



Courtland Clippings

UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS

Winter 2015

7450 14 Mile Rd.
Rockford MI 49341

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday:
9:00-Noon & 1:00 - 4:30 PM

CLOSED FRIDAYS

Phone: (616)866-0622

Fax: (616)866-3451

Burning Permits:

(616)813-2960

Building Permits:

Imperial Municipal Svcs.

(616)863-9294

Electrical Permits:

Casey Kalee (616)874-6289

Township Officials

Supervisor: Chuck Porter

Treasurer: Colleen Brown

Clerk: Marilyn Crosby

Trustees: Matt McConnon,

Mary Ann Andersen, Kimberly

McIntyre, Mike Krygier,

Assessor: Jane Kolbe

Meeting Schedule

All meetings at 7:00 PM

Township Board:

1st Wednesday

Planning Commission:

3rd Tuesday

ZBA: 2nd Wednesday

Fire Bd: Last Wed. @ 2 PM

Holiday Hours

Township Offices closed:

Dec. 24 & 25

Dec. 31 & Jan. 1

Our updated website coming

soon:

www.courtlandtwp.org

Township Calendar

Taxes & Assessing Information

Meeting Minutes

Zoning Ordinances



2014 WINTER TAXES DUE FEBRUARY 16, 2015

On Feb. 17th a 3% penalty will be added to the open balance of your taxes. 2014 property taxes can be paid here at the Township Offices until March 2, 2015. After March 2, 2015 unpaid amounts will be considered delinquent and turned over to the Kent County Treasurer. Call the Kent County Treasurer's office at (616) 632-7500 to get your balance and payment information.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

In person: Check or money order is preferred. If paying in cash, please bring exact change. *Credit or debit cards are not accepted for payment.*

By mail: For a receipt, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your ENTIRE tax bill. Mail early,

postmarks are not accepted.

Drop box: For your convenience, a payment drop box is located by the front door. This box is safe and is checked regularly.

The Treasurer's Office is not responsible for payment on the wrong property.

Tax information is updated weekly to our website: www.courtlandtwp.org

Principle Residence Exemption: Check your tax bill to make sure you are receiving the Principal Residence Exemption (P.R.E.) if you qualify. To qualify for this year, you must own and occupy your residence before June 1st for summer and Nov. 1st for winter.

Check your tax bill for these notices: Taxpayers with past due 2014 Summer taxes: "Summer taxes owing". Taxpayers with 2013 delinquent taxes: "As of March 1st, all or part of your prior year taxes were returned delinquent to the County. For more information, please call the County Treasurer at (616) 632-7500."

Dog Licenses: We will continue to issue dog licenses year-round. Licenses will expire at the end of the month that the dog's rabies vaccination expires. Several local veterinary clinics are also participating in license sales, providing a convenient way for clients to both vaccinate and license their dogs in one stop. A license cannot be purchased without a record of neutering and updated proof of rabies vaccines. Renewals may also be done online @ www.accesskent.com under Online Services. *Taxes and dog licenses must be paid separately.*

The Courtland Township Annual Budget is adopted at our March Regular Township Board Meeting yearly. Our Fund Balances are available upon request at the Treasurer's Office. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions/concerns throughout the year. We will be glad to serve you.

Have a safe, joyous winter season and happy holidays to you.

Colleen Brown, Treasurer

FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Our Township Board has a new member. Matt McConnon was elected Trustee in the November 4th election. He replaces Brent Boncher who chose to run for 63rd District Court judge instead. Matt previously served on the Courtland Township Planning Commission.

John O'Rourke has stepped down after serving Courtland Township as Ordinance Compliance Officer for seven years to spend more time with his family. He did a great job and worked hard to solve many zoning issues. Robert Devereaux was hired to replace John in July. Bob is also retired from the Kent County Sheriff's Department, and is continuing the high quality work that John did over the years.

The manufactured home park formerly known as Courtland Crossings has reopened this fall after sitting vacant for a few years. The property has new owners and a new name, "The Oaks of Rock-



ford". The park has gone through extensive clean-up and remodeling, and is now open for residents age 55 and over. Twelve new homes are already on site and ready for occupancy.

Our road construction work for 2014 has been completed and should make driving on our local roads much easier. The major construction project on 10 Mile Rd. from Northland Dr. to Myers Lake Ave. and the new access and parking area for Luton Park are great assets to our area. If you have roads you feel need some work in 2015, please call or email the township offices. We have received many positive comments about the work done this year.

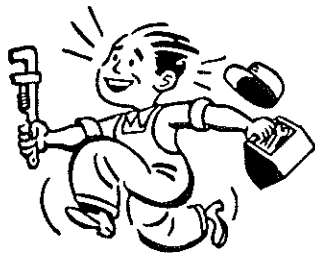
I remember my dad, Darcy Porter, telling me: "The only people who never make a mistake are the ones who never try anything."

Winter weather has already arrived! Drive with caution! Enjoy your holidays with family and friends and give thanks for the U.S.A.

Chuck Porter, Supervisor

SEWER NEWS

If you have a sewer emergency call Al Evink at Main-Tech Services (616) 874-8866.



HELP PREVENT SEWER BACK UPS

Sanitary sewer systems are designed to handle three things: used water, human waste and toilet paper.

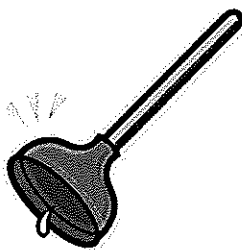
You can help reduce your maintenance costs, and also protect the environment by following some simple rules.

DO: Place a waste basket in the bathroom to dispose of dental floss, disposable diapers, wipes, condoms and personal hygiene products. Also, make sure foreign objects such as rags and toys don't get into the toilet.

DO: Collect cooking grease, fats and oils in a container and dispose of it in the garbage. Never put these things in the toilet or down the drain.

DO NOT: Discharge sump pumps or heat pumps into the sewer as this is illegal.

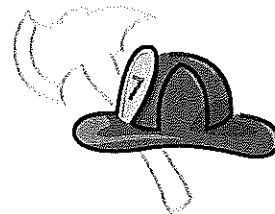
DO NOT: Remove manhole covers. This allows storm water and debris into the sanitary sewer system.



DO: Report tampering with manhole covers, or other damage to the system to Courtland Township or Main - Tech Services: (616)874-8866.

When a sewer overflows, it is usually the result of inappropriate materials in the sewer system. Most sewer back-ups occur between the house and the Township's sewer main, where the property owner is responsible for correcting the problem. Most basic homeowner's insurance policies do not cover sewer or basement drain backups. Contact your insurance agent for more information on adding this to your policy.

Sandra Hunt, Sewer Administration



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Our *Coats for Charity* drive has begun. Please bring your gently used coats (snow pants, hats, gloves and boots, too) to the Township Hall, and we will donate them to a local charity.

Christmas trees may be dropped off behind Fire Station #1 (14 Mile Rd.), on the south side of the driveway, through January 31st. Please remove all ornaments, tinsel and plastic bags.

Note: Both fire stations are equipped with generators in case of power outages or other weather-related emergencies. Drinking water will be available at both stations. Please bring your own containers.

Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors every six months. Every home should also have a good quality carbon monoxide (CO) detector.

Mickey Davis, Chief

CLERK'S COMMENTS

I'd like to thank all my Election Workers who put in long hours to make the three 2014 elections run smoothly.

The overall turnout in Courtland Township for the November 4th General Election was 52%.

Thanks to the hard work by Trustee Mary Ann Andersen and her husband Wally, the display cabinets at the township hall have been filled with historic pictures and items from Courtland Township's past. If you have something you would like to loan us for our display, please contact us.

Marilynn Crosby, Clerk