

# BENGAL TOWNSHIP NEWS

June  
2015

Clinton County, Michigan

[www.bengaltownship.com](http://www.bengaltownship.com)

## Summer Tax Bill Important Messages

Summer property taxes are payable July 01 to September 14 by:

- Mail to 2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns
- In person at the Township Hall on M-21 on Monday September 14 from 9am-5pm
- Or by appointment (call 517-927-9273).

Review your tax bill for interest/penalty information for past due taxes. Checks or money orders are preferred; however, cash payments for the exact amount owed will also be accepted (there is no cash drawer in the office to make change). Thank you. ☺

**Deferment of Summer Taxes:** Remember that September 15, 2015 is the last day to file for the Summer Deferment per MCL 211.51(7). Certain taxpayers can apply to have their summer property taxes deferred until February 16, 2016. \*\*\*All of the requirements and application form may be found at [www.michigan.gov/treasury](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury).

In general, there are two ways to qualify for this deferment: 1) gross household income of \$40,000 or less and falling into an exemption classification or 2) owning an agricultural or horticultural operation for which gross receipts are not less than household income.

**Need a receipt?** Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please let us know and we will gladly mail one to you.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR PAYING YOUR TAXES ON TIME!**

## New Township Website

Bengal Township's new website is up and running! Find us at [www.bengaltownship.com](http://www.bengaltownship.com). Information is still being added.

## Township Hall Rental

To rent the township hall contact Elizabeth Ayoub at: 6252 West Walker Road, SJ 989-224-2608.

## Township Board Changes

At the May 21, 2015 Special Board Meeting, Deb Schafer was appointed Supervisor and Elizabeth Ayoub was appointed Clerk, by the remaining Township Board Members to fill the vacant positions. At the June 1, 2015 Special Board Meeting, Nick McDonald and Bill Kushmaul were appointed Township Trustees. Welcome!

All board positions will be on the ballot for (re)election at the August 2016 primary election and November 2016 general election.

\*\*\* Marilyn Irrer and Steve Mahoney are each thanked for their many years of dedicated and faithful service to the township. You will be missed. \*\*\*

## Interested in participating in Township board/committee?

Fill out an application, found on our website, specifying the position desired. This application will be used for appointment (between elections only) of vacant board positions when they occur, or to various committees/commissions.

## Planning Commission

Planning Commission appointments were made at the June 10 board meeting. Commission members are Lori Pung, Brenda Zlotek, Nick McDonald, Tom Miller and Duane Pung. This newly formed group will soon begin drafting appropriate bylaws, plans etc. as prescribed by the Planning Enabling Act of 2003.

## 2015 Road Maintenance Schedule

The following are the road maintenance contracts signed with the Clinton County Road Commission:

- **Gravel on:**
  - Townsend – Francis to Airport
  - Walker – Wacousta to Essex Center
  - Lowell – Parks to Centerline
  - Dexter Trail – Centerline W (partial mile)
- **Chloride**
- **Brush Spray & Roadside Mowing for various roads**
- **Overband Crack Seal** – All blacktop roads
- **Culvert** – Parks Rd
- **Chip Seal** – Parks Rd (1 mile tbd)

| Supervisor                      | Treasurer                          | Clerk                           | Trustee                       | Trustee                       | Township Assessor                   |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Deborah Schafer<br>989-593-2325 | Denice Schultheiss<br>517-927-9273 | Elizabeth Ayoub<br>989-224-2608 | Bill Kushmaul<br>616-240-4100 | Nick McDonald<br>517-819-6127 | Greg Armbrustmacher<br>989-593-3279 |

## Burning Permits

Bengal Township residents living **West of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit through the **Dallas Township Fire Department at 989-593-3146**. Please call 24 hours in advance. If you have any further questions, call **Vern Feldpausch at 989-593-2768**.

Bengal Township residents living **East of Francis Road** can obtain a 3-day burning permit by contacting the **City of St. Johns Police Department at 989-224-6721**. You will be asked your name and address, what you are burning, how much you are burning, and when you wish to burn. Here, it is best to actually speak with someone to confirm your burning permit is approved. Annual burn permits may be obtained by completing a form at the Police Department (on M21 across from the courthouse).

Additional information may be found on the Township website.

## Fire and Rescue Runs

In the event of a fire run within the township, Bengal Township is charged **\$1000.00 when a fire truck or \$450.00 when a first responder leaves the fire station**. Bengal Township is charged \$1000.00 for the first two hours and \$500.00 for every hour after that for fire service. **When Bengal Township gets billed, the person upon whom the service is provided will be billed.** Please check your insurance to see if Fire or First Responder is covered. Typically, basic homeowners insurance only covers up to \$500.00. A small increase in your premium could save you hundreds!!

## Neighborhood Watch

The Clinton County Sheriff's Office has been involved with the Neighborhood Watch Program since 1993. Residents interested in receiving Neighborhood Watch Newsletters and/or Alerts by email can sign up at [www.clinton-county.org/LawJustice/SheriffOffice.aspx](http://www.clinton-county.org/LawJustice/SheriffOffice.aspx).

## Notes from Clinton County

The County has implemented a new emergency phone notification system called "**CODE RED**", to notify potentially affected citizen of a natural or manmade disaster. If you have a landline, it should already be included in the system; you can verify this and add any cell numbers for the same service by going to [www.clinton-county.org](http://www.clinton-county.org) and clicking on the CODE RED icon or calling 224-5108.

The Courthouse bonds have been paid off; the Health Department building is planned to be paid off next year. Progress continues on the development of natural areas and lake improvement areas at Clinton Lake Park. Central Dispatch is in planning stages for an additional tower in the SE part of the county for emergency communication.

## Dept. of Waste Management:

### Safe Medical Disposal Programs for unwanted/expired medications:

(be sure to black out personal info; just leave the drug name visible)

- Fri June 09, 2-5pm: Sparrow Clinton Pharmacy
- Sat Aug 29, 8am-1pm: the Clean Community Event (must register in advance)
- Sat Sept 26, 9am-12pm: Clinton Community Health Fair (*Liquid Fertilizer 3055 M-21*)
- Fri Dec 4, 2-5pm: Sparrow Clinton Pharmacy

### Clean Community Event: August 29 8am-1pm

Lansing (Dewitt Twp) Register by Friday 8/21 at [www.clinton-county.org/Departments/DepartmentofWasteManagementHomePage](http://www.clinton-county.org/Departments/DepartmentofWasteManagementHomePage)

- Just about any household generated waste, including household hazardous waste, farm and landscaping chemicals, motor oil, antifreeze, medications, electronic waste (small fee), bulky waste or junk (fee based). Most items are collected for free.
- Disposal fees are waived for volunteers! To volunteer call 989-224-5186 or email [recycle@clinton-county.org](mailto:recycle@clinton-county.org)

### Mercury Health Thermometer Exchange

DWM will accept old mercury health thermometers year round at 1307 E Townsend Rd, Suite 102 (MMDHD Building). Please transport in plastic Ziploc baggie. DWM will exchange your mercury health thermometer for a new digital thermometer. Limit 1 per person.

### Mercury Thermostat Collection

DWM will accept old thermostats containing mercury year round at 1307 E Townsend Rd, Suite 102 (MMDHD Building). Please transport in plastic Ziploc baggie. This program is funded in part by a grant from Michigan Energy Options and the Thermostat Recycling Corporation.

*The Bengal Township Board wishes everyone a safe and fun filled summer season!!*

