

LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP

W I N T E R N E W S L E T T E R

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S & H A P P Y N E W Y E A R

LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS

A lot has happened this year with our Long Lake Parks! Timbers Recreation Area has been added to our list of parks. It is a beautiful piece of property with 1.4 miles of well marked trails. Thanks to the many volunteers, we now have 4 miles of managed trails at the Cedar Run Creek Natural Area. Pickle Ball has arrived at Long Lake Township. We added a pickle ball court within one of the 2 tennis courts at Haywood Park. We encourage you to get out and explore all the beauty in our 9 parks covering over 870 acres located right here in Long Lake Township. If you don't have a parks map, stop by the office and pick one up.

A REMINDER: Dogs are allowed in our Natural Area Parks as long as they are on a leash. Doggie bags and waste receptacles are in place at the Natural Areas. Dogs are not permitted at Haywood Park and our two beach areas (Taylor and Gilbert Park.) Have a safe and fun winter!

Jim Saunby

Parks & Maintenance Superintendent

Timbers Recreation Area



I want to thank all who participated in the preservation of the former Girl Scout Property, now known as the Timbers Recreation Area.

On September 30, 2014 the Township became the proud owners of the 250 acre parcel. Without the help of the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, Don & Jerry Oleson and all of you this acquisition would have never been possible. It is our desire to work on a management plan over the winter months and hit the ground running in the spring. In the meantime, enjoy the serenity of the beautiful snow covered trees and ski paths. We are forever grateful to all of you.

Karen J. Rosa, Supervisor



SANTA IS COMING TO STATION #10

Santa will visit between 10 am and 1 pm on December 7, 2014 at Fire Station #10, Long Lake Township Complex. Stop by to visit Santa. Make sure to bring your wish list and enjoy a treat while you visit.



Michigan Township's Association Awards Banquet

Kim Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Planning and Zoning Department and *John Linnerson*, Township Board Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeal were honored for their service to Long Lake Township on November 6, 2014. *Kim Smith* was given the Distinguished Service Award for her fifteen years of invaluable service and commitment to Long Lake Township. *John Linnerson* was given a Certificate of Appreciation for his twenty one years of service on the Zoning Board of Appeals as the Township Board Representative.

A N O T E F R O M Y O U R T R E A S U R E R

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.

This winter's tax bills will be mailed by December 1, 2014 and are due by Friday, February 15th to avoid paying interest/penalties. I will be collecting delinquent tax payments in my office through March 1, 2015 during regular business hours. I will only except postmarks for this date through February 28, 2015. All property taxes (exceptions following) will be turned over to the Grand Traverse County Treasurer after March 1st and will have to be paid at the Governmental Center in Traverse City. *Exceptions:* Property taxes starting with the number 28-08-898 and 28-08-900 will continue to be collected here at the Township Offices.

I am set up to accept credit card payments here in my office at the Township Hall for property taxes and permits/fees for the Zoning Dept. There is a 2 ½ % service fee charged by the bank for this service. This can be done in person or over the phone by calling (231) 946-2249.

Please remember that we are closed on Mondays but do accept payments through the mail (postmark dates accepted), by drop box located next to the parking area near the entrance to the Township Hall, by credit card using the website above, or at the Township office Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm.

Our goal is to create a user-friendly web site to help you find the information you are looking for quickly and easily. Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions and concerns. Thank you. Have a safe and enjoyable winter season!

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: We all have them. Decks, fences, sheds, home occupations, or even finishing off that bare basement may have more requirements than just a priority spot on the Honey-Do-List. Don't jump into that home project without first checking with the Township Zoning Office to find out if you need to obtain a Township Land Use Permit.

A Land Use Permit is basically a stamp of approval stating that you are meeting the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance for your particular zoning district in the use of your property. It includes such details as setbacks from your lot line or water front, heights, size of the structure, etc. You'll want to pay special attention to these details; it's much better to follow the rules the first time than to have to re-do your project.

For those who live in subdivisions, these details may even be a bit more restrictive. We recommend that you also look at your Master Deed and Subdivision Bylaws, as these are private deed restrictions not enforced by the Township. Before starting any project, check with your Association about any special requirements before applying for a Land Use Permit. Good fences may make good neighbors, but if your Subdivision Bylaws don't allow them, trouble may soon follow!

Save yourself some time and money by researching all restrictions and requirements before beginning any project. And as always, if you have any questions regarding Land Use, please contact **Loyd Morris, your friendly Zoning Administrator**

HAYWOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS FOR SPRING 2015

Improvements to our existing parking area to the rear of our playing fields at Haywood park and a new parking area on the corner of Manhattan West and North Long Lake Road are in the hopper for the Spring of 2015. We are proposing these changes to accommodate the overflow parking, especially during games. We want to insure the safety and enjoyment for everyone who uses our facilities.

A Message From Your Parks & Rec. Chair

Thank you to all who are giving your time and energy to help oversee our parks and help with improvements and maintenance. If you are interested in participating with the friends of the parks groups please contact me and I will pass on the info for the "head" of the park you are interested in helping with.

The parks maps will continue to be available at the Township Hall and at many of our parks & local businesses. Hiking, biking, family adventure, picnic areas, snow shoeing/cross country skiing, fishing, hunting, swimming, playgrounds and sports facilities are all available close to home. We are not only hoping to promote the use of our parks but to encourage a sense of community ownership. "Get lost in the township" ... discover your tax dollars at work. Our volunteer parks groups, along with the Boy Scouts, have made many improvements to our parks this past summer. New trails, red trail markers on trees and benches at Cedar Run Creek along with research to create a parking area at the Tucker Road entrance, ADA ramp and mats to access the water at Taylor Park are just a few. Please take some time to go out and see these improvements and let us know if you have anything more you would like to see done. We have improved our bathrooms here at Haywood Park and

are in the process of working on updating the bathroom at Taylor Park as well.

The group at Cedar Run Creek Natural Area has many projects planned for the summer of 2015. If you are interested in helping out please contact Shirley Mesch at 499-1318 or e-mail smesch5@hotmail.com & let her know.

I'm looking for new leaders for Taylor Park and Gilbert Park. If you are interested please contact me at 231-946-2249 ext: 206.

Current Park leaders;

South Long Lake Natural Area – Jake Kaberle at 922-9484 e-mail jakekaberle@gmail.com

Cedar Run Creek Natural Area – Shirley Mesch – 499-1318 e-mail smesch5@hotmail.com

Bullhead Lake Natural Area – Rondi Fry – 517-927-6725 e-mail rondifry47@gmail.com

Taylor Park – NO LEADER AT THIS TIME (please contact me if you are interested)

Gilbert Park – NO LEADER AT THIS TIME (please contact me if

you are interested)

Fisher Run – Mark Cerny – 709-6620 e-mail mcerny7421@aol.com

If you have any questions or comments regarding our parks, please don't hesitate to contact me at the number below.

Thank you,

Trish Mehney (Township Treasurer and Parks & Recreation Chair)

(231) 946-2249 ext: 206

MATT MCDONOUGH, LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2014

Matt McDonough was honored as our Citizen Of The Year on October 14, 2014 for his tremendous work over the years in acquiring the various natural/park areas throughout the Township. With Matt's help we have been able to acquire over 800 acres of natural area and parkland for the entire community to enjoy. We are very fortunate to have Matt's expertise in writing grants, working with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Board, and being Director of Land Protection for the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Our latest accomplishment was the Timbers Recreation Area where Matt spent countless hours working on that project for the community's benefit, expecting nothing in return. If you see Matt McDonough, congratulate him as our man of the year for Long Lake Township.

Election Results

| Precinct | #1 | #2 | #3 | | Totals |
|-------------------|------|------|------|--|--------|
| Voted AV | 247 | 346 | 417 | | |
| Voted in person | 774 | 927 | 1033 | | 3744 |
| | | | | | |
| Registered Voters | 2337 | 2305 | 2634 | | 7276 |
| | | | | | |
| % of Voters | 44% | 55% | 55% | | 51% |
| | | | | | |



8870 North Long Lake Road
 Traverse City, Mi. 49685
 231-946-2249 fax- 231-946-4573
 Office Hours: Tues-Friday 8:00-5:30

Long Lakers Senior Group

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 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 Commission on Aging for help in funding the Long Lakers Activity Programs.

Look for a press release in the Spring for a FREE yard waste pass for Long Lake Township residents. The pass is good for one-3 cubic yard load of brush and leaves taken to the Grand Traverse County Brush Drop-Off site on Keystone Road. Watch for details and dates in the Spring or call our office 231-946-2249

Linwood Cemetery Officially closes on November 1st. However please notice our special, lighted Christmas tree during the holiday season.

WELCOME@LONGLAKETOWNSHIP.COM

O A K W I L T

Oak wilt, an exotic vascular wilt fungus that is fatal to red oaks, is present and spreading in the township. Symptoms of oak wilt include the rapid loss of leaves, typically in mid-summer, and the slow progression from infected red oaks to adjacent healthy red oaks from one year to the next. Oak wilt once established spreads underground through the interconnected root systems of red oak trees. New infections can also begin when beetles spread spores from infected trees to healthy trees that are pruned or injured during the spring and early summer. Property owners should refrain from doing any pruning between April 15th and July 15th to help prevent new infections. In addition, it is important not to move any firewood from trees that have been killed by oak wilt because this can transport the disease to uninfected areas. Infected trees should be removed prior to the following spring

and should be chipped or burned to help reduce the amount of spores in the area.

The DNR and Conservation District foresters are trying to confirm and document the extent of oak wilt in Michigan. If you would like more information, or suspect you may have oak wilt and would like it confirmed contact the Michigan DNR Forest Health Program at (517) 284-5895 or DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov or the Lee-lanau, Grand Traverse and Benzie Conservation District Forester at (231) 256-9783.

Oak Wilt Pest Alert:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdard/OakWilt_3-14_453040_7.pdf



ALL townships were represented by residents participating in all 4 Household Hazardous Waste collections this past year. What an awesome accomplishment.

The next Household Hazardous Waste collection is in the planning stages and is anticipated to be held in late March of 2015.

According to Google Analytics, the RecycleSmart website continues to be in the top 5 viewership of all county departments. Please visit us at www.RecycleSmart.info or connect to the link on the township website: www.longlaketownship.com

Thank-you

Kim Elliott, Marketing/Education Specialist

Grand Traverse County Resource Recovery

2650 LaFranier Road, Traverse City, MI 49686

Tel: 231.995.6075, Fax: 231.929.7226