BENGAL TOWNSHIP NEWS

November 2026

Clinton County, Michigan

www.bengaltownship.com

Burning 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.** New applications will need to be submitted annually. Online applications can be found at this web address: https://www.cognitoforms.com/SJForms/StJohnsFireDepartmentBurnPermit. As of a January 1, 2023, three-day permits are no longer offered. 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!

Winter Tax Bills

Winter property taxes are due by **February 16, 2026,** 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:

- Mon. December 28, 2026: 9am-5pm
- Mon. February 15, 2027: 9am-5pm

5720 W. Townsend Rd., St. Johns, on:

- Mon. March 1, 2027: 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. 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.

Board of Review

December's meeting will be December 8, 2026 at 5 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2027 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and March 9, 2027 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Questions about what can be addressed during this meeting can be directed to Dr. Mark Holley, Township Assessor, at mholley4444@gmail.com.

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

Clinton County Commission News

Hello Bengal Township!

This is Zach Rudat, proudly representing our community on the Clinton County Board of Commissioners.

As your County Commissioner, my goal is to make sure our county government works for you. If you need help navigating a county resource, if you have an idea that could streamline county services, or if are looking for help advocating for a need in our community, please contact me at any time.

I can be contacted directly by phone or email at the information below. I also post regular updates on my Facebook page, "Zach Rudat, Clinton County Commissioner," if you'd like to stay up to date on the latest activity in Clinton County.

I'm honored to serve our community and work on your behalf!

Thank you,

Zach Rudat
Clinton County Commissioner
Email: Rudatz@clinton-county.org
Cell: 989-640-8140

Road Projects in 2026

Gravel: 5 miles on Centerline
Chloride: 3 applications covering 49.5 miles each
Chip Sealing and Spot Gravel: 2 miles on Parks Rd and 1 mile on Lowell Rd
Various Roadside: Mowing & Spraying

Field Mud

If you experience excessive field mud on your road, contact the Clinton County Road Commission at 989-224-3274 or report online at: https://ccrc-roads.com/contact-us/report-a-road-issue.

Planning & Zoning

Questions regarding Zoning: You may contact Planning Commission Chairperson Brandy Solomon at bengaltownshippc1@gmail.com or 810-705-7229.

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.

Update from Planning Commission: Multiple junk/inoperable vehicle complaints have been made with the PC. Residents are asked to ensure that all such vehicles are stored appropriately according to our ordinance. The complete Zoning Ordinance can be found on our 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.

Hall Rental

The Township Hall is available for rent March through December each calendar year. Please note that 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.

BOARD MEETINGS

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

Rail Trail Path

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.**

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

