program typically has upwards of 270,000 participants annually. The program consists of six categories that cater to children of all ages, from Kindergarten to grade 12.

Each category includes ten popular titles, and participants are required to read five before being eligible to vote for their favourite. The picture book category, Blue Spruce, is aimed at children from Kindergarten to grade 2 and is the only category where they must read all ten titles. Once completed, students will then vote for their favourite before the April 30 end date.

This year BCPL is working to engage local schools to register as a group through Beanstack. [Beanstack](#) is a free service provided by BCPL. It is a fun way to track your reading, complete challenges and win prizes.

The Forest of Reading program will be running Forest Fridays, where nominees will host 30 minute virtual visits that you can connect to at home, in the classroom, or at the Library. There will also be a series of activities that students can participate in and earn virtual badges.

Library Director, Brooke McLean, hopes The Forest of Reading program will follow the success of their Summer Reading Club. 'This summer, Bruce Country Public Library recorded record-breaking numbers for Summer Reading Club. The Forest of Reading

is a unique way to engage children over the winter months and continue to help build a lifelong love of reading in Bruce County.'

Want to learn more or access the list of nominated titles? Visit [Forest Of Reading](#) website for a complete breakdown of each category.



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So what is there to discover?

Bruce County Public Library is a vibrant hub and pillar of the community. From eBooks to fishing rods, video games to educational workshops, Bruce County Public Library

offers something for everyone.

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Bruce County Welcomes New Council, Brockton Mayor Chris Peabody elected as Bruce County Warden

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, the inaugural Council Meeting of the 2022-2026 Bruce County Council was held in the Council Chambers at the Walkerton Administration Centre. Bruce County Councillors, the locally-elected Mayors of the eight lower-tier municipalities in the County, were sworn into their new roles on Bruce County Council by Tammy Grove-McClement, Solicitor for the County of Bruce.



December 01, 2022

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, the inaugural Council Meeting of the 2022-2026 Bruce County Council was held in the Council Chambers at the Walkerton Administration Centre. Bruce County Councillors, the locally-elected Mayors of the eight lower-tier municipalities in the County, were sworn into their new roles on Bruce County Council by Tammy Grove-McClement, Solicitor for the County of Bruce.

2022-2026 Bruce County Council:

Chris Peabody – Municipality of Brockton
Don Murray – Township of Huron-Kinloss
Garry Michi – Town of South Bruce Peninsula
Kenneth Craig – Municipality of Kincardine
Luke Charbonneau – Town of Saugeen Shores
Mark Goetz – Municipality of South Bruce
Milt McIver – Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula
Steve Hamell – Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

In the inaugural meeting, Bruce County Council elected Chris Peabody, Mayor of the Municipality of Brockton, as Bruce County’s Warden for the 2022-2023 term.

This is Mayor Chris Peabody’s first term as County Warden. Chris Peabody was elected to municipal council in the Municipality of Brockton in 2000, served five terms as Councillor, and was elected as Mayor in 2018 and was acclaimed as Mayor in 2022.

“It is an honour to carry the responsibilities of Warden for the upcoming year, and a privilege to continue serving the residents and businesses of Bruce County,” said Warden Chris Peabody. “County Council will work together to successfully continue and enhance the services, programs, and initiatives of this upper-tier municipality. We will strive to keep our region safe, protect our most vulnerable, and help our economy flourish. I look forward to delivering on our goals to provide community safety initiatives, affordable housing, quality infrastructure, and fiscal responsibility.”

The position of Warden is achieved through a vote of peers on County Council, who manage the affairs of the County’s shared community and resources. The Warden chairs Council meetings, represents Bruce County at official functions, acts as an official spokesperson, and much more.

“On behalf of Bruce County Staff, I wish to congratulate Mayor Chris Peabody on his election, and extend a warm welcome to the new 2022-2026 Council. I look forward to the year ahead as we continue to make infrastructure, public service, community planning, and economic growth a priority,” said Chief Administrative Officer Derrick Thomson.

Discover more about [Bruce County Council](#).

Bruce County is an upper-tier municipality in Southwestern Ontario, Canada, made up of 8 lower-tier municipalities and 68,423 residents. The explorers who visit, live, and work here are the dreamers who take roads less travelled and see tried and true as an invitation to try something new. Be an Explorer and call Bruce County home.

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[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

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Stuff-The-Ambulance Holiday Food Drives in Bruce County Communities

Join Bruce County's Paramedic Services and their local 911 Emergency Service partners for Stuff-The-Ambulance Holiday Food Drives across the region this December. All donations will be given to the local Food Banks.



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December 01, 2022

Join Bruce County's Paramedic Services and their local 911 Emergency Service partners for Stuff-The-Ambulance Holiday Food Drives across the region this December. All donations will be given to the local Food Banks.

Help support your community this holiday season!

Walkerton Independent - Monday, December 5 - 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Warton Foodland - Sunday, December 11 - 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Kincardine Sobeys - Saturday, December 17 - 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

First Responders Holiday Food & Toy Drive
Saturday, December 10 - 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Port Elgin Independent
Port Elgin Canadian Tire
Port Elgin Walmart
Southampton Foodland

“Thank you for joining our first responders in supporting the local food banks this holiday season,” says Bruce County Warden Chris Peabody, “Your generous contributions to this meaningful cause will support families in need in our communities.”

Discover more about [Bruce County Paramedic Services](#).

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[Human Resources](#)
[Library](#)
[Museum](#)
[Health Services](#)
[Planning & Development](#)
[Human Services](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)
[Explore the Bruce](#)
[Bruce County Public Library](#)
[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)
[Bruce Remembers](#)
[Museum Online Collections](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)
[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)
[Bruce County Bids](#)
[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)
[Road Construction](#)
[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)
[Agendas and Minutes](#)
[Employment](#)
[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)
[Application Links](#)
[File Transfer](#)



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Council / Committee Meetings – Thursday, December 1, 2022

Bruce County Council and Committees met on November 3, 2022 beginning at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers and virtually through Teams. Video recordings of the meetings can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes



December 01, 2022

Bruce County Council Meeting

Oath of Office (Councillors):

Bruce County Councillors, the locally-elected Mayors of the eight lower-tier municipalities in the County, were sworn into their new roles on Bruce County Council by Tammy Grove-McClement, Solicitor for the County of Bruce.

2022-2026 Bruce County Council:

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Luke Charbonneau – Town of Saugeen Shores
Mark Goetz – Municipality of South Bruce
Milt McIver – Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula
Steve Hamell – Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

Election of 2023 Warden:

Bruce County Council elected Chris Peabody, Mayor of the Municipality of Brockton, as Bruce County's Warden for the 2022-2023 term. This is Mayor Chris Peabody's first term as County Warden.

2023 Committee Chair and Committee Appointments:

Executive, Corporate Services, and Human Resources Committees - Warden Peabody
Human Services Committee and Bruce County Housing Corporation - Councillor Goetz
Information Technology Committee - Warden Peabody
Long Term Care Homes Committee of Management - Councillor Craig
Museum Committee - Councillor Michi
Paramedic Services Committee - Councillor Murray
Planning and Development Committee - Councillor Hamell
Transportation and Environmental Services Committee - Councillor McIver
Grey Bruce Board of Health - Warden Peabody, Councillor Charbonneau, and Councillor Craig
Bruce County Library Board - Warden Peabody, Councillors Goetz, Murray, and Michi
Board of Directors for the Nuclear Innovation Institute - Councillor Charbonneau
Green Ribbon Panel - Councillor Craig
Clean Energy Frontier - CAO Thomson and Councillor Murray
Accessibility Advisory Committee - Warden Peabody
Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy - Councillor Craig and Councillor Goetz
Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Board of Directors - Councillor Charbonneau

Bruce County Council approved:

a by-law to establish a Spruce the Bruce Reserve.
support for the Town of Saugeen Shores letter to the Province regarding Well Water Testing. [Letter](#)

Corporate Services Committee

Committee received a report on the 2022 Budget Annual Disclosure. [Report](#)
Committee received a report on the 2021 Council Statement of Remuneration. [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on the Summary of Awarded Tenders. [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on Summary of Purchasing Policy Suspension Approvals. [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on the Financial Statement Review. [Report](#)

Paramedic Services Committee:

Committee approved, in advance of the final 2023 capital budget approval, to single source and order three ambulances from Demers Ambulances, consistent with the vehicle replacement schedule. Committee approved to make a 30% down payment approximately equivalent to \$174,786.00 + HST to secure the vehicles for delivery. [Report](#)

Museum Committee:

Committee received a report on Museum Collections. [Report](#)
Committee received a report on Museum Marketing. [Report](#)

Committee received a report on Museum Programming. [Report](#)
Committee received a report on Museum Revenue Development. [Report](#)
Committee received a report on Museum Education and Outreach. [Report](#)

Human Services Committee:

Committee approved a three year service agreement with Community Connection (211). [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on Income and Support Services. [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on the Bruce County Community Housing Registry Waitlist. [Report](#)
Committee received a Q3 2022 report on Licensed Child Care and Early Years. [Report](#)
Committee received a 2021/2022 report on Housing Stability Fund Activities & Expenditures. [Report](#)

This publication identifies highlights from recent Bruce County Council and Committee meetings. Bruce County's Office of the CAO maintains complete agendas and minutes from all Council and Committee meetings, which can be reviewed at www.brucecounty.on.ca/government/agendas-and-minutes

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DEPARTMENTS

[Office of the CAO](#)

[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

COVID-19 Information and Updates

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)



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No Injuries Reported at 308 John Street Fire in Walkerton

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, a fire was reported at 308 John Street, Walkerton. This is a residential apartment building in Walkerton, operated by Bruce County Housing Corporation.



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December 01, 2022

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, a fire was reported at 308 John Street, Walkerton. This is a residential apartment building in Walkerton, operated by Bruce County Housing Corporation.

Local Brockton firefighters responded to the scene and extinguished the fire. A full evacuation took place of all 20 tenants in the building. Bruce County supported tenants at the local community centre and is working with partner organizations on sheltering tenants and other immediate needs.

There have been no reported injuries. The building remains in the possession of emergency officials.

Residents are asked to avoid attending the location at this time.

Tenants, family members, and supports can contact 1-800-265-3022 to inquire about further information.

Bruce County wishes to thank Bruce County Paramedic Services and Corporate Services, the OPP, the Municipality of Brockton, and the volunteer fire departments for their efforts.

Staff from Bruce County's Facilities team will work on building remediation and Human Services staff are serving tenants immediate needs.

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DEPARTMENTS

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[Corporate Services](#)

[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

**COVID-19 Information
and Updates**

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Public Washrooms Map](#)



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CBC Corner Now Included with your Bruce County Public Library Card

Bruce County Public Library is excited to announce the addition of CBC Corner to its [online resources](#). Online resources are services included for free with your library card, such as Kanopy, Press Reader, LinkedIn Learning and more.

CBC Corner was developed specifically for Canadian Public Libraries as a digital portal that brings together all the variety included in CBC and Radio-Canada digital content. This unique, free digital collection will include content from CBC News, CBC Listen, CBC Gem, CBC Kids, MAJ and Rad, sports, and CBC Parents full of advice, shows, crafts and more.

This is a one-of-a-kind resource with an all-in-one approach to creating accessible entertainment. Free access to award-winning podcasts, educational kids' content and even a free English and French language learning app. CBC Corner will consist of an [English](#) and [French](#) option.

Library Director Brooke McLean said, "Bruce County Public Library has been consistently growing our collection of online resources available to our patrons. We are excited to partner with CBC to provide entirely Canadian content, in different formats, that we haven't previously offered."

Need a BCPL Library card? Pop into any of their 17 Branches across Bruce County to sign up, or [register online](#) and start your CBC Corner journey today.

CBC Corner



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Donation Supports Paramedic Services in Bruce County

Bruce County Paramedic Services would like to thank Marvin Freiburger and Sons Inc. for their generous donation of \$1,000.00 to support paramedic services in our region. Angela Freiburger presented the donation to Bruce County's Deputy Chief of Paramedic Services, Ray Lux, on Wednesday, December 7, 2022.



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December 07, 2022

Bruce County Paramedic Services would like to thank Marvin Freiburger and Sons Inc. for their generous donation of \$1,000.00 to support paramedic services in our region. Angela Freiburger presented the donation to Bruce County's Deputy Chief of Paramedic Services, Ray Lux, on Wednesday, December 7, 2022.

These funds will be used to purchase CPR Manikins, which can simulate real-life situations to assist with local paramedic and emergency training.

"Marvin Freiburger & Sons Inc. appreciates the emergency services in the area and wants to acknowledge all the first responders that go out on a limb every day to keep people safe," said Angela Freiburger.

Paramedic Services Chief Steve Schaus said, “Bruce County Paramedic Services is very honored that Marvin and Angela think of us every year, support our service, and give back to the community.”

Bruce County Paramedic Services employs a staff of about 100 Full-time and Part-time paramedics that provide pre-hospital care to citizens and visitors of Bruce County. We respond to medical and trauma emergencies with a fleet of 12 ambulances and 3 supervisor units that are stationed in 7 communities across the County but can be deployed anywhere as needed.

Discover more about [Bruce County Paramedic Services](#).

Marvin Freiburger and Sons Inc. is a truck and trailer repair shop near Walkerton, Ontario.

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[Transportation and Environmental Services](#)

[Human Resources](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

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[Business to Bruce](#)

[Explore the Bruce](#)

[Bruce County Public Library](#)

[Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

**COVID-19 Information
and Updates**

USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

[Bruce County Bids](#)

[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

[Application Links](#)

[File Transfer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)



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Drive Safe and Arrive Safe in Bruce County this Winter

The Bruce County Transportation Department reminds the public about Winter Road Safety. All roadway users must travel safely, share the road, and respect others.



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December 07, 2022

The Bruce County Transportation Department reminds the public about Winter Road Safety. All roadway users must travel safely, share the road, and respect others.

Stay informed on Winter Road Conditions!

MTO 511 Interactive Map: www.511on.ca

Bruce County: www.brucecounty.on.ca/road-conditions

Winter Road Safety!

Don't Text and Drive! Distracted driving is a serious safety issue that has claimed lives. Every driver has a responsibility to focus on the road, traffic, and driving conditions. Pull over to communicate and don't put yourself and others at risk. Texting and driving is against the law.

Prepare for quickly changing conditions by having working winter tires, windshield wipers, and washer fluid. Stock your vehicle Emergency kit with a shovel, blanket, booster cables, flashlight, and more. Check road conditions and give yourself extra travel time.

Avoid collisions by removing all snow and ice from your roof and windows, ensure windshield wipers are in working order, turn taillights on, reduce speed, leave extra space, avoid sudden braking and accelerating. Slippery conditions require caution. See and be seen!

Deciding to pass is a serious decision. Use your turn signals, consider conditions and obstacles, and look for approaching vehicles and vehicles passing from behind. Pavement lines are simply a guide and could be snow-covered. When there is ice and snow, take it slow.

Don't veer for deer or other animals. Brake firmly but stay in your lane. Collisions occur when a driver swerves and loses control. Be on the lookout, prepare for the unexpected, and slow down in areas marked with animal activity signs.

When there's ice and snow, be patient and take it slow. Snow plow equipment travels at 25km/hr to 60km/hr working to keep roads safe. Passing a snow plow is never encouraged. If you pass, ensure adequate distance, road conditions, and space to return.

Protect emergency services personnel responding to incidents on the roadside. Slow down and proceed with caution when an emergency vehicle or tow truck is roadside with lights activated. Obey the law, move over, and stay safe! Offenders may get fines or demerit points.

Police close roads for safety. Do not drive on closed roads. In a whiteout, don't stop on the roadway. Find a driveway or parking lot to pull into. Vehicles parked or abandoned on roadways can be towed and fined. For winter road conditions, call 1-866-266-7569

Slow-moving horse-drawn vehicles are common in our area. When passing from behind or the opposite direction, slow down and create as much distance as possible. Don't use your horn or pass too closely. This may dangerously startle the horse. Expect the unexpected!

To drive or not to drive in wintery weather is a big decision. Ask yourself do you really need to travel, is it safe, and is it worth the risk? It's OK to stay where you are. Abandoned vehicles could be towed and fined. For road conditions, call 1-866-266-7569.

Discover more about [Winter Road Conditions in Bruce County](#).

CONTACT US

Administration Centre

30 Park St., Walkerton, Ontario NoG 2Vo

Tel: 519-881-1291

Toll free: 1-800-265-3005

info@brucecounty.on.ca

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- [Business to Bruce](#)
- [Explore the Bruce](#)
- [Bruce County Public Library](#)
- [Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre](#)
- [Bruce Remembers](#)
- [Museum Online Collections](#)

[COVID-19 Information and Updates](#)

USEFUL LINKS

- [Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)
- [Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)
- [Bruce County Bids](#)
- [Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)
- [Road Construction](#)
- [EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)
- [Agendas and Minutes](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)
- [Application Links](#)
- [File Transfer](#)
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- [Public Washrooms Map](#)

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≡ MENU

County Administration Buildings Closed for Christmas and New Year's

Please take notice that the Bruce County Administration Centre in Walkerton, the Lakeshore Hub in Port Elgin, the Peninsula Hub in Wiarton, and the Penetangore Hub in Kincardine will be closed from Saturday, December 24, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.



December 13, 2022

Please take notice that the **Bruce County Administration Centre** in Walkerton, the **Lakeshore Hub** in Port Elgin, the **Peninsula Hub** in Wiarton, and the **Penetangore Hub** in Kincardine will be closed from Saturday, December 24, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Virtual and in-person service will be available again on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 8:30 AM.

Bruce County Public Library Branches will be closed from Sunday, December 25, 2022 to Tuesday, December 27, 2022 and from Sunday, January 1, 2023 to Monday, January 2, 2023. Library Branches will be open on Saturday, December 24, 2022 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, for regular hours on Wednesday, December 28, 2022, Thursday, December 29, 2022, and Friday, December

30, 2022, and on Saturday, December 31, 2022 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Online resources are available 24/7.

www.library.brucecounty.on.ca

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre will be closed from Sunday, December 25, 2022 to Tuesday, December 27, 2022 and from Sunday, January 1, 2023 to Monday, January 2, 2023. The Museum will be open on Saturday, December 24, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, on for Wednesday, December 28, 2022, Thursday, December 29, 2022, and Friday, December 30, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Archives close at 4:30 PM), and on Saturday, December 31, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

www.brucemuseum.ca.

EarlyON Child and Family Centre programming will be closed from Saturday, December 24, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023. EarlyON home activities can be found [online](#).

For essential services, please call 211 to assist with accessing community services and support. The service is 24/7 and multilingual interpretation is available.

For emergencies, please call 911. For less serious incidents, report online by visiting opp.ca/reporting.

For road conditions/closures, please call 1-866-266-7569 or visit www.brucecounty.on.ca/road-conditions.

CONTACT US

Administration Centre

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COUNTY WEBSITES

[Business to Bruce](#)

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USEFUL LINKS

[Road and Bridge Construction and Detours](#)

[Nuclear Innovation Institute](#)

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[Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#)

[Road Construction](#)

[Library](#)

[Museum](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Planning & Development](#)

[Human Services](#)

[Bruce Remembers](#)

[Museum Online Collections](#)

COVID-19 Information
and Updates

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

[Agendas and Minutes](#)

[Employment](#)

[Anaphylaxis \(Nut Aware\) Policy](#)

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