

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

WINTER • 2006



New ordinance clears the way for ice and snow free roads.
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Public Works office open for business.
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Keep that fireplace burning safely.
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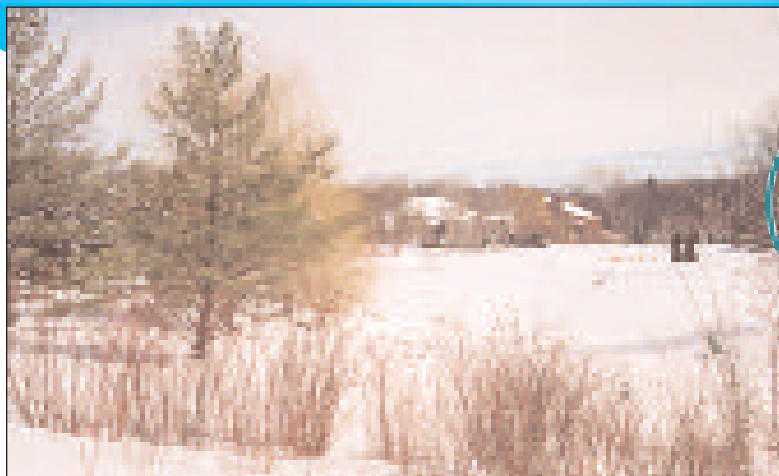
Master Plan Update to Launch in January

The natural beauty of Bloomfield Township, with its winding roads, rolling hills and tranquil lakes, lends a uniquely attractive setting to more than 16,000 homes within its boundaries. This quality community did not happen by accident; it has been guided by careful planning since the original Master Plan was adopted in 1961.

That process continues in 2006 as the Township prepares to update its Master Land Use Plan with assistance from a local planning consultant firm and input from residents, community organizations and business leaders.

Bloomfield Township is, for all practical purposes, a "built out" community. Therefore, the challenge before the Township at this time is to reassess its role in supporting and maintaining the vitality, beauty, and economic viability of the community as a whole.

Bloomfield Township has established policies regarding land use and development for more than four decades. In 1961, Bloomfield Township adopted its first comprehensive plan to guide the development of the Township's approximately 25 square miles. In 1975, the Township adopted a new Master Plan For Future Land Use based on



Preserving the natural beauty of Bloomfield Township will be one of many goals of the Master Plan Update. The updating process provides opportunity for input from residents with guidance from professional planning consultants.

studies conducted on growth trends, land use assessments and transportation patterns. In 1991, the Master Plan for Bloomfield Township was developed in part to help achieve the Township Planning goals and objectives identified by its residents.

Basic elements in the Master Plan include goals and policies, future land use mapping, population and housing information, public infrastructure needs (roads, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and water lines), transportation factors, and identification of existing communi-

ty facilities.

The Update will add two new components. One is an Economic Development Strategy to guide land use decisions. The second is a Natural Features Inventory that will identify wetlands, floodplains, lakes, stream and river systems, slopes, wooded areas, and habitat areas to create strategies to protect and preserve these valuable resources.

Public participation is an essential part of the Update. Opportunities for input from residents, business leaders and community organizations are included in the process. Specific events and meetings will be publicized. Please watch for these and become involved in the process that will help shape our community's future.

See the Supervisor's column on page 3 for more information on this topic.

www.bloomfieldtwp.org

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2006

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

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

TRUSTEES

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

APPOINTED POSITIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Richard Mintz, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary
Scot Goldberg
Jane Reisinger
John Swoboda
Bill Stark

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Jane Reisinger, Vice Chairman
James Aldrich
Dan Devine
Brian Kepes
Lisa Seneker
Robert E. Taylor, Jr.
Brian Henry, Alternate
Larry Smith, Alternate

Say "Cheese"

Beside providing current information about upcoming events and issues, we also like to use the Newsletter to show how people live and enjoy their community by featuring a photo of Township res-

idents in the masthead. Send a photo of yourself or your family members in any of a number of pursuits you enjoy within Bloomfield Township to stricomo@bloomfieldtwp.org or call 248-433-7609.

New snow ordinance takes effect

A new snow emergency ordinance takes effect Feb. 1 to ensure the Township can plow, salt and clear roads safely and more efficiently. The ordinance mirrors those used in surrounding communities and prohibits parking on publicly maintained streets during a declared snow emergency.

"Vehicles that are parked on streets during a snowstorm often hinder plowing efforts and prevent us from clearing the road as quickly as possible," said Superintendent of Public Works Jerry Marenger. "Cleared roads are important to ensure safe travel for both emergency vehicles and residents."

Residents' cooperation in moving their vehicles into their driveways will help to ensure the Township has the ability to salt and plow roads quickly.

Residents will be alerted to snow emergencies with an announcement made by the police chief, or his/her designated representative.

That information will be broadcast on area radio and television sta-

tions, including Bloomfield Community Television, Channel 15.

There will also be a hotline established with a recorded message stating the snow emergency is in effect. Residents will have six hours from the time the snow emergency is declared before enforcement of the ordinance begins. This allows residents ample time to move their vehicles off the streets.

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.

Disabled vehicles pose a public safety hazard and must be moved off the street. Non-compliance with this ordinance may result in a fine of up to \$100 and illegally parked vehicles may be impounded.

A special circumstance is made for residents who do not have a driveway. They may receive a special parking permit, which they will need to display in the front, driver's-side window of the vehicle. Applications for these permits may be obtained through the Police Department.

The new ordinance gives residents six hours from the time a snow emergency is declared to move their cars off the streets.



Public Works offices open for business

Residents can now find information and assistance on topics ranging from trash collection to water billing in one convenient location at 4174 Dublin Drive within the Bloomfield Township campus at Telegraph just south of Long Lake.

In November, Bloomfield Township completed a reorganization of the Road and Water & Sewer departments into the Department of Public Works and the Engineering and Environmental Services Department.

Previous to this reorganization, the varied functions of these two departments were spread among several work locations within two different Township buildings. Now, the office operations for these two departments have combined into one location. Both offices are located in the building that previously served as home to

The Public Works building at 4174 Dublin Drive was formerly home to Bloomfield Hills Schools' Parks & Recreation.



the Bloomfield Hills School District's Parks & Recreation Department next to the Bloomfield Community Television studio.

In this building, residents can find or request information concerning water billing, trash pickup schedules, snow plowing routes, household hazardous days, forestry, safety path construction, floodplain and wetland maps, hookups for water and sewer services, fertilizer regulations, gypsy moth spraying, emerald ash borer program, and West Nile Virus treatment,

along with many other topics.

For more information contact the Department of Public Works: Road Division at 248-433-7709; Water & Sewer Division at 248-433-7731; or the Engineering & Environmental Services Department at 248-549-2800.

Access important information online at the redesigned Bloomfield Township website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org.



We are here to serve you

The Bloomfield Township Police Department offers several services of which many residents may not be aware. Those include:

Home Security Surveys

These surveys are free-of-charge to our residents. A police officer trained in home security improvement will come to your home, assess its security, and give recommendations for improving it.

Station Tours

We welcome the opportunity to show your civic group our facilities.

Association Meetings

We would be more than happy to meet with your group to discuss your needs and concerns.

Child Fingerprinting

It is a good idea to keep a record of your child's fingerprints. Please call the Community Liaison Officer for an appointment.

House Check Book

Going on vacation? Call us before you leave. Let us know the date/time you'll be leaving and returning. Call load permitting, we can adjust our patrol activity in an attempt to afford your home extra security. Call 248-433-7755 for this service.

Who takes care of...?

Don't know where to turn in accessing police services? Call the Community Liaison Officer at 248-433-7724.

Important Numbers

Non-Emergency 248-433-7755

Alarms / Records

248-433-7776

A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Two-thousand-six will be a very significant year for Bloomfield Township as your Planning Commission and Board of Trustees consider matters that reach well into the Township's future. The most immediate is the



"I am most enthusiastic about the opportunities each of you will have during this process to express your ideas and suggestions. During interviews with the consultant candidates, the Planning Commissioners made it very clear that public forums would be an essential part of the process."

— Dave Payne
Bloomfield Township Supervisor

update of the Bloomfield Township Master Plan. The article on the front page of this newsletter gives more information about the purpose of the update and the process we will undertake. The study of our Master Plan and the recommendations that come from it will guide the Township for generations to come in decisions pertaining to our land use as well as the preservation of the natural features that make the Township so desirable.

I am most enthusiastic about the opportunities each of you will have during this process to express your ideas and suggestions. During interviews with the consultant candidates, the planning commissioners made it very

clear that public forums would be an essential part of the process. One of the crucial factors in the selection of our consulting firm was the commitment it had to public input and the creative plans they outlined to include all interested parties. At this time, no specific activities have been determined, but please watch for notices of public input opportunities and plan on participating.

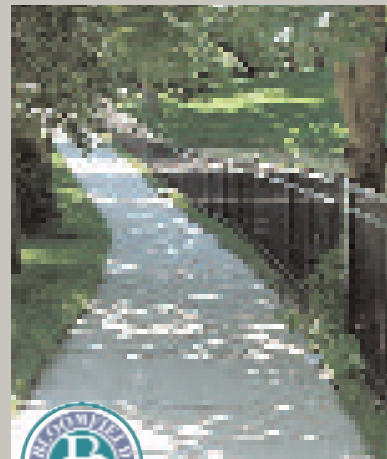
Occasionally residents ask if there would be any benefit to them if the Township became city. The Board of Trustees will study this question this winter. Many factors must be considered,

including differences in millage levies and the expansion of public services. As the Board considers the

issue, it will maintain a public dialog and keep you informed.

One way to stay informed on these issues is to check the Township's website. If you've used the site before, you'll notice it's been recently overhauled. It's now easier to navigate and it still has all the information that led to it being named the best township website in Michigan in a statewide contest in 2004. There are more than 350 pages on the site that

address everything from Ash Borer Disease to Zoning Ordinances. Remember to go to www.bloomfieldtwp.org when you have questions about Township issues and services.



TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TIME: 8:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

PLANNING COMMISSION
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 1st and the 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.

PO Box 489 Bloomfield Hills,
MI 48303-0489
248.433.7702
Fax: 248.433.7714



Keep fireplaces burning safely

Each year we have many fires related to fire places. Here are some tips to help you enjoy your fireplace in a safe manner.

Make sure chimneys are cleaned annually.

Keep fireplace fires small

Wait at least 24 hours before removing the ashes. Put them in an empty metal can and set them outside, away from the house and the garage.

Practice dryer safety

Clothes dryers cause or are involved in an estimated 15,000 dwelling fires and cause \$75.8 million dollars in property damage in the United States annually, according to a report released by the National Fire Protection Association.

A buildup of lint in your clothes dryer not only creates a fire hazard, but also reduces the efficiency of your dryer, causing increased drying time and increased energy consumption. The Bloomfield Township Fire Department and the National Fire Protection Association offer the following tips regarding your dryer.

Clean the lint filter in the dryer before and after each use because accumulated dust and lint can be a fire hazard. Also remove accumulated lint around the drum.

Do not operate the dryer without a lint filter.

Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating.

Do not leave the dryer running if you go out, because if it malfunctions, no one will be there to avert possible disaster.

Keep the dryer area clear of combustibles like boxes and clothing.

It is important to keep dryers in good working order to avoid dangerous problems.

Association questionnaires sought

At the end of January 2006, a letter and questionnaire will be sent out to all subdivision association presidents to update their association officers. Please fill out the questionnaire and return it to the Clerk's Office. This information allows us to notify the current association officers when home-

owners seek subdivision approval for building plans. If you have recently sent us this information, contact the Clerk's Office to confirm these updates. Inactive subdivision associations should send us a letter confirming their inactive status. For more information, contact our office at 248-433-7702.

Learn television camera operation at BCTV

The basics of television camera operation and television production procedures will be the subject of two workshops at the Bloomfield Community Television Channel 15 studio Jan. 31.

After completing either of the two workshops, attendees are eligible to serve as crew members on any of a number of interesting in-studio and remote program shoots.

Bloomfield Community Television produces more than 450 locally originated shows annually and crews regularly travel to area churches, parks and restaurants for shoots.

Summer months bring concerts with crews shooting footage of many different bands and musicians in Shain and Beverly Hills parks and on the steps of Birmingham's City Hall.



BCTV Channel 15-produced *Interfaith Odyssey* received first place in the Alliance for Community Media's 2005 Philo Award competition. for non-commercial, cablecast programs. Bloomfield Township resident Azar Alizadeh (bottom row, far left) hosts the show whose focus is on illustrating and celebrating diversity within the community.

The workshops are from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please contact Bloomfield Community Television at 248-433-7790 to register.

The front cover features Cheryl and Rich Bowman. Township residents since 1986, the couple raised their three sons in Bloomfield Township.

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
Planning Dept.	433-7795
Building Dept.	433-7715
Clerk's Office	433-7702
Community Cable	433-7790
Fax	642-7624
Fire Non-Emergency	433-7745
Fax	433-7787
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
Treasurer's Office	433-7705
Public Works	
Road Department	433-7709
Water & Sewer	433-7731
Engineering	594-2800

Waste Management offers discounts on rubbish pick-up to residents on extended leave from the Township. Call 1-800-796-9696 to make arrangements.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303-0489
PO BOX 489

4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



PSRT STD
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