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MUNICIPALITY OF  
**West Elgin**



April 27, 2020

For immediate release

## All marinas located in the County of Elgin remain closed for recreational use

**COUNTY OF ELGIN** – All marinas located in the Municipality of Bayham, Township of Malahide, Municipality of Central Elgin and Municipality of West Elgin remain closed indefinitely during the COVID-19 outbreak. “We recognize that people are eager to access their boats and get out on the water but access for recreational purposes is still not allowed under the [provincial order](#) regarding closure of all non-essential businesses in Ontario” said Warden Dave Mennill.

Under the provincial emergency order, and according to the Ministry of Transportation, marinas can only open under very limited circumstances, specifically:

- To the extent necessary to enable individuals to access their primary place of residence, including Indigenous communities (e.g. there is no land-based route to access the residence). Accessing seasonal cottages is inconsistent with the government’s “stay home, stop the spread” message.
- To support other essential services, including policing, law enforcement (e.g. MNRF) fire and emergency services.
- To support businesses that produce food, including by fishing, or to support the food supply chain. Marinas are not to support recreational or sport fishing.

“Access to personal watercraft for recreational use at any marina located in the County of Elgin will be subject to law enforcement and potential charges by the OPP and law enforcement agencies. We insist that owners of personal watercraft stay away from marinas in Elgin County during this pandemic. Please rest assured that we will work with our municipal partners and business owners to open these marinas for recreational use as soon as it is safe to do so” stated Warden Mennill.

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