

## **Public Statement from Mayor Greenlaw Regarding Weekend Storm Event**

Monday, March 31, 2025

In response to the weekend storm event, the Township declared a State of Emergency at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The declaration allows the Township to access additional resources and streamline emergency response efforts to protect the health and safety of our residents, which is the top priority for the Township.

Many Township roads remain impassable with downed trees, powerlines, and debris. We are urging residents to stay home and avoid all non-essential travel as Township staff work diligently with the clean-up process.

## **Clean-up Update**

Township operations crews are fully engaged with clean-up following an all-hands-on deck approach. Assistance is being provided by public works crews from the Town of Wasaga Beach, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, and the Town of New Tecumseth, as well as external contractors. We are grateful for their rapid support and assistance.

Timelines associated with clean-up in its entirety is unknown at this time - we anticipate it will take the majority of this week before all roads will be opened up. Clean-up is dynamic based on changing conditions. Updates will be provided on the Township's website (oro-medonte.ca) and social media channels:

- Facebook
- Twp. of Oro-Medonte (@TwpOroMedonte) / X
- Township of Oro-Medonte (@oromedontetwp) Instagram photos and videos

## **Clearing of Property Debris**

The Township understands many residents have been impacted and are challenged with the task of cleaning up damage caused by the storm. To ensure roads and hydro crews are able to continue with getting Township roads open and cleared, we are asking residents to please refrain from moving debris onto Township roads or shoulders. There will be opportunities to drop brush and yard waste off, free of charge, at County of Simcoe waste drop off sites when roads are safe for travel.

## **Restoration of Power**

The Township fully understands and appreciates the challenges associated with loss of power. We are in close contact with Hydro One regarding restoration. The best source for timelines regarding restoration is through Hydro One directly - Outage Tools | Hydro One. We recognize this is challenging for those without power, but feel it is important to get this message out, in the event others see this information who might be able to provide updates verbally to friends and neighbours who are without internet connectivity.

Taking into consideration the uncertainty of restoration throughout the community, you are encouraged to err on the side of caution, and plan for extended outages and disruptions beyond current estimated timelines.

Oro-Medonte is a strong and supportive community – in times like these we all come together. The Township is understanding of challenges our residents face with the amount of damage that has been sustained and the volume of clean-up that lies ahead. We empathize with our residents and local businesses, and understand coping with prolonged power outages is very difficult.

Please check in with each other, and assist where possible if assistance can be provided that does not put you, or others at risk.

Your patience, understanding, and cooperation is appreciated beyond words.

Mayor Randy Greenlaw