

Lake Township News

On the Sandy Shores of Lake Huron from Gagetown Road to Oak Beach County Park

Summer

June 2008

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SEWER STUDY COMPLETE

Wade Trim completed the Sanitary Sewer Study for a waste water treatment system within Lake Township and presented their report at the April 21st meeting of the Township Board. In preparing this study, Wade Trim submitted a Freedom of Information Request to the Huron County Health Department for any and all records pertaining to on-site waste water systems within Lake Township. Based on a sampling of these records, the report states, in part:

- In the past seven years nearly ¾ of all permits issued utilize a drywell system.
- “88% of disposal systems are either undersized by code [current Huron County Environmental Health Code] or utilize drywells.”
- “The problem with drywell systems is that the waste water is not fully treated prior to ground water disposal. In many communities drywells are not allowed for waste water disposal as they can pose a dangerous threat to ground water contamination.”
- “It is evident that most onsite treatment systems in Lake Township do not meet code [current HCEHC] and there is concern about the impact these systems are having on the local ground water and the Saginaw Bay water quality.”

In conjunction with this sewer study, the Lake Township Board created an ad-hoc septic committee to consider possible methods of ensuring that all septic systems within Lake Township are properly maintained and in compliance with current local health codes. At the February Board meeting the septic committee presented the Township Board with a Septic Ordinance Draft for point of sale septic inspections and required upgrading; inspection and upgrading when altering existing residences; and also a routine maintenance provision. The committee feels it is imperative that if we are to continue with the use of on-site septic systems, we need to be more proactive about maintenance. The Township Board returned the draft back to the septic committee for changes, specifically requesting an exclusion of the required routine maintenance. (See Township Board Minutes of February 18, 2008 at www.laketownship.net).

With a proactive septic ordinance that will assist us in ensuring that all septic systems are maintained and in compliance with current local health codes, perhaps we can postpone the enormous costs of sewers in our township.

PORT AUSTIN LIBRARY



**114 Railroad Street
(989) 738-7212**

Residents of Lake Township are welcome at the Port Austin Township Library. For general questions or to inquire about their hours, please call the number listed above.

Summer is the perfect time to check out a good book, grab a cool drink, find a shady spot and enjoy!

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“In matters of principle, stand like a rock. In matters of taste, swim with the current” –Thomas Jefferson

BOAT HOISTS

A Boat Hoist Committee was formed in February to address the many issues with the current boat/watercraft hoist ordinance and the many complaints we receive about easements. The committee has met a number of times and is taking suggestions from residents as they work on a list of suggested changes to the ordinance.

Some of the problems the committee is examining are:

- People failing to register their hoist
- More requests for registrations than available sites
- The conflict of use between swimmers and watercraft owners
- Hoists being left on easements over the winter

The committee welcomes comments from all Lake Township residents as they continue to seek answers and solutions. Please call the office, write a letter or email the committee.



M-25 PROPERTY OWNERS RECEIVE NOTICE FROM M-DOT

In preparation for resurfacing of M-25 from Caseville to Quarry Road in 2009, the Michigan Department of Transportation has recently mailed letters to property owners along M-25 up to Quarry Road regarding removal of encroachments within the road right-of-way. As part of the resurfacing, M-DOT will be paving an eight foot shoulder to allow a wider area for non-motorized pedestrian traffic. (The existing shoulder is 5' paved and 3' of gravel) Property owners have been advised by M-DOT that only mailboxes are allowed within the right-of-way. However, for those homes that do not have a mailbox, the emergency address signs can be posted on a metal break-away post similar to those used by M-DOT for road signs. For more information or if you have any questions, contact Rachel Phillips at the Cass City M-DOT office at 989-872-3848, ext. 212. M-DOT right-of-way maps are available at the Township Office or may be found on the M-DOT website at:

<http://mdotwas1.mdot.state.mi.us/public/ROWFiles/index.cfm>

RECYCLING NEWS

Residents can obtain a list of items we accept for recycling from either a recycling volunteer or from the Township Office. The Lake Township website also has a wealth of information on recycling.

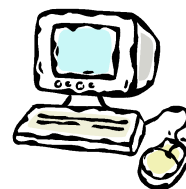
To make the job safer and easier for our volunteers, please drop off only clean and sorted recyclable items. If items are not sorted, our volunteers have to do the sorting which not only takes more time but also involves digging into bags with potential hazards such as broken glass or sharp metal edges.

Items such as the foil wrappers used in cracker boxes, pet foods, etc. **are not recyclable**. No. 1 & 2 plastics in bottle form, only, are recyclable. Plastic grocery bags or bread bags, as long as they are **clean and dry**, are recyclable. Black trash bags and salt bags **are not recyclable**.

Our recycle program will continue and we encourage everyone to participate. It's a win-win program - it will decrease the amount of garbage you have (saves you money) and will help the environment! Please check our website at www.laketownship.net or call the office at 856-4867 for more details.

Thanks again to our volunteers for donating their time on Sundays to run the recycling program. We couldn't offer this service without your support.

Upcoming recycling dates are listed on Page 4 of this newsletter.



WWW.LAKETOWNSHIP.NET

MAKING YOUR LIFE EASIER

Application forms for Garage Sale permits, Hoist Registration and Temporary Use permits are available on our website. Residents can download the documents, complete the required information and mail them to the office for processing.



ELECTION NEWS

The primary will be held on **Tuesday, August 5th** and the polls will be open from **7AM to 8PM**. Due to the new state requirements, it is very important that voters bring a picture ID to the polls. Voters without an ID must complete a lengthy process of paperwork and be issued a provisional ballot in order to cast a vote.

Applications to obtain an absentee ballot are available to qualified voters upon request. Stop by the Township Hall during regular office hours or call the office to have one mailed to you. Applications are also available on line at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot_105377_7.pdf

CANDIDATES FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICES

Supervisor -1 position

- Clay Kelterborn (D)
- Robert Smith (D)

Clerk -1 position

- Valerie McCallum (D)
- William Osborne (R)

Treasurer -1 position

- Dorothy Fischer (D)
- Timothy Lalley (D)

Trustee -2 positions

- Robert Hyzer (D)
- Rose Ann Remer (R)
- Richard Ehrlich (D)
- Dale Hartsell (R)

The August 5th Primary Election will decide which candidate for Supervisor and Treasurer will advance to the General Election in November.

July 7th is the last day to register to qualify to vote in the August 5th Primary. Residents can register at the Township Office, local Secretary of State or the County Clerk's office in Bad Axe.

NEW PERMANENT AV LIST

The Clerk's office is now offering qualified registered voters the option of being on a permanent absentee list. Voters on the list will automatically be sent an application for a ballot every time there is an election.

To be added to the list, please call the office for a request form or download the request form from our website -

www.laketownship.net/webdocu/permanent_absent_voter_request.pdf .

A written request must be on file in our office in order to add your name to our permanent absentee voter list.

WIND TURBINE FACILITY ORDINANCE

Michigan's Thumb has made headline news and even brought Governor Granholm for a visit as a result of its support for wind energy. The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth has projected Michigan's Thumb as future host to 1/3 of Michigan's wind energy facilities. For more information on Michigan's wind energy initiative, visit the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth, Public Service Commission website http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,1607,7-159-16377_47107_48701---,00.html.

With this in mind, the Lake Township Planning Commission has been carefully researching issues communities are facing with these new developments in an effort to develop a wind facility ordinance for Lake Township.

A DVD of the April 23, 2008 planning commission meeting featuring a presentation on noise and appropriate setbacks by Richard James, Acoustics Engineer, is available on loan at the Township Hall to anyone interested. Wisconsin Wind, also on DVD, presented by Supervisor Clay Kelterborn at the May 28th meeting is also available featuring interviews of people in Wisconsin living among turbines similar to those in Elkton. We encourage residents to attend the planning commission meetings as they continue their research.

TOWNSHIP SCHEDULE

OFFICE HOURS

THE TOWNSHIP HALL OFFICES ARE OPEN
MONDAY – FRIDAY FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM.
OFFICIALS' OFFICE HOURS VARY. IT IS BEST TO CALL
AHEAD OR MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IF YOU NEED TO
SPEAK TO A TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME – 7:30 PM (6:30 PM DECEMBER – FEBRUARY)
DAY – THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH – LAST MONDAY IN
MARCH

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME – 7:00 PM
DAY – FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH EXCEPT
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
WORKSHOP MEETINGS MAY BE SCHEDULED AT OTHER TIMES
AND POSTED.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME - 7:30 PM ON WEDNESDAYS UPON APPEAL APPLICATION

**FIRE BOARD (CAFFA) MEETS EVERY FIRST & THIRD
WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM AT THE FIRE HALL IN CASEVILLE.**

TOWNSHIP BOARD

SUPERVISOR/ASSESSOR – CLAY KELTERBORN

CLERK - VALERIE MCCALLUM

TREASURER – DOROTHY FISCHER

TRUSTEES – ROBERT HYZER
ROSE ANN REMER

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR – ARNOLD RUSSELL

BUILDING INSPECTOR – TORY GEILHART

SECRETARY/DEPUTY CLERK – KATHLEEN BOLTON

LAKE TOWNSHIP HALL

PHONE: (989) 856-4867

FAX: (989) 856-9710

WEBSITE: www.laketownship.net

LOCATION ADDRESS: 4988 W. KINDE ROAD
CASEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48725

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 429
CASEVILLE, MI 48725-0429

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

DAVE FERRIS, ATTENDANT

MAY – OCTOBER SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM

NOVEMBER – APRIL SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM

(EXCEPT CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS' DAY)

Burning permit - Call 856-9198

2008 Recycling Schedule

The following dates are on Sundays from
10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Please make sure that all recyclables are clean.
**CLEAR GLASS ONLY – BROWN OR GREEN GLASS
NO LONGER ACCEPTED.** A list of acceptable items
is available upon request at the Transfer Station or
on our website at www.laketownship.net.

Please **DO NOT** drop off recyclables at the
Transfer Station on any dates other than the
following:

SATURDAY- June 14th

Sunday, July 20th

Sunday, August 17th

Sunday, September 21st

Sunday, October 19th

Sunday, November 16th

Leaves, grass and tree trimmings are accepted at the Transfer
Station during regular hours at no charge.