



LAKETON TOWNSHIP

TIDBITS:

- 2015 YARD WASTE SITE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE. COST THIS YEAR IS \$15.00
- 2014 PROPERTY TAX BILLS CAN BE PAID AT LAKETON TOWNSHIP THRU MARCH 1, 2015. ANYTHING LEFT UNPAID ON MARCH, 2, 2015 WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE MUSKEGON COUNTY TREASURER FOR DELINQUENT COLLECTION.
- MUSKEGON COUNTY DOG TAGS ARE SOLD AT LAKETON TOWNSHIP HALL.
- ELECTION DAY: FEBRUARY 24, 2015 - POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 AM TO 8:00 PM— ON THE BALLOT IS A PROPOSAL FROM MUSKEGON COUNTY FOR COUNTYWIDE ROAD MILLAGE.
- ELECTION DAY: MAY 5, 2015 . FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BALLOT PROPOSAL, GO TO www.michigan.gov AND SEARCH FOR transportation funding

Annual Clean-up Event for Laketon Township Residents

Laketon Township Board of Trustees has again approved holding the Annual Clean – up Event for Laketon Township Residents.

Once per year, Muskegon County offers a FREE tipping day for local municipalities to dispose of junk/trash/debris at the Muskegon County Wastewater Landfill. This is how Laketon Township is able to host a day where residents can bring their household junk or trash to the Laketon Township Hall to have it properly disposed of FREE of charge.

This year, the one day Clean-up Event will be held on :

SATURDAY

MAY 9, 2015

**FROM 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
AT**

**LAKETON TOWNSHIP
HALL (2735 W. Giles
Rd)**

Items acceptable for disposal at this event include: general household rubbish/trash, furniture, mattresses, empty/dried up paint cans, outdoor toys, playground equipment, scrap metals (old grills, auto parts, bike frames, fire grates, bed frames etc), scrap carpet, scrap building/household remodeling materials, scrap/junk plastic, totes, broken toys, shelving, and tire rims.

Small items should be put in

trash bags or boxes.

If you have any scrap metals, please separate the metal from other materials.

The following items CANNOT be accepted: NO yard waste, NO hazardous waste, NO motor oil, NO electronic waste, NO propane tanks and NO tires.

If you have any questions, please feel free to visit the website (www.laketon.org) for a detailed informational flyer, or call the Laketon Township Hall at 231-744-2454.

This event is for Laketon Township Residents ONLY, and is completely FREE of charge.

BOARD OF REVIEW—MARCH MEETING

It's that time of year again. This newsletter is being mailed with the annual notice of assessment for every property with a proposed change in the values.

Every property owner should carefully review this notice of assessment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Laketon Township. Office staff can often assist with basic/

general questions. If you have a more complex question or situation, the assessor is in the office on Tuesdays and Fridays to assist residents. If you disagree with the proposed property value (the State Equalized Value) it is your right to appeal to the Board of Review held in March. This is the ONLY meeting where property owners can protest the value to the Board of Re-

view. If you do not protest at this meeting, you are NOT able to protest to the State Tax Tribunal. Your assessment notice has detailed instructions on making an appointment with the March Board of Review. You are also able to appeal by letter/mail if you cannot physically attend, the letter must be received by no later than 3/11/15 at 3:00 pm..

New Faces in the Township

You may have noticed some new faces around Laketon Township.

First, our Building Inspector Rod Siegel retired on December 31, 2014. The Laketon Township Board of Trustees has hired Mr. Chris Hall as the new Building Official/ Building Inspector. Mr. Hall comes to Laketon Township with many years of experience in his field. Please join the staff and officials in welcoming Mr. Hall to Laketon Township.

Second, Muskegon County Sheriff Deputy Ward, who has covered Laketon Township under the PINS program for several years took another assignment within the Muskegon County Sheriff's Department. Laketon Township would like to introduce Deputy Schmidt. Deputy Schmidt will now be the deputy for Laketon Township under the PINS program.

A warm welcome to Mr. Hall and Deputy Schmidt.

Non-Motorized Trails in Laketon Twp

Laketon Township has several miles of non-motorized trails. They currently exist on Dykstra Rd from Andree Rd west to Horton Rd, then south down Horton Rd to Fenner Rd, then west on Fenner Rd to Bear Lake Rd, then south down Bear Lake Rd to Pennsylvania Avenue. The trails see quite a lot of use with residents out walking, jogging and bike riding. There are however a few problems, namely snowmobiles and atv type vehicles.

While trails in some areas

allow snowmobiles and atv's to use the trails, this is not the case in Laketon Township.

The trails in Laketon Township are for NON-MOTORIZED USE ONLY. The ordinance PROHIBITS the use of snowmobiles, atv's, motorcycles, mopeds etc on the trails. One exception would be for motorized wheelchairs, which CAN be used on the trails.

The trails are not designed for use by motorized vehicles and they often damage the trail surface. In addition, there are a number of elevated struc-

tures/bridges and they are not designed for the extra weight of motorized vehicles.

Please help us keep the trails in good condition for the use they were intended and refrain from using motorized vehicles on the trails and report any such usage to the Sheriff's Department or Laketon Township.

The entire ordinance on the trails, titled "Regulation of Sidewalks and Paths" is available on the township website (www.laketon.org).

The Much Anticipated Safe Routes to School

As of the writing of this newsletter (early February 2015), tree removal has started on W. Giles Rd between Central Elementary school and Horton Rd and down Horton Rd to Dykstra Rd for the much anticipated Safe Routes to School path project.

As reported, the path will be constructed on the south side of W Giles Rd from the elementary school to Horton Rd, then south down both sides of

Horton Rd to Dykstra Rd.

Removal of the tree stumps will not be done at this time, but will be done in the spring when the contractor begins the actual work to prepare for the construction of the concrete path.

Residents that live along the pathway route will be notified in advance of the construction work so that they have plenty of time to remove underground sprinkling or relocate

any plants or landscaping they may have in the area of the path that they wish to save.

Drivers, please be alert when driving in the construction zone, especially during working hours and high traffic hours.

If you have any questions regarding the path, please feel free to contact Laketon Township Hall and we will do our best to assist you or direct you to whomever can.

Address Numbers—Can You be Found by Emergency Services?

While there are quite a few subdivisions and neighborhoods in Laketon Township, much of the township is still fairly rural with homes located quite a distance from the road. Laketon Township does have an ordinance that REQUIRES all homes to be clearly labeled with addresses/house numbers, mainly for public safety, but also for proper utility services. The ordinance states the address numbers shall be placed in a position to be plainly legible and

visible from the street, road, private road or easement that need to be a minimum of four inches high and a contrasting color from the background.

If you do not have your address clearly displayed on the home or at the driveway, numbers can be easily purchased at just about any hardware or home improvement store. Another option would be the emergency "911 Signs". These are the signs you often see in the area that are green with white numbers on

both sides. These signs are available from Muskegon County Citizen Corps Council. These signs cost \$35.00 and can be ordered by mail—forms are available at Laketon Township or by email to: colberttrjc@gmail.com For more information on these 911 signs, you can call 231-724-6597.

Be found in an emergency—mark your home with your address!