



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from your Township Officials, Office
Staff, and Long Lake Fire-Rescue.*

Long Lake Township
8870 North Long Lake Rd.
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231-946-2249
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www.longlaketownship.com

Long Lake Township
Winter Newsletter 2018



Fire Station Holiday Open House: Sunday, December 9th Santa will be at the Fire Station from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Join us for treats for the kids, station tours , and an opportunity to mingle with your firefighters.

Greetings from your Firefighters at Long Lake Fire-Rescue!

It has been another busy year for your firefighters. As of October 31st, we have responded to 378 calls for emergency services. Of that total, 215 EMS calls and 163 were fire calls. Compared to the same period last year, this is an increase of 42 calls. 2018 has been an unprecedented year for structure fires. Year to date, we have fought 4 structure fires in Long Lake Township and assisted neighboring fire departments on 20 other structure fires. Assistance includes providing firefighters, incident command resources, water, and equipment.

Earlier this spring we asked ISO to re-survey our fire operations. Given our continuing improvements to equipment, personnel, and training, insurance companies utilize ISO fire department classification data to assess risk. As a result, we are receiving an improved ISO rating from a 'Class 6' to 'Class 5' for properties within five road miles of the fire station. This new ISO rating will become effective February 1st, 2019. We have found that major national insurance companies may provide discounts for improved ISO ratings. You may want to contact your insurance agent to see if you qualify for any further discounts on your property insurance based off of our upcoming ISO rating improvement.

In October, we conducted fire prevention education classes during Fire Safety Week for over 500 students at area schools and day care centers. Please be sure to practice kitchen safety with your children this holiday season, as the region has seen an increase in juvenile kitchen related burn injuries.

A reminder during the snowy winter months. It is important to keep your reflective house numbers clearly visible from the street. This aids our first responders in finding you when seconds count. Reflective address sign kits are available at area home improvement retailers.

If you are interested in becoming a Long Lake firefighter/first responder, please contact us at 947-4096 for an application. We would like to thank all of our firefighters and first responders for their dedication and unwavering commitment to our community.

A Message From Your Supervisor

At this important time of year, it would be my wish that you take a moment to spend time with family and friends. I believe we live in one of the greatest townships in the area. The reason for this is because you all show a great deal of care and respect for your neighbors and community. Thank you for helping us at the township continue to make this area the best place ever. Remember, my door is always open.

Merry Christmas, Karen Rosa

Meeting Day & Time

Zoning- 1st Tues. 6 pm Township Board-2nd Tues. 6 pm Planning-4th Tues. 6 pm Land Div.-1st Thurs. 10 am

Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 8:00 am—5:30 pm

Township e-mail: welcome@longlaketownship.com

A Message From Your Treasurer

Please take a few minutes to review our web site at www.longlaketownship.com where you can:

◇ Find my e-mail and phone number if you have questions or concerns. ◇ View or pay your taxes on line (note: there is a 3% charge for on line credit card payments; this fee goes directly to the bank not the Township). ◇ You can also print tax receipts for prior payments (just click on view/pay taxes online and follow the directions). This information is free to property owners after setting up an account. Remember that receipts are no longer sent automatically when taxes are paid unless requested by the taxpayer. ◇ Access dates for paying taxes.

Winter tax bills will be mailed December 1, 2018 and are due by February 14, 2019. I will accept payments with postmarks on this due date without penalty. I will be collecting delinquent tax payments in my office through February 28, 2019 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Please make checks payable to Long Lake Township through this date. I will only except postmarks through February 28, 2019. All property taxes (exceptions following) will be turned over to the Grand Traverse County Treasurer on March 1, 2019 and will have to be paid at the Governmental Center in Traverse City. If your payment will not be postmarked by February 28, 2019 you will need to contact the Grand Traverse County Treasurer for the amount due and your check will need to be made out to Grand Traverse County rather than Long Lake Township.

Exceptions: Property taxes starting with the numbers 28-08-898 and 28-08-900 will continue to be collected here at the Township Offices. Please call me if you have any questions (231-946-2249). Thank you and have a safe Winter!!

Trish Mehney, MiCPT Long Lake Township Treasurer (231) 946-2249 ext: 206



News From The Assessor's Desk

The re-inspection project of all residential properties in Long Lake Township is going well. We just completed the third summer and we will begin again in May 2019. Each site visit includes updating exterior photos and leaving a questionnaire post card about the interior of your home for the property owner to complete and send in. With your cooperation, we can have accurate data of your property and avoid errors in your property assessment. In February of each year, "Notice of Assessment Changes" are sent to all property owners. Please review the information on the notice and if you have any questions, you may contact Angela Friske, Township Assessor at 231-946-2249 during regular office hours or e-mail me at assessor@longlaketownship.com

A Note From Your Senior Director, Shelley Evans

Long Lake Township continues to coordinate the "Long Lakers" whose mission is to provide social and educational opportunities for our residents over 60. We want to keep everyone inspired, involved, and active together with luncheons, exercise, bocce ball, pickle ball, and monthly local events. Look for our activity calendar on the web at www.longlaketownship.com or call the Long Lake Senior Director, Shelley Evans, at 231-631-4479. A special thank you to the Grand Traverse County Senior Network for help in funding the Long Lakers programs.



Armistice Day– 1918 The End Of WW1

In 1918, on the 11th month, on the 11th day, at the 11th hour, the Allies and Central Powers agreed to a cease fire that would mark the end of World War One. One hundred years later, we celebrate Armistice Day. Michigan contributed over 135,000 men and women and had over 5,000 casualties. Michigan's biggest contribution to the war effort was not service men and women but its engineering and manufacturing capability. Michigan changed from an agricultural, mineral and forestry economy to a manufacturing and engineering economy from 1900-1920 with the fastest growth during the war years. Michigan families left the farm and moved, changing forever work and family life.

A message from your Parks & Recreation Chair, Trish Mehney

The current leaders of the Friends of the Parks are listed below; if you are interested in helping out at our parks please don't hesitate to contact me or you can also contact them directly.

South Long Lake Natural Area: NEED VOLUNTEER

Cedar Run Creek Natural Area: Larry Vanderburg-lar4@earthlink.net

Bullhead Lake Natural Area: Rondi Fry-rondifry47@gmail.com or Annie Gurian-abgurian@gmail.com

Taylor Park: Glen Gravette-glenster63@yahoo.com

Gilbert Park: NEED VOLUNTEER

Fisher Run: Mark Cerny-mcerny7421@aol.com

If you have any general questions or comments regarding our parks, please don't hesitate to contact me @ 946-2249.

A **"SPECIAL THANK YOU"** to all of you who have been diligently working to improve the quality of our Parks!!! We have had many volunteers helping with clearing trails, cutting up fallen trees, building or repairing bridges, placing posts for signs, placing boundary signs, cleaning and refurbishing existing signs along with many other projects that are underway for

the coming summer. We have also had our Eagle Scouts working on projects in some of our Parks.

We are now required to have all volunteers fill out a waiver form, which can be found on our website - longlaketownship.com -, or picked up here at our office. If you are currently volunteering or plan to volunteer in our Parks, please fill this form out and drop it off at the Township offices as soon as possible, thank you.

We are hoping to get started on the Timbers Recreation Area UA (Universally Assessable) trail in the fall of 2019. There may be a short time that the park will be closed for construction so watch for signs and updates in our summer newsletter regarding this project. Residents and visitors are urged to call the Township regarding issues with dogs and the Sheriff's Dept. (231-922-4550) or Marine Patrol (231-922-2112) if you witness any other potential problems at any of our parks.

Interesting Facts About Long Lake by Leslie Sickterman, Township Planner

Covering over 4.5 square miles, Long Lake is the largest lake in Grand Traverse County and the 30th largest inland lake in Michigan. Long Lake has 18.23 miles of shoreline. If you add in the shorelines for the islands, Ruth Lake, and Mickey Lake, there is over 21 miles of shoreline. At one time, the lake was known as Neal Lake. The maximum depth of Long Lake is 90 feet. Average depth is 26 feet. About 25% of the lake is 10 feet deep or less.

Long Lake is spring fed; there are no inlets draining into the lake. The only outlet is Sucker Creek at the southwest corner of the lake. As a freshwater drainage lake, it takes 7 years for the water to change over. Long Lake is the headwaters of the Platte River, feeding through Platte Lake and on to Lake Michigan. The Long Lake Watershed covers 14,446 acres of land all feeding into Long Lake.

The Township has been keeping a log of lake conditions since 1996. Usually, the lake freezes over by late December and is free of ice by mid-April. The latest recorded date for the ice to be out was this year, on May 1st. The earliest recorded date for the ice to be out was March 16, 2016. The Township has also been monitoring the lake levels since 1996. The lake depth varies between roughly 846 and 848 feet above sea level. The highest recorded level recorded since 1996 was 848.7 feet on May 21, 2014. The lowest was 846.1 on July 26, 2000. There is usually about a 14" variation within any single year. The 100-year flood elevation for the lake is 849.8 as determined by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Some Interesting Michigan Facts

Michigan has more shoreline than any other state except Alaska. ◇ Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of streams. ◇ Michigan has 116 lighthouses and navigational lights. ◇ Michigan has 83 counties, 40 of which adjoin at least one of the Great Lakes. ◇ Michigan is the only state that touches four of the five Great Lakes.

A Note From Your Parks Superintendent

I would like to encourage everyone to get out and enjoy our beautiful parks in Long Lake Township. We have 6 parks with miles of walking trails along lakes, streams and beautifully wooded areas along with our 2 beaches. New this year (completed late fall of 2017) are 2 Bocce courts and a pavilion at the corner of Manhattan and North Long Lake Road. Next year we will be starting an ADA (VA) universal accessible trail at the Timbers to help make our parks accessible to more people. Thank you for a great year and I look forward to serving you next year.

Jim Saunby

Your Elected Officials

Karen Rosa, Supervisor

Carol Hoffman, Clerk

Trish Mehney, Treasurer

Linda Wheelock, Trustee

Dave Garvin, Trustee

Duane Schaub, Trustee

Ron Lemcool, Trustee

Long Lake Township

Administrative Assistant

Heidi Mello

231-946-2249

From the desk of Loyd Morris, Ordinance Enforcement Officer

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Depending on who you listen to, we will have a brown Christmas or Snowmageddon this winter. Either way, we will soon start dreaming about springtime and what landscaping projects we would like to do next spring.

The definition of landscaping is *the process of making a yard or other piece of land more attractive by altering the existing design, adding ornamental features, and planting trees and shrubs*. The Township does not regulate landscaping, but it does regulate structures. A structure is defined as *anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on the ground or attachment to something having location on the ground*.

For lakefront property, permissible structures are strictly limited within the 50-foot waterside setback. Depending on your unique situation, patios, hardscaping, pergolas, stairways, walkways and oven/grill structures, and similar structures may not be permitted in the waterside setback. Bellows and Cedar Lakes are zoned Natural Lake Front and are subject to even more restrictions including a 100-foot waterside setback.

We ask that before you start any landscaping projects, whether on lakefront property or not, you speak to our Zoning Administrator to see if there are any permits needed or problems that might cause you headaches down the road.



Flood Insurance Rate Maps Updated



Long Lake Township has participated in the Flood Insurance program since 1988. The associated flood maps, known as Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) have not been updated until this year. Effective August 28, 2018 new rate maps have been created for our region including Long Lake Township. Flood prone areas are identified on these maps, in some cases this may be different than under the prior FIRM. When any part of your property is within a “special flood hazard area” as shown on the FIRM, you are required under the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994, as amended, to obtain flood insurance if you have a loan that is federally regulated or insured. Flood insurance is required for the term of the loan. If you have been notified by your lender that you are required to obtain flood insurance, this may have been triggered by: *A new loan, or an increase or extension of your loan. Your lender may have discovered that you should have flood insurance during a routine audit of their mortgage portfolio. A revision to the Flood Insurance Rate Map.* If you feel that there is an error in the FIRM in regards to your property, you can submit a request for a Letter of Map Change (LOMC). The application can be completed and submitted on line. Most often, this requires that you document that your structure is higher than the base flood elevation. You will need to submit a certification of elevation prepared by a licensed land surveyor or engineer along with a fee and other information. In Long Lake Township, the following lakes are identified as special flood hazard areas: Bass Lake, Coffield Lake, Dyer Lake, Huellmantel Lake, Long Lake, Mickey Lake, North Twin Lake, Page Lake, Ruth Lake, and South Twin Lake. To search the FIRM for your property by address or to find out more about the Flood Insurance Program, visit [//msc.fema.gov/portal/search](http://msc.fema.gov/portal/search).

2018 General Election Results by Carol Hoffman, Township Clerk

Precinct	Total Registered Voters	AV Votes	In Person Votes	Total Voted	% Voted
1	2558	451	1239	1690	66%
2	2350	551	1181	1732	74%
3	2881	746	1380	2126	74%
TOTALS	7789	1748	3800	5548	Avg. 71%

The Clerk’s Office reports the November 6th General Election drew a very large attendance at all three precincts as well as a considerable amount of requests for Absentee Ballots. See breakdown of voters. **PLEASE NOTE:** Proposal 18-3, passed on 11-6-18 will allow for no-reason absentee voting, Election Day voter registration and straight party voting.