

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



The people behind the scenes at the Township

Jon Grigsby's job is one that residents see the benefits of in their lives every day, even if they don't know who Jon is. But when there's a snowstorm, Jon is one of the Township employees who make sure your roads are plowed so you can get on your way safely. During the other seasons, Jon makes sure the roads are safe and open for emergency vehicles. He deals with washed out roads and downed trees, among many other tasks, and is on call all year and available 24/7. "We are first responders," Jon emphasized. A typical day for the DPW road crew starts with a thorough inspection of the equipment to make sure it's safe and in good working condition. Then they move out to perform any of the jobs called for, such as pothole patching, road repair, or salting and plowing during the winter months. Every DPW road crew member maintains a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and follows very strict rules. They can be called in to work at any time.

Keeping the roads open during winter weather is probably the Road Division function most visible to residents. Jon and other members of the road crew can be called in at any time, nights and weekends, in order to ensure safe roads. This means a drive in difficult condi-

tions to work, where workers check out the trucks, load them with salt, and get them on the road within an hour. Crews return to the garage a few hours later to top off fuel and salt, then head back out. The job is a stressful one. A driver must be mindful of traffic, and most importantly on a snow day,



watch out for children who might be playing near the roads. "I have sometimes stopped the truck so I could get out and call and check to make sure kids were not hiding in the piles of snow," Jon said. His top priority is watching out for kids and pedestrians.

The job of plowing must be done to exacting standards. The driver must maintain a distance of six inches from mailboxes, while keeping very close to the

edge of the road to allow the 11-foot plow blade to clear oncoming traffic. Many times the driver must go in reverse in order to effectively clear the road. A driver may be on the road up to 16 hours during a storm, with 12 hours being average. To put this in perspective, it takes about 14 hours to drive from here to Georgia, Jon noted. The job is very physically and mentally fatiguing. If need be, drivers who have been on the road for hours will sleep on cots in the DPW facility to rest up before getting back on the road.

"It's very satisfying to turn around and see what you've done, to see clear roads that are safe," Jon said. "It gives me a real sense of accomplishment." Jon emphasized how much he enjoys the sense of camaraderie with the great crew he works with.

Jon has been with the Township Road Division for 22 years full time, after one year as a part-timer. Before he started with the Township he worked as a mold flow analyst, designing systems that inject plastic into molds.

In his free time, Jon is a talented photographer with a particular interest in astrophotography. He also enjoys nature photography, especially birds. He is married and has two children, ages 8 and 5.



BLOOMFIELD
TOWNSHIP
BOARD
&
2020

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

Leo Savoie, Supervisor
Janet Roncelli, Clerk
Brian Kepes, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

David Buckley
Neal J. Barnett
Michael Schostak
Dani Walsh

APPOINTED POSITIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Thomas Petinga, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Richard Mintz
Neal Barnett
Richard Atto
Bruce Selik
Andrea B. O'Donnell

BOARD OF APPEALS

Carol Rosati, Chairman
Brian Henry, Vice Chairman
Robert Taylor, Jr.
Claudine Bacher,
Dani Walsh
Jocelyn Giangrande
Andrea O'Donnell
Jeffrey Drake, Alternate



Board of Trustees

TIME: 7:00 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

Coming up...

March 10
 Presidential Primary Election

March 16
 Yard Waste Pickup resumes

Three elections coming up in 2020

Mark your calendars now for the following three elections scheduled in 2020:

- March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary
- August 4, 2020 State Primary
- November 3, 2020 General Election

Preparations are underway in the Clerk's Office for the Presidential Primary. Absent Voter Ballot Applications were mailed at the end of December 2019, to those voters on our permanent absentee list. Ballots that are mailed will be contained in new and colorful envelopes. Plus, a special insert is included regarding precinct boundary changes that begin with the March 10, 2020 Election.

Bloomfield Township voters are encouraged to participate in the Presidential Primary on March 10, 2020. This closed primary establishes the following procedures:

There will be three ballot styles: Republican, Democrat and a Proposal Only ballot.

By law, you must make your ballot selection in writing by completing the Application to Vote/Ballot Selection Form on Election Day; or on the Absent Voter Ballot Application form if voting absentee.

Although the partisan ballot styles will also have a proposal

section, the Proposal Only ballot allows the voter to cast their votes without participating in the partisan primary. There are county, local and school proposals. Full text is available on the Township website: <https://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Government/Services/Clerk/Elections.aspx>

The Oakland County Art Institute Authority Millage

Millage renewal not to exceed 0.2 mills in a 10-year period (2022-2031) to continue to provide revenue to the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Bloomfield Township Millage Renewal Request

Renewal of a General Operating Millage at the reduced rate of 1.2401 mills for a period of ten (10) years, 2020-2029, after the millage expiration in 2019. The renewal millage will continue to support and fund Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Service, the Department of Public Works and all other general operations of the Charter Township of Bloomfield.

Birmingham Public Schools

School improvement bond proposal not to exceed \$195,000,000 bond for the purpose of paying for projects including remodeling, erecting, improving sites and acquiring and installing instructional

technology infrastructure.

School District of the City of Pontiac-School Improvement Bond

School improvement bond proposal not to exceed \$147,000,000 bond for the purpose of paying for projects including remodeling, erecting, preparing improving sites and acquiring and installing instructional technology infrastructure.

School District of the City of Pontiac-Building and Site Sinking Fund Tax Renewal

This proposal will renew the authority last approved by the electors in 2016 and which expires with the 2020 levy, for the School District to levy a building and site sinking fund tax at the reduced rate of 0.80 mills from the previously authorized rate of 2.87 mills, for a period of five (5) years, 2021-2025.

Exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Vote early by requesting an absentee ballot. It makes voting efficient by avoiding the time constraints of polling hours and any lines at the polling locations. Visit our website for the final list of presidential candidates, proposal language and further details.

Accounting Dept. functions behind the scenes to handle day-to-day finances

Leslie Lance, accountant, has been with Bloomfield Township for six years. She keeps track of funds coming in, does payroll, reconciles accounts, and performs all the daily duties required in the accounting department of a municipality. Leslie finds the job sometimes challenging, but mostly fun. She likes



working with numbers, but the thing she enjoys most about working at the Township is the people she works with. The hardest part of her job is trying to get payroll done without interruptions.

Leslie has a M.B.A., a B.A. in finance, and an A+ certification in computers. Before

coming to the Township she worked for 30 years for USA Today Newspaper/Gannett as assistant controller, performing H.R. functions, payroll, updating ledgers, reporting on finances and doing computer updating and repair.

Leslie has two children and three grandchildren.



Dear Bloomfield Township Residents:

We are pleased to announce new precinct boundary changes for 2020. Beginning with the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary Election, Bloomfield Township voters will be voting in 18 precincts. The precinct changes, conforming to school district boundaries, were approved by the Township Election Commission on December 19, 2019. A new map and legal descriptions have been prepared. The Bureau of Elections reviewed the street index changes, legal descriptions and county commissioner districts prior to entering the new precinct boundaries. With the Township encompassing the school districts of Avondale, Birmingham, Bloomfield and Pontiac, our goal was to achieve one school district per precinct. Voters will recognize most of these new locations as the same temporary locations we've used to consolidate local elections in the last two years. Most voters will be returning to their usual polling location, but with a new number. Others will be joining an existing polling location that has also been renumbered.

The back of this insert features a map of the new precinct boundaries. Our website provides a much larger view and the following link to locate your precinct: <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/>. Of course, all registered voters will receive a new voter registration card, a letter listing the new precinct, along with the mapped location. Signs will be placed at all former and new locations. Further website, cable programs, and local press releases are being planned to communicate these changes. For more information, contact the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 or clerk@bloomfieldwp.org.

We look forward to an exciting year with three major elections. Mark your calendars now to vote on March 10, 2020, August 4, 2020 and November 3, 2020.

.Jan Roncelli, Bloomfield Township Clerk

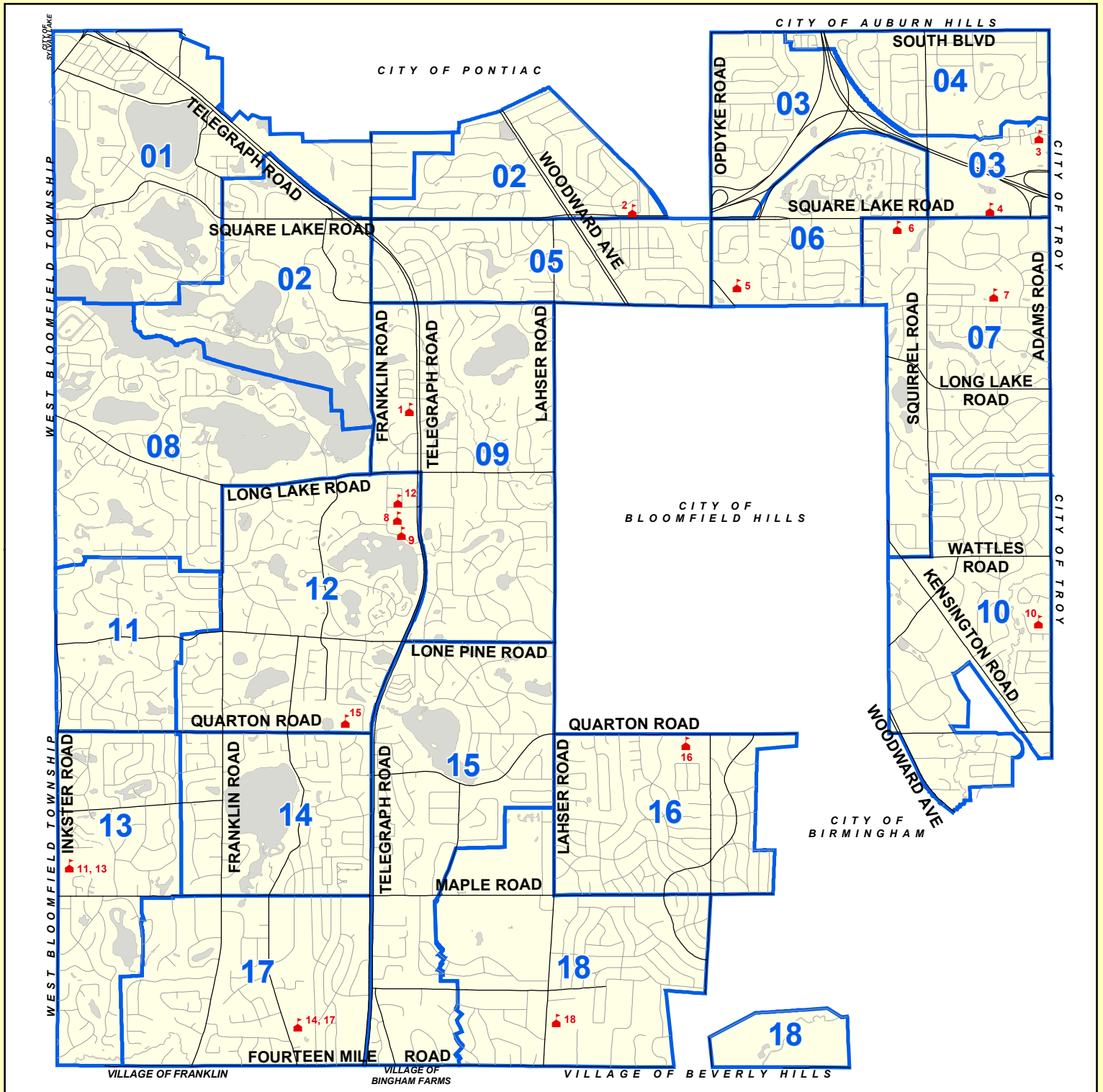
PRECINCT LOCATIONS

Precinct 1	Polling location at Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church, 3600 Telegraph Road, west side of Telegraph between Long Lake and Hickory Grove Roads.	Precinct 10	Polling location at Harlan Elementary School, 3595 N. Adams Road, south of Robinhood Road.
Precinct 2	Polling location at St. Paul Methodist Church, 165 E. Square Lake Road, NW corner of Square Lake and Mulberry Roads.	Precinct 11	Polling location at West Maple Elementary School, 6275 Inkster Road, between W. Maple and Walnut Lake Roads.
Precinct 3	Polling location at Adams Woods Community Building, 1480 Timberview Trail, north of Adams Road.	Precinct 12	Polling location at Bloomfield Community Television Studio, 4190 Dublin Drive, at NW corner of Exeter Street and Dublin Drive.
Precinct 4	Polling location at Bowers Farm Activity Building, 1229 E. Square Lake Road, north side of Square Lake Road, between Squirrel and Adams Roads.	Precinct 13	Polling location at West Maple Elementary School, 6275 Inkster Road, between W. Maple and Walnut Lake Roads.
Precinct 5	Polling location at East Hills Middle School, 2800 Kensington Road, at intersection of Opdyke Road.	Precinct 14	Polling location at Booth Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road, between Stoney River Drive and Chamberlain Drive.
Precinct 6	Polling location at International Academy, 1020 E. Square Lake Road, south side of Square Lake Road between Squirrel and Eastways Roads.	Precinct 15	Polling location at Conant Elementary School, 4100 Quarton Road, just west off Telegraph Road.
Precinct 7	Polling location at Eastover Elementary School, 1101 Westview Road, between Thedford Road and Reading Court.	Precinct 16	Polling location at Birmingham Covington School, 1525 Covington Road, at Covington and Quarton Roads.
Precinct 8	Polling location at Dave Payne Public Services Building, 1153 Exeter Street, at SE corner of Exeter Street and Andover Road.	Precinct 17	Polling location at Booth Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road, between Stoney River Drive and Chamberlain Drive.
Precinct 9	Polling location at Bloomfield Township Senior Services Center, 4315 Andover Road, south off Long Lake Road and west of Telegraph Road.	Precinct 18	Polling location at Marian High School, 7225 Lahser Road, between Lincoln Drive and 14 Mile Road.



Bloomfield Township - Precinct Map

Beginning March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary



MAP KEY

- ROAD CENTERLINES
- PRECINCT BOUNDARIES
- WATER FEATURES
- POLLING PLACE w/ PRECINCT NUMBER

SOURCES:
 Bloomfield Township Clerks Office
 Bloomfield Township GIS
 Oakland County GIS Utility

PREPARED BY:
 Bloomfield Township GIS

Map Date: 01/08/2020



The information provided here is intended for reference purposes only. It was compiled from a variety of available sources with varying degrees of accuracy. It is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as one. Bloomfield Township assumes no responsibility for errors that arise from the use of the data.



A NOTE FROM

Leo Savoie, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Meet our family of employees

One of the pleasures of my job is that I am surrounded by so many competent, dedicated employees who go far beyond their job descriptions to make the Township such a fine place to live.

Each day they put in more than a day's work as they handle the myriad demands that every job here requires. Don't be misled: working for Bloomfield Township is not a pushover. Running a municipality is not like running a business. It can be far more demanding in that there are so many state and federal mandates, labor agreements and specified business practices that dictate methods of operations for the various activities that we seem to do so easily. On top of that we have 41,000 residents to please every year.

This covers broad areas of operation, each one with its own needs and challenges. As with most communities police and fire services are the biggest entities in terms of manpower and the chunk of the budget they consume.

That's to be expected. These are 24/7 functions, and I don't think we'd want them any other way. But they represent only a portion of the total picture. We also have

large scale Road and Water Divisions, part of the Department of Public Works, an Engineering and Environmental Services Department, the Treasurer's Office, Assessing Department, Planning, Building and Ordinance Department, Information Technology



Residents see only some of the tasks performed by Township staff. Much of the work goes on behind the scenes.

Department, Cable and Community Relations and an amazing Senior Services Center with all it offers. And I don't mean to minimize the Clerk's Office by mentioning it last. Rather, I want to single

it out for the many services it offers, including the terrific job of conducting all the elections, as well as issuing hundreds of passports annually.

It's an amazing scope of responsibilities that requires the employees have first-class training and proven abilities. At Bloomfield Township we seek to hire the best because that turns out to be a bargain in the long run.

Ninety-nine percent of the feedback I get from the residents is very positive. Employees like to work for Bloomfield Township, because it's a welcoming community that truly appreciates the quality services the employees deliver.

I wish I could end this commentary here, but I can't. For while it is true that most residents appear pleased with the Township employees as a whole, there is a vocal minority that are using social media as a weapon to tear at our community, including degrading the Township employees.

There are individuals who seem to operate without any sense of logic or decency. They will take aim at anything

sanctioned by the Township including a quality workforce. I will not waste space here rebutting their accusations. Rather, I want to focus on the positive with the faith that knowledge is the best weapon against ignorance. We are devoting most of the pages of this community newsletter to the employees of Bloomfield Township and the work they do. You'll get to learn a little about who they are, their background and the special skills they bring to the Township. Not every Township employee can be featured, but those highlighted here are typical.

They are skilled, hard-working and they care about the community. They have a passion for what they do and they do it well. I've gotten many reports of Township employees who have gone way beyond what is required of them in helping residents.

It makes me feel good to see someone express gratitude to a Township employee. Conversely, it's hard to bear the cheap comments made by those who choose not to know better.

Take a look for yourself on these pages and meet your employees for they truly work for you.

Why devote so much space to profiling Township employees?

It takes more than good policies and procedures to run a community well. It takes people. People who are skilled at what they do and dedicated to doing the job right.

Too often the employees of Bloomfield Township are overlooked or even looked down on as little more than a drain on the revenue stream. But they play a critical role in making the community what it is. Bloomfield Township would not be the well-run and desirable place to live that it is without the quality employees who take pride in serving residents well.

This edition of the township community newsletter takes a special look at the Township employees, who they are and what makes them special.

DPW staff focuses on safety and service to residents

Duane Poole is the Road Foreman, responsible for the daily and emergency operations of the Road Division. He assigns and schedules all work crews and contractors and oversees the jobs to be sure they are done to the Township's high standards. He maintains the proper quantities of supplies on hand, plans for upcoming storms, and collaborates with other departments on keeping the roads safe. Duane works in the office and on the road, and is on call



24/7 all year as a first responder. Duane has been with the Township for 21 years, serving as foreman for the past 10 years. The thing he likes best about his job is that every day is different and brings a new challenge. He also stresses that he has good work crews and a great team.

"We have good working relationships here in DPW," he said. "We can talk with each other to resolve any issues."

While Duane was completing his B.A. at Michigan State he worked part-time for the Township, and decided to stay on as a full time employee after graduation because he liked the people and the work environment. He holds certifications from FEMA, the Michigan Public Service Institute, a certification as a Winter Maintenance Supervisor from the American Public Works Association, and multiple other certifications in his field.

Duane enjoys hockey and is especially proud of his classic hot rod truck.

Kelly Lagarde has been with the Township since 2002, first as a part-timer, moving to full time in 2005. She serves as a secretary for the Department of Public Works. For many residents she is the face of the DPW, the person who helps them when they come into the office. The most important part of her job is customer service – she helps residents over the phone and at the counter, answering questions regarding roads, water and trash pick-up. She submits requests for residents who need services,



and writes up notes on the requests after the work is done. The job requires multitasking skills, as Kelly must cover all the DPW divisions with their overlapping responsibilities. She has to be ready for anything. Kelly's favorite thing about the job is that every day is different and it never gets boring. "I like talking to the people who call and come into the office, too," she said.

Kelly started working at the Township right out of high school. In her years here she has worked at the front desk, where she learned how all the departments work together and how the Township functions; the Treasurer's Office; and now DPW. Kelly is married and has two dogs.

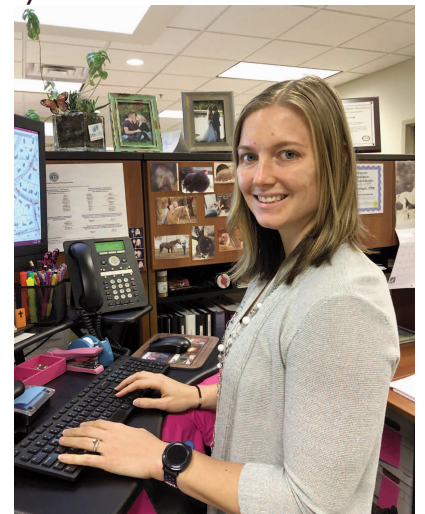
EESD staff works to protect our environment

Staff Engineer Angela Hysinger of the Engineering & Environmental Services Department received her Professional Engineer License this year. To obtain this licensure requires a bachelor's degree in the Science of Civil Engineering, passing an eight-hour Fundamentals of Engineering exam, practicing in the field of engineering for a minimum of four years under another Professionally Licensed Engineer, and then passing another eight-hour Professional Engineers exam, prior to applying for the professional license. In addition, she is a Certified Flood Plain Manager.

Angela's duties at the Township include managing private development projects, which entails reviewing plans, coordinating pre-construction meetings, making sure permits are in place, and overseeing construction and resolving issues in the field. She was drawn to the field of civil engineering because she enjoys math and wanted to do something to better the environment. She has been with the Township for almost five years.

"I like solving problems," Angela said. "I like the challenge of resolving issues and assisting residents and developers." She would like residents to know they can come to her with questions about flood plains, sewers, and drainage issues.

Angela is just one of a talented five-person department. The EESD staff has a combined 62 years of professional experience and each department member brings to the table multiple licensures, bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and/or certifications. This small staff of five packs a big punch and is always available when needed to better the Township and assist its residents.



Planning, Building & Ordinance staff maintain high Township standards

Jennifer MacDonald serves as Assistant Planner for Bloomfield Township. She works with the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Design Review Board, taking applications, performing plan reviews, and making sure residents and developers comply with the ordinance. She also writes legal notices and submits them for posting. Jennifer makes presentations at public meetings and answers questions regarding requirements and compliance. An important function of the Planning Division is amending the ordinance to ensure it is kept up to date as times

change. Jennifer is constantly busy and always focused on the end result.

After five years with the Township Planning Division, Jennifer says she most enjoys the mix of work each day – dealing with people to provide superior customer service, reviewing plans, and writing. She came to the Township after working for West Bloomfield. Her background also includes environmental consulting. She holds a B.S. degree in resource development from Michigan State.

Jennifer has two young adult children, a son and a daughter.



Mechanical inspector Tom Benson is responsible for inspecting heating, cooling, gas lines and duct work in new construction and renovations. He also inspects fire suppression systems in commercial buildings and inspects generators for mechanical issues. He is qualified to inspect schools as well, a function that is ordinarily done by the State of Michigan. In addition to performing inspections he meets with contractors, homeowners, architects and engineers to gain an understanding of what they want to do. Tom covers the entire Township as well as Sylvan Lake.



Continuing education is a must. Inspectors undergo ongoing training and are required to recertify their licenses every three years through the State. Tom and all the inspectors are focused on keeping residents safe. He also works closely with the Fire Department to that end.

“I like meeting the residents. We have a great variety of interesting people who live in the Township,” Tom said. “And I like working with the people in my department.”

Tom has been with Bloomfield Township for 22 years, full time for the last 14 years. Previously he owned his own heating and cooling company and has been very involved with the construction industry. He holds a degree in building construction from Michigan State as well as builder’s and mechanical licenses.

Jodi Welch is one of the ordinance officers who ensure that the Township is kept to the standards residents have come to expect. Her job includes following up on resident complaints regarding property maintenance, zoning issues and more. She and the



other ordinance officers follow up on Zoning Board rulings to ensure compliance. She is on the road about half the time, and the rest of the time she is in the office completing necessary paperwork.

For Jodi, the best thing about the job is getting to connect with residents. “We try to work in a positive way with everyone,” she said.

Jodi has been with the Township for five years. She moved to the U.S. from Canada six years ago, with her husband, a U.S. citizen. She has two children. Before coming to the U.S. Jodi served the Ontario Provincial Police as an auxiliary sergeant, and worked as an investigator for a college in a regulated health field.

Check the dashboard

How does Bloomfield Township stand financially compared to other communities?

You can find out at a glance by looking at the dashboard. It can be found on the home page of the Township website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org. Just look for Citizen’s Guide and Dashboard under Quick Links at the right of the home page.

A wide array of financial information about the Township – and data about communities across Michigan - is available on the site.

First responders are vitally important to the safety of residents

Officer Kelly McGraw is part of the Township Police Department's Patrol Division. Her days consist of patrolling the subdivisions and business areas of the Township, traffic stops, school checks, and enforcement at retail areas. She likes her job very much, especially interacting with people. "Most people are generally respectful," she said, and usually pleasant to deal with. Kelly has been with the Township for 13 years, after spending four years as the first female police officer in Alpena.

Kelly's original plan was to study criminal justice and work with incarcerated juveniles; however, she was offered tuition reimbursement at Lake Superior State with a job in police work waiting, so she changed direction, eventually becoming a police officer. In addition to patrol work, Kelly is an evidence technician and a self-defense instructor, planning to take over the women's self-defense class for the Township.



Kelly, who met her husband, an Auburn Hills police lieutenant, at the police academy, is the mother of two little girls. When not at work, she is doing the usual "mom stuff, being an unpaid Uber driver" and volunteering at her daughters' school. She is an avid runner, running two half-marathons

each year and occasionally a triathlon or a marathon. She is very involved in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Runs to support Special Olympics.

Who answers the phone when you call 9-1-1? Bloomfield Township has an excellent dispatch staff, highly trained and always ready to assist residents. Rose Murdock has been a dispatcher here for 14 years, after serving in the same role for West Bloomfield for 13 years. She went into dispatch right out of college. She had previously worked in police records for the city of Troy, which piqued her interest in police work and led her to study criminal justice.



Rose likes working as a dispatcher because of the variety, saying "every day is different." The most gratifying part of the job for her is being there for people when they are in a crisis or emergency and being able to help them. Dispatchers work 12-hour shifts, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., with three dispatchers assigned to each shift. They answer not only emergency calls, but non-emergency calls as well, and dispatch for both the Police and Fire Departments. They take the information from a caller, talk with officers and dispatch them. Non-emergency calls may be fielded out to other parts of the Police Department to be handled. Dispatchers use a variety of computer systems, including the LEIN statewide system and the NCIC nationwide system. They keep in touch with other agencies in the county using the CAD system. Dispatchers may also assist the front desk with walk-in traffic and monitor the cameras in the jail cells and in the buildings around the Township campus.

Rose has been married for 27 years and has two kids and four grandchildren.

Captain Matt DeRousse is the EMS Coordinator for the Township Fire Department, in charge of emergency medical services. One of the main functions of his role is to keep track of continuing education credits for each of the Township's firefighter/paramedics. Each one must renew his/her license through the state every three years, which requires completion of 45 continuing education credits in various areas during that period. Matt tracks these hours and provides in-house training for staff, bringing in outside instructors or in some cases providing the training himself.

Part of Matt's job is the responsibility for the budget for medical equipment and supplies. He orders all equipment, submits invoices, and is the department contact for the billing company which means he helps residents with billing questions or problems.



All EMS calls are documented with an electronic patient care report (EPCR) which is faxed to the hospital. Matt sees and reviews all the reports, looking for correctly constructed narrative. Almost 70 percent of fire calls are for EMS runs, and Matt provides patient follow-up for the crews. If a call sounds unusually serious, or if it is a call involving multiple patients or involving a child, Matt makes himself available on the scene to assist and to call ahead to the hospital.

The best part of the job, Matt says, is having a hand in every aspect of EMS and working with all three crews. He enjoys overseeing the division. He was a firefighter/paramedic for 14 years, then for three years was a lieutenant on a 24-hour shift. He worked with Chief Mike Morin when Morin served as EMS coordinator, and found he enjoyed that role.

Matt graduated from Grand Valley State University and worked in pharmaceutical sales for 10 years before deciding to make the switch to firefighting.

"It was the best decision I ever made," Matt said.

Dedication and professionalism characterize first responders

Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Edgemon has been with the Township for five years, after working as a firefighter in Arizona for 6 ½ years and becoming licensed as a paramedic. Firefighting felt like a natural fit to Scott. He joined the military after high school and found he liked the physical activity and being part of a team. The brotherhood, camaraderie and need to serve integral to being a firefighter were perfect for Scott.

Scott described a typical day for Township firefighters. The day begins with talking with the shift going off to be aware of what has been happening. They get all their gear on the truck to be prepared to go on calls, then attend a morning meeting via television with crews at all the stations. A day might include planning

training, discussing projects, grocery shopping and meal prep. All the firefighters do training every day, which might include hazmat, rescue or medical training.

They always try to find time for a workout to maintain fitness to perform the job well. In the evening there is free time – but they are prepared to go on a call at any time.

“I take a lot of pride in being professional and providing excellent service to the community,” Scott said. “I take it very seriously and I’m passionate about it. I love that what I do for a living improves people’s lives.”

Scott is married and has two children.



Three years ago Michelle became the first woman to join the Bloomfield Township Fire Department. She always knew she wanted to be a firefighter and started when she was 15 as a cadet in Auburn Hills. She then worked for Auburn Hills for eight years as a paid on-call firefighter, and then went to Monroe as a full-time firefighter, working there for a year before coming to the Township.

A work day for Michelle includes checking and cleaning the trucks inside and out, checking equipment, training, working on projects such as updating map books, and ordering needed equipment. Working out to maintain fitness, grocery shopping, preparing meals and station maintenance are all part of the routine. All these things are done between the approximately 7,000 calls a year firefighters respond to.

Another aspect of the job includes public relations duties, which can mean installing smoke detectors for residents, doing house safety checks, visiting schools, and responding to general requests for help from the public. Of all things that make up the job, Michelle likes best being out in the community and meeting new people, and being able to help people when they need help the most.

Michelle has an associate’s degree in fire science, attended the Fire Academy, is a CPR instructor, completed the paramedic course to obtain her license, and received advanced training in traumatic injuries and pediatric life support. She is also trained in peer support, which includes critical incident de-briefing.

Michelle is recently engaged, has a dog, and likes to live an active lifestyle.



I.T. plays a vital role in keeping the Township running smoothly

Wil Babinchak’s job in Information Technology includes cyber security, disaster recovery and document retention. He makes sure information is readily available to the Township departments that need it, and deals with any computer problems that arise. In the four years Wil has been with the Township, he has enjoyed learning how all the departments work together, and seeing all the behind-the-scenes things involved in keeping the



Township running smoothly. As an I.T. staff member Wil works with every Township department.

“All the departments depend upon each other. I’ve seen how if you take one thing away, it makes it more difficult for everyone else to do their jobs,” he said. “I am able to help everyone keep things going.” He likes I.T. because it’s like a puzzle, black and white, where each piece fits into another.

Wil was a biology major in college and had planned to work for the DNR, but was sidetracked by his interest in computers. He started his own business as a consultant working on networking and infrastructure for distributors and then energy companies. He had been a consultant to Bloomfield Township since 1999 before coming to work here full time. Wil has one daughter and two sons, and with his family enjoys outdoor activities.

Deputy Clerk handles election duties, passports, FOIA requests

Deana Mondock has been with the Township Clerk's Office for 14 years, first as administrative assistant and then, since 2013, as deputy clerk. Her major responsibility is to oversee the department in Clerk Jan Roncelli's absence. She is also responsible for most of the duties that make elections run smoothly, including ordering ballots, scheduling and paying workers, paying bills, reserving precincts, and ordering election supplies. She is the pass-

port manager, overseeing all Township passport processing and working with the Detroit



passport office when necessary. Deana also oversees all Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, coordinating with any Township departments involved. What does she like best about the job? She enjoys solving problems and finding solutions, and she likes the "numbers" part of the job.

Deana is the past president of the Oakland County Clerk's Association. She is a Certified Municipal Clerk, a certification given by the

International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC); a Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk; and is currently working toward certification as a Master Municipal Clerk. Deana has a B.A. in telecommunications from Michigan State. She previously worked as business operations manager at TCI and then, after TCI was bought out by Comcast, as a customer service manager. She has two daughters, two rescue dogs, and a rescue cat.

Assessing, Treasurer's Office work closely together

Mitchell Elrod is an Appraiser 3, a licensed Michigan Advanced Assessing Officer (MAAO/3), focusing on residential properties and new construction. He performs the majority of the contracted assessing work for Sylvan Lake. He has also taken on some of the behind-the-scenes administrative work, such as assessment roll maintenance, previously performed by a recently retired staff member.

Mitchell has worked for the Township for four years. Previously he worked for the City of Livonia as an appraiser, part-time while attending college. He has a B.S. in organizational administration, a



government-focused degree, from Central Michigan University. He was drawn to this work because his father is also an assessor.

His favorite part of the job is the great work environment, including a great boss and coworkers, as well as Township residents.

"Friendly residents, easy to work with," he said. He has never had a bad experience with a resident, in spite of

the fact that assessments can be a difficult, touchy topic. He likes being able to explain the complex laws involving assessment and taxation clearly to help people understand. Mitchell is currently working on his Michigan Master Assessing Officer certification, (MMAO/4).

Treasurer's Assistant Carly Gehrke has been with the Township for over 16 years. Her duties include daily balancing of funds, collecting and processing all payments that come into the Township, maintaining address changes, making sure all outgoing bills are accurate, providing information to title companies, and helping residents over the phone and at the counter. Carly most enjoys being able to help residents by providing clear explanations to answer their questions about taxes. Carly is a Michigan Certified Professional Treasurer (MiCPT) after attending the Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Institute for 40 hours over three years.

Carly came to the Township after working for Comerica Bank as a CSR2. She is married and has a dog, Bucket, and a cat, Trigger. In her spare time she enjoys crafting, canning and pickling, and origami.



It's easy to keep up with all the news and events going on at the Township. One of the best ways is to go to the Township website and sign up for the e-Newsletter here <https://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Resources/E-Newsletter.aspx> The e-Newsletter goes out every Thursday, as well as any time there is an urgent need to inform residents of an emergency or other unusual situation. You can also stay up-to-date by following the Township on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. For more information go to <https://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Resources/Social-Media.aspx> on the website. These are the sources where you will find the facts.

Senior Services staff works to enhance lives of Township’s older residents

Mary Osborne serves as the Nutrition Coordinator for Bloomfield Township Senior Services. She oversees the home delivered meal program (Meals on Wheels). Meals are delivered to frail, homebound seniors five days a week, and those who need it are provided with Ensure. Mary not only interacts with the clients, she receives and packs up meals, creates route sheets for volunteer drivers and makes sure everything is ready to be delivered



on schedule. Once or twice a year, someone goes out to visit and assess the clients to see what other resources they might need. Mary oversees this aspect of the program as well.

The position is a good fit for Mary, a social worker who has an extensive background in services to the aging. She has worked for agencies on both the local and state levels.

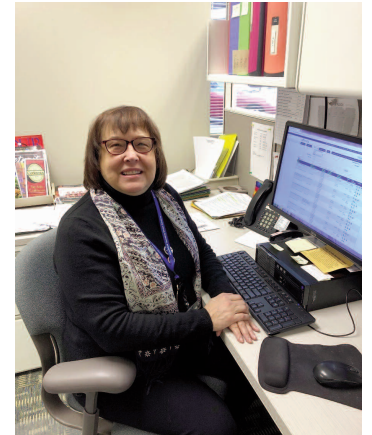
She previously ran the Elder Care Locator service, a national service in Washington, D.C.

Mary moved to Michigan from Washington to be near family. Before coming to Bloomfield Township she worked for the Detroit Agency on Aging. She enjoys the job as Nutrition Coordinator, especially the interactions with clients.

Day trips to interesting places are a popular offering of Bloomfield Township Senior Services. It takes research and organizational skills to make these trips happen, and Trip Coordinator Jane Marcinkowski excels at this role.

Jane’s career started in the telecom industry focused on customer service, project management and leadership positions. Using her bachelor’s degree in English she has consistently volunteered as an award winning literacy tutor and also teaches English as a second language. The past few years she has worked in the hospitality industry and has contacts with venues throughout SE Michigan.

Her background has been an asset to her as she works hard to arrange trips to interesting places and events. Some of the most popular offerings are the trips to the DSO, particularly the Coffee & Donuts series on Fridays, the Fisher Theater, and the Detroit historical tours. Coming up will be a relationship between BTSS and the Belle Isle Nature Center.



The trips are led by volunteer leaders, and part of Jane’s job is to coordinate the leaders. She is always open to suggestions for possible trips and loves getting feedback from residents. “My favorite thing about this job is seeing people getting on the bus happy and excited for the trip,” Jane said.

Bloomfield Township Senior Services could not provide the extensive services to older residents without a person to handle the day-to-day running of the office and building. Office Manager Ruth Frketich manages all the daily tasks with ease. She oversees and schedules the office assistants, pays invoices, deals with instructors, handles payments and deposits, works with the Township Accounting Department and creates financial reports. She also deals with vendors and with any building issues that arise. Another of her responsibilities is editing the quarterly Senior Services newsletter. Essentially, Ruth supports all the various divisions in Senior Services.



Ruth has a degree in gerontology and has worked in various positions serving seniors throughout her career. She worked in the adult day program in Ontario, Canada; then after moving to the U.S. began working at the Township’s Adult Day Service Friendship Club. She progressed into leadership roles at ADS and eventually moved over to the Senior Services side to become office manager.

A strong background in community programs is an asset. “I’m dedicated to enhancing the quality of community-based programs,” Ruth said. “Even though I’m in an office role I am still able to connect with the seniors who come to the Center.”

She emphasizes how much the Township Senior Center has to offer residents. “We have a dynamic team here and I’m inspired every day I’m here by the people I work with and the seniors who come in. It’s an active, dynamic Senior Center.”

Ruth is married with three sons, one who is 22 and 20-year-old twins, and enjoys an active family life.



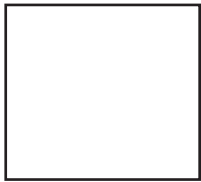
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD
PO BOX 489
BLOOMFIELD MI 48303-0489

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Water/Sewer Emergency
433-7730

Administration	433-7700
Accounting	433-7712
Assessor's Office	433-7710
Building Division	433-7715
Clerk's Office	433-7702
Community Cable	433-7790
Engineering & Env.	594-2800
Fire Non-Emergency	433-7745
Ordinance Division	594-2845
Planning Division	433-7795
Police Department	
Administration	433-7750
Non-Emergency	433-7755
Animal Welfare	433-7757
Investigations	433-7760
Alarm Info	433-7775
Property	433-7777
Records	433-7776
Public Works	
Road Division	594-2800
Water & Sewer	594-2800
Senior Services	723-3500
Adult Day Service	723-3530
Treasurer's Office	433-7705



Steve Rota works to get information out to residents

Long-time employee Steve Rota, with 21 years at the Township, is the Operations Manager at BCTV. His role includes administrative work such as assigning duties to staff and tracking hours and equipment used. He makes sure playback for both BCTV and the BACB is working properly. He serves as the main liaison with the Birmingham Area Cable Board, for which BCTV holds the contract to produce municipal and government access programming, keeping in constant touch with them to make sure they are satisfied with the work BCTV does for them. He is also involved in day-to-day production as part of the BCTV

team. This involves meeting with producers, discussing topics and guests, building sets and doing pre-produc-



tion and post-production work. After shows are taped Steve makes sure they are aired and made available on the Township website.

Residents have Steve to

thank for their ability to see Township Board of Trustee meetings live and in replay – he coordinates staff to cover the meetings and checks to make sure all equipment is up and running properly. During a meeting, Steve monitors it from his home to make sure no problems arise and keeps in constant contact with the staff person in the studio. He makes sure meetings are made available on the website and on social media.

Steve likes the job because every day is different. “It doesn’t really feel like work because there is always something interesting going on,” he said. He emphasized that the function of the Cable and Community

Relations Department is to provide information to residents, whether by broadcasting meetings, producing shows about community events, keeping the website up-to-date, creating the Township newsletter and e-Newsletters, posting on social media and sending out press releases. “I like feeling that I’m playing a part in getting information to the residents,” he said.

Steve started at Bloomfield Township right out of college. He has a degree in television production from Ferris State University. Steve is married and has five kids, and is very involved in his kids’ activities, including coaching their various sports teams.