

05045 Boyne City Rd.
Boyne City, MI 49712

231.582.3594
231.582.7313 fax
baytownshipmi.org

Meet your Board of Trustees:

Supervisor:
L.A. Moeschke
06571 Horton Bay Road
North
Boyne City, MI 49712
231.439.8556
supervisor
@baytownship.org or
larry.moeschke@53.com

Clerk: James Vanek
4480 Walloon Ct.
Boyne City, MI 49712
231.582.6309
clerk@baytownship.org

Treasurer:
Stephen Ritter
06755 Zenith Heights
Rd.
Boyne City, MI 49712
231.582.5453
treasurer
@baytownship.org

Trustee:
Georganna Monk
05644 West Road
Boyne City, MI 49712
231.883.9867
ff0123@gmail.com

Trustee:
William Wehrenberg
07700 Fox Run
Petoskey, MI 49770
231.439.9880
janewehrenberg
@hotmail.com

The Board of Trustees
meets the 2nd Thursday
of every month at 7:00
PM at the Bay Township
Hall in Horton Bay

BAY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Winter 2016

\$12,886 GRANT MONIES USED TO UPGRADE DOCKS AT SUMNER ROAD AND LAKE STREET



Clean up volunteers at Lake Street Road End. G.Monk, L.Moeschke, W. Simmons, P. Jacobson, R. Jacobson, K. DeGoede, C. Monk. Next clean up - Saturday, June 24, 2017 9:00 AM - Noon **COME JOIN THE FUN.** Pictured right - New docks and excavating at Sumner Road End. Excavation done by Robinson Landscaping & Nursery.



OUTDOOR WOOD BOILERS - A BURNING ISSUE

While it has become an era where it is often more popular to ban certain activities than allow them with appropriate regulations, the Planning Commission has resisted this route and has been careful about adding additional regulations. The Planning Commission has continually strived to make our ordinances more user friendly as well as amending their contents in order to reflect citizen input via the Township Master Plan as well as adapting it to current changes in our region of Northern Michigan.

During the past year, it has been called to our attention by township residents that the improper use and or location of outdoor wood boilers is having negative effects on neighboring residents including possible health hazards. Based on the data presented, the Planning Commission has decided to review the use of outdoor wood boilers and if any regulations should be placed on them. While the planning commission feels strongly that it is important to maintain the individual option to operate outdoor wood boilers, it is equally important that the use of such units does not adversely impact surrounding residents. If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter it is very important that you become involved in the review process. **Therefore, the Planning Commission is asking for your participation at our regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:00 pm, Bay Township Hall.**



ROAD MILLAGE FUNDS AT WORK IN BAY TOWNSHIP

This summer the Bay Township Board of Trustees entered into a contract with low bidder Reith-Riley Construction Company (through the Charlevoix County Road Commission) to complete the final section of repaving Camp Daggett Road. In 2013 the first portion of Camp Daggett Road was repaved (from Old Horton Bay Road) to past Camp Sherwood Road) and this summer the remainder of the road was repaved. The final cost to repave the entire length of Camp Daggett Road was just shy of \$500,000.

Also, as part of the contract with Reith-Riley, the township also repaved a small section of Stolt Road west of Horton Bay Road North, costing approximately \$30,000.

These projects were made possible and funded by the township road millage that Bay Township voters have graciously supported.

Board of Review will meet during the second week of March 2017. The specific dates and times will be in the Notice of Assessment mailed out in late February, 2017.

Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for the second Wednesday of January, April, July and October.

Positions are currently open on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Position Application Form can be found on the Bay Township website home page under "Documents/Minutes". Applicants should forward their application to Clerk Jim Vanek at 05045 Boyne City Rd., Boyne City, MI 49712.



RENTAL PROPERTIES IN BAY TOWNSHIP

Single family dwellings are allowed in all of the Bay Township zoning districts: Residential, Agricultural and Waterfront Overlay. Single family dwellings in the township are to be used in a way that conforms to the definitions found in the Zoning Ordinance. It states:

"Dwelling, Single Family" is defined as "A building, or portion thereof, containing one (1) dwelling designed for occupancy by one (1) family.

Dwelling is defined as "A building, or portion thereof, providing complete independent living facilities for one (1) family for residential purposes, including permanent provisions for sleeping, heating, cooking and sanitation, including apartments, accessory dwelling units. Accessory buildings, tents temporary structures, automobiles, school buses, and recreational vehicles are not considered to be dwellings under this definition."

Family is defined as "An individual, a collective number of individuals related by blood, marriage, adoption, or legally established relationships such as guardianship or foster care, or a collective number of unrelated individuals whose relationship is of a permanent or distinct domestic character who occupy a single family dwelling and live as a single nonprofit housekeeping unit with single culinary facilities. A family, however shall not include any society, club, fraternity, sorority, association, lodge or group of individuals, whether related or not, whose association arrangement is temporary or resort-seasonal in character or nature."

A primary purpose of this ordinance is protecting property values and the single family atmosphere in the township. This being said, some property owners may be confused about the legality of renting residential property. Single family residential property can be rented and used by a single family. It is not legal for several families to rent and then spend a vacation week or two in a single family residence. Keeping in mind that the major goal of our ordinance is to protect property values and the rights of the property owners, we encourage all property owners to rent responsibly.

If you have any questions about this ordinance or how it is interpreted please contact Ron Van Zee, Zoning Administrator at 231-497-4701 or zoning@baytownship.org.

A special thank you to all contributors to the Bay Township Winter 2016 Newsletter including, Charlevoix County Equalization Department, Cliff Carey, Boyne City District Library Director; Jim Vanek, Clerk; Steve Ritter, Treasurer; Georganna Monk, Trustee; Bill Wehrenberg, Trustee; Ron Van Zee, Zoning Administrator; Anna Wasylewski, Assessor; Dave Skornia, Planning Commission Chair.; Rob Maxwell, ZBA Chair.; Wendy Simmons, Planning Commission and ZBA Member; Christine Redman, Cemetery Committee Chair.

Georganna Monk and Wendy Simmons, Co-Editors

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY RESIDENTS REQUIRED TO POST ADDRESS NUMBERS

Why are Charlevoix County residents required to post their address numbers at the beginning of their driveway?

- **It's the law!** Charlevoix County has adopted and enforces a Uniform Numbering Ordinance to promote the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.
- Emergency responders can only help you when they find your location.
- Posting your address number provides easy identification of your location for responders who are not always exactly familiar with your area.
- Every second counts during an emergency! Posting your address number allows emergency responders to save critical time especially in reaching rural parts of Charlevoix County.
- Homes are often hidden from view at the entrance to the driveway. Only posting numbers on your home does not help responders recognize where you live since they must first turn down your driveway to find your home.
- Charlevoix County's resident population continues to increase and an increasing population means responders are required to find new subdivisions and home sites every day – this new home site may be yours!

Why is my address number so important?

- Your address is the primary way emergency responders locate you.
- When you call 911, the 911 dispatcher reports your address number to fire, law enforcement, EMS, and other first responders to assist you.
- During a health emergency, there may be a situation where you cannot speak to describe your location. When you call 911, your phone number and address automatically displays for the 911 dispatcher to notify first responders.
- Utility service providers (gas, electric, phone, cable, water) use your address to identify where service outages are located in order to dispatch utility crews to restore service as quickly as possible.
- Everyday services like the US Mail carrier and other delivery services need to know to deliver items/goods at your location rather than your neighbor's.

How do I properly post my address number?

If you live in Charlevoix County's townships, your 5-digit address number must be placed on a sign containing:

1. Reflective, white numbers being at least 3 inches in height
2. Numbers displayed on a green background
3. A sign posted with the top of the sign five feet above the grade of the roadway
4. The sign must be mounted to a post OR a mailbox
5. The sign must be plainly visible from either direction of approach to your driveway
6. The sign must be adjacent to your driveway



Where can I obtain an address number sign?

- Charlevoix County Equalization Department 231-547-7230
- Local hardware stores

STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT APPEAL PROCESS

In the event that you receive a Notice of Assessment, or you build a new structure on your property and you disagree with the assessment, the State of Michigan has established the Appeal Process to assure the tax system functions in an equitable fashion.

The first and most important step, is to talk to the Assessor. She will meet with you at the township hall, at your property, or review the issues via email or phone. If the problem cannot be resolved, the next step is to attend the Board of Review. The Board of Review is not the Assessor and the Assessor is not the Board of Review. Every citizen who appears before the Board of Review is in fact challenging a decision of the Assessor and it is the Board of Review's responsibility to make an independent judgement. The majority of cases are resolved at this level.

Should the Board of Review not reduce the Assessed Value to the amount acceptable to the property owner, then the final step is an appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal (MTT). The MTT is an administrative agency created by Michigan law. For smaller cases the hearing is held in the county or even over the phone. For larger cases a Michigan Tax Tribunal Judge in the city of Lansing will hear the case.

If you have any questions about the appeal process or any assessing issues, please feel free to email Anna Wasylewski, Bay Township Assessor, at assessor@baytownship.org or call her at 231-549-3019.

THE BOYNE DISTRICT LIBRARY – IT'S YOUR LIBRARY TOO!

In 1996 voters approved district library status and a millage to support operations for the Boyne District Library (BDL) in Boyne City. The townships of Bay, Evangeline, Eveline, and Wilson and the City of Boyne City all contribute. In 2001 a complete renovation and expansion was completed using a \$2.3 million gift from the Mary K. Peabody Foundation. In the Bay Township 2015 property tax millage, \$138,548. was collected to assist with day to day operations of the BDL.

In addition to being able to access books via a statewide system, Bay Township residents have access to the 3D printer which recently acquired a free edition of "solid works" software from EJ cad vendor valued at \$4,000. The library has two meeting rooms available for community groups and organizations. The BDL offers magazines as well as books in the "e" format in addition to downloadable music, language courses, and data bases. For instance, the Reference and Technology Portal offers topic links to Jobs, Genealogy and Family History, Automotive, Health and Fitness, Books and Reading, and Government to name just a few. Participation in MeLCat (the Michigan eLibrary Catalog and Resource Sharing System) allows everyone access to over 45 million titles! They publish a quarterly newsletter as well as provide various Adult Programs and Youth Services. One can now search over 25,000 pictures of the past and present Boyne area thanks to a new digitization project.

Future plans for a 2500 square foot addition are continuing with again the Mary Peabody foundation giving the library more money towards the project. Included will be a mixed use type room that can be used for a "makerspace", several small meeting rooms and a computer lab. The initial plans, as well as all of the services and resources available at the BDL can be viewed on their web site, "boynelibrary.org". After spending time in the BDL, you will agree this is an excellent investment in our community!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA ~ "REMEMBER, HONOR & TEACH"



Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to **Remember, Honor and Teach** is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad. **The Bay Township Area Cemeteries (BTAC) group is proud to be an official location for Wreaths Across America once again in 2016.** The Bay Township Cemetery Committee and the Horton Bay United Methodist Church formed the BTAC in 2014.

Please plan to attend the Ceremony at Dyer Cemetery on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 11:45 (Sharp). "Say Their Names" is National Wreaths Across America Day Theme for 2016. At Noon (EST) a moment of silence will be held across the entire nation. At this time the 7 ceremonial wreaths will be placed and then the wreaths will be placed on the graves of the veterans throughout our 3 cemeteries. The Boyne City American Legion Ernest Peterson Post 228 will be assisting at this ceremony. It will be a very special time to be able to honor these men and women by placing a wreath that will mark their grave until the following Spring. Our goal again this year is to place a wreath on the grave of all 45 veterans beginning at Dyer Cemetery on Camp Daggett Rd., then proceeding to North Bay Cemetery on Church Rd. and ending at Oaklawn Cemetery on Horton Bay Rd. N.

You do not have to sponsor a wreath to come and help us honor our veterans. **Each wreath is only \$15.00.** We participate in the 3 for 2 program so for every 2 wreaths that are ordered, an additional one will be received to be placed on a veteran's grave. If you mail a sponsorship form directly to WAA it must be received by November 28, 2014. **All mailed sponsorship checks must be made out to WAA – NOT to the BTAC group.** Sponsorship forms, general information and a list of the veterans buried in Bay Township are available to download on the Bay Township website: www.baytownshipmi.org or at the kiosk in front of the township hall.

To sponsor a wreath online, go to the www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org HOME page, click on the RED DONATE, Click on "Sponsor a wreath with a Local Fundraising Group" then type our group ID MI0057 in the SEARCH box. **DO NOT SEARCH BY CITY, ZIP CODE OR CEMETERY NAME!!** A drop down box saying Bay Township Area Cemeteries will appear. Click on this, click on "donate", and you will then have options for sponsoring as many wreaths as you would like via credit card. If we surpass our goal, the remaining wreaths will be applied to the 2017 count. All sponsorships are sent directly to the location and no wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships. Please call Georganna Monk (Local Location Leader) at 231-883-9867 if you have any questions about sponsoring wreaths, how to obtain a sponsorship form, or to volunteer.

