

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



The Village at Bloomfield taking shape

It doesn't look like much ... yet. But it's getting there.

Once the biggest eyesore in the Bloomfield Township area, what used to be known as Bloomfield Park is steadily being transformed into a major retail and living complex.

Gone are most of the decaying old partially completed structures. Roads within the approximately 86-acre site on Telegraph north of Square Lake Road are taking shape, defining the landscape and giving an orderly design to what was a chaotic wreck just a few years ago.

Now renamed the Village at Bloomfield, the site is being developed by Redico (Real Estate Development and Investment Company) of Southfield.

One of the key elements will be a Henry Ford Health Systems medical center, an 84,000-square-foot facility.

Aldi, the national food chain, also will open a 22,565-square-foot facility on the site. Also coming will be a Menards home improvement store and a Hampton Inn hotel with 101 rooms. And 432 apartments with club house, pool and community park will be developed by Edward Rose & Sons as the residential component of the Village of Bloomfield on 32

acres.

In all, about 80 percent of the planned development for the Village at Bloomfield is now leased, said Patti Voelker, director of the Planning, Building and Ordinance Department for the Township. Construction should be completed in the next few years.

That should bring an end to one of the most convoluted, wrenching development stories



The Henry Ford medical center will be a key component of the Village at Bloomfield.

in the history of Bloomfield Township.

It began in 2000 with the grandiose plan put forward by Harbor Cos. to build a \$2 billion development including 1,500 condos and lofts, shops, offices a theater and more. Facing a skeptical Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees, which noted that the Township did not allow 20-story buildings, as was proposed, the developer worked with the city of Pontiac to have the site annexed by Pontiac through an election

process.

But that was just the beginning of the saga. A tangle of lawsuits followed and there were conflicts over design elements like water and sewer lines, construction of an emergency drive, wetland approvals and concerns about traffic. The project crept forward but money problems persisted. There were suits and countersuits between the developer and lenders with

the project going into foreclosure in 2006. Then in 2008 the great recession hit and that brought the project to an end.

And so it just sat until Redico came along.

The Village at Bloomfield is the most high profile

development in the Township, but hardly the only one. Erhard BMW, At Home, LifeTime Athletic, Nino Salvaggio and Restoration Hardware are just a few of the larger commercial buildings in town. They complement new residential developments like Baron Estates on Long Lake Road and Legacy Hills on Squirrel Road.

And all attest to the Township as a desirable place to live, shop and work.



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD & 2018

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
Lisa Seneker
Richard Mintz
Neal Barnett
Richard Atto
Bruce Selik

BOARD OF APPEALS

Carol Rosati, Chairman
Tracy Leone, Vice Chairman
David Buckley
Brian Henry
Lisa Seneker
Robert Taylor, Jr.
Claudine Bacher, Alternate
Jocelyn Giangrande, Alternate

Save the date...

August 18

Woodward Dream
Cruise Classic Car Show

September 14

Last day to pay Summer
Taxes without penalty

October 6

Household Hazardous
Waste Drop-Off Day

October 14

Township Open House



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

Get ready for the November election

Opportunity abounds for Bloomfield Township voters in the November 6, 2018 Election. This event will change the face of Michigan's state-wide government as ballots are cast for the next governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state senators, state representatives and other offices, as well as proposals. If you are not a registered voter in Bloomfield Township, please note that the last day to register for this election is Tuesday, October 9, 2018.

For those voting at a precinct for the first time since November 2016, ballots will be tabulated on new election equipment, which was rolled out by the Bureau of Elections in 2017. The digital scanning machines are state-of-the-art.

If you want to avoid long lines at the polls, request an

absentee ballot. The application is available online at <https://www.bloomfieldtp.org/Resources/Forms/Clerk/ApplicationForAbsentVoterBallot.asp> or by calling the Clerk's



Office. To qualify for an absentee ballot, the voter must meet one of the following reasons: 1) 60 years of age or older; 2) anticipated absence from the community in which the voter is registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day; 3) physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of

another; 4) unable to attend the polls because of religious beliefs; 5) appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where the voter resides; and 6) unable to attend the polls because the voter is confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

The last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is Saturday, November 3, 2018. Over-the-counter requests continue until 4:00 p.m., Monday, November 5, 2018. Don't wait until the last minute.

As always, feel free to contact the Clerk's Office for any questions or concerns regarding the voting process. You can reach the clerk, Jan Roncelli, and staff at 248-433-7702 or by email at clerk@bloomfieldtp.org.

Accessory structures need approval

As warm weather settles into Bloomfield Township, many homeowners are interested in doing exterior renovations and expanding their outdoor living space.

Homeowners may not be aware that pergolas, sheds, piers and pillars, and outdoor kitchens are considered accessory structures and are regulated by the Township's Clearzoning Ordinance. As a means to minimize impacts on adjacent neighbors, approval from the Zoning Board of

Appeals is required for accessory structures.

The ZBA addresses the placement, height, screening, and other circumstances of an individual request. In addition to Township Ordinances, there may be deed restrictions governed by an individual Homeowners Association. Homeowners are encouraged to contact their Association prior to making an application to the ZBA. Residents who have questions about a project should contact the Planning

Division at 248-433-7795 before installing a shed or other accessory structure.

Homeowners may visit our website at www.bloomfieldtp.org to obtain the Zoning Board of Appeals application and review guidelines. It should be noted that a permit from the Building Division may be required if the Zoning Board approves the proposed structure.

We look forward to helping residents turn their plans into reality.

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.bloomfieldtp.org. Just look for Citizens' Guide and Dashboard under Quick Links at the right of the home page.

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



A NOTE FROM

Leo Savoie, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Lake rescuers earn a well-deserved honor

You don't have to go far in Bloomfield Township to find a beautiful lake. We are blessed with an abundance of them, and they help define the Township as a special place to live.

But like just about everything else, lakes require a lot of tender, loving care to thrive. While they may seem to be wild bits of nature, in fact they can be very fragile ecosystems. They are susceptible to pollution, erosion, man-made intervention and some persistent invasive vegetation.

People who live along the lakes know the pleasure – as well as the challenges – of having a home there. Two residents in particular have taken on a key challenge in a remarkable way and achieved statewide recognition for what they have accomplished.

Mike West and Ron Cousineau, both residents of Upper Long Lake, were recently named as Riparians of the Year by the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations. The recognition came after nearly a 10-year battle against one of the biggest threats

facing our lakes. It's called Phragmites. These are particularly invasive reed-like plants that can grow up to 18 feet tall. Phragmites can quickly take over an area, forcing out native species of plants. And once they take root, they are extremely difficult to remove,



Mike West and Ron Cousineau display their Riparian of the Year awards on the shore of Upper Long Lake.

especially without doing great damage to the environment.

In 2009 West and Cousineau noticed that a stand of Phragmites had sprouted on a small island in Upper Long Lake. The traditional means of fighting Phragmites is a combination of chopping, burning and

spraying the area with plant killing chemicals. But that often wasn't effective and West and Cousineau didn't like the idea of using poisonous chemicals. So after carefully researching Phragmites, West and Cousineau mapped a plan of action to carefully

works. Very quickly, other communities dealing with Phragmites took an interest in the technique pioneered by Cousineau and West and are implementing it.

Two things stand out here, in addition to how successful Cousineau and West have been. First is the skill with which they attacked this problem; the second is their dedication. This is not an easy problem to fix, but West and Cousineau took a measured approach to the issue and by careful experimentation crafted a plan of action. It wasn't easy. It took a lot of work – tough work slogging in the mud and murky water. But they didn't give up. In the end they won. They protected their lake.

Our lake, actually, for what they did benefitted the entire Township. And what they did will impact other communities as more adopt the process they pioneered.

Being named Riparians of the Year may seem like an odd-sounding tribute but it is a genuine one. I'm proud of Ron Cousineau and Mike West. We all should be.

cut the plants at certain times when the water levels of the lake varied. Without getting too technical, it's enough to say that the plan worked, as the cut plants were essentially drowned by the lake water.

It's labor intensive, especially when the plants grow to towering heights, but it

Keep current with the e-Newsletter

You can find out what's happening in town every week through the Bloomfield Township eNewsletter. The eNewsletter is sent out every Thursday to subscribers. It contains items on what's happening in the area as well as timely announcements, including snow emergencies and other weather alerts, changes of office hours and news bulletins. ENewsletters are also sent whenever there is an immediate need to relay information to the public.

You can subscribe to the eNewsletter by going to the Township website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org, and clicking on the E-Newsletter link under Quick Links at the right side of the page. You may also send your email address to gkowalski@bloomfieldtwp.org and it will be added to the subscription list. Local non-profit organizations may submit items for inclusion to gkowalski@bloomfieldtwp.org.

Township tops in water quality

Bloomfield Township is pleased to inform you that in 2017, as in past years, we have surpassed the water quality standards required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The 2017 Annual Water Quality Report describes the source of our water, lists our test results, and contains important information about water and health. This report is intended to provide consumer understanding of drinking water and to heighten awareness of the need to protect our precious water resources. We hope this report addresses any drinking water quality concerns you might have.

The full report can be found on the Township website. Go to www.bloomfield-twp.org/WaterReport to view

your Annual Water Quality Report and learn more about your drinking water.

For more information on



the specific testing results please see the water quality table and definitions as provided. If you have any questions regarding this report or if you would like a paper copy of the report mailed to your home, please contact the Bloomfield Township DPW at 248-594-2800.

Home repairs offered to seniors

Do you qualify for Minor Home Repair?

Bloomfield Township Senior Services is using funds received from the Community Block Grant program to offer minor home repairs to qualifying seniors. Applicants must be 60 years of age or older. Maximum household income for a one-person household is \$39,700, and for a two-person household, \$45,400.

Services available include cleaning, repair or replacement of furnaces; hot water heaters, garbage disposals, toilets, faucets and other plumbing repairs, electrical and lighting, sidewalk and driveway repairs, storm doors and more.

Since 2009, more than \$500,000 in home repairs has been completed. The Township's Building Division works closely with Senior Services, with staff visiting sites and approving the projects. The average age of homeowners participating in the program is 82, average annual income is \$25,160 and average length of home ownership is 28 years. To see if you qualify, call Denise Kolkmeier at 248-723-3500.



Fire Department receives St. Joseph Mercy Oakland award

Besides fighting fires and providing other essential services, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department has been helping residents recently discharged from a nearby hospital gain back their strength — and was recently recognized for these efforts.

The Department was awarded the Mercy Legacy Award by the St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital for participating in the Remote Specialist Visiting Providers (RSVP) program since 2015, at a recent awards ceremony at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

Celebrity speaker at the

event was Matthew Stafford, quarterback with the Detroit Lions. Stafford and his wife Kelly are parents of identical twins girls who were delivered at St. Joseph Mercy



Fire Chief Mike Morin (left) and Operations Officer Chris Whitehead with the Mercy Legacy Award.

Oakland in 2017.

The hospital wanted to honor the Township Fire Department for its community service with recovering residents.

By participating in RSVP, the Fire Department visits the homes of patients recently discharged from St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and helps the individual follow recommendations

and instructions given by the hospital. The paramedics also inspect the home in order to ensure it is safe for the resident.

Reiterating the success of the effort, Chris Whitehead, Operations officer for the Department, said that with this Fire Department service only 11 percent of high-risk patients were readmitted to the hospital, far better than typical figures recorded without the program.

A plaque honoring the department for this achievement is on display at the Township's Central fire station.

-By Evan Stern

Senior Services provides Meals on Wheels to residents

Could you use some help with hot meals? Or do you have a neighbor who could benefit from hot meal delivery? Bloomfield Township Senior Services offers home delivered meals to seniors ages 62 and older who have difficulty shopping for and preparing complete meals independently. Meals are delivered by volunteers Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and noon.

Meals on Wheels also acts as a safety net for seniors by providing pleasant contact with volunteers with each meal. Over 80 volunteers provide meal delivery and a key element of social contact for seniors who may be unable to get

out of their homes on a regular basis. A MOW recipient said, "The volunteer drivers are more than courteous. I get to know the people who deliver and I even get to know a little something



Meals on Wheels volunteer Steve Unruh loads his car for a delivery.

about their lives. They have become my friends."

In 2017 volunteers delivered over 8,000 meals to Township seniors, 50 percent of whom are over the age of 85. There is a cost for this

service and support for low-income recipients.

"The meals are delicious! They are hot when they are supposed to be hot and cold when they are supposed to be

cold," one recipient said. "I so appreciate the service."

Find more information



Meals are packaged and ready for delivery.

about Meals on Wheels, including the current menu and nutrition application form, on the Township's website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Government/Services/Senior-Services/Meals-on-Wheels.

Building Division offers some summer maintenance tips

- A/C condensers should be inspected to ensure that the coils are clean and free of debris. Tidy up around the AC condenser. Remove debris and leaves that have fallen on or into the unit. Tip: Leaving the AC on, but at a higher temperature setting while you're away will result in reaching your comfort level sooner once you've returned. In addition, the AC will run less often – saving you money.

- Re-finishing your deck as necessary. There's no time like the present to give your deck the once over. Re-treating it will enhance or restore its beauty and may make it last even longer.

- Thoroughly clean and check your barbecue grill. Check the gas line and burners for signs of age and maybe a spider nest or two. Replacement parts can be purchased wherever outdoor grills are sold. Don't forget to turn the gas tank off after every use.

- Pool gates and other access to the pool areas should be inspected for proper operation. Lubricate the working parts of your pool gates to make sure that they close and latch on their own. If you have doors that access the pool area, ensure that they are alarmed and functioning correctly. Refresh your memory on how to quickly deactivate the pool's suction pump in the event of an emergency.

- Sprinkler heads should be directed away from your home's foundation. This will help minimize soil erosion next to the walls and will help to reduce the likelihood of water infiltration.

- Anti-siphon devices should be installed at each of your hose bibs to eliminate the possibility of any lawn chemicals or pesticides that may be applied through the hose from getting into the potable water supply.

- Gutters should be checked and maintained. Check for leaking joints or nails that are not secured properly.

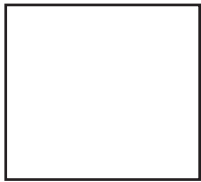
Check fire extinguishers to ensure proper placement and charge dates. It's always a good idea to have a fire extinguisher handy. Some possible locations may be in the garage, the kitchen, the basement or near your gas-fired equipment/appliances. Check with the Fire Department for the proper size and type for each application.

- Trip and re-set your electrical circuit breakers. Devices work more efficiently if exercised once in a while (you may need to re-set your clocks). Installing GFCI receptacles in the kitchen, bath, basement, garage, and at outside locations is always a good safety investment.

Please feel free to contact any of the inspectors at the Building Division, 248-433-7715, if you have code-related question.



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

Disposal events are exceptionally popular

Taking out the trash has a special meaning in Bloomfield Township.

Throughout the year, the Township hosts events that allow residents to dispose of items that can't, or shouldn't, just be tossed in a trash can.

In April the Township hosted the Electronic Recycling, Medication Disposal and Paper Shredding event. As usual, it was a huge success. More than 1,230 cars pulled onto the Township campus to drop off the material for



More than 900 cars came by to drop off items at the Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day.



safe disposal.

That event was followed in May with the Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day. In all, 942 cars came through the campus with loads of old paint, weed killer and other substances that shouldn't just be poured down the drain.

"Our numbers were good," said Katie Fotherby, DPW manager, who coordinated the events.

The participation shows these are among the most popular services the Township provides. Next Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day will be Oct. 6.