

OLIVE TOWNSHIP FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

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Office Hours 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Weekdays
Zoning Administrator Hours Mon. Wed. & Fri. 9-5
Supervisor Hours By Appointment
Assessor 2nd Friday of the month 11-4

WEB SITE: www.olivetownship.com

Supervisor – Todd Wolters 786-9996
Treasurer - Randy Vander Zwaag. . 875-8324
Clerk – Lona Bronkema. 786-3827
Trustee – Joe Bush 786-9812
Trustee - Terry Hossink 875-7685
Zoning Administrator 786-9996
(Greg Ransford)
Assessor – Doug Brousseau 269-699-7619

PLEASE RECYCLE it:

Your used cell phone donation will help the OC Sheriff's Office and the 911 Cell Phone Bank provide emergency communication to seniors and victims of abuse in our community.

Drop off your used cell phone @ the Township Office during regular business hours.

“THANK YOU” TO THE PUBLIC

Planning & Zoning Department

Master Plan Adopted!

On November 18, 2009, the Olive Township Planning Commission formally adopted the 2009 Olive Township Master Plan. After several years of planning efforts and incredible contributions from our residents, we believe we have created a thorough document that will successfully guide the future of our township. Thank you to all of those who contributed to this process along the way. We appreciate your dedication and time to assist with its creation.

Did You Know?

- If you are interested in selling part of your property you need to receive approval from the township to divide the land prior to the sale of the property. Inquiring with the township prevents the sale of a parcel that is unbuildable.
- Your assessment classification on your tax bill does not necessarily mean the same as the zoning district for your property. The way your property is used (i.e. farming, residentially, commercially) is not always the same as how it is zoned. For instance, your property could be zoned Agricultural but is assessed residentially because you have a residence in which you live and you do not farm the property.
- Olive Township prohibits the outdoor storage of junk or junk vehicles on any property. While we have a lot of space around us, keeping our property clean keeps the township attractive to its residents and visitors.

Greg Ransford
Planning & Zoning Director

Be Counted!

Census 2010 helps determine how much federal money comes to Olive Township

No fooling. Answering 10 simple questions on Census Day—*April 1, 2010*—can create a better future for you, your family and our township.

In March 2010, more than 130 million addresses in the United States will receive a U.S. Census 2010 questionnaire form either by mail or from a census worker. One of the shortest census forms created since the census was first conducted in 1790, this year's form should take only 10 minutes to complete. The form will ask for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the householder is an owner or renter. People with more than one residence should be counted only at the residence where they spend the largest part of the year.

By filling out your census form accurately and returning it by the deadline, you and the members of your household will be counted in the national census, which is used to determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, allocate seats in the state Legislature, and influence how the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities.

Census data is also used to:

- guide planning for new hospitals, roads, job training centers, schools and more;
- determine the need for additional social services, block grants and other grant programs essential to many communities;
- provide information to ascertain the need for local initiatives, such as after-school programs or community action projects; and,
- help businesses identify where to locate factories, shopping centers, banks and offices, which often can lead to new jobs.

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census be conducted once every 10 years. In accordance with law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's questionnaire responses with anyone.

For more information about Census 2010, contact the Olive Township office 616-786-9996 or go to michigan.gov/census2010.

Election News

Election dates for 2010 are as follows:

- . May 4- School Election
- . August 3- State Primary Election
- . November 2- State General Election

If you need to register to vote, the cut off dates are as follows:

- . April 5- for the may Election
- . July 6- for the August Election
- . October 4- for the November Election

Lona Bronkema
Olive Township Clerk

The Township Treasurers:

The last day to pay Taxes without a penalty is February 16.

March 1, 2010 is the last day taxes will be accepted at the Township

The last day to buy dog license at the Township is

March 1, 2010. You also have the option of purchasing your dog license on line at www.miottawa.org. Click Online Services. If their rabies vaccine has expired you will need to scan the new certificate when purchasing on line.

Memo 100% PRE on Second Home

Availability:

If you have moved (in Michigan) and have your old house up for sale or rent you may qualify for 100% PRE (Homestead). You must notify the Township when the house sells or rents so we can remove the temporary PRE. Contact the Township for the Conditional Rescission of Principal Residence Exemption Form Application. Form must be filled before May 1 of the first year the exemption is being claimed and filled annually.

May 31 Memorial Day

Memorial Day Service
10:30 a.m. at Olive Township Cemetery
Taylor Street and 116th Avenue

May 31-**Memory Walk**-following the Memorial Day service from the cemetery to the Olive Township Museum on Polk Street.

It is the 3rd annual revival of the 1908 walk from the Ottawa School to the cemetery. Please participate and wear patriotic colors. Come with bikes, strollers and walk with us.

The museum will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to show our collection of patriotic, school, church and township history.

The Ottawa Reformed Church young people's group will again feature their 1950's restaurant with their famous Olive Burger, fries and soft drink from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the museum. Come down and enjoy a great meal!!!



No open burning allowed June thru October in Olive Township, open burning is allowed with a Permit from the Fire Chief November thru May.

Olive Township
6480 136th Ave
Holland Mi. 49424

OLIVE TOWNSHIP BOARD NEWS:

Here is an update of what the Township Board has been working on this past year:

Drainage:

This past year we have taken an aggressive approach to the drains at large program. We worked with the Drain Commissioner's office and Road Commission to clean and address the drain issues we have had in the past. This will be on going as the Drain Commissions office works on the Ovens /Sawyer and Post drains. If you see areas that are backing up please let myself or another Board member know so we can address the issue.

Roads

This past year we had approximately 6 miles of roads graveled and raised and the Road Commission cleaned some road side ditches. We are planning on a few more miles of gravel again this year and are in the process of deciding the next projects to be done in the township. The mileages dedicated to roads have allowed us to pave a number of roads in the past. The cost of paving has increased dramatically over the past few years, which means it take a couple of years of saving to do a mile of paving.

The most recent road millage expired at the end of 2009, so you will likely see a ballot proposal for a renewal of this millage at the August election.

Wind Turbines:

Our planning commission over the past year has been working on a Wind Ordinance to regulate setbacks, noise and other concerns regarding these units. There has been an interest from companies to install wind farms. Our board members along with a few others of the community took a tour to the McBain MI area to view 9 windmills that are in service, to get a sense of the size and impact they have on the area.

Library Service:

This past year the Herrick library notified us they wanted us to pay 3/10 of a mill for their services. This appears to be because of a state requirement. At this time we have a contract with them until July. They automatically receive our penal fine money collected from citations issued, which add up to \$15,000-\$20,000 annually. The 3/10 of a mill they are asking for equals approx \$47,000 leaving a balance of \$27,000-\$32,000 additional funds needed per year. Part of the problem we have is our Township usage is split between Herrick and Howard Miller library and some residents use Allendale and Grand Haven libraries. At this time our board is looking at all options and is working on the challenge. If library use is important to you, please let us know. Comments are much appreciated. When you call a Board Member to talk about this issue, please be ready to share ideas for how to come up with the additional funding while still balancing the Township's budget, because the Board has the duties to maintain a balanced budget.

2010 Assessments:

At the end of February you should receive your property assessment notice. This year is the 1st year since Proposal A was approved that the taxable rate will go down. But don't get too excited--it is not a very big drop. The Consumer Price Index went down .997%. If you have errors on your assessment or qualify for the poverty exemption they can be brought before the Board of Review in March. These dates will be listed on your assessments.