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and a
Happy, Healthy
New Year!
May all your
wishes come true*

*Thank you
Anne and Ron*

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**Seasons Greetings
& Best Wishes
for the Holidays.**



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 Home Financing Advisor
 Brooklin Towne Centre
 905.703.5376
ryan.doble@scotiabank.com



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Merry Christmas

From all of us
To all of you

Richard
Rhonda
Leanne
Ken
Liz
Sheree
Brad

- and our advertisers

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS BTC:

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Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson*



Top Story of 2017

Last February 1, the free ride ended.

All trips on the Ontario-owned portion of the new highway 407, from Brock Road in Pickering to Harmony in Oshawa, as well as the 412 connector to/from the 401, became paid trips. Just as quickly, commuters clogged every arterial road in the region.

Coffee klatch and beer cooler conversations now focused on alternative north-south options to reach the 401. Generally, Lakeridge seemed to be the winner.

It wasn't because we're cheap. People seemed to prefer to spend the extra time in traffic on Winchester or Taunton than pay the province for exorbitant tolls, among the three highest (per kilometre) in North America, as we reported in 2016.

The other problem of course was

that the 412 remains the GTA's only toll connector to the 401. This raised the shackles of Brooklin (and Durham) residents. Why were we being subjected to tolls at all, let alone leaving every other community west of us without them?

We published two stories on the topic. In January, we printed a piece about local resident Adrian Piccolo who'd amassed nearly 6,000 signatures on an online petition he sent to Minister of Transportation Steven Del Luca. Nothing came of it. The signees might have had more impact had they appeared at his office.

In August, we ran a feature about 412's usage once the freebie ended. Unfortunately, knowing the average workday number of vehicles on those roads in June was 41,800 meant little without context.

The impact is magnified in Brooklin which has become the conduit for

free arterial road access to other northern points of Whitby, Oshawa and even Courtice. With the current booming growth in development, transportation in and through this community is worsening almost daily.

We also published information about the master transportation plans for Whitby, Brooklin, and Durham, including how they pertain to public transportation. In other words, what is the likelihood of busing alleviating current traffic woes? In the near future, not much. When will we see the promised arterial south of and parallel to the 407 which is aimed at

bypassing Winchester Road's daily parking lot?

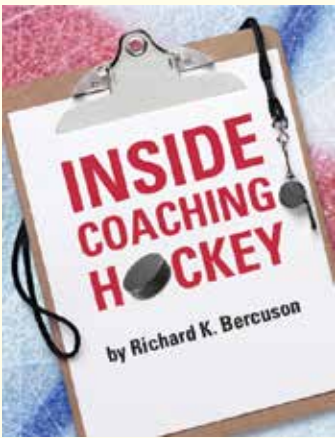
Indeed, the top story was the ongoing transportation issue. It affects Brooklin and its residents in so many ways well beyond commuting to and from work. It's caused traffic and noise and accentuated safety problems as drivers seek shortcuts which really don't exist.

But for now, let's set it all aside. My best regards to you, dear readers, for a happy and restful Christmas and New Year. See you on January 5, 2018.

Hockey Coaching Manual Available

BTC Editor Richard Bercuson's manual for minor hockey coaches, "Inside Coaching Hockey" is now available for \$20.

The manual covers topics like how children learn and skills are acquired, drill design, planning, being creative, teaching small area tactics, and more. There are testimonials from Hockey Hall of Fame journalist Roy MacGregor and Hockey Canada coaching program instructors. MacGregor wrote, "This is the way all our kids should be coached...wise about



every facet of the game - and fun..."

Bercuson has spent decades coaching and teaching in Canada, the U.S., and France, from the youngest house league levels to the provincial and national programs. He is an OHF/OMHA coaching program

instructor and field evaluator and lead mentor for Oshawa minor hockey where he created a unique development program.

To obtain the book, email: rbercuson@gmail.com



"Proud to be a Brooklinite"

Founded in 2000 and published 24 times per year.

Editor, Richard Bercuson

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Email: yeswomanbrooklin@gmail.com

Next Issue: Friday, January 5, 2018

Deadline: Friday, December 29, 2017

Town of Whitby

December 15, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Whitby Youth Rooms

Youth ages 12 to 18 years are invited to drop in to any Youth Room on Tuesday, December 19, at 4 p.m. for Holiday Movie Night and Thursday, December 28, at 4 p.m. for Board Game Day. Learn more about Youth Room activities and events whitby.ca/youthrooms

Family Multi-sport

Drop-in sports every Saturday, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Brooklin Community Centre and Library. whitby.ca/schedules

New Year's Eve Family Skate

Sunday, December 31, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Iroquois Park Sports Centre. Get ready to ring in the New Year with this family-friendly event.

whitby.ca/calendar

Council Meetings

Meetings will resume January 15, 2018. For a full listing visit whitby.ca/civicweb

Notices

Downtown Parking Study

The Town has initiated its review of the current and future parking needs in Downtown Whitby and Downtown Brooklin. Have your say and complete an online survey by December 15. whitby.ca/parkingstudy

Whitby Public Library Holiday Hours

All Whitby Public Library locations will be closed:

- December 17
- December 23 to 26
- December 31
- January 1

The virtual library is open 24/7. Visit whitbylibrary.ca for access to digital content and upcoming program information.

News

2018 Budget Forecast

The Town's 2018 Budget Forecast is now available at whitby.ca/budget. As part of the annual budget process, the forecast sets a Council-approved target for the 2018 Budget. The detailed 2018 Budget will be released in February 2018.

FREE PUBLIC SKATING

Saturdays, December 16, 23 and 30, from 2 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. at Luther Vipond Memorial Arena

Saturday, December 30, from 3 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. at Iroquois Park Sports Centre.

Sponsored by:



WHITBY
NEW YEAR'S EVE
FAMILY SKATE

Sunday, December 31

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Iroquois Park Sports Centre
500 Victoria Street

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
SKATING | RESOLUTION WALL
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Presented by



whitby.ca/newyearseve

Local Dancers To Perform In Wizard Of Oz



Four young dancers (in photo, left to right) Jacob Giles, AJ Lounds, Elora Kalk, Bryn Taylor, grade 7 students at Chris Hadfield PS, will perform with Diversified Theatre's production of The Wizard Of Oz. All take dance classes at Luna Dance Company in Myrtle. The show will take place at Whitby's Centennial Building Theatre on Dec. 27-31

Diversified Theatre has mounted shows for schools and the public for many years. Their productions are always in the Panto style, a musical comedy for the whole family that combines topical humour with a story loosely based on a well known fairy tale or fable. Panto shows are traditionally performed around Christmas.

There are two dance ensembles, both consisting of young dancers, who perform in the shows. The groups take turns, performing on different days. During the show, each dancer is in 3-4 dances playing different characters in each - a Munchkin, a Poppy, a Flying Monkey, and a citizen of Emerald City.

For more info or to buy tickets, go to Diversifiedtheatre.com.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Wishing you peace and joy throughout the season.

Mayor Don Mitchell and
Members of Council



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Our Brooklin Kids *By Leanne Brown*



Fake LOLs and Grinchbots

With Christmas a few weeks away, many Brooklin parents are on the hunt for this year's hottest toys. It can be stressful and frustrating, especially when the prices are jacked up. But what can be even more irritating is that after you've finally found that much desired gift, it turns out to actually be a fake.

That's right. There are manufacturers duplicating popular designs to quickly capitalize on the hot toy market. And when these toys are sold online, it can be really hard to tell if you're getting the real thing.

Here are some popular toy counterfeits to watch for:

LOL dolls: You'll find them online cleverly disguised but if you look closely (zoom in on the picture), you'll see they're actually labelled LQL Dolls –

a cheap fake. At a quick glance, it looks perfectly normal and you may not usually take much notice of the packaging. However, you can clearly see it's not right. When opened, the balls don't have the layers of wrapping inside, but rather the toy is just in the ball. Also watch out for fake "big surprise" ball. These cost about \$100 and contain 50 surprises. However, the fake ones will contain all the same doll instead of an assortment.

Hatchimals Surprise: It's back on the list of top toys and this year it comes with twins hidden inside a magical speckled egg.



Once again though, there are fakes. You can tell because the "shell" is rough instead of smooth. And, unlike the real hatchimals, the egg will not make sounds as it prepares to hatch. In fact, the fakes often need to be cracked open by an adult. These toys retail for about \$70, so if you see one for about \$30, it is likely a knock-off.

Nearly all counterfeits are being sold online. While online shopping is convenient, there are risks. That's why you may be best to shop in the store. For those who choose to shop online, experts recommend steering clear of heavily discounted name brands, which is a sure sign an item is counterfeit. Once an item arrives, check for:

- spelling errors
- faded packaging
- damaged packaging
- anything that doesn't look right

The good news is, in most of cases, online sites like Amazon, Walmart, etc. may refund you if you've been deceived into buying the fake toys.

Shopbots

If the counterfeit toys aren't annoying enough, the reason stores sell out of the most popular toys may be blamed on shopbots. You know those Grinchy scalpers who use



A Brooklin Toddler's Random Thoughts

"Mommy, that wasn't a great idea."

robots to snap up the popular concert tickets? Well, they're also using them to snatch up your LOL surprise ball and reselling them to you at a profit as the holiday gets closer.

Don't get me wrong: shopping online is fantastic. Just make sure to do your research before buying anything online. If the stores are sold out, use your online network to watch for that prized item.

The real LOLs are out there...I just found one! YES!

Happy Holidays

from Trisha, Tara, and the Oxford Learning Team.

5969 Baldwin St. S., Brooklin
905-655-9500
www.oxfordlearning.com



Community Calendar

If you have a community not-for-profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to editorofBTC@gmail.com with the subject line "calendar." Priority will be given to Brooklin events. Some editing may occur.

Brooklin United Church

19 Cassels Rd. E.
Christmas Services
December 3 Advent 2
December 10 Advent 3-White Gift, Nativity Displays
December 17 Advent 4-Service of Music
December 24 Christmas Eve
Communion & Candles 10:30 am
Family Services 5:00 and 7:00 pm
www.brooklinunited.ca
905-655-4141

Fri., Dec. 22: 4:00 - 5:00 pm
(4th Friday of each month)

Teen Leadership Council at Brooklin Library

Whitby Library's Brooklin Branch seeks Teen Leadership Council members to share ideas & assist with special events and programs. Grade 9-12 students earn community service hours. Snacks provided. No registration required. For information, email teenservices@whitbylibrary.ca.

Mondays: 6:30-7 pm:

French Family Storytime: Children and their caregivers can join Madame Sue for weekly French Family Storytime! A half hour of French stories and songs, with a dash of English! Drop in at Central Library's Children's Program Room

Tuesdays: 7:25 pm:

Brooklin Toastmasters Club
Practice public speaking at Brooklin Community Centre & Library. Contact John Johnstone at jajhj@sympatico.ca or phone 905-683-4439 or Patricia Romano at promano257@outlook.com or phone 905-626-7055.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Community Care Durham (CCD) Basic Foot Care at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. 905-668-6779

Mon.-Fri.

CCD delivers hot or frozen meals. To order: Karen Andrews 905-668-6779

From My Family to Yours,

Merry Christmas!

and a

Safe & Healthy New Year.



Rhonda Mulcahy
North Ward
Councillor



WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Burns Presbyterian Church

765 Myrtle Rd West
(just 4 minutes north of Brooklin)
10am Worship, Kids Zone Fun & Nursery Care
"Discovering God, Sharing God's Love"
905.655.8509 www.Burnschurch.org

St. Thomas' Anglican Church

101 Winchester Road East
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Program (10:30am)
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
Communion and Healing Service
905-655-3883
www.stthomasbrooklin.ca

Brooklin United Church

19 Cassels Rd. E.
Sunday Services at 10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Care
www.brooklinunited.ca 905-655-4141
Come catch the Spirit!

Renaissance Baptist Church of Brooklin

40 Vipond Road (Just West Of Library)
Sunday Worship & Kids Program 10:30 a.m.
905-655-4554 www.brooklinrbc.ca
We're here for Brooklin!

Plant-Based Eating *by Sheree Nicholson*



Need energy? Try these smoothies!

Someone recently asked me how long it had been since I'd eaten meat or dairy. When I replied seven years, they jokingly said, "And you are still alive?"

It's funny how many misconceptions there are around plant-based eating. Since becoming plant-based, I have better energy than I ever remember having. On average, I run two to three times a week and work out with kettlebells at least once more; I do indoor cycling once a week and try to do a yoga class a few times a week or at least do yoga at home. I work in the fitness industry so this may seem excessive to some people. But my point is that if eating plant-based was bad for me, I wouldn't be able to maintain such a pace.

Micronutrients required

Whole foods are the key to energy and health as they contain micronutrients, which are substances such as vitamins and minerals that are essential for healthy growth and

development. They're only required in small quantities but a deficiency can be the cause of serious problems as every bodily system needs them to function properly.

Fruits, vegetables and leafy greens are dense in micronutrients per calorie, with extremely high levels of them. They are also low calorie and high in fiber. That's why I'm such a fan of leafy greens like kale, spinach and romaine. They supply me with so much of what my body needs - and I have amazing energy. There must have been a reason Popeye The Sailor Man ate a can of spinach before a heroic feat. You can eat your leafy greens raw or cooked or blend them in a healthy smoothie, but try hard to get them.

A green smoothie

If you want to drink your greens, the basic green smoothie recipe is: 2 cups greens such as kale, spinach or romaine, and 2 cups liquid base such as water, unsweetened nut or coconut milk and 3 cups fruit such

as pineapple, mango or berries.

Use frozen fruit to chill the smoothie or a frozen banana to make it creamy. Blend the greens in the liquid until they are broken down then add the fruit and blend until smooth. Use milder tasting greens if you are new to green smoothies. If you need to sweeten it, try maple syrup rather than processed sugar.

You can boost your smoothie with chia or hemp seeds, which are complete proteins, or some hemp or pea protein powder. The flavour combinations are endless. Howev-

er, it's important to follow the above combination as too many greens will make a bitter smoothie. If you don't blend the greens alone, you could be picking green bits out of your teeth. Green smoothies are a fantastic way to boost your energy this holiday season, especially after indulging in high calorie foods or a little more alcohol than normal.

Sheree's hack: Freeze any fruit or greens that are a little too ripe or not being eaten fast enough for smoothies. My freezer is full of little freezer bags of fruit and greens.

Designing Whitby's New Brand

In September, residents were engaged as part of Phase One of the Town's corporate rebrand project. This phase was focused on collecting feedback through an online survey, community open house, social media channels and pop-up tents at community events. The research identified seven core brand attributes to help design the new brand: growth and innovation, community, heri-



tage, active spaces, sincere, welcoming and vibrant. The attributes will be used to establish the supporting colours, typography and supporting messages. The rebrand will also establish brand guidelines and standards, including the design system. Visit whitby.ca/brand or email brand@whitby.ca to be added to the Interested Parties List.

Brooklin Bafflers: New Year's *by Liz Lowe* Wordsearch

HMAIWMRMFZRJOEZODUOPLPXQF
VRALLILPKNTHNOFZKDDXJOFVM
RBOJVXHBDIGIWPKZRLCHDVAJW
GARNVLSNMOSSOODQNY YQWXOTR
QLSZGELEGJPSDXCRASPKGNDHF
SLODVESWCHAGTHJAMARFZCOUJ
WDHONSGYXNRNNRWKBF TIFXJBI
GRMJQEFESFAYUFAQSKVDLWEZE
QOMUTHIAISDHOAL TSMQDMOLMJ
KPARSSSRMRREJCMRSSWAAQWVSN
KRHLFVESFIYNRDMYAHJXPRSES
ESOB SWNEIDLEEANUNV SUMOKIA
NMXOOGJVMXPYKVLOSEWEIGHTX
RGC R DAXEXNFEYRIMCIVYRHSRG
FCKALOEJVUAETTCGSECEYFNAK
OSBPYKMCRT OITIORRPS SCQVPW
ZWPVRCYYOJJTFGNBBOERFBJJJ
MZWBFRFAANZWIEFXLHFEKOQPJ
GRJQYCSLKDFMHXEUA S A L C C O G L
USJXDTXFODINPKTBJS TKCHDDDD
YHSHSEHTQIZLUITBT FDRYJZOS
PXP S D M K C U L D O O G I S P K I A V O L Q Y
E K P G P O R E V O G N A H A P S A I P A P P Z Y
J M K O I I Y K V L S A U L D L A N G S Y N E O Q
T R L L T N H U I N Q J I P M T Q M L P F E N O N

- Auld Lang Syne

Ball drop

Confetti

Countdown

Family

Feast

Fireworks

Food

Forgiveness

Fresh starts
- Friends

Goals

Good luck

Hang over

Holiday

Hope

January

Kiss

Lose weight

Love
- Make a toast

Music

New Years Eve

Parade

Parties

Resolutions

Second chances

Sparklers

Speech

Times Square

Reminder: The end of the year
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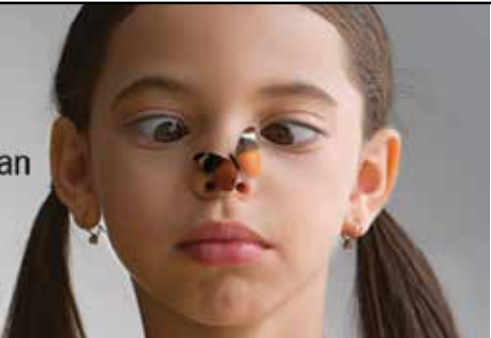
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905-655-1099 or 905-433-5000

Wishing You and Your Family
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!



Lorne Coe
MPP Whitby-Oshawa



101-114 Dundas St. E., Whitby L1N2H7
Tel: 905-430-1141
Fax: 905-430-1840
lorne.coeco@pc.ola.org
www.lornecoempp.ca

Holiday Driving: Let Someone Else Do It

Instead of driving this holiday season, the BTC strongly recommends you stash the keys and use one of these services. *The Brooklin Town Crier does not endorse any particular company or type of service.*

A Designated Driver service will drive your car back from your location for a fee, with a companion car following.

Bell Taxi 905-668-8888 • belltaxi.ca	City Wide Taxi 905-579-9393 • citywidetaxioshawa.com
Circle Taxi 905-668-6666 • circletaxi.ca	DD2U 905-926-7775 • dd2u.ca
DD4U 905-440-4469 • Opens at 5 pm https://www.facebook.com/DD4U DesignatedDrivingService/	Keys to Us Starting at \$30 for up to 10 km distance. 1-800-439-0339 • Keystous.com
DD Kingz Call 905-914-6703 Ask for Wally or Sheryl. ddkingz.com	Taxi Taxi 905-571-1234 • taxi-taxi.ca
DD Angels Designated Driver Call or text at 905-626-8441. Prices start at \$20 for up to 8.5 km away. ddangelsdesignateddriver.ca	Uber If you haven't heard of Uber, well, it'll take too long to explain. For rates, visit: http://uber-rates-whitby-on-ca.uber-fare-estimator.com/



Steve Yamada
East Ward Councillor
Town of Whitby

FROM MY FAMILY TO YOURS,
**HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**



Blooming in Brooklin *By Ken Brown*



Gardening doesn't stop because of winter

Bright spots of light purple light up my front yard. The autumn crocus I planted in early November started to bloom about a month ago and are still pushing up new blooms. They're rather small but are having a big impact as the only fresh blooms anywhere in my garden or neighbourhood.

Even better, the squirrels ignore them since instead they investigate new tulips and spring crocus that were planted in the same beds. All crocus varieties are such a delight as they show up in the spring and fall when almost nothing else is providing colour. Their other great benefit is how inexpensive they are. A package of 200 bulbs only costs a few dollars. Of course, someone has to dig those 200 holes, but they're small bulbs and don't need huge ones.

Awaiting insulation
The rest of the garden is patiently waiting for its insulating blanket of snow. There are a few perennials that could be cleaned up but many of those leaves and stems will happily compost and almost disappear by spring. I try to clean up the foliage from my Iris. The nasty iris borer survives the winter by laying its eggs on the foliage. By removing it, I can reduce this unwelcome garden guest's population.

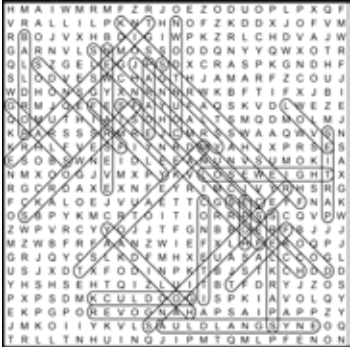
Gardening slows noticeably for the next couple of months, though, for the dedicated gardener, it never really stops. Geranium cuttings I potted last month are growing under the lights and require regular water and fertilizer. By the end of the month, they'll have grown enough to allow me to cut them back to make them bushier and to produce another batch of cuttings to double the inventory.

A favourite bulb
Stores everywhere are selling my favourite Christmas present to give. Large amaryllis bulbs are fun to plant. The speed at which the flower stalk emerges and grows fascinates everyone. They're great presents for grandchildren and even more fun if I help to plant them. When they plant one of those bulbs, they're anxious to see the results. The beauty of amaryllis is that they produce results within a child's time frame.

Even university students like to take them back to their dorms to watch them grow. I've heard tales of a ruler being stuck in the pot beside the bulb and a betting pool established on the speed of growth. Teachers I know seem happier with a potted and growing amaryllis than with yet another scented candle. The master plan, of course, is to convert a few more young people into happy gardeners.

The fun of new varieties
This brings me to one of a gardener's greatest pleasures: imagine perfect gardens with no weeds or sore muscles just by spending time perusing the vast array of seed catalogues and web sites. Each company has its own list of new flowers and vegetable varieties. Wander through the choices and try to decide which ones to make room for in next year's garden.

You can get help choosing varieties by looking for those awarded an All America Selections designation. This is a large North American organization that annually trials hundreds of new varieties in gardens throughout the U.S. and Canada. For a plant to receive its designation, judges from all regions must note a variety as superior. Even using their recommendations, I know I'll make a list that far surpasses the space available to grow them.





Wishing You A
Wonderful Christmas
and a Happy 2018!

- Chris, Natalie, Ada, Thomas, Maeve and Gizmo

West Whitby Councillor Chris Leahy

Meet Your Local Merchant

We wish you all a
Safe and Happy Holiday
and Wonderful New Year!

From the Lawyers at Elliott & Hills



Aruna Persaud-Sgroi



Helen Nolan



Sophie Hills



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Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

From **December 25 - 29**, waste collection will be bumped one day forward. Please ensure your waste is set out by **7:00 a.m.**

Normal Collection Day	Area #	Revised Collection Day		
		Green Bin	Recycling	Garbage
Mon. Dec. 25 (Christmas)	1	Tues. Dec. 26	Tues. Dec. 26	Tues. Dec. 26
Mon. Dec. 25 (Christmas)	2	Tues. Dec. 26	Tues. Dec. 26	No Collection
Tues. Dec. 26	3	Wed. Dec. 27	Wed. Dec. 27	Wed. Dec. 27
Tues. Dec. 26	4	Wed. Dec. 27	Wed. Dec. 27	No Collection
Wed. Dec. 27	5	Thurs. Dec. 28	Thurs. Dec. 28	Thurs. Dec. 28
Wed. Dec. 27	6	Thurs. Dec. 28	Thurs. Dec. 28	No Collection
Thurs. Dec. 28	7	Fri. Dec. 29	Fri. Dec. 29	Fri. Dec. 29
Thurs. Dec. 28	8	Fri. Dec. 29	Fri. Dec. 29	No Collection
Fri. Dec. 29	9	Sat. Dec. 30	Sat. Dec. 30	Sat. Dec. 30
Fri. Dec. 29	10	Sat. Dec. 30	Sat. Dec. 30	No Collection

Christmas Trees will be collected on regular garbage days between January 15 - 26.



Questions? Contact the Whitby Operations Centre at 905.668.3437, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or pw.operations@whitby.ca

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Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

From **January 1 - 5, 2018**, waste collection will be bumped one day forward. Please ensure your waste is set out by **7:00 a.m.**

Normal Collection Day	Area #	Revised Collection Day		
		Green Bin	Recycling	Garbage
Mon. Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)	1	Tues. Jan. 2	Tues. Jan. 2	No Collection
Mon. Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)	2	Tues. Jan. 2	Tues. Jan. 2	Tues. Jan. 2
Tues. Jan. 2	3	Wed. Jan. 3	Wed. Jan. 3	No Collection
Tues. Jan. 2	4	Wed. Jan. 3	Wed. Jan. 3	Wed. Jan. 3
Wed. Jan. 3	5	Thurs. Jan. 4	Thurs. Jan. 4	No Collection
Wed. Jan. 3	6	Thurs. Jan. 4	Thurs. Jan. 4	Thurs. Jan. 4
Thurs. Jan. 4	7	Fri. Jan. 5	Fri. Jan. 5	No Collection
Thurs. Jan. 4	8	Fri. Jan. 5	Fri. Jan. 5	Fri. Jan. 5
Fri. Jan. 5	9	Sat. Jan. 6	Sat. Jan. 6	No Collection
Fri. Jan. 5	10	Sat. Jan. 6	Sat. Jan. 6	Sat. Jan. 6

Christmas Trees will be collected on regular garbage days between January 15 - 26.



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