



63 Marie Street, P.O. Box 310
 South River, Ontario POA 1X0
 Phone: 705-386-2573
 Email: info@southriver.ca
southriver.ca

Village of South River

Ripples

January/February 2026

Season's Greetings



Season's Greetings from South River Council & Staff

The Christmas season brings out our best as we gather with family to share in special times of good fellowship. During this festive time, let's remember to assist those less fortunate, make room for someone who would appreciate your company, and take time for ourselves to reflect on the loved ones who can't be with us, but are always in our hearts. On behalf of Council and staff,

we wish all the residents of South River, our friends, and neighbors the very best of Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mayor Jim Coleman

The municipal office will be closed on the following dates for holidays:



Wednesday, December 24 at 12 noon
 Thursday December 25th
 Friday December 26th
 Monday December 29th
 Tuesday December 30th
 Wednesday December 31st
 Thursday January 1, 2026

We look forward to serving you on January 2, 2026.



Happy New Year!



2026 Waste & Recycling Changes



Starting in **January 2026**, garbage and recycling collection in the **Village of South River** will change from **Waste Connections** to **Emterra Environmental**. Emterra's customer service can be reached at **1-888-597-1541** or by email at customercareont@emterra.ca. There will be **no changes to the collection schedule**: garbage day will remain on **Fridays** and recycling will continue to follow the same schedule. However, all residents must have their garbage and recycling at the curb by **8:00 a.m.**, as routes may change and materials could be picked up at a different time of day than before. **The bag limit remains two (2) bags per household or unit**, and waste and recycling should be left at the curb until after 8:00 p.m. on Fridays to ensure collection.

As of **January 2026**, the Village's **recycling collection program for Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (IC&I) properties will end**, and these properties will **not be served by Circular Materials** in accordance with Government of Ontario regulations. Further details about these changes can be found on the Village's website at southriver.ca. The **2026 Waste and Recycling Calendar** is now available on the website and at the **municipal office**. This calendar includes **paper and plastic recycling dates**, information on other waste services such as **seasonal compost** and **large item pick-up**, and **updated list of accepted paper and plastic recycling materials, with more items now accepted as recyclable**. Visit our website for the link to the full list of recyclable items. Residents of the Village of South River can dispose of **household hazardous waste free of charge** at the **North Bay Household Hazardous Waste Depot**, located next to the Recycling Center at **112 Patton Street, North Bay**. The depot is open **year-round from Wednesday to Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, and additional information is available on the Village's website. For any questions or additional information regarding waste and recycling services, residents are encouraged to contact the **Village Office at 705-386-2573**.

Important Reminder:

Please ensure that the office has your most recent phone number, mailing address and email address on file. This will help us stay in touch with you more efficiently for any updates or important communications.

Important Update: 2026 Water Rate Changes

Water rates in our community will increase by 18% starting January 2026. While we understand that rising costs are difficult, this increase is necessary to cover changes beyond the Village’s control.

Over the past four years, **more than \$5 million** has been invested in the community’s water system to ensure reliable, safe service. These capital improvements are fully accounted for in current billing. However, the **Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA)**, which operates the system under contract, completed a competitive bidding process this year for the 2026–2030 term. The new contract reflects a **50% increase** in OCWA’s operating costs compared to their current expenses. This increase directly results in the 18% rate adjustment for residents.

Recognizing that higher bills can strain household budgets, the Village will be **moving from bi-monthly to monthly payments** beginning with the February 2026 billing. Monthly payments will make individual payments smaller and help spread costs more evenly throughout the year.

The Village shares residents’ concern about the ongoing rise in water costs. Please know we continue to advocate for affordable service while maintaining **safe, clean drinking water**. We will also **maximize available grants and make timely system investments** to reduce future pressure on rates wherever possible. We appreciate your understanding and continued cooperation as we work together to maintain a sustainable, high-quality water system for the community’s long-term benefit.

Christmas in the Village

Christmas In The Village presented by the Township of Machar and the Village of South River will be held at the South River Machar Arena Sunday December 21st 1pm-4pm. Christmas Music, Ice Skating, Treats and pictures with Santa! Don’t forget to wear your favourite festive sweater ! Hope to see you there!



Free Public Ice Skating South River Machar Arena

Join us every Wednesday and Sunday
Wednesday 1pm -3 pm
Sunday 1pm-2:30pm



Plus Holiday Skating Hours

December
21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
Jan 2 & 4
1:00pm - 2:30 pm
December 24 & 31
10:00 am - 12:00 pm



★ Sponsorship Opportunity! ★

We’re looking for individuals and businesses to sponsor public skating! For more information, please call 705-386-2573 or email admin@southriver.ca. Thank you for your support!

2026 Tax and Water Due Dates

Taxes

March 31, 2026
June 30, 2026
September 29, 2026
November 30, 2026

Water

January 15, 2026
March 16, 2026
April 15, 2026
May 15, 2026
June 15, 2026
July 15, 2026
August 14, 2026
September 15, 2026
October 15, 2026
November 16, 2026
December 15, 2026

