

Burn 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 an annual burning permit by submitting an online or in-person application to the **City of St. Johns Police Dept.** As of a January 1, 2023, three day permits are no longer being offered. The online version of the application can be found at www.cognitofrms.com/SJForms/stjohnsfiredepartme ntannualburnpermit. New applications will need to be submitted annually. Questions can be directed to City of St. Johns Police Department at **989-224-6721.**

Fire and Rescue Runs

In the event of a fire run within the township, \$1,000 is charged when a fire truck is dispatched and/or \$450 when a first responder is dispatched. Bengal Township is charged \$1,000 for the first two hours and \$500 for every hour thereafter for fire service. **When Bengal Township gets billed for these services, the property owner and/or person upon whom the service was provided, will be billed. Please check your insurance to see if Fire or First Responder services are covered.** Typically, basic home-owners insurance only covers up to \$500. A small increase in your premium could save you money!

Summer Tax Information

Summer property taxes are payable **July 1 to September 16** by one of the following methods:

- Mail to: **1211 Hampshire Drive, St. Johns, MI 48879 (Preferred)**
- In person on **Monday September 16, 2024**, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Township Hall 6586 W. M-21, St. Johns
- By appointment: **Call 517-927-9273**

Please review your tax bill for interest/penalty information. Checks or money orders are preferred, however cash payments for the exact amount owed will be accepted. There is no cash drawer in the office to make change.

Deferment of Summer Taxes: September 15th is the last day to file for the Summer Deferment per MCL21151(7). Certain taxpayers can apply to have their summer property taxes deferred until February. The requirements and application may be found at www.michigan.gov/treasury. There are generally two ways to qualify: 1) gross household income of \$40k or less and falling into an exemption classification, or 2) owning an agricultural or horticultural operation for which gross receipts are not less than house income.

Did you know you could print your own receipt? Property info and historical tax payments (only those paid **directly** to Bengal Township) can be viewed by the property owner online at www.bsaonline.com. BS&A provides the technical help using this webpage (1-855-BSA-SOFT).

Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt and cannot print your own, please indicate this when sending in your payment or contact the Township's Deputy Treasurer, Denice Schultheiss at 517-927-9273.

<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Township Assessor</i>
Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Nolan Solomon 219-743-7759	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Stanley Sillman 989-640-0419	Eric Boak 517-449-4283	Dr. Mark Holley 989-834-5611

BOARD OF REVIEW

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

If you have questions about what can be addressed during this meeting, please contact Dr. Mark Holley, Township Assessor, at mholley4444@gmail.com.

Planning Commission News

The PC meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. If a meeting is cancelled, it will be posted on the bulletin board in front of the hall.

The PC would like to thank Kurt Koenigsknecht and Eric Boak for their service to the PC. Kurt's term ends June 2024 and Eric's ends January 2025. Kurt's departure leaves a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The township is currently seeking an individual to fill this vacancy. Interested candidates can contact Supervisor Nick McDonald.

Required Inspections: All construction, including AG buildings, **must be inspected** and require a preliminary and a final inspection. To schedule an inspection, call the Township Inspector, Forrest Thurston, at 989-640-1890 or you may email him at bengaltownshipinspector@gmail.com. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in fines and project delays.

Hall Rental

The Township Hall is available for rent by residents for \$100 or non-residents for \$150. A deposit is also required. Please see the rental agreement and other rental information on the Township's website.

Planned Road Maintenance

Gravel: Townsend from Francis to Grove
Chloride: 3 applications
Chip Sealing: 3 miles of paved roads
Various Roadside: Mowing & Spraying

Township Opportunities

Residents who are interested in assisting with planning/zoning, elections, and other opportunities may contact Sharon Bassette, Township Clerk, at bengaltownshipclerk2@gmail.com or 989-640-4750.

Clinton County Recycling

Clinton County Department of Waste Management would like to remind residents to take the time to properly sort their recyclables into the proper containers at the Rural Recycling Sites. The Rural recycling sites are located in Fowler and Maple Rapids. Acceptable materials include all colored glass bottles and jars, metal cans, household plastic containers numbered #1 to #7, newspapers, magazines, office paper, junk mail, cardboard and boxboard (NO waxy coated freezer boxes please). Please remember to empty all recyclables before placing them into the proper bin. **NO PLASTIC BAGS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BINS!**

Please help keep the cost of recycling down and make sure what is put into the bin can be recycled. When in doubt, please contact the office at (989)224-5186, email recycle@clinton-county.org or check out their website www.clinton-county.org.

Clinton County News Board of Commissioners

The recreational area "Clinton Trails" on Pratt Rd opened on May 11, 2024.

Broadband update: The planning process continues between Frontier and the State of Michigan for the Broadband installation project with a deadline for completion of December 31, 2026.

Proposed Township Park

The Township's Park Committee has been working with Fleis and Vanderbrink to apply for funding grants. Although the first attempt was unsuccessful, there is a reapplication process with an improved plan. The current goal is to create the park in phases as funding permits with the first phase to offer access to the CIS Rails to Trails. Those interested in being part of the committee can reach out to Committee Chair Audrey Tipper at 616-648-8321 or audreymtipper@gmail.com.

