

Township Officials

William F. Browne, Supervisor
Brandee Ellis, Clerk
Denise Medemar, Treasurer
Rose Ann Wendt, Trustee
Bob Dobbins, Trustee

Paul Shamblin, Zoning /Enforcement Officer
Douglas Darling, Assessor
Sally Burgess, Assistant Assessor
Karen Bertalan, Administrative Assistant

Message from the Supervisor

Clean-Up Day

Saturday October 17th - 9 am to 5 pm Clean-up site is located at 4726 118th Avenue
Approx. 1 mile west of DNR office, Round Lake area - south side of road

No paint cans, household garbage, or yard waste accepted

Millgrove Cemetery

The Board has approved the placement of a 325 gallon water tank at the cemetery. We hope this will help maintain flowers and plants. We will be monitoring this and hope it will make it possible for residents to no longer bring their own water. Remember this water is **non potable** and for watering only! The Hamilton Fire Department has volunteered to keep us supplied with water. A big thanks to Dave Haverdink, Hamilton Fire Chief.

A Brief Update on Road Issues

We have had our first dust control application and the gravel roads appear to be solid. We received resident requests for repaving Taft Road and Nethercutt Pointe. The Allegan Road Commission has sent the following estimates:

Taft Road (1.4 mi.) . . . \$279,931.08

Nethercutt Pointe (0.63 mi.) . . . \$119,266.50

As you can see from the estimates, it is extremely costly. Currently the Township receives \$67,739.00 from the road millage. Of these monies \$25,000 is set aside for the dust control each year. The balance of \$42,739.00 is what we have to maintain and improve roads in the Township. At the current rate of revenue income, it would be nearly 7 years to accumulate funds for Taft Road and 3 years for Nethercutt Pointe. Additionally, the cost for roads increases each year. We are at a place in our development where we need to discuss a possible increase in the Road Millage in order to accomplish some projects. The Board will be discussing holding Township meetings to gather input from our residents on this topic. We will need your input. Our Valley Road Committee has produced a road projects priority report. It is on the website and at the Township office. Please review this report and let us hear your comments.

In addition to road improvement requests, we have had requests for lights and reductions in posted speed limits. All light requests were approved and have been completed. As for the reduction in posted speed limits, we have been informed by the Allegan Road Commission that reductions are based upon access points (e.g. driveways, cross streets, etc.) per one half mile and are as follows:

<u>Access Points Per One Half Mile</u>	<u>Speed</u>
30 to 44	45
45 to 59	35
60 and up	25

All platted subdivisions are 25 mph. The current law on all roads less than a mile in length with one county road access point is also 25 mph. We will continue to work with the Road Commission to determine other avenues through which we might be able to address resident concerns.

We hope you are having a good summer. Let us hear from you.

Bill Browne, Supervisor

Swimming Pool Ordinance

For those of you expecting to keep cool this summer with a swimming pool, please be aware that in-ground, above ground, or on-ground pools, hot tubs or spas over 24" deep require a fence. This is intended to prevent accidental drowning by restricting access. Contact the Township office for a copy of the regulations.

Allegan County Recycling Program

Please note, the County (and Township) provides recycling containers that are located at the Township Hall, 2054 N. M-40, Allegan to properly dispose of certain plastics, paper, cardboard, glass & metals. A list of acceptable items is posted at the Township Hall. Township **"Cleanup" date is Sat., October 17th, 9AM -5PM.**

Collection Hours for Summer Taxes

SUMMER TAXES ARE DUE NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

The Treasurer will be at the Township Hall for the collection of the Summer Taxes on Monday, September 14, 2009, 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

Payments will also be accepted during regular business hours, 9:00am to 3:00pm, Monday - Thursday, from now until the due date. If paying with cash, you must have the EXACT AMOUNT. For safety reasons, the Township Hall does not have any cash on hand to make change. Tax Bill Receipts will only be sent if requested. If you wish to have a receipt, please indicate that on your tax bill when you send in your payment. A receipt will be forwarded to you. Please Note, Postmark Dates will not be accepted as the payment date. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Medemar at 269-673-1595.

Tax Bill Deferment

Select properties may qualify for DEFERRED PAYMENT of THEIR TAX BILL if one of the following pertains to you:

- The Homestead Property of a person 62 years old or older, or, the surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years old or older at death, with a household income below \$40,000.00.
- Persons with a disability that allows them to qualify for an extra, personal exemption on their State Income Tax form.
- Property that is classified or used as Agricultural Property may qualify if the gross receipts of the farming operations are less than the household income of the owner.

Individuals who meet the above criteria for a deferral must complete a form available through the Township Treasurer. The form must be completed each year in order to have taxes deferred without a penalty in any given year. The form must be filed with the Township Treasurer by September 15, 2009 to receive the deferral. You can contact the Township Treasurer at 269-673-1595.

Assessor Information

The Assessing office is responsible for the preparation of assessments, taxable values and public records on each property in the township. This office also maintains principal resident exemption status, qualified agricultural exemption status and qualified forest property exemption status. The assessing office mails assessment change notices on each property after the annual assessment roll is completed near the end of February. If you wish to contact the assessing office, normal office hours are maintained each Thursday.

The Valley Township Officials want to thank the residents for their contributions throughout the past year. We want you to join us in making Valley the best township in Allegan County.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER and FALL