



# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## Household Hazardous Waste collection set for Oct. 4

Bloomfield Township will hold its Fall Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day Saturday, Oct. 4, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the north parking lot of the Bloomfield Township administrative building on Exeter Road, west of Telegraph Road and south of Long Lake Road. A change to traffic flow requires participants to enter the drop off site from Andover Road, either by entering from Long Lake Road or from Telegraph Road just past the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court. There will be posted signs on the day of the event.

**Please see WASTE on page 2**



**Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day is Saturday, Oct. 4, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the north parking lot of the Bloomfield Township administrative building on Exeter Road.**

### Annual Open House to return in 2009

The Township will not hold its traditional Open House event this year due to construction activities resulting from the Capital Improvement Program currently underway at the Township Civic Complex.

Construction activities for the project are all on schedule and within budget. The Annual Open House is

expected to return in October of 2009.



## Dream Cruise and PGA meant a busy summer in Bloomfield



**Township Firefighters pose with attendees at the Township Classic Car Show during the Woodward Dream Cruise. Each year the Classic raises money for local charities including those supported by the Fire Department.**

It was a busy summer for Bloomfield Township employees. The Township was the host community for the PGA Championship, Aug. 4 – Aug. 10, requiring staff from almost every department to provide extra public services.

Immediately following was the Woodward Dream Cruise, Aug. 16, which had Police, Public Works, Fire and EMS personnel working hard to keep cruisers and crowds safe. The Cruise was highlighted by our own Classic Car Show.



**Traffic control, public safety and a host of Township services helped make the 90th PGA Championship at Oakland Hills Country Club a success.**

## BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2008

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### ADMINISTRATION

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

#### TRUSTEES

David Buckley  
Neal J. Barnett  
Leo C. Savoie  
Greg Jamian

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Salz, Chairman  
Scot Goldberg, Vice Chairman  
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary  
Neal Barnett  
Richard Mintz  
William Stark  
Thomas Petinga

#### BOARD OF APPEALS

Corinne Khederian, Chairman  
Robert E. Taylor, Jr., Vice Chairman  
James Aldrich  
David Buckley  
Brian Henry, Alternate  
Brian Kepes  
Carol Rosati, Alternate  
Lisa Seneker  
Sherry Stefanos

# Bloomfield Township works to keep water costs down



Many Bloomfield Township residents and businesses are aware that water rates for

2008-09 will increase Oct. 1, 2008. With this article, the water rate newsletter sent in February and regular updates on our website, the Township hopes to keep residents and businesses informed of the cost of everyday water use.

Through negotiation earlier this year with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), Bloomfield Township was able to adjust the criteria used to develop the water rates DWSD planned to impose for 2008-09. DWSD originally proposed a contract with a 27 percent increase in the wholesale rate it charges Bloomfield Township for

water. In the end the Township negotiated and brought the DWSD rate down to a 14 percent increase. In total, the Township's charge for water customers for 2008-09 is \$3.90 per 1,000 gallons.

New on this year's water bill will be an \$8 water debt charge to be used to pay water debt obligations for bonds sold to fund capital improvements on the water system. This is similar to the existing debt charge found under the sewer portion of the bill. This debt charge will be collected on a per-household or "unit" basis. For example, the owner of a sin-

gle-family home will see an \$8 quarterly charge on the bill. Likewise, the owner of a 10-unit multi-family building with a single meter would see an \$80 quarterly charge representing the ten equivalent single-family units contained

**The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department originally proposed a contract with a 27 percent increase in the wholesale rate it charges Bloomfield Township for water. The Township negotiated and brought the DWSD rate down to a 14 percent increase.**

within. The number of equivalent units will be the same for the sewer and water portions of the bill for each customer.

Secondary meters are exempt from the water debt charges, since this charge is based on capital expenditures common to all premises, regardless of the number of meters in their home.

Even though there has been a slight increase in the sewer

rate from the Oakland County Drain Commission, the Township will not increase the current sewer rate. To offset the increase, all capital expenses will be paid for with the current debt fee revenue.

To help reduce future rate increases, the Township encourages all residents to use outside water wisely. Please irrigate on the odd/even schedule where even numbered addresses water on the even calendar days and the odd addresses on odd calendar days. Automatic irrigation systems should only be used between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Please see the Water Rates Newsletter on the Township's website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) for more detailed information.

# Fire Department launches product safety announcement service

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department is teaming with the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission to bring residents important safety and product recall information.

By using the Township website and Bloomfield Community Television Channel 15, Bloomfield Township can pass along important safety alerts regarding product recalls to

all of its residents.

Each day at 5:30 p.m., Bloomfield Community

Television Channel 15 will broadcast a list of recalled common consumer products

listed on the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website.

The information can also be found on the Township's website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) under the "Fire Services" page. There, visitors can click on the new feature titled "Recalls" to view information regarding products under recall and potential remedies.



Potentially hazardous defects like those found in Dumar International's Cinderella car or those of the magnetic toys of Mega Brands will be featured in regular announcements on the Township website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) and on BCTV Channel 15 each day at 5:30 p.m.

## WASTE from page 1

The Township will not accept hazardous materials prior to or after the event.

To drop off hazardous materials, participants must

show proof of residency. Acceptable documentation includes a driver's license, water bill or voter registration card.

Again this year, the Township is offering a ther-

mometer exchange. Residents can dispose of old, mercury thermometers safely and exchange them for mercury-free digital models.

The Fall 2008 event will not include electronics. Please

look for upcoming information regarding an Electronic Waste Drop Off event in the spring of 2009 and be sure to check the website

[www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) for more information.





## A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

### Voters help Bloomfield Township thrive

Bloomfield Township's voters are among its greatest assets. As the Township has grown over the decades, the support of voters has always been evident, and that is especially true now. Most recently, this was demonstrated by the renewal of the safety path millage. By a margin of 61 percent to 39 percent, residents voted to pay for the next five-year phase of this program. The millage was first approved by voters in 1998 and subsequently renewed in 2004. It will collect an estimated

\$1.9 million in 2009.

The renewal allows the expansion of the popular safety path program, enabling people to walk safely from one neighborhood to another and to retail areas, schools and places of worship. Several new safety paths have already been recommended. Some will be built to link many of our existing paths together. The renewal will also fund their ongoing maintenance as well as acquisition of rights-of-way.

One of the most significant demonstrations of communi-

ty support is the Capital Improvement Program now underway on the Township's campus. The construction of a new Senior Center and Public Works Facility and the major renovation of the Central Fire Station show that Bloomfield Township residents are willing to make an investment in the future. These facilities will help form a civic center that centralizes services and enables those services to be delivered without the impediments that now hinder us because of inferior structures.

All construction activities at this time are on schedule and on budget. The Senior Center is due to be completed by summer, 2009; the DPW and Central Fire by fall, 2009. Reconfiguration of the campus parking lots and traffic patterns should be completed by spring 2010.

I want to thank all the residents who made this possible. Special thanks go to our nearby neighbors. While we are doing everything possible to keep the construction site clean and the noise level low, these homeowners still must experience all the inconveniences that come with major construction. The Board of Trustees, as well as our contractors and employees, appreciate their patience.

## Tackle home maintenance tasks this Fall



Fall's cooler weather offers homeowners a perfect opportunity to tackle home maintenance tasks before temperatures become too cold. Employees of the Planning, Building and Ordinance Department offer these helpful tips to homeowners.

- Check exterior caulking & paint for shrinking and cracking after the harsh summer heat. Also check caulking around bathroom fixtures. Water getting into the walls and subfloor will result in costly repairs down the road.

- Fall's cooler temperatures make it a good time to replace roofing shingles and

to inspect roofs for adequate ventilation.

- Cover AC units for winter storage and clean or replace humidifier filters. Heat vents and registers should also be checked to make sure they are unobstructed.

- Clean flues and inspect fireplace dampers for bird nests or other debris.

- Create a fire escape plan. Have a prearranged location for family members to meet, and if possible, be sure that there is battery-operated lighting at both ends of the exit route.

- For those who have recently moved into their home or have had some work done, check with the Building Division to see if there are any outstanding permit or Certificate of Occupancy issues.

- Disconnect hoses from the hose bibs before freezing

temperatures arrive. Drain the water out of the hose to prevent damage.

- Turn off hose bibs from the inside if possible. If not, have them checked to see if they are the anti-freeze type.

- Have sprinkler systems "blown-out" to prevent problems with broken lines.

- Winterize lawn equipment by either running the gas out of the carburetor, or adding a fuel additive to protect it and the tank from the build up of varnish-like goo.

- Test the snow blower.

- Plastic bubbles help to protect basement windows from an errant football and prevent the accumulation of snow and ice.

- Remove screens from storm doors and replace them with storm glass..

- Hang holiday lights before the snow hits.



### New Gateway sign welcomes travelers

The long-awaited Bloomfield Township Gateway sign was installed in the median of Telegraph Road, immediately north of 14 Mile Road just in time to welcome thousands of visitors to Bloomfield Township for the PGA Championship Tournament in August.

"This will become a Bloomfield Township landmark," said Township Supervisor Dave Payne. "The Board of Trustees felt it was appropriate to build up the Township's identity, and the installation of such a distinctive gateway is a big step in that direction."

# Fuel costs impacting Township's senior meal delivery program

Steep increases in the price of gas are hampering the efforts of non-profit and government organizations across the country and Bloomfield Township Senior Services is no exception. Among the BTSS programs feeling the squeeze the most is the Home Delivered Meals service.

Through the program, BTSS delivers hot, nutritious meals to homebound seniors. Helping balance the nutritional needs of homebound seniors is only one benefit of the program.

"The daily visit seniors receive from volunteer meal delivery drivers means contact with the outside world," said BTSS Executive Director Christine Tvaroha. "This kind of contact can contribute to helping seniors stay in their homes. Bloomfield Township Senior Services is able to provide this service because of the generosity of volun-

teers who donate not only their time but pay for the gas used to deliver the meals." That volunteer base is steadily decreasing as the cost of gas increases. So far this year, BTSS experienced a 20 percent decrease in the number of new volunteer drivers signing up. Combined with driver attrition these losses in the volunteer driver ranks make it difficult to maintain the current level of service.

To volunteer please call 248.341.6450.

To combat the problem and make it more visible to the community, BTSS is undertaking several different efforts including:

- Contacting our senators and representative to support an increase in the charitable deduction for volunteer drivers.
- Initiating fundraisers to help defray the costs of volunteering.
- Increasing recruitment

efforts for new drivers.

BTSS provides home delivered meals to people living in Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, West Bloomfield Township, and the City of Orchard Lake. To be eligible for this service, the client must be 60 years of age or older, or be the spouse of a person 60 years of age or older, or be an individual with disabilities who resides in a non-institutional household with a person eligible for and receiving home delivered meals. For additional eligibility criteria please contact BTSS at 248.341.6450 or send an email to:

[Homemeals@bloomfield.org](mailto:Homemeals@bloomfield.org).

"Offering these services makes Bloomfield Township a comfortable place to live, both for elderly residents in need of help and for younger Township residents anticipating the future. These supportive services exist because of the volunteers from the com-



**Jim Grady is one of the dedicated Home Meals volunteers who gives of his time and resources to help provide Township seniors with a hot, nutritious, home delivered meal.**

community who give of their time and talents. Volunteers and donations to the Home Delivered Meals program are always needed," Tvaroha said.

# Yard waste collection continues through December



Yard Waste Collection ends December 8. Yard waste must be prepared for pickup properly in the following ways:

■ Paper yard waste bags (available at local lawn, garden

and hardware stores)

■ 32-gallon cans marked "Yard Waste". Stickers are available at the Township DPW Office, the reception desk in the main Township Office and also by contacting Rizzo Services at 866.772.8900.

■ Brush: 2 inches in diameter or less may be packaged in either of the above-mentioned ways.

■ Trimmings/Branches: 2-6 inches in diameter will be collected with the garbage (solid waste), if they are bundled and tied. Bundles should be no more than 4-feet long,

18 inches in diameter and no heavier than 60 pounds.

■ For trimmings larger than 6 inches in diameter, contact Rizzo Services at 866.772.8900 or a private

tree service contractor.

Please see the Township website [www.bloomfield-twp.org](http://www.bloomfield-twp.org) for more information or call the Township at 248.433.7706

## Fall Reminder:

### Burning leaves is prohibited

Bloomfield Township's Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance prohibits leaf and trash burning. Residents can clear their yards of dead leaves by bagging them and placing them at the curb on their regular trash pick up day. Please see the adjoining article for details on yard waste pickup.





## New Fire Chief vows to continue excellence in service

Bloomfield Township's new Fire Chief David Piche' plans to work hard to maintain the service his department provides residents. Piche' was unanimously voted to the position by the Township's Board of Trustees July 28. He was recommended for the job by retiring Fire Chief Leo Chartier. Chartier said Piche' has been an excellent performer throughout his years with the department.

Piche' began his firefighting career with the Township in 1985. He rose through the ranks with successive promotions until being named Assistant Fire Chief in 2007.

Piche' earned a bachelor's

degree in public safety administration from Eastern Michigan University, an associates degree in fire science from Henry Ford Community College and several fire officer certifications from Oakland Community College. Most recently, he served as a public safety coordinator during the PGA Championship at Oakland Hills Country Club.

"I would like to continue to provide an exceptional level of fire and emergency medical services to our community, our customers. The Bloomfield Township Fire Department is made up of exceptional personnel who will continue to focus



**Fire Chief David Piche'**

their energies into achieving these improvements through training, planning and implementation. Our organization will constantly perform self-evaluations of our services to ensure that we are providing a level of customer service that exceeds expectations."

major achievements and improvements to fire and EMS service in the Township. One notable accomplishment came in 2004 when he helped the Township become a Heart Safe Community. The designation came from the International Association of Fire Chiefs to only two communities in the country. Bloomfield Township received the accolade for creating and promoting outstanding public access to

defibrillation programs. He also was responsible for creating the first paramedic fire engine unit in Oakland County. Leo also established the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities program. Through several successful fund raising events annually, this charity is able to donate thousands of dollars to programs benefiting young burn victims.

## Chartier retiring after 31 years of dedicated service

Veteran Bloomfield Township Fire Chief Leo Chartier is retiring following an accomplished 31-year career. His



**Leo Chartier**

retirement is effective Oct. 1. He became Fire Chief in 1992 after working his way up through the department. Since that time Chartier has been responsible for several

including Bloomfield Community Television, Channel 15. The hotline, 248.594.2848 also informs callers when a snow emergency is in effect. The snow emergency remains in effect until either a cancellation announcement is made or the street is substantially cleared of snow and ice, from curb to curb, for the length of the entire street.

## Remember Bloomfield's snow emergency ordinance this winter

With snowfall not far off, the Bloomfield Township Road Division reminds residents that parked vehicles must be moved from streets within six hours of a declared snow emergency.

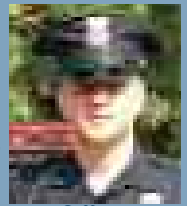
Residents will be notified of snow emergencies by an announcement from the Township. The information will be broadcast on area radio and television stations,

Non-compliance with this ordinance may result in a fine of up to \$100 and illegally parked vehicles may be impounded.

It is important that residents pile snow cleared from their driveways to the right side. This practice prevents snow plows from piling snow at the driveway's entrance.

## Distracted Driving is Dangerous

Throughout my career, I have made numerous traffic stops of suspected drunk drivers only to learn



**Officer Pete Matejick**

later that the driver was actually driving while distracted. A driver's only concern should be the safe operation of their vehicle. Unfortunately, cell phone conversations, the radio and even eating serve to distract many drivers from their number-one priority.

In severe cases of distraction, some drivers attempt to multi-task by applying make-up, shaving, using laptop computers or sending text messages. I once spotted a woman filing her nails just seconds before slamming into the back of a minivan.

According to several academic studies and findings of examinations of insurance industry crash data published on a national insurance website, distracted driving statistics are very sobering.

■ Distraction from cell phone use while driving (hand held or hands free) extends a driver's reaction time as much as having a blood alcohol concentration at the legal limit of .08 percent (University of Utah).

■ The number-one source of driver inattention is use of a wireless device. (Virginia Tech /NHTSA)

■ Drivers who use cell phones are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. (NHTSA, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).

# Township ready for big Nov. 4 election



ing the Clerk's Office. Remember, to qualify for an absentee ballot, the voter must meet one of six conditions as listed in our previous newsletter. Voters who registered by mail must vote in person the first time. Detailed information regarding absentee voting can also be found on our website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org).

Please note that the Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the purpose of processing Absent Voter Ballot Requests.

If you have any questions regarding the November 4, 2008 Election, please contact the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702. We welcome your interest and feedback.

Bloomfield Township voters will turn out in record numbers to vote on Nov. 4. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For residents who want to avoid the long lines at the polls, requests for absentee ballot applications are available online or by call-

## The 2008 General Election

### PARTISAN SECTION

- President/Vice President
- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Rep. in Congress
- Rep. in State Legislature
- State Board of Education
- U of M Regents
- MSU Trustees
- WSU Governors
- County Offices
- Township Offices

### NONPARTISAN SECTION

- Justice of Supreme Court
- Court of Appeals, Judge
- 2nd District

- Judge of Circuit Court, 6th District
- Judge of Probate Court
- Judge of District Court, 48th District
- Township Library Board Directors
- School District Board Members (Bloomfield Hills & Birmingham School Districts)
- Board of Trustees Member, Oakland Community College

### BALLOT PROPOSALS (STATE AND COUNTY)

The front cover features Deana Mondock, an administrative assistant in the Clerk's Office. On a given day, she handles everything from passports and absentee voter applications to issuing voter registrations and various permits. Deana oversees the minutes for the Board of Trustees and

seven lake boards. She holds a B.A. in Telecommunications with an emphasis in sales. Deana started with the Township in 2005 and says she enjoys the variety of work that her job offers. "It never gets boring up here. There's always something different."

433-7700 Administration  
433-7712 Accounting  
433-7710 Assessor's Office  
433-7715 Building Dept.  
433-7702 Clerk's Office  
433-7790 Community Cable  
594-2800 Engineering & Env.  
433-7745 Fire Non-Emergency  
433-7750 Police Department  
433-7750 Administration  
433-7755 Non-Emergency  
433-7757 Animal Welfare  
433-7760 Investigations  
433-7775 Alarm Info  
433-7777 Property  
433-7776 Records  
433-7709 Road Division  
433-7731 Water & Sewer  
341-6450 Senior Services  
335-2813 Adult Day Service  
433-7705 Treasurer's Office

**TOWN&HIP**  
**DIRECTORY**

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BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303-0489

**BLOOMFIELD TOWN&HIP**

