

# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

### Township takes steps to reduce costs, use personnel more efficiently

In the Spring 2009 Newsletter, I laid out the challenges Bloomfield Township faces in addressing our



anticipated budget shortfall. In that newsletter, I reported that due to declining property values, we anticipate a shortfall of at least \$6 million for the fiscal year that begins in April, 2011. This is equivalent to 20% of our property tax revenue.

The Board of Trustees and the Township's administration developed a Strategic Plan and presented it to the public in March, 2009. The Plan identifies four major areas of concern – financial, infrastructure, personnel and community expectations – and names action steps in each area that must be taken to reduce costs, restore revenues and enhance efficiencies. Every quarter each of those areas will be reviewed and updated.

In this edition of the Newsletter, I would like to briefly explain a few of the steps we've taken in the area of personnel deployment and development. I will use subsequent newsletters to talk about the

Plan's other areas.

To decrease costs by \$6 million we must, among other things, decrease staff levels by approximately 45 employees. Personnel expenses account for 78% of our budget so that is where we must concentrate. We have begun to lower our numbers through attrition. Already, we have 11 fewer employees than we had two years ago.

Over the same time span, the demand for services has increased. Police, Fire, EMS and Ordinance calls have all gone up. To meet the increasing demand for services while reducing an already tight employee base, we have implemented several steps that will increase personnel efficiencies.

We are breaking down organizational barriers that keep employees proficient in just one area or one skill set. We recognize that employees who are trained and knowledgeable in more than one function of Township services will help us become more flexible and adaptive. There are multiple examples; following are a just a few of them:

■ The Clerk's Office has been reduced from five to four full-

time employees. Members of the Treasurer's Office have been trained to fill in during peak times and sick or vacation leaves.

■ The Police Department cut two of the four full-time Animal Welfare Officer positions. A clerical person from the police administration office was transferred to Animal Welfare to assist the remaining officers. The clerical position in police administration will not be filled.

■ To address the rising number of property maintenance complaints, personnel from Planning, the Fire Marshal's office, and Engineering and Environmental Services have been sworn in as Ordinance officers.

■ Administrative assistants from all departments meet regularly and are cross-training to fill in for each other and to provide additional cross-departmental assistance.

These are just a few examples of how we are "doing more with less." For a more comprehensive look at increased efficiencies, see the updated Strategic Plan on the Township website,

[www.bloomfieldtp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtp.org).

### Demand for ordinance enforcement rises

Neighborhoods throughout Bloomfield Township are showing evidence of the financial crises many homeowners are facing. To an extent never experienced here before, homes are not being maintained properly

or are even abandoned. Ordinance complaints have increased 25% over last year. This translates to a total of 2,132 inspections. For more information, see the related story on page 5.



BLOOMFIELD  
TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES 2009

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS

##### ADMINISTRATION

Dave Payne, Supervisor  
Janet Roncelli, Clerk  
Dan Devine, Treasurer

##### TRUSTEES

David Buckley  
Neal J. Barnett  
Leo C. Savoie  
Brian Kepes

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS

##### PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Salz, Chairman  
Scot Goldberg, Vice Chairman  
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary  
Neal Barnett  
Richard Mintz  
Thomas Petinga  
William Stark

##### BOARD OF APPEALS

Corinne Khederian, Chairman  
Robert E. Taylor, Jr., Vice Chairman  
James Aldrich  
David Buckley  
Brian Henry  
Tracy Leone, Alternate  
Carol Rosati, Alternate  
Lisa Seneker  
Sherry Stefanos

# Capital Improvement Program brings changes to the Township campus

The Capital Improvement Program, approved by voters in 2006, is progressing well – on budget and on time. While all the construction and site work won't be totally complete until spring of 2010, some major changes are taking place now.

Senior Services has closed its offices and operations on Wing Lake Road and is now fully open at its new location on Andover Road. The new phone number is 248-723-3500.

The Department of Public Works and the Engineering and

Environmental Services Department are now located in the new Public Services Building. The general phone number for both departments is 248-594-2800.

Most of the campus's parking lots are being reconstructed or repaved and this will affect the visitors' parking areas. To go to the Township Hall for the Supervisor's, Clerk's and Treasurer's Offices as well as for the Assessing and Planning, Building & Ordinance Departments, you may park in the first row of parking in the

lot on the north side of Exeter Road. There will be just a few spaces available right in front of the building.

The lot on the immediate west side of the building (near the Planning, Building & Ordinance entrance) is closed. If you are going to Planning, Building & Ordinance but cannot walk down the stairway near the main entrance, please ask the person at the reception desk for help and someone will escort you to an elevator.

Parking for the Senior

Services building is accessible from Andover Road. Parking for the Police Department is directly off Telegraph, on the south side of Township Hall.

Remember, the Fire Department's administrative offices are temporarily in the lower level of the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court building, just south of Township Hall off Telegraph Road.

For a map of the offices and public parking areas, please go to the Township website, <http://www.bloomfieldtpw.org/Community/Maps.htm>



## Board of Trustees

TIME: 8:00 P.M.  
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

## Planning Commission

TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
DATE: 1st and 3rd Monday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

## Zoning Board of Appeals

TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
DATE: 2nd Tuesday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

NOTE: The Charter Township of Bloomfield will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at all meetings to individuals with disabilities. All such requests must be made at least five days prior to said meeting. Please contact the Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office, 4200 Telegraph Road, P.O. Box 489, Bloomfield Hills MI 48303--0489, 248-433-7702, Fax: 248-433-7714

## Bloomfield Township Senior Center is now open!

Residents are invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Senior Center on Tuesday, July 14, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Come and see the beautiful new facility, located at 4315 Andover Road. Please RSVP online, in person or by calling 248-723-3500. In addition, guided tours are available by appointment Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## And just where do you think you're going?

If summer or fall travel outside the United States is on your agenda, you will need a passport. The rules changed on June 1, 2009. The U.S.

Department of State implemented the full requirements of the *land* and *sea* phase of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI). It requires U.S. citizens entering the United States at all ports of entry to have a passport, passport card or WHTI-compliant document.

The Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office is a full-service passport acceptance facility, offering a convenient location and parking. We accept passport applications daily, Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. On-site photo service is available and no appointments are necessary.

The passport card is new this

year. The wallet-size card has limited use only for land and sea travel between the United States and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda. The identification and citizenship documents required for the passport card are the same as those required for the passport book. Validity of the card is the same as the U.S. Passport Book: 10 years for an adult and 5 years for minors under age 16.

For age 16 and over, the cost of the passport card is \$20.00. For age 15 and under, the cost is \$10.00. In addition, each card requires an execution fee of \$25 payable to Bloomfield Township. If applied for in combination with a new passport, there is only one execution fee. Photos are required and Bloomfield Township offers passport photo service on site for \$10.00.

In contrast, the traditional passport book operates globally and remains the premier internationally accepted travel document. For age 16 and over, the cost of the passport book is \$75.00 plus a \$25.00 execution fee. The cost for age 15 and under is \$60.00 plus a \$25.00 execution fee.

All applications are available in the Clerk's Office or online at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov). You can complete the forms online, print them at your convenience, and bring them to the Clerk's Office. For an additional fee of \$60.00, passport applications can be expedited in a 2-3 week period. Overnight postage can be purchased for your expedited application. Don't wait until the last minute to get your passport. Call 248.433.7702 for further information.



From the Police Department

## Narcotics Enforcement Team participation reduces crime

The vast majority of serious crimes are related to illegal drug use. Crimes such as armed robberies and home invasions are usually perpetrated to support a drug addiction. For several years the Bloomfield Township Police Department has had officers assigned to the Narcotics Enforcement Team (N.E.T.) of Oakland County, a consortium of 18 law enforcement agencies that is administered by the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Bloomfield Township has reaped the benefits of these specialized teams, not only in reduced crime but also in forfeiture funds that have paid for Police Department weapons, bulletproof vests and the second K-9 division dog. Besides the obvious drug arrests and raids made

throughout Oakland County (including several in Bloomfield Township), N.E.T. teams have solved several other crimes. One investigation prevented the planned murder of several family members.

Officer James Gallagher just completed the longest assignment of any Bloomfield Township Officer, returning to patrol duty after three productive years working with N.E.T. He brings with him a vast amount of knowledge to be shared with other Township officers. During his assignment Officer Gallagher and crew solved a drug turf-war murder that happened in a lot on Woodward Avenue north of Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Township. Within forty-eight hours, N.E.T. crews identified the killer and

recovered the murder weapon, utilizing "street contacts" and other creative police work only possible with specialized units.

Other crimes such as home invasions and bank robberies were solved by the efforts of Officer Gallagher and his crew during his assignment. A Farmington Hills bank robbery suspect, armed with a shotgun, was arrested during a drug raid and daytime shoot-out at the recently demolished apartments on Telegraph south of Maple Rd. Officers located evidence relating to the bank robbery as well as evidence of drug use and dealing.

Officer Gallagher worked hundreds of drug investigations during his assignment. In one instance, working undercover, he set up a "sell"

at the Great Lakes Crossing Mall in which he "sold" a kilo of cocaine to a Flint drug dealer. During the arrest, Officer Gallagher became the unintended victim of a "flash-bang" grenade, while the suspect thought he had been shot by law enforcement.

All the citizens of Bloomfield Township benefit from the activities of these narcotics units, not only from the obvious drugs arrests, but also from all the related criminal arrests connected to narcotics. The Bloomfield Township Police Department is not large enough to establish its own drug unit; but by committing just one officer to the N.E.T. program, the citizens of Bloomfield Township realize the benefits of having drug units readily available to assist in combating crime.

## Police Department names 2008 Officer of the Year



**Officer Dan Brown was presented with the 2008 Donald E. Zimmerman Officer of the Year Award on June 8, 2009**

Officer Dan Brown received the 2008 Donald E. Zimmerman Officer of the Year Award at the Bloomfield Township Board meeting on June 8, 2009. He was honored by Chief Kirt Bowden for his commitment and high level of professionalism. Chief Bowden recognized Officer Brown as a model for other law enforcement officers for his integrity and high moral standards.

Officer Brown was born in Pontiac, Michigan in 1972. He graduated from Waterford Kettering High School in 1990, received two Associate's Degrees from Oakland Community College, and in 1996 earned a business degree from Walsh College. He enjoyed a successful

career in the private sector before deciding to attend the police academy and pursue a career in law enforcement.

The Bloomfield Township Police Department hired Dan Brown in June 2002. Officer Brown quickly gained the respect of supervisors and fellow officers for his passion for seeking lawbreakers. He generally leads the department in the number of drunk driving arrests each year. His fellow officers observe that he is never idle, always searching for criminal activity. He is now a senior officer on his platoon, leading his fellow officers in a solid and mature manner and contributing greatly to keeping Bloomfield Township a safe and secure

community.

Officer of the Year Dan Brown is only one of many outstanding police officers serving Bloomfield Township. For more information on the other officers recognized for excellence in the past year, visit the website, <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Police/Awards.htm>



**Officer Brown was joined by his family at the award ceremony**



# The 2009 Bloomfield Township Classic

The Bloomfield Township Classic returns to Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield for its fifth year on Saturday, Aug. 15,



from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., promising fun and excitement for participants. This year, for the first time, engineering students from Wayne State, Lawrence Tech, and Michigan State will be setting up displays of cars they have designed and built, including SAE formula racecars. In addition to the displays of student-built, classic and specialty cars, the Classic will feature a DJ playing 50s and 60s music, convenient parking and food provided by Coldstone and the Marian Dad's Club. The public is invited to view the

Woodward Avenue cruisers from bleacher seating while enjoying the music and refreshments.

There are still spots available for owners of classic and specialty cars to enter their vehicles in the show. Call 248-594-2846 to enter your pre-1972 classic or specialty car or find the entry form online at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org). This year two tax-deductible entry fees are available at \$75 and \$50. The \$75 entry fee comes with an official event shirt. Both entry levels come with the promise of a good time and an excellent vantage point from which to watch the action and mingle with neighbors and car enthusiasts. For those who are members of car clubs, there will be a Car Club display at the adjoining Comerica Bank building, providing a great location from which to watch the cruise and enjoy the food and music. Participants will have easy in and out access all day. The tax-deductible cost is \$35 per car.

The Classic, held in conjunction with the Woodward Dream Cruise, is a car

show, party and charity event started by a group of Township car enthusiasts looking to involve their neighbors in the largest one-day classic auto event in the world. Net proceeds from the Classic go to support charities right here in the community: The Bloomfield Township Fire Dept. Charities, Oakland Family Services and the Bloomfield Optimists.



New to the Classic this year is the display of student-built cars, such as the Nova drag car, above, built by Lawrence Tech students.

## Township welcomes new businesses

Bloomfield Township continues to be an attractive place to do business, as shown by several recent openings. The new businesses include Bai Mai Thai restaurant and carry-out, Subway restaurant, and Coastal Outdoor Living Space – Specialty Furniture, all on Telegraph Road.



Bai Mai Thai restaurant and carry-out is now open at 3955 Telegraph Road, north of Long Lake Road.

A new Subway restaurant has opened at 1948 Telegraph Road, north of Square Lake Road.



Coastal Outdoor Living Space - Specialty Furniture is located at 1751 Telegraph Road, north of Square Lake Road.



## Township employees support Birthday Wishes charity

Thanks to the Police Department's Records Clerk Nina Houghton, birthdays will be a little brighter for some homeless children. Nina, the mother of an almost-three year old son, was inspired by an article in Parents magazine about an organization called Birthday Wishes that provides birthday parties for homeless children. She asked for donations from Township employees, and received enough donations to fill five large boxes, which she shipped to the organization's headquarters in Massachusetts.



Records Clerk Nina Houghton

"As the mother of a toddler, I found the thought of a child going without a birthday party heartbreaking. This is something I can do to help," Nina said.



From the Fire Department

## The Fire Department offers tips for a safer summer

The arrival of summer means warm weather and more outdoor activities, but it's important to keep safety in mind while enjoying the season. The Fire Department offers some tips to for a safe and pleasant summer.

General grilling safety:

- Propane and charcoal grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors or in enclosed spaces such as tents, grills not only become a fire hazard but also create toxic gases such as carbon monoxide that can cause death by asphyxiation.

- Position your grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and/or overhead combustibles such as tree branches.

- Keep the grill away from yard games, travel paths and play areas.

- Keep children and pets away from the grilling area.

- Use long handled cooking tools

- Clean grease reservoirs and trays regularly to avoid and ignitable build-up.

Swimming pool safety:

- Use layers of protection to prevent a swimming pool

tragedy, including placing fencing completely around the pool to prevent access.

- Use door and pool alarms to alert you when children are in the pool area.

- Closely supervise children. Never leave them alone near water for even a second and be prepared in case of an emergency.

When biking, in-line skating, skateboarding or riding scooters, be sure to wear a helmet to prevent head injuries.

Follow these safety rules for a fun-filled, safe summer season. If you have questions

about any safety related matters, please call 248-433-7745, Monday through Thursday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.



Keep safety in mind while enjoying outdoor activities this summer.

## Ordinance Division works to maintain Township standards and high property values

Many neighborhoods in Bloomfield Township are showing evidence of the current economic crisis in rundown and poorly kept properties. In an effort to keep our neighborhoods attractive and maintain property values, the Board of Trustees is considering rescinding the Property Maintenance Code that has been in use since the 1980s and adopting the International Property Maintenance Code, 2006 Edition. Board action is expected in July. Several neighboring communities, including the City of Bloomfield Hills and West Bloomfield, use this code. It sets stricter criteria for property maintenance and strengthens our enforcement capabilities.

In addition to overgrown yards and neglected houses, improperly stored items can detract from the appearance of a neighborhood. Bloomfield Township has an ordinance prohibiting the open storage of anything other than an operable, licensed private passenger car on residential property. Prohibited items include campers, trailers, RVs, recreational sports equipment and any-

thing else not commonly found in a driveway or rear yard. Patio furniture, grills, and stacked firewood are common outdoor items that are allowed on residential property. The purpose of this open storage ordinance is to curtail the unsightly clutter that can quickly accumulate at any home, in order to maintain attractive neighborhoods and high property values.

The Ordinance Division works diligently to identify houses that are not being maintained. Under the Noxious Weed Ordinance, once grass reaches eight inches in height, the Township has the legal authority to

enter onto the property and cut the grass in cases where the home is vacant. The cost of this is placed against the tax roll of that property. In the cases of homes that are not vacant, owners may be ticketed if compliance is not obtained. If you see houses in your neighborhood with neglected, overgrown yards, or improperly stored items, call 248-594-2845. The Ordinance Division will follow up as quickly as possible.

Call 248-594-2845 to report overgrown yards and neglected houses. The Ordinance Division will quickly follow up on all complaints.

Replacing, repairing or installing an entrance-way sign?



Is the entranceway sign to your subdivision or apartment complex in need of repairs or updating? Simple repairs may require only a building permit, but more extensive reconstruction or redesigning it altogether may require some additional steps. Planning Division staff will work with subdivision associations or apartment management companies to make the process go smoothly. Call 248-433-7795 with any questions.



# Avoid mosquito bites and West Nile infection

West Nile Virus, a mosquito-borne disease, has been established as a seasonal epidemic in North America. This spring's heavy rains point to higher mosquito populations this summer. It is important to take precautions to reduce the spread of the disease.

The Center for Disease Control suggests a number of ways to prevent mosquito bites, including the use of insect repellent containing an EPA-registered active ingredient, especially at dusk and dawn, the times when mosquitoes are most active. Wear

long sleeves and long pants outdoors during these hours. Be sure to have good screens on windows and doors, and get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flowerpots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in birdbaths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out, and keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they are not being used.

Since 2003 Bloomfield Township has implemented an

integrated mosquito management program. Beginning in June and continuing through September, prioritized catch basins on public property are assessed and treated with Vectolex packets, an EPA approved biological control larvicide, in order to reduce and control mosquito populations.

Dead birds are often an indicator of the presence of West Nile virus. Residents can report dead birds using the Bloomfield Township West Nile Virus Hotline number, 248-642-7645. This report is



shared with Oakland County to determine the level of human risk in a particular area. Further information is available on our website, [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org), or you may stop by Township Hall and pick up a West Nile Virus Management Program brochure.

## Township works to minimize gypsy moth damage



The gypsy moth has been present in Michigan since the mid-1950s, moving into the metropolitan Detroit area in the

mid-1990s. In 1993 Bloomfield Township, together with the National Gypsy Moth Management Group, implemented an integrated pest management approach to reduce and contain the gypsy moth problem. The goal is to contain the pest and minimize the economic, social and environmental costs. Components of the pro-

gram include public education, intensive biological monitoring and treatment plus evaluation.

There are a number of things homeowners can do to minimize or prevent gypsy moth damage. Keep trees well watered during dry weather, and avoid damaging trees with lawn mowers or other equipment. Avoid compacting the soil or

damaging the root systems of trees. Fertilize trees when appropriate, and remove dead branches and stumps. When choosing new trees for the yard, aim for a diversity of plants. For more information please visit [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) or contact the Engineering & Environmental Services Department at 248-594-2800.

The Bloomfield Township Open House, a popular annual event, will not be held this coming fall due to the extensive construction taking place on the Township campus. Look for the Open House to return in the fall of 2010.



## Clearzoning ordinance to benefit Township businesses, residents

On June 8, 2009 the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees adopted a new zoning process that will use "Clearzoning," a service that transforms traditional zoning ordinances into a concise, user-friendly and highly-illustrated digital format. This will be one of many tools the Township uses to attract and facilitate new development and redevelopment.

By simply clicking on one page of an online ordinance instead of thumbing through

many references addressing multiple zoning districts, a developer can, for example, determine where a new office building could be built. Or, for individuals, a homeowner could find out how large an addition can be. Then, with one more click, the setback, area and height regulations for that district are displayed in both text and graphic form.

Bloomfield Township is the first community in Oakland County to use this tool and

the first in the country to achieve *Clearzoning* Platinum status, which further enhances color zoning illustrations and provides hyperlinks to application forms that can be completed online. The *Clearzoning* ordinance will set a new standard for effectively communicating zoning requirements with the public. The implementation of *Clearzoning* is one of several steps the Township has taken recently to attract business and better serve residents.

## Safety path construction continues in Township



Since passage of the original millage in 1998, over 50 miles of safety paths have been constructed along main roads in Bloomfield Township. The 2004 millage renewal has allowed the construction in 2008 of safety paths along Lone Pine,

Opdyke, Hickory Grove, Franklin and Square Lake roads, as well as a path along Timberlake Drive from Lone Pine to the Bloomfield Township Public Library.

Construction of almost four miles of safety paths will take place in 2009, along

Squirrel Road, 14 Mile Road, Telegraph Road, Long Lake Road and Wing Lake Road. Safety paths will also be added to the Township campus as construction continues on the Capital Improvement Project.

Safety paths contribute to the excellent quality of life in Bloomfield Township, allowing greater mobility, access and the opportunity to exercise safely. Please remember, as you enjoy the paths, to be mindful of your neighbors. Be sure to pick up after your pets and to properly dispose of any trash. Be aware that private driveways intersect the safety paths, so use caution and watch for cars that may be backing down the driveways.

## BTSS offers home repair program to seniors

Bloomfield Township Senior Services is offering minor home repairs to qualifying seniors with funds received from HUD's Community Development Block Grant program. These funds may be used for repairs to furnaces, water heaters, sidewalks, roofs, windows, gutters or chimneys, or for replacement of disposals, toilets, stairs, handrails, and other minor repair and replacement projects. The goal of the program is to keep low-income seniors safe in their homes, and to maintain the quality of Township neighborhoods.

A further benefit of participation in the HUD program is that Township residents become eligible for the county's Home Improvement Loan Program. Qualified

homeowners are able to obtain a low or no interest loan for home improvements with payment deferred until the property changes ownership.

Residents may call 248-723-3500 to request an application and eligibility guidelines beginning July 1, 2009.



**Senior Services offers a home repair program to low-income seniors to allow them to remain in their homes.**

## Tree protection ordinance passed

To protect Bloomfield Township's woodland areas and the quality and character of the neighborhoods within our community, the Township adopted a Tree Preservation & Protection Ordinance on March 9, 2009. Generally, the ordinance will apply to properties where new construction or redevelopment is planned or for any clear-cutting activity. It will not apply to currently developed properties where there is no proposed construction.

For more information please contact the Planning, Building & Ordinance Department at 248-433-7715 or the Engineering & Environmental Services Department at 248-594-2800. Copies of the ordinance and more information can be found on the Township website, [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org).

## Building Division offers summer reminders

With the focus this time of year on yards and outdoor spaces, here are some reminders on summer maintenance:

- Direct sprinkler heads away from the home's foundation to minimize soil erosion and reduce the likelihood of water seeping into the home.

- Install anti-siphon devices at each hose bib to eliminate the possibility of pesticides or chemicals entering the potable water supply.

- Check if septic tanks need to be pumped.

- Re-finish decks if needed. Clean and check the barbecue grill, and be sure to turn the gas tank off after every use.

- Inspect pool gates and other access to pool areas for proper operation. Know how to deactivate the pool's suction pump in the event of an emergency.

- Inspect air conditioning condensers to ensure that the coils are clean and free of debris.

- Make sure the garage door is operating properly. Lubricate the door rollers and hinges and check the weather stripping.

- Check and clean gutters.

- Check fire extinguishers for proper placement and charge dates.

- Trip and re-set electrical circuit breakers.

Contact the Building Division with any code-related questions if considering projects to update your home. Call 248-433-7715 or visit the website, <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/PlanningBuildingOrdinance/OverviewPlanningBuilding.htm>



## Summer water restrictions conserve water, save residents money

The DPW - Water Division would like to remind Township residents to follow guidelines on summer water usage. Homeowners with even numbered addresses should limit their outdoor water usage, such as filling pools and watering lawns, to even numbered days of the week; those with odd numbered addresses should limit usage to odd numbered days.

Residents often ask why their water bills are so high. A primary culprit can be leaking

faucets and toilets. Be sure to periodically check toilets for leaks since they can waste up to 200 gallons of water each day. Additionally, a leak as little as 1/16th of an inch can waste over 800 gallons of water per day.

In order to keep Township water rates as low as possible, residents should avoid watering during peak hours from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. For more information on water rates please see the Special Edition Newsletter on the website, <http://www.bloomfieldtp.org/events/NewsletterArchive/2008FebruarySpecialEditionWater.pdf>



St. Owen Catholic Church in Bloomfield Township sponsors a teen Youth Group, made up of 35 to 40 active teens from 12 different area high schools, including Andover, Lahser, Marian, Brother Rice, Cranbrook and Detroit Country Day. The teens come together to form one group through their various activities, which include social, service, spiritual and educational events. Throughout the year the teens raise money to fund their main service event, a mission trip to a poor area, often in Pennsylvania or West Virginia. The teens, under the supervision of adult volunteers, pitch in to repair and renovate homes, doing jobs that include roofing, painting, laying floors and other general home repairs.



Members of the St. Owen's Youth Group who solved the first clue on their April 19 road rally found themselves at the Bloomfield Township Police Department. Pictured are Morgan Tuthill (top) and Jayme Groth, left, and John Mills (top) and Michael Gumbleton. The road rally winners, Karina Shuttie, Laura Brichta and Michelle Cooney, are pictured on the front cover.

433-7700	Administration
433-7712	Accounting
433-7710	Assessor's Office
433-7715	Building Dept.
433-7702	Clerk's Office
433-7790	Community Cable
594-2800	Engineering & Env.
433-7745	Fire Non-Emergency
433-7795	Planning Dept
433-7750	Police Department
433-7755	Administration
433-7755	Non-Emergency
433-7757	Animal Welfare
433-7760	Investigations
433-7775	Alarm Info
433-7777	Property
433-7776	Records
433-7776	Public Works
594-2800	Road Division
594-2800	Water & Sewer
723-3500	Senior Services
335-2813	Adult Day Service
433-7705	Treasurer's Office

433-7730  
Water/Sewer Emergency

TOWNSHIP  
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