



Courtland Clippings

UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS

Summer 2010

Office Hours

Mon. & Fri: 1:00 - 4:30 PM
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9:00 AM -
Noon & 1:00 - 4:30 PM

Phone: (616)866-0622
Fax: (616)866-3451
Burning Permits:
(616)866-3511
Building Permits:
(616)863-9294

Township Officials

Supervisor: Jim McIntyre
Treasurer: Jerry Davis
Clerk: Marilyn Crosby
Trustees: Mary Ann Andersen,
Colleen Brown, Tom Kinney,
Chuck Porter
Assessor: Frank Buckley

Meeting Schedule

Township Board:
1st Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Planning Commission:
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 PM
Zoning Board of Appeals:
2nd Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Fire Board:
Last Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Holiday Hours

Township Offices will be
closed:
Independence Day:
Friday, July 2 & Monday, July 5
Labor Day: Friday, Sept. 3 &
Monday, Sept. 6

Visit our website:

www.courtlandtwp.org

Taxes
Assessing Information
Meeting Minutes
Zoning Ordinances



TREASURER'S OFFICE

2010 Summer Taxes due September 14th

Please keep these points in
mind when paying your
property taxes :

- 1) Allow extra time when
paying by mail to avoid late
fees. **Postmarks are not
accepted.**
- 2) Drop box located by front
door. Checked regularly.
- 3) Please pay by **check** or

- money order.** No credit or
debit cards are accepted. If
paying in cash, please bring
exact change. For security
reasons, the Township cannot
keep a lot of change on hand.
- 4) For a receipt, enclose a
stamped, self-addressed envelope and your **entire tax bill**
with your payment.
 - 5) Summer Tax Deferments
are available for qualifying
seniors, agricultural property
or disabled residents. Call for
guidelines or an application.
You must file prior to
09/14/10.
 - 6) Those who qualify for a
Tax Deferment will not be
charged interest and have until
February 14, 2011 to pay their
Summer Taxes.
 - 7) Check the upper right hand
- area of your tax bill below Tax
Detail for your **Principal Resi-
dence Exemption (P.R.E.)**. To
be eligible, residents must oc-
cupy their home by May 1st of
the current tax year. Applica-
tions are available at the town-
ship hall.
- 8) The Treasurer's Office is not
responsible for payment on the
wrong property.

Jerry Davis, Treasurer

Questions? Call (616) 866-0622
Treasurer's e-mail:
jdavis@courtlandtwp.org
Deputy Treasurer's e-mail:
ttowersey@courtlandtwp.org

FALL CLEAN-UP September 16, 17 & 18

This year's Fall Clean-Up for Courtland Township residents will take place on Thursday, Sept. 16 from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM, Friday, Sept. 17 from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM and on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Dumpsters will be located behind Courtland Fire Station #1, 7480 14 Mile Road. (Enter off Berrigan Ave.)

No liquids (paint, oil, etc.), brush, concrete, shovel offs or loose trash allowed. Latex paints must be hardened by adding kitty litter, sand or sawdust to the paint. Fencing must be flattened and folded; barrels must have one end open or full of holes; propane and fuel oil tanks must be cut in half. **All tires** must be cut into four pieces. \$15.00 charge for appliances with freon, \$3.00 without freon, \$1.00 for car and truck batteries. **No** free pick up of junk cars or other items. **No** commercial dumping. Clean up will be supervised by J&S Services and they will have the authority to reject any questionable items. Proof of residency required.

Questions may be directed to Courtland Township @ 866-0622 during regular office hours.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Kent County accepts household hazardous waste at the North Kent Transfer Station, 2908 10 Mile Rd., Rockford. Types of items accepted include weed killer, fertilizer, charcoal lighter fluid, rodent and bug poison, oil-based paint and stain, paint thinner, antifreeze, motor oil, household batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and fire extinguishers. Make a list of the items you want to dispose of and call (616) 336-2570 for an appointment.

RECYCLING

Free recycling of glass and metal food containers, newspapers, magazines, paperboard, computer paper, junk mail, corrugated cardboard, plastic containers stamped 1-7, and plastic grocery bags stamped 2 or 4 *only* is also available at the North Kent Transfer Station, Monday thru Saturday 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Remember: If it's not clean, it's not recyclable!

FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Road work: No street paving projects have been scheduled for 2010, but the Kent County Road Commission is making some improvements to the gravel surface on Eva Drive. KCRC is also starting the engineering work for Parmer Avenue. Current plans are to begin paving in 2011 and finish in 2012.

Sewer update: Preparations are being made for upgrades to be done in the near future to the sewer lift stations at Grass Lake (shared with Cannon Township), and Rogue River (shared with Cannon and Plainfield Townships). The Kent County DPW is in the process of searching for sources of excess water flowing into the sewer system. Eliminating inflow from storm water drains and sump pumps will reduce the number of gallons from Courtland Township that enter the treatment plant and thus reduce treatment costs. The DPW is identifying the places where storm water is entering the system and contacting homeowners to remove any illegal sump pumps and storm drains from their property that discharge into the sanitary sewer lines.

Jim McIntyre, Supervisor

ORDINANCE COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Courtland Township office has received several inquiries about abandoned homes without active lawn care. This is a rural township and we do not have a grass mowing ordinance. When we receive complaints, we do check the site for health and safety violations. We send letters to the last listed property owner and, in most cases, the lawn does get mowed. If you live in a subdivided housing plat, you may have association rules that address the lawn care issues. On behalf of neighboring property owners, we are asking that absentee landlords make arrangements to have their property cared for.

All property owners should be concerned about mosquito borne illnesses. Standing water, junk and scrap are excellent breeding places for these insects. The Courtland Township fall clean up will take place September 16, 17 & 18.

This is an opportunity for property owners to dispose of junk, scrap and other assorted items conveniently at our Township Office location.

John O'Rourke, Compliance Officer

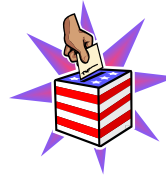
911 ADDRESS SIGNS

Help us find you in an emergency. Green and white reflective address signs are available from the Fire Department for \$10.00 each. Call now to order yours: 866-0622 .

Chief Mickey Davis

ELEC- TION NEWS

**Absentee
Ballots:**
Applica-
tions for the up-
coming
August 3rd
Primary
Election



and November 2nd General Election have been mailed to voters on our permanent absentee voter list. Primary Election ballots have been mailed. Anyone age 60 or older or physically unable to attend the polls is eligible to receive an absentee ballot. You may also vote absentee if you expect to be gone on Election Day. To request an application, call the Clerk's office at 866-0622 during regular office hours.

Precinct Locations: Pct. 1: Courtland Fire Station #2, 9535 Myers Lake Ave.; Pct. 2: Rockford Springs Community Church, 5815 14 Mile Rd.; Pct. 3: Courtland Twp Hall, 7450 14 Mile Rd. If you have questions about your voter registration or precinct, call my office or go to www.michigan.gov/vote. **Don't forget to bring your photo ID with you to the polls!**

Note to New Voters: If you registered by mail, you must vote in person the first time unless you are age 60 or over. To be sure you will be eligible to receive an Absentee Ballot, either register at a Secretary of State Branch office or the Township Office.

A Primary Election is held by the political parties to select their nominee for the offices to be elected at the General Election in November. In a primary, Republicans run against Republicans and Democrats run against Democrats. You may vote in **one party section** only on the primary ballot. You cannot **"split your ticket"** in August.

A General Election is a race between party nominees and candidates without political party affiliation. The General Election determines which candidates will occupy the offices that are up for election. Statewide ballot proposals also appear on the General Election ballot. You may **"split your ticket"**, or vote a **"straight party ticket"** in November.

Electronic Poll Books: New at the polls for 2010 is the Electronic Poll Book. Using laptop computers, poll workers will swipe your driver's license, or type in your name, and your name and address will come up on the screen. There your ballot number will be entered and you will be marked as having voted. If you are in the wrong precinct, your correct precinct location can be quickly located on the computer. This should streamline some of the voting process for both the voters and the poll workers and help to eliminate long lines on Election Day.

Sample Ballots and Absentee Ballot Applications are available on our website at www.courtlandtwp.org.

Marilynn Crosby, Clerk

CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Township Board is in the process of updating the Courtland Cemetery rules and regulations. Although not yet finalized, the update will include more specific rules on what may be used as decorations on gravesites as well as the "Tribute Area" where these items may be placed. Once adopted, we will begin a strict enforcement of the rules. Our intent is to achieve a peaceful and respectful setting for burials while permitting reasonable opportunities for persons to care for and adorn gravesites. A copy of the complete list of rules will be available at the Township Hall and on the website.