

Winter Tax Bills

Winter property taxes are payable December 1 to February 14, 2017, by mail to 2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns, in person at the Township Hall on M-21 on:

- Tuesday December 27, 9am-5pm
- Tuesday February 14, 9am-5pm
- Tuesday February 28, 9am-5pm

...or by appointment (call 517-927-9273). Review your tax bill for interest/penalty information on past due taxes. Checks or money orders are preferred; however, cash payments for the exact amount owed will also be accepted (there is no cash kept on hand to make change). Thank you. ☺

Need a receipt? Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please let us know and we will gladly mail one to you. **Did you know you could print your own receipt?** Go to www.accessmygov.com further explained below. ☺

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR PAYING
YOUR TAXES ON TIME!**

REMINDER: Property info and historical tax payments (only those paid **directly** to Bengal Township) can be viewed by the property owner online at www.accessmygov.com. You will be prompted to create an account with password to gain access to your property information, copy of tax bill, and payment receipt for free. Non-owners can view this information for a \$2/view fee (paid online to BS&A Software). BS&A provides the technical help using this webpage (1-855-BSA-SOFT).

Note from Dr. Mark W. Holley

I hope that you all had a wonderful fall. My name is Mark Holley and I have been hired by the Township Board as the new assessor for the Bengal Township. In the last newsletter I introduced myself and indicated that I would be visiting many of your properties during the summer. As it turns out, I will be visiting every property in the township sometime in the next year. The State of Michigan has some pretty stringent requirements when it come to the type of data that needs to be listed on the parcel record cards and I have quickly realized we need to substantially update our records.

What this means it that I will be visiting every property in the township, taking new pictures and measuring all of the buildings and improvements. I am also checking to make sure that we have removed from the record card any buildings which have been torn down. I am hoping to have this project completed by this time next year and I have already completed the work in Sections 1, 2, 3, 33, 34, 35 and 36.

As I visit each parcel, I will stop and knock on the door and introduce myself. I am always happy to answer any assessing questions that you have.

I look forward to meeting each of you.

Dr. Mark W. Holley

Township Hall Rental

To rent the Township Hall, contact Sharon Bassette at 989-640-4750. Further information and the Hall Rental Policy may be found on the Bengal Township website at www.bengaltownship.com.

<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Township Assessor</i>
Deborah Schafer 989-593-2325	Denice Schultheiss 517-927-9273	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Bill Kushmaul 616-240-4100	Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Mark Holley 989-834-5611

Burning Permits



REMEMBER: **Burn permits are required by residents.** When either the Dallas Township or St. Johns Fire Department responds to a fire, the PROPERTY OWNER is billed.

Bengal Township residents living **West of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **Dallas Township Fire Dept. at 989-593-3146.** Residents will be asked to leave their name, address, and phone number, what they are burning, and which days they wish to burn. Please call at least 24 hours in advance. If residents have any questions, call **Vern Feldpausch, Dallas Township Supervisor, at 989-593-2768.**

Bengal Township residents living **East of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **City of St. Johns Police Dept. at 989-224-6721.** You will be asked your name and address, what you are burning, how much you are burning, and when you wish to burn. Here, it is best to actually speak with someone to confirm your permit is approved. You are also able to apply to them for annual burn permits.

Fire and Rescue Runs

In the event of a fire run within the township, **\$1000.00 is charged when a fire truck or \$450.00 when a first responder leaves the fire station.** Bengal Township is charged \$1000.00 for the first two hours and \$500.00 for every hour after that for fire service. **When Bengal Township gets billed, the property owner and/or person upon whom the service is provided will be billed.** Please check your insurance to see if Fire or First Responder is covered. Typically, basic homeowners insurance only covers up to \$500.00. A small increase in your premium could save you hundreds!!

Neighborhood Watch

The Clinton County Sheriff's Office has been involved with the Neighborhood Watch Program since 1993. Residents interested in receiving Neighborhood Watch Newsletters and/or Alerts by email can sign up at www.clinton-county.org/LawJustice/SheriffOffice.aspx.

Notes from Clinton County

On October 25th the Clinton County Board of Commissioners adopted a balanced budget for 2017. It does include capital improvement funding for some fairground projects to be determined.

The renovations at the Green Haven youth home are nearly complete. The facility will now be operated by the County and the Juvenile Court. Turning Point was operating the facility however they significantly changed their business operation and terminated the contract.

The 911 tower in the SE part of the county is constructed and should be operational by the end of November. Also the County approved implementation of "Smart911" which should be up and operational sometime in November. This service encourages residents to provide an address and other specific information (med info, emergency contact, etc) with a cell phone. **THANKS** to the voters for approving the 911 surcharge in August. These are some of the improvements that we can continue to provide with an adequate source of revenue.

---David W. Pohl,
Clinton County Commissioner

Moving? Be sure you give your forwarding address to our Township Treasurer as soon as possible.

The Bengal Township Board wishes everyone a

Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!