

2026 Final Tax Insert

Municipal taxes

Final tax bills are calculated using the 2026 returned assessment roll from MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) multiplied by the applicable 2026 tax rate. This bill includes two due dates: September 30th and November 30th, 2026, with corresponding remittance slips. Keep this final tax bill for your records as it shows the annual taxation amount of the current year.

For all property concerns regarding assessment, please contact MPAC at 1-866-296-6722

Check your bill

If the municipal address on your tax bill is incorrect or does not match to the interim bill, please contact our office. We are currently experiencing issues where some municipal addresses did not fully update when our files were imported into the system.

Payment options

When paying in person, we accept cash, debit, or cheque at the municipal office. Cheques must be in Canadian dollars.

Bank branch, telephone, or internet payments for taxes, utilities, etc., may take up to three business days for processing before being received by the municipal office. Leave enough time to avoid penalty charges. When paying your property taxes through online banking, use the 15-digit roll number found on your bill without the dashes.

Pre-authorized payment plans (PAP) are available for property taxes and utility bills. You will still receive a copy of the bill for your records. Those enrolled in the 10-month PAP tax plan will receive a separate letter by mail with updated withdrawal amounts.

For more information, including how to pay by credit card, see

<https://bit.ly/bluewaterpayment>

Paperless billing and mailing addresses

Are you getting mail from the Municipality of Bluewater? If not, you could be missing out on important information! It is your responsibility to notify the Municipality if your contact information changes.

Changes to mailing addresses need to be made in writing: <https://bit.ly/BWaddresschange>

Never miss a tax or water bill. Sign up for paperless billing on our website. Make sure we have the correct email address.

Register/update information:

<https://bit.ly/bluewaterpaperless>

Supplementary/omitted tax bill

A supplementary and/or omitted tax bill results from updated assessment information recently provided to the Municipality by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

Residents receive property assessment change notices from MPAC. These notices are issued when the current value assessment or the tax classification of your property has changed due to approved reasons. If you disagree with the supplementary and/or omitted assessment, you must file a Request for Reconsideration (RfR) with MPAC within the time mentioned on the Property Assessment Change Notice.

More information: <https://bit.ly/3OhPJ00>

Agricorp—Farm tax program

The Government of Ontario supports agriculture through the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program, also known as the “Farm Tax Program.” Your property must be assessed as farmland and placed in the Farm Property Tax Class Rate Program by Agricorp. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3DGhZ84>

Any 2026 pending farmland tax incentive adjustments will be processed after the 2026 final tax levy has been processed.

Garbage collection adjustments

The Municipality contracts Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA) for garbage and recycling services. Changes in bin sizes or numbers (i.e. adding a new or larger bin) are applied to tax accounts before final billing. These adjustments appear in the “Past Due/Credit” section. If there are no recent changes to your wheelie bins, the amount displayed in this column may indicate either an arrears balance or a credit on your account.

For questions, contact the Tax Clerk by phone or email.

Official Plan update

Bluewater’s new Official Plan received Huron County approval June 10. It is now in effect. More information: <https://bit.ly/BWOPReview>

October 26, 2026—Municipal election

Bluewater will vote using internet and phone. Voter Information Letters (VIL) with access information will be mailed to all registered voters in September. Contact the Corporate Services Department if you do not receive a VIL by October 9. Electors may vote only once.

Advance voting opens October 13 at 9 a.m. Voters can vote up until October 26 at 8 p.m. using the internet or telephone.

Starting October 13 at 9 a.m. until October 23, a voting kiosk for online voting will be available at the Municipal Office, 14 Mill Ave, Zurich, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On October 21, hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. On October 26, hours are 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Registering and updating voter information

After September 1st until 8 p.m. on Election Day, anyone wishing to register to vote or update their information must complete the required forms at the Municipal Office to be added to the Voters List. Please see our website for a list of approved identification.

Election information: <https://bit.ly/BWelection>

Election help desk and extended hours

During the voting period, the help desk is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to help electors with voting or updating information. On Election Day, it is open until the close of voting (8 p.m.). Extended help desk hours will be offered October 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Seasonal public works and utilities reminders

A reminder that that overnight parking on municipal roads is prohibited between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. from November 15 to April 15 to allow for efficient snow clearing.

Have you noticed potholes, damaged signs, drainage concerns, fallen trees, or other road-related hazards? Please report them using the Report a Concern feature on our website.

Watch the local newspapers and municipal website for the fall watermain flushing dates.

New water and sewer rates take effect January 1, 2027 (Reflected on April bill). A copy of the by-law can be found on our website (43-2021). Quarterly due dates: January 31, April 30, July 31, October 31

From the utilities community

Ontario One Call is rebranding. Updates about the locate service provider will be shared to the municipal website and social media as they are made available to Bluewater.

The Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System and Elgin and Area Primary Water Supply Systems have rebranded and are now called Huron Erie Water. Communications coming from this organization will display the new name. More information: <https://bit.ly/3TmaApz>

Bluewater residents whose water is supplied by LHPWSS will still contact the Municipality/OCWA for any issues or concerns related to their water supply.

Fall/Winter recreation guide

The Fall/Winter Recreation Guide is your source for programs, activities, special events, fitness classes, and recreation opportunities for all ages across the Municipality of Bluewater. Registration opens this fall with a variety of returning favourites and new opportunities to stay active, learn new skills, and connect with others in the community. Pickleball programming will also be returning, with opportunities for both beginners and experienced players. The guide will be available online this fall on the municipal website.

Stay connected with SALC

Bluewater's Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) offers programs that support active, healthy, and socially connected lifestyles for older adults. Stay informed about SALC programming by subscribing to the Active Living Newsletter. Join the mailing list by contacting the Community Recreation Coordinator at 519-280-0103 or email reccoordinator@municipalityofbluewater.ca

Ice season returns this fall

Ice rentals return on September 14 (Hensall) and September 21 (Zurich). Check availability or book a rental through the Facilities and Rentals section of our website. Public skating schedules will be posted to the website closer to the date.

Contact the Recreation Coordinator to inquire about ice rentals or sponsor a public skating session. Sponsored public skating sessions offer free admission to our community!

Changes to carbon monoxide alarm rules

As of January 1, 2026, carbon monoxide alarm rules changed. Rules apply to all homes that have a fuel burning appliance (even if housed outside the home), fireplace, or attached garage. All homes meeting any of these conditions must have a carbon monoxide alarm located adjacent to each sleeping area (near all bedrooms) and on every storey of the home, including storeys that do not have a sleeping area. Homeowners and landlords are responsible for complying with these legislative changes.