

Burn Permits

REMEMBER: 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 an annual burning permit by submitting an online or in-person application to the **City of St. Johns Police Dept.** As of a January 1, 2023, three day permits are no longer being offered. The online version of the application can be found at <https://www.cognitofrms.com/SJForms/StJohnsFireDepartmentBurnPermit>. New applications will need to be submitted annually. Questions can be directed to City of St. Johns Police Department at **989-224-6721.**

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!

Summer Tax Information

Summer property taxes are payable **July 1 to September 15** by one of the following methods:

- Mail to: **1211 Hampshire Drive, St. Johns, MI 48879 (Preferred)**
- In person on **Tuesday, September 15, 2026**, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Township Hall 6586 W. M-21, St. Johns
- By appointment: **Call 517-927-9273**

Please review your tax bill for interest/penalty information. Checks or money orders are preferred, however cash payments for the **exact** amount owed will be accepted. There is no cash drawer in the office to make change.

Deferment of Summer Taxes: September 15th is the last day to file for the Summer Deferment per MCL21151(7). Certain taxpayers can apply to have their summer property taxes deferred until February. The requirements and application may be found at www.michigan.gov/treasury. There are generally two ways to qualify: 1) gross household income of \$40k or less and falling into an exemption classification, or 2) owning an agricultural or horticultural operation for which gross receipts are not less than house income.

Property info and historical tax payments (only those paid **directly** to Bengal Township) can be viewed by the property owner online at www.bsaonline.com. BS&A provides the technical help using this webpage (1-855-BSA-SOFT).

Need a receipt? Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please indicate this when sending in your payment or contact the Township's Deputy Treasurer, Denice Schultheiss at 517-927-9273. BSA also offers the ability to print your own receipt.

<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Township Assessor</i>
Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Nolan Solomon 219-743-7759	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Stanley Sillman 989-640-0419	Nick Tipper 517-449-1564	Dr. Mark Holley 989-834-5611

Board of Review

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday,
July 21, 2026 at the Township Hall.

Contact Supervisor Nick McDonald to confirm a time as exact timing has not been scheduled. If you have questions about what can be addressed during this meeting, please contact Dr. Mark Holley, Township Assessor, at mholley4444@gmail.com.

Planning Commission News

The PC meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. If a meeting is cancelled, it will be posted on the bulletin board in front of the hall and on the township website.

Required Inspections: All construction, including AG buildings, **must be inspected** and require a preliminary and a final inspection. To schedule an inspection, call the Township Inspector, Forrest Thurston, at 989-640-1890 or you may email him at bengaltownshipinspector@gmail.com. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in fines and project delays.

Hall Rental

The Township Hall is available for rent March through December each calendar year. The maximum capacity is 70 people and can be rented by residents for \$150 or non-residents for \$200. A security deposit is also required. Please see the rental agreement and other rental information on the Township's website.

Road Maintenance

Gravel: 5 miles on Centerline Rd
Chloride: 2nd of 3 applications completed
Various Roadside: Mowing & Spraying

Fiber-Optic Internet

Frontier has been installing fiber-optic lines in certain areas of the county throughout 2026.

Upcoming Millage Proposals

Bengal Township residents will see **three millage proposals on the ballot** for the **August 4, 2026** election. These proposals provide essential funding for our infrastructure and emergency services. Please review the enclosed Millage Notice for important information about the specific language and changes you will see on the ballot.

Township Opportunities

Residents who are interested in assisting with planning/zoning, elections, and other opportunities may contact Sharon Bassette, Township Clerk, at bengaltownshipclerk2@gmail.com or 989-640-4750

Clinton County Recycling

Clinton County Department of Recycling & Waste Management offers residents a way to search how to recycle, or dispose of, just about anything within the tri-county area. This service is called the Waste Wizard and can be found online here: www.clinton-county.org/679/Waste-Wizard. When in doubt, please contact the office at (989) 224-5186, email recycle@clinton-county.org, or check out their website www.clinton-county.org.

Clinton County News Board of Commissioners

In August, voters will consider reauthorizing the constitutional millage for Clinton County, townships, and intermediate school districts. Due to Michigan's Headlee Amendment, millage rates are automatically reduced when property values increase faster than inflation, limiting tax growth. Clinton County voters have approved this authorization every four years since 1994, and automatic rollbacks will continue if property values continue to outpace inflation.

The County recently reorganized planning and zoning services under a community development model alongside the building department to improve coordination and efficiency. The County's latest independent audit also resulted in an unmodified opinion, with revenues exceeding expectations, expenditures remaining under budget, and pension and retiree healthcare obligations fully funded.

Email: Rudatz@clinton-county.org

Cell: 989-640-8140

Facebook: "Zach Rudat, Clinton County Commissioner"

Rail Trail Path

Exciting news! A path from the Hall to the Rail Trail has been created. Residents are encouraged to use the parking lot rather than parking on the side of roads intersecting with the trail.



