

POLICY

HAND-HELD WIRELESS DEVICES

November 2009

In order to promote safe driving, Town of Erin employees who are using Town owned vehicles shall:

- Limit any cell phone/wireless device (personal or Town owned) use while driving
- Pull over if receiving a call while driving
- Use hands-free devices and keep conversations brief

Effective October 2009, in Ontario, the **Highway Traffic Act** prohibits:

- driving while holding or using a hand-held wireless communications device such as a cell phone, or electronic entertainment device; and
- driving a motor vehicle with the display screen of a television, computer or other device visible to the driver.

The following behaviors are exempted:

- using these devices in the hands-free mode;
- using these devices while the motor vehicle is off the traveled part of the road, not in motion and not impeding traffic.

Also exempted from the prohibition are display screens of global positioning system navigation devices, hand-held communication and similar prescribed devices, commercially used logistical transportation tracking systems, collision avoidance systems and instruments, gauges and systems providing information regarding the status of systems of the motor vehicle.

Drivers of ambulances, fire department vehicles and police department vehicles and any drivers using the devices to contact ambulance, police or fire department emergency services, are exempted from the application of the law.

Adopted by Council: December 1, 2009