# Lake Township News

December 2004

# Recycling

Township Recycling Program off to a great start...

Our Township residents have packed Tuscola County's 20' trailer with newspapers, magazines, glass, plastic and cans every month since last May. That's approximately two tons less trash going into the landfill every month.

According to Jerry Snider, at Tuscola County Material Recovery Facility in Caro, the newspaper and corrugated cardboard goes to Kalamazoo Packaging or to a facility in Manistique where it is mixed in a 50/50 process and made into boxboard material, i.e. cereal boxes, pop and beer boxes, et cetera. The plastics we recycle are broken down and reformed into new plastic bottles, the steel cans are reused for automobile parts, aluminum is remade into new cans – an aluminum pop can may be back in your hand in 60 days – and glass is recycled into new glass. Experiments are being done on using ground glass in roads. The glass we recycle goes to Glass Recyclers in Detroit, the only glass recycling facility in Michigan.

We hope to continue this program through 2005. The monthly calendar schedule for January through May is *continued on page 3* 

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# **Township Website**

www.laketownship.net

As of January 1, 2005, anyone interested in finding out information about Lake Township can use their Internet access to log onto our website. We are hoping to provide easy access to frequently requested information such as meeting minutes, newsletters, ordinances, et cetera.

We hope residents will take advantage of this new service and let us know what you think.

# **Summer Tax Deferment**

If you meet the qualifications and wish to defer payment of your summer tax bill, you must file the Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes **every year**. This form is available at the Township Hall or on line at <u>www.michigan.gov/treasury</u>. If you do not file this form yearly, you will be billed for interest until paid. Summer taxes, whether you defer payment or not, will not be listed on your winter tax bill. These are separate bills. Our Treasurer is requesting that you pay your summer and winter tax bills with separate checks by February 28<sup>th</sup>.

When mailing your tax payment, you can keep the bottom portion of the tax bill as your receipt and mail the top portion with your check. If you wish to have a receipt stamped "Paid," mail the entire bill and a copy will be returned and stamped as paid.

If you have any questions regarding your taxes, you may call Dorothy Fischer at 856-3103. Please do not call on Sundays or after 5:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday.

# 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 (CAFPA) 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 – JERRY SCHWEITZER

SECRETARY/DEPUTY CLERK – KAREN SIENKIEWICZ

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS

#### DAVE KING, ATTENDANT

MAY – OCTOBER SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM NOVEMBER – APRIL SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM

### LAKE TOWNSHIP HALL

PHONE: (989) 856-4867

FAX: (989) 856-9710

LOCATION ADDRESS: 4988 W. KINDE ROAD CASEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48725 MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 429 CASEVILLE, MI 48725-0429

### BURNING PERMIT - CALL 856-9198

# 2005 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.

January 16<sup>th</sup> February 20<sup>th</sup> March 20<sup>th</sup> April 17<sup>th</sup>

May 15<sup>th</sup>

### June 19<sup>th</sup>

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

At this time we have scheduled recycling days for the next six months on Sundays. Before scheduling any further dates, we are asking for input on whether it would serve more residents to schedule recycling days for Saturdays rather than Sundays. This would also pertain to interested volunteers. Please give us a call at the Township Hall and let us know (856-4867).

#### continued from page 1

listed on Page 2 of this Newsletter to cut out and save.

While the program depends on residents willing to save recyclables over a month long period, it also relies upon a strong volunteer base. We have several regular volunteers with new folks adding their name to the work schedule. If you have the time to donate and are interested, please call the Township office or sign up when you bring in your recyclables next month. It's a great opportunity to not only help protect our environment, but also to visit with neighbors.

## **Boats, Trailers, Hoists & Docks**

A big share of complaints our Zoning Administrator receives involves boats, trailers, boat hoists and docks. These are all seasonal items that need to be stored during the off-season. However, our zoning ordinances do require these items to be parked or stored in the rear yard. If access to a rear yard is not possible, a waiver is necessary from the Zoning Administrator for side yard parking or storage. Boats and trailers are not to be parked or stored in front yard areas.

Boat/watercraft hoists must be out of the water by November 1<sup>st</sup>. They are not to be stored on easements that are deeded for the purposes of egress and ingress to the water. Additionally, hoists and docks are now required to be registered with the Township. This registration is not in lieu of a U.S. Army Corps permit. It is merely a means of identification for the Township. Over the past two years the Township has incurred the costs of removing several rusty, abandoned hoists or parts thereof from area easements. Unused hoists and docks are not only unsightly on our beaches but also pose a hazard for beach users. Often times a boat hoist is acquired either knowingly or unknowingly when purchasing a home in the area. If you have a hoist or dock you are no longer using, please have it removed.

# **Oak Tree Disease**

Throughout the spring and summer of 2004, there have been concerns raised regarding the health of local trees. Besides the Emerald Ash Borer affecting

ash trees in several Michigan counties, several residents have noticed their oak trees looking distressed. According to the Michigan State Extension office, Anthracnose has been affecting White Oaks this year and Oak Wilt has been found in Red Oaks. Primarily the presence of cool, wet weather has led to these conditions.

If you have any concerns about trees in your area, you may direct your questions to the Michigan State Extension Office at (989) 269-9949 or email <u>www.msue.msu.edu</u>. You may also wish to check with local landscape companies.

# **Township Zoning Ordinance**

The Planning Commission is reviewing the final draft of the revised zoning ordinance. Public hearings on this draft will be scheduled early next year. The draft will be available on the Township's website for public review. Written comments will be accepted prior to these public hearings.

# **Election 2004**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> was a busy day at the Township Hall. 379 residents came to the Township Hall to cast their votes. Total voter turnout with absentee ballots was 634 or 71% of our registered voters.

As Election Day was approaching and projections were that voter turnout would be high, we had to make changes in order to make room for more voting stations. Law requires us to have a minimum of three voting stations as well as 10' of distance between the tabulator and inspectors and/or voters. Working within these constraints, and trying to provide room for the six voting stations the Township has, we had to make last minute changes in our Election Day set up.

Over the past few years we have been attempting to make the voting process at the Township Hall convenient for everyone while maintaining the parameters established by the State. Our election inspectors work hard at ensuring that the voting process is properly conducted and waiting is kept to a minimum.

# LAKE TOWNSHIP RECYCLING PROGRAM

