









July 10, 2020

For immediate release

We Must Remain Vigilant to Keep Our Beaches Safe During COVID-19

COUNTY OF ELGIN – Elgin County's public beaches in Port Burwell, Port Bruce and Port Stanley have successfully re-opened since safety measures were put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. "I wish to thank beachgoers in Elgin County for respecting the rules and providing a safe beach experience for themselves and others", stated Elgin County Warden Dave Mennill. "We are off to a good start but we must remain vigilant in our efforts to keep our beaches safe so that they can remain open during these summer months given that the spread of COVID-19 remains real."

Visitors to Elgin County's beaches must continue to follow provincial orders and the advice of Southwestern Public Health (SWPH) to ensure Elgin County's public beaches remain open. This includes:

- Family and social circles must be limited to no more than ten people. Everyone living in the same household is in a social circle. For all others, physical distancing of at least 2 metres must be maintained while on the beach and while in the water.
- Wear a non-medical mask when distancing cannot be maintained.
- Wash hands often and bring hand sanitizer to use when soap and water is not available, especially before and after eating and after using a public washroom.
- Limit your time on the beach so that others can enjoy the experience safely.
- Expect to see regular patrols by the Ontario Provincial Police and Municipal By-law Enforcement.

"I am really pleased with how beachgoers have responded to the safe usage of our public beaches and I want to thank our municipal partners and SWPH for the extraordinary measures they have put in place to promote beach safety. Keeping our beaches open is a team effort but that effort starts with beachgoers themselves. Let's keep up the momentum so that our beaches can remain open for the remainder of the summer".

For additional information, please contact: Warden Dave Mennill Tel: 519-200-0279 dmennill@elgin.ca

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