

2016 Spring Newsletter

Laketon Township



Tidbits!



2015 Property Taxes: The LAST DAY to pay at the township is Monday February 29, 2016—after this date taxes must be paid at the Muskegon County Treasurer's Office.



Election Day: Tuesday March 8th, 2016 is the Presidential Primary—this is a closed primary, which means you must choose either a republican or democratic ballot. This DOES NOT mean you are choosing or declaring yourself a member of either party—it only means you are choosing to vote in that party's primary for this election.



FREE Scrap Tire Collection Event: This event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday 06/11/2016—provided the grant funding is approved by the DEQ, so stay tuned as more information will be available once we know if the grant has been approved. Please call Laketon Township with questions.



Thank You— to every resident that helps keep the bike path/sidewalk in front of their home clean & clear of debris, snow, etc! It is a big help!

Free—2016 Clean up Day—Date Set!

Attention Residents! The 2016 FREE Clean Up Day has been scheduled. The event will take place on Saturday May 14, 2016 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Laketon Township Hall.

This event is possible due to the Muskegon County Commissioners decision to waive the fees for disposal at the Wastewater Landfill—this allows participating municipalities to offer this one day event. Laketon Township pays the hauling company with a combination of general fund dollars and dollars generated by the metals collected at the event, which are taken in for scrap & re-

cycled.

Below is a basic list of acceptable materials:

- Household trash/ rubbish, furniture, mattresses, empty paint cans, any scrap metals, old/broken outdoor toys or playground equipment, scrap carpet, rugs, scrap household remodeling/building materials (NO roofing materials).
- Small items need to be bagged or boxed for quicker unloading at the event.

Materials that CANNOT be accepted:

- NO yard waste, NO hazardous waste, NO used motor oil, NO propane tanks, NO tires.

Please come prepared to unload your own vehicle, or bring someone with you that can.

If you have any questions or need more information call Laketon Township 231-744-2454.

This event is for Laketon Township Residents ONLY. Thank you.



2016 Assessment Notice & March Board of Review

Included with this newsletter is your 2016 Annual Assessment Notice. This notice tells property owners the proposed values for their property for the 2016 tax year. All property owners should review this notice very carefully.

The notice contains the 2015 values, the proposed 2016 values, and the amount of change in these values. It also contains information regarding the Principal Residence Exemption and transfers of ownership, if any occurred.

The March Board of Review is held, as required by law, to hear the appeals of property owners regarding their SEV (state equalized value). If you wish to appeal

the proposed 2016 SEV, follow the instructions on the assessment notice to make an appointment with the March Board of Review. The March Board of Review is the ONLY time each year that you may appeal the SEV. The March Board of Review is scheduled to be held on Monday 3/14/2016 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and Tuesday 03/15/2016 from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

It is very important to bring any documentation (for example: appraisals, comparables, sales of similar homes, etc) you have to support your argument/appeal of the proposed SEV. If you are

unable to attend in person: you can appoint someone else to represent you, or you may appeal in writing by sending a letter (including any supporting documentation) to:

Laketon Township Board of Review, 2735 W. Giles Rd, Muskegon, MI 49445.

Letter appeals MUST be RECEIVED BEFORE the March Board of Review concludes on 03/15/2016.

If you ever have any questions, please call 231-744-2454. Office staff can assist those with general or basic questions. The assessor Wanda Budnik is also available on Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays to assist property owners with any questions they may have.

Tidbits, cont.

Trash Discount Cards for the Muskegon

County Landfill: Laketon Township offers a discount punch card (2 discounted trips per calendar year) to residents that wish to use the landfill. Just stop in to the Twp Hall and the front desk staff will be happy to assist you. Limited to one discount card per household per calendar year. *Note: you must have this card with you when you go out to use the landfill to obtain the discount.*



Yard Waste Card—

Residents are required to purchase a card to use the yard waste disposal site—cost of the card is \$15.00 per calendar year for unlimited yard waste dumping. The site operates under seasonal hours—visit the website (www.laketon.org and click the "General Township Info" tab) for seasonal hours of operation.



Building/Home Improvement Projects—

If you are planning a project for home improvement, make sure you KNOW the ordinances and code requirements and get any required permits BEFORE you get started. Please call if you have any questions! David Sheehy—Zoning Administrator or Chris Hall—Building Inspector would be your contacts for ordinance & code questions respectively.

WLACE Sports & Shorts & Swim Programs

Laketon Township Board of Trustees has again voted to participate with White Lake Area Community Education to provide the Sports n Shorts program at Mullally Park (other communities may also have Sports & Shorts programs at their parks) as well as the summer swimming program. The swim program is for Laketon Township residents only. These summer

programs provide a variety of activities for local children and have proven very popular.

Tentatively, these programs are scheduled to occur as follows:

Sports & Shorts:

07/11/2016—
08/18/2016 Monday—
Thursday from 9:00 am to Noon.

Swim Program (Laketon Twp Residents ONLY):

08/08/2016—

08/18/2016 Monday—
Thursday. Times & Buses schedules have yet to be determined. For more information—please contact WLACE online at:

<http://whitelake.registryinsight.com/>

Or by phone at: 231-893-0515 Or by email at: kathleenenglish@wlace.org



2016 Upcoming Election Dates

Tuesday March 8, 2016— Presidential Primary—this is a closed primary—meaning you have to choose your ballot—either a republican or democrat ballot .

Tuesday August 2, 2016— Primary Election (for all other local, state and federal seats with openings) - this is an open primary, meaning both democrat & republican candidates will be on one ballot—you may not "cross over" from one party to the other. There may also be

proposals on the ballot as well.

Tuesday November 8, 2016— General Election—for all open seats, local, state and federal, including the US President—straight party voting has been eliminated by state law. You will have to choose a candidate to vote for in each race listed on the ballot. There may also be proposals on the ballot as well.

If you have questions or need an absentee ballot please call the Clerk's Dept. 231-744-2454

Formation of a Recreation Authority Public Input Meeting Scheduled for March 29, 2016 @ 7:00 pm

Commissioner Terry Sabo will be here at the Laketon Township Hall on Tuesday March 29, 2016 at 7:00 pm for a public input meeting.

There will be a presentation on the possibility of forming a Recreation Authority. The Recreation

Authority would be formed with Muskegon County and any other communities that are interested in participating. Anyone interested in what a Recreation Authority can do for the community is urged to attend, gather information and ask questions.

This same meeting will be conducted within each of the other 8 remaining County Commission Districts, by the Commissioner for that District. For more information, call: Connie Maxim-Sparrow, County Grants Coordinator at 231-724-6808

FREE Emergency Preparedness Smartphone App

ServPro offers a FREE service via the ServPro Ready Plan app (available for smartphones—android, iphone or blackberry) where both residential and commercial property owners can create an Emergency Ready Profile containing important property information to aid emergency response time during an emergency. The profile contains things like property details, utility shut off locations, key contact people and numbers, stores photos of damage, can integrate local weather forecasts and more.