

## Burning Permits



**Burn permits are required by residents.** When either the Dallas Township or St. Johns Fire Department responds to a fire, the PROPERTY OWNER is billed.

- Bengal Township residents living **West of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **Dallas Township Fire Dept. at 989-593-3146**. Residents will be asked to leave their name, address, and phone number, what they are burning, and which days they wish to burn. Please call at least 24 hours in advance. If residents have any questions, call Vern Feldpausch, Dallas Township Supervisor, at 989-593-2768.
- Bengal Township residents living **East of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **City of St. Johns Police Dept. 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. It is best to speak with someone to confirm your permit is approved. You are also able to apply for annual burn permits.

## Fire and Rescue Runs

In the event of a fire run within the township, **\$1,000 is charged when a fire truck is dispatched and/or \$450 when a first responder is dispatched.** Bengal Township is charged \$1,000 for the first two hours and \$500 for every hour thereafter for fire service. **When Bengal Township gets billed for these services, the property owner and/or person upon whom the service was provided, will be billed.** Please check your insurance to see if Fire or First Responder services are covered. Typically, basic home-owners insurance only covers up to \$500. A small increase in your premium could save you money!

## Open Treasurer Position

Bengal Township is seeking a resident to fill an upcoming Bengal Township vacancy for Township Treasurer. The position is a paid position and is appointed until the General Election in November 2024. Interested residents should contact Supervisor Nick McDonald at 517-819-6127 immediately.

## Winter Tax Bills

Winter property taxes are due by **February 14, 2024**, and can be mailed to Bengal Township 1211 Hampshire Dr., St. Johns, 48879 or can be paid in person at:

### Township Hall on M-21:

- Thu. December 28, 2023: 9am-5pm
- Wed. February 14, 2024: 9am-5pm

### 1211 Hampshire Dr., St. Johns, on:

- Thu. February 29, 2024: 9am-5pm (past due)

### By appointment:

- Call Deputy Treasurer, Denice Schultheiss at 517-927-9273

You should review your tax bill for interest/penalty information on past due taxes. Checks or money orders are preferred; however, cash payments for the exact amount owed will also be accepted. Note: There is no cash on hand to make change. Thank you. 😊

**Did you know you could print your own TAX BILL copy and/or payment RECEIPT?** Property info and historical tax payments can be viewed by the property owner online at the **new web address:** [www.bsaonline.com](http://www.bsaonline.com). BS&A provides technical help using this webpage (1-855-BSA-SOFT).

**Need a receipt mailed?** Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please call 517-927-9273.

**Questions about your taxes?** Contact Deputy Treasurer, Denice Schultheiss directly at the number listed above.

<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Township Assessor</i>
Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Lori Pung 989-620-0728	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Stanley Sillman 989-640-0419	Eric Boak 517-449-4283	Dr. Mark Holley 989-834-5611

## Township Participation

Periodically, Bengal Township has positions available on the Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Commission, Board of Review and for elections. We would like to have a list of interested people to contact if a position becomes available. If you are interested, please contact Clerk Bassette at 989-640-4750.

## Early and Absentee Voting

In November 2022 the voters of Michigan passed Proposal 2022-02 which amended state voting laws. The Michigan Constitution now recognizes that residents, once registered, may submit a one-time single signed absent voter ballot application covering all future elections. Proposal 2022-02 also allows registered voters the option to vote in-person for nine days leading up to election day. This change begins with the 2024 presidential primary. Clinton County is exploring how to best ensure access to early in-person voting for all County residents. More information on early voting may be found on the State website [www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting](http://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting).

## Road Projects in 2023

Chloride: 3 applications

Gravel: 3 miles

- Lowell Rd (Centerline to Taft)
- Lowell Rd (Taft to Parks)
- Townsend (Grove to Airport)

Brush spraying, roadside mowing, and overband

## Field Mud

If you are experiencing excessive field mud in your road, you may contact the Clinton County Road Commission at 989-224-3274 or you may report it online at:

<https://ccrc-roads.com/contact-us/report-a-road-issue>.

## Planning & Zoning

**Questions regarding Zoning:** You may contact Nolan Solomon at [bengaltownshipcl@gmail.com](mailto:bengaltownshipcl@gmail.com) or 219-743-7759.

**Monthly Meeting:** The Planning Commission meets on the last Wednesday of each month. Meeting dates as well as cancellation notices are posted on the notification board in front of the hall and on the Township's website.

If you are considering renovations, new construction, or splitting land, you must fill out a Zoning Compliance Application which can be found on the Township's website. Additionally, these actions require ESCROW funding as outlined in the Fee Schedule which can also be found on the Township's website.

**Inspections:** Please note that all Township projects, including Ag Buildings, must be inspected by the Township Inspector. A preliminary site inspection AND a final inspection is required. **If your application is approved, you will receive a letter from the Township's Planning Administrator, McKenna Associates, instructing you to contact Forrest Thurston at 989-640-1890 to set up the inspections. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in fines and project delays.**

## Hall Rental

The Township Hall is available for rent. Please note that the maximum capacity is 70 people and can be rented by residents for \$100 or non-residents for \$150. A security deposit is also required. Please see the rental agreement and other rental information on the Township's website.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

*Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!*

