

Crews working to remove tree debris from recent storm

By Mark Pavilons

It may be spring before the remnants of the recent ice storm that hit King Township are completely cleaned up.

And the tab may hit upwards of \$200,000.

King Township's work crews are doing double time clearing sidewalks, streets and roads of tree debris. According to Mayor Steve Pellegrini, they're concentrating on removing broken limbs to ensure public safety, Both Township crews and an outside contractor are removing limbs and chipping the debris. Eventually they will address the downed trees on residents' properties.

The mayor predicted it will take six to 10 weeks before majority of the debris is dealt with. But, given the current weather conditions, many of the large limbs simply cannot be removed until the spring thaw.

'We're working as fast as we can,' Pellegrini said. 'We will get around to it all.'

The words he offered up for residents 'patience please.'

The mayor noted his property is also littered with tree limbs and he will simply have to wait until spring to deal with it.

At this point, he's not sure how the Township will address the matter. They can offer increased yard waste collections, but the pieces have to be cut small for collection. This may not be possible in all cases, so the chippers may have to make a return appearance in the coming months.

York residents can get food cards

Eligible York Region residents may receive help to replace food spoiled during the recent ice storm through a provincial program offering a limited number of grocery cards.

To determine eligibility, York Region residents should call the Access York Contact Centre at 1-888-256-1112. Residents must have been without power for more than 48 hours and face financial difficulty in replacing spoiled food. A very limited number of grocery cards are available and will be distributed by mail only. Grocery cards will not be available in person.

The program will not provide grocery cards to all households that lost power and is intended to aid only those most in need. Eligible families can receive one \$100 grocery card per household or eligible individuals can receive one \$50 grocery card per person.