



# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER  
WINTER 2005

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elected Officials

ADMINISTRATION  
Dave Payne, Supervisor  
Janet M. Roncelli, Clerk  
Dan Devine, Treasurer

## TRUSTEES

Sherry Stefanos  
David B. Buckley  
Neal J. Barnett  
Leo C. Savoie

## PLANNING COMMISSION

Appointed Positions

Scot F. Goldberg  
Richard D. Mintz  
Jane Reisinger  
Jeffrey Salz  
Sherry Stefanos  
John M. Swoboda  
Robert L. Wittbold

## BOARD OF APPEALS

Appointed Positions

Jim Aldrich  
Dan Devine  
Brian E. Kepes  
Corinne Khederian  
Jane Reisinger  
Lisa Seneker  
Robert E. Taylor Jr.  
Brian P. Henry - Alternate  
Lawence F. Smith - Alternate

## BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP OFFICES

4200 Telegraph Road  
PO Box 489  
Bloomfield Hills, MI  
48303-0489  
[www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org)  
248.433.7700

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## Township Board Members Begin New Terms of Office

The seven members of the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees officially began their new terms of office on Monday, November 22nd, 2004, while as many as 50 friends and family members filled the Auditorium to watch the swearing-in ceremonies.

The Honorable Kimberly Small, Chief Judge, 48th District Court, officiated. She began her remarks by noting the members of the Board showed extraordinary levels of commitment, education, experience, passion and integrity. She said, "These elected officials have demonstrated intense commitment to their families and to their community. They will serve the people of Bloomfield Township exceptionally well."



(R - L) David B. Buckley; Janet M. Roncelli; Honorable Kimberly Small; Dave Payne; Leo C. Savoie; Dan Devine; Sherry Stefanos; Neal J. Barnett

All Board members were elected in the general election in November 2004 and have terms that expire in November 2008:

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

Sherry Stefanos, Trustee  
David B. Buckley, Trustee  
Neal J. Barnett, Trustee  
Leo C. Savoie, Trustee

## Solid Waste Collection Law Change

A new State law bans the following items from landfills:

- \* Carbonated beverage containers (up to one gallon in size),
- \* Tires, and
- \* Any amount of compost.

*Please do not dispose of these in your trash!*



Public Act 34, effective November 1, 2004

steeply increases fines for transporters with trash loads containing these banned items. Fines may range from \$10,000 for the first violation to \$25,000 for subsequent offenses.

Alternatives:

- \* Beverage containers may be returned to the store if they have a deposit value or placed in your recycle bin.
- \* Tires may be disposed of at local tire dealerships (a fee may be charged) or brought to the Household Hazardous Waste Day (HHWD) at no extra cost. HHWD is held the first Saturday in May and October.
- \* Yard clippings and other compost materials may be stored neatly in the rear of your yard or immediately adjacent to your home or garage during the compost off-season until compost service resumes.

For more information on this legislation and a list of banned items, check the State's web site at: [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq) and click on "Waste" on the left side of that page. Click on "Landfill Prohibited Materials" then "Talking Trash" for a printable list.

**Reminder: Compost season ended the week of December 13, 2004.  
Service will begin again on April 1, 2005.**

## Let Us Know What YOU Think

**B**loomfield Township offers a wide range of services – what do you think of them? Inside this newsletter you'll find a post card you can use to tell us how we're doing. Consider all services – police, fire and EMS, road maintenance and snow plowing in your subdivision, ordinance enforcement, plan reviews and building inspections, voting registration and elections, property assessments, tax payments, cable franchise enforcement and your community television station, BCTV 15.

Do they meet your expectations or is improvement needed somewhere? Do you have any suggestions? Maybe you have a question for us about Bloomfield Township issues. And, of course, if you have a compliment, feel free to pass that along as well! If you sign your name and give us your phone number, address or email address, we will respond to you, but that is optional.

No postage is necessary.

Cards can also be dropped at Township Hall



## Successful Millage Vote

### Paves Way for Expanded Senior Services

**A**s a result of the 0.25 millage that was passed by Township voters in August, plans are now underway for Adult Day Care Services to begin in late 2005. The Greater Bloomfield Senior Association (GBSA) Advisory Council is working to secure a site for this program which will offer a safe and therapeutic environment for people with memory challenges. An additional benefit is the much-needed respite time for caregivers.

The millage will also provide for expanded transportation services for medical visits and home delivered meals. If you have questions or suggestions, please call or email GBSA Supervisor Chris Tvaroħa at: [ctvaroħa@bloomfield.org](mailto:ctvaroħa@bloomfield.org) or 248.341.6450

## Is Your Home Ready for Winter? Take a Walk!

**W**inter is here and the icy cold air can wreak havoc on your home and your pocket book. At this time of year it's a good idea to simply take a walk around the outside of your house. Here are a few things to look for that might help you protect your investment and maybe save you some money to boot!

- ❁ Look for areas that allow heat to escape and cold weather and insects or pests to enter.
- ❁ Check to see if the caulk is in good condition around such items as your Detroit Edison entrance cable, AC wiring and condensate lines, and your sump pump discharge.
- ❁ Is the weatherproof cover for your electrical outlet in good condition? (Now would be a good time to change the receptacle to one that is GFCI protected.)
- ❁ Make sure that your garden hose is disconnected from the hose bib. If your nozzle is closed and water is trapped inside the hose, the pipe will freeze.
- ❁ Did you remember to cover the AC condenser?
- ❁ Consider removing snow from the roof if it is more than a foot deep. This will also minimize the likelihood of ice damming.
- ❁ If you must use an electrical heat tape, be sure to use only high quality, UL listed products.

### When you get in from the cold....

- ❁ Change your smoke detector and carbon monoxide sensor batteries the first of the year.
- ❁ Change your furnace filter once a month (check the manufacturer's specifications).
- ❁ Inspect your furnace bi-annually by a licensed Mechanical Contractor for the first ten years and annually thereafter.
- ❁ Talk to your heating contractor about installing a iFresh Air Kit to improve your indoor air quality.

## Rouge River Watershed Frog & Toad Survey Training Workshop

Help monitor the health of the Rouge River by listening for frogs and toads in your neighborhood. It's easy, fun, and important to the future of our environment.

To participate, attend the training workshop where you will get everything that you need to survey.

Call (313) 792-9621 or e-mail [picoordinator@therouge.org](mailto:picoordinator@therouge.org) to register. Workshop is free but pre-registration is required.

Co-sponsored by Friends of the Rouge, Rouge communities, and the Subwatershed Advisory Groups. Supported, in part, by a grant from the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project.



### Reminder! Store Seasonal Items Properly



Recreational devices, seasonal sports equipment, maintenance equipment, etc. must be placed out of public view from the street or surrounding area when not actively being used.

Overnight parking or storage of boats, trailers, campers, motor homes and unlicensed vehicles is prohibited in a residential zone. See the Open Storage Ordinance Number 265/394 Section 1508 for details.

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

Go To: Government

Go To: Ordinances



## Keep Your Kitchen Drains Free of Grease!

Sewage backups and overflows are often the result of grease buildup that can lead to costly clean-ups and repairs.

Household kitchen drains are a big source of residential fats, oil and grease (e.g. cooking oils, butter, meat fats). When grease and oils are repeatedly washed down the sink, they can accumulate in your plumbing system as well as in the Township's sewer system at large. Proper methods for oil and grease disposal can be as easy.

### Quick Tips:

Use an old coffee can or jar as a grease container and pour greasy or oily food waste into that, NOT down the drain or garbage disposal.

Allow animal fats to cool or solidify before scraping the pan or throwing the grease container in the trash.

Proper disposal of cooking oils and grease can help prevent clogged pipes and grease-related backups. Remember that blockages can cause wastewater to overflow inside your home and damage your property. So do your part and keep your drains clear!

### Household Tips - Natural Drain Openers and Cleaners:

Pour one cup of baking soda into the drain, followed by one cup of white vinegar. Wait 15 minutes. Flush drain thoroughly with boiling water.

Pour 1/4 cup of salt in drain, then boiling water.

Use 1/2 cup salt and 1/2 cup baking soda and follow with 6 cups of boiling water. Let sit overnight and then flush with water.

Unclog drains with metal snake or a plunger.

### Prevention:

1/2 cup baking soda followed by 2 cups of boiling water or pour boiling water down your drain once weekly.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact the

Bloomfield Township Water and Sewer Department at  
**248-433-7731**



## Solid Waste Collection Schedule for 2005

Waste Management tries to minimize changes to its collection schedule around the holidays, but occasionally adjustments must be made. Please note the following collection dates:

### Memorial Day

**Monday, May 30, 2005**

Monday ñ no collection scheduled. Collection one day behind, Tuesday ñ Saturday.

### Independence Day

**Monday, July 4**

Monday ñ no collection scheduled. Collection one day behind, Tuesday ñ Saturday.

### Labor Day

**Monday, September 5**

Monday ñ no collection scheduled. Collection one day behind, Tuesday ñ Saturday.

### Thanksgiving Day

**Thursday, November 24**

Monday ñ Wednesday on schedule. Thursday, no collection scheduled. Collection one day behind, Friday and Saturday.

### Christmas Day

**Sunday, December 25**

Monday ñ No collection scheduled. Collection one day behind, Tuesday ñ Saturday.

### New Year's Day

**Sunday, January 1, 2006**

Monday ñ No collection scheduled. Collection one day behind Tuesday ñ Saturday.

## De-icing Tips for a Better Environment!

Winter is here and so is the snow and ice. Keeping sidewalks and driveways safe and clear is important, but traditional de-icing salts have a negative effect on our environment. After salt is applied it is washed off paved surfaces into storm drains or onto adjacent ground and can then be carried into nearby bodies of water. This may cause increased salinity of the soil and water and have a detrimental effect on plants and animals. De-icing salt can also effect groundwater because it dissolves readily and can percolate through the soil.

There are simple tips you can follow to decrease the negative impact of de-icing salts.

### Simple Tips to Protect the Environment While De-Icing:

- ❄ Store de-icing material in a dry place.
- ❄ Place a small amount of salt down before the snow storm to prevent ice build-up.
- ❄ Slightly wet salt before you apply it so it will stick to snow and ice.
- ❄ Consider alternative de-icing materials in lieu of traditional road salt (NaCl). Although materials such as calcium chloride and calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) are a bit more expensive, they do have less impact on the environment. Sand is inexpensive and inert, but it clogs storm drains and smothers other organisms when it settles out in streams.

The Township Road Department also makes every practical effort to minimize the environmental impact of de-icing the roadways while providing safe and clear roadways for residents, school buses and emergency vehicles. It has implemented the following Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- ❄ Effective coordination and scheduling of salt application, using computer-controlled and calibrated applicators to maximize efficiency;
- ❄ Pre-wetting salt in extreme cold temperatures; and
- ❄ Proper salt storage and management.



## Township Fully Reimbursed for all Ryder Cup Expenses

The Ryder Cup Matches have come and gone but there is one important fact that still needs clarification. *Bloomfield Township was reimbursed in full for all expenses related to Ryder Cup public safety and security.* At the outset of the planning process, Oakland Hills Country Club, the PGA and the Township understood this to be a fundamental condition and throughout the several years of preparation it was never questioned.

At the very beginning of the negotiating process between Oakland Hills Country Club and the PGA, the need for thorough emergency planning and preparation was considered to

be essential. This clear understanding paved the way for a solid working relationship among the partnering organizations.

The final costs incurred by Bloomfield Township totaled \$640,522.22. In recognition of the positive financial impact the Ryder Cup had on the southeast Michigan region, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation reimbursed the Township \$250,000. The PGA reimbursed the Township in full for the remainder. Your tax dollars were never at stake.

In addition to the role that Township Police, Fire, EMS and other public service professionals played, you, the resident, had a role in showing the world that Bloomfield Township is, indeed, a fine place to live, work and visit. The Board of Trustees thanks you again for your patience and support during this challenging but exciting event.



## Be a Part of TV Productions!

If you've ever wanted to be involved in television productions or have the best seat in the house for community events, Bloomfield Community Television has an offer for you. Come to a volunteer workshop and learn how to use a TV camera. After one 2-hour session, you'll be qualified to work on studio shows or even community events. BCTV needs volunteers mornings, afternoons, evenings and weekends, so there is sure to be a time that fits your calendar. Our shows are about topics covering hot local issues, cooking and restaurants, opera, religion - you name it; you'll find it.

There is no fee for the class, but please call 248.433.7790 to register.  
Next Class Tuesday, January 25  
2:00 - 4:00 PM or  
7:00 - 9:00 PM

## Winter Road Tips

Now that we're in the midst of winter's snow and ice, here are some helpful tips from the Road Department:

-  Place trash cans, bags and recycle bins well off the road so that the snowplows can push snow back far enough to keep the road wide and passable.
-  Remove all parked cars from streets during snow removal operations.
-  It is inevitable that snowplows will push some snow back into your driveway when they plow your road. To reduce this amount as much as possible, pile snow from your driveway on the "downstream" side of the drive. If you stand in your driveway facing the street, the "downstream" side is to your right.
-  Shovel the snow pushed into your driveway before it has a chance to freeze and become a hardened mass of snow.

 When following a salt truck be aware the driver may stop and back up at any time. Remember, if you can't see the face of a truck driver in their mirror, they can't see you. Most accidents occur when the salt truck turns from an intersection, suddenly STOPS and backs up to return to complete plowing the other side of the street. Please give the salt truck room to work. When in doubt, stay back 100 feet from the vehicle.

 Driving safety begins before you even turn the key to start your car. Make sure your headlights and mirrors are clean. Dirt can reduce headlight output by as much as 70 percent. Check to see that your headlights, taillights, brake lights and turn signals work properly. Also be sure that your tires are set to the pressure recommended by the manufacturer. Under-inflated tires will reduce the handling abilities of your car. 



## BCTV what is it?

Bloomfield Community Television (BCTV) was established in 1984. While there may be more than one hundred channels brought into your home by your cable provider, there are only a few that focus solely on the people, places and events that make this area such a special place to live.

BCTV produces almost 500 programs a year. Many are in a series format and produced in the studio by local residents. Others document events taking place in and around the community. All of the programs on BCTV - Channel 15 are brought to you by your neighbors in this community.

Check it out! Tune into



## A Note From the Supervisor:



*Dave Payne,  
Bloomfield Township Supervisor*

The New Year brings a fresh outlook to Bloomfield Township. I am pleased to welcome a new mix of people on the Board of Trustees and look forward to a climate of cooperation and mutual respect as Board members work together to address the important issues facing our community.

Jan Roncelli, a Trustee for eight years, becomes our new Township Clerk and Leo Savoie joins the Board as a Trustee. They, along with the three continuing Trustees, the Treasurer and myself form a Board comprised of dynamic people from varying backgrounds who hold differing opinions on many topics. Discussions at Board meetings are sure to be spirited and comprehensive. As we anticipate the challenges that the New Year and the

years beyond will bring, I pledge to you that the welfare of Bloomfield Township as a whole will be the overriding focus of our deliberations. There will be plenty of room for new ideas and innovative approaches to resolve problems.

The Board will devote its attention to several areas that have important implications for all residents and for people doing business in the Township. We need to hold high our standards for customer service, even in the face of declining resources. Our employees are being asked to do more with less, just like employees in many other businesses. We must be efficient and creative in seeking ways to deliver necessary services in a timely, courteous fashion while staying within budget limitations.

We are also looking for ways to open wide the channels of communication between Township offices and Township residents and businesses. You now receive quarterly newsletters and if you wish, periodic email messages. The Township website contains information about many, many subjects, ranging from watershed education to trash pick up, and cable subscribers may watch Channel 15 for more community information. You will notice a postage-free postcard inserted in this newsletter inviting you to comment on Township services or to pose any question you may have. Yet, we know that our communications can be improved and we will be looking for means to elicit more input from the people we serve.

Bloomfield Township is like every other employer as it faces rising health care and pension costs. We have made significant changes over the past couple years that have improved our position on this but we must continue to find ways to control these increasing expenses.

Finally, the Board will concentrate on the Master Plan and its impact on our community. Redevelopment issues will be reviewed with the goal of maintaining the unique character of our community. We want to preserve those practices that have enabled our community to progress, and, at the same time, to preserve its beauty.

The Board has ambitious goals for the New Year. There is abundant talent and energy among its members, and your input will also be valued. Please contact me or any of the officers and trustees if you have suggestions for us.

### TWP Meetings BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Time:** 8:00 pm  
**Days:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Monday of each month

**Location:** Township Auditorium

### PLANNING COMMISSION

**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Days:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Monday of each month

**Location:** Township Auditorium

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Days:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month

**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 Bloomfield Township's Clerk's Office.

**Clerk's Office  
PO Box 489  
Bloomfield Hills, MI  
48303-0489**

**Telephone: 248.433.7702**

**Fax: 248.433.7714**

**email:**

**clerk@bloomfieldtp.org**

**www: bloomfieldtp.org**



## The GBSA

### Offers Tax Assistance

If your income falls in the middle to low range, and especially if you are age 60 or over, the Greater Bloomfield Senior Association (GBSA) can provide you with free tax counseling and preparation. AARP-trained volunteers will help you complete both state and federal forms.

Call 248.341.6450 for an appointment.

GBSA

7273 Wing Lake, Bloomfield Hills 48301

The GBSA offers a variety of services for older adults, including hot meals, social activities, tax assistance, friendly visiting, health screening, information and referral, and more.

Web Address:

[http://www.btpl.org/Bloomfield\\_Seniors/bloomfield\\_seniors.html](http://www.btpl.org/Bloomfield_Seniors/bloomfield_seniors.html)

## Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees



Front Row (L - R) Janet M. Roncelli - Clerk; Dave Payne - Supervisor; Dan Devine - Treasurer  
Back Row (L - R) Trustees - David B. Buckley; Neal J. Barnett; Sherry Stefanos; Leo C. Savoie

*Janet M. Roncelli*    *Dave Payne*    *Dan Devine*  
Clerk                      Supervisor                      Treasurer

### TRUSTEES

*Sherry Stefanos*                      *David B. Buckley*  
*Neal J. Barnett*                      *Leo C. Savoie*

### Look Inside this Newsletter!

Use the postcard inside this newsletter to let us know what you think of Township services or to ask any question you might have about the Township.

**See Page 2 for Details**

### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

**Police / Fire / Emergency  
911**

**Water / Sewer Emergency  
433.7730**

Administration ..... 433.7700

Fax ..... 433.7714

Accounting ..... 433.7712

Assessor's Office ..... 433.7710

Building Dept. .... 433.7715

Clerk's Office ..... 433.7702

Community Cable ..... 433.7790

Fax ..... 642.7624

Fire Department

Non-Emergency ... 433.7745

Fax ..... 433.7787

Planning ..... 433.7795

Fax ..... 433.7729

Police Department

Administration .... 433.7750

Non-Emergency ... 433.7755

Fax ..... 433.7784

Animal Welfare .... 433.7757

Investigations ..... 433.7760

Alarm Info ..... 433.7775

Property ..... 433.7777

Records ..... 433.7776

Road Department ..... 433.7709

Fax ..... 433.7786

Township Library ..... 642.5800

Treasurer's Office ..... 433.7705

Water & Sewer ..... 433.7731



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