

Heath Township Annual

March 2010

Office Address: 3440 M-40, Hamilton, MI 49419
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Office Phone: (269) 751-2403
Office Fax: (269) 751-2804

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: www.heathtownship.net

Meeting Dates: Township Board – second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Building Permits: Professional Code Inspections
1575 142nd St., Dorr, MI 49323
(616) 877-2000

Zoning Administrator: Professional Code Inspections, (616) 877-2000 (Building and Zoning questions)

Assessor: Robert Jones (616) 318-2360 (Assessing and Homestead questions)

TOWNSHIP CLEANUP DAYS

Location: **Heath Township Hall, 3440 M-40, Hamilton, MI 49419**
(Please note location change)

From: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dates: Saturday, April 3, 2010 and Saturday, April 17, 2010
Saturday, October 2, 2010 and Saturday, October 16, 2010



The Heath Township Board is working with the Allegan County Resource Recovery Program to bring a Recycle/Proper Disposal Event to the Heath Township Hall, located at 3440 M-40, Hamilton, on **April 17th 2010**, from **9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.**

Residents can bring any household hazardous waste, unwanted medication, and unwanted electronic devices. The household hazardous waste and unwanted medication collection will be free to the residents! There will be a \$5 charge for a computer monitor and a \$10 charge for any sized T.V. Monitor. There will be no charge for all other electronic devices! Residents can contact Ben Williams at 269-673-5415, or at bwilliams@allegancounty.org for more details about this event. No appointments necessary. **Heath Township Residential Use Only.** See acceptable items below.

Office and Household Electronics:

- Air Cleaners
- Cellular Phones
- Fax Machines
- Telephones
- Answering Machines
- Copiers
- Gaming Units
- Televisions
- Blenders
- Scanners
- IPODS, MP3 Players
- Various Media (floppy disks, cd's, memory sticks.)
- Calculators
- DVD Players
- Radios, CD Players

Computer Components and Accessories:

- APC Battery Back-ups
- Keyboards & Mice
- Monitors
- Speakers
- Circuit Boards
- Laptops, MAC's, PC's
- PDAs (Blackberry's, Palm Pilots, iPhone's)
- Towers
- Docking Stations
- Modems

Acceptable Household Hazardous Waste:

Home

- oil based paint
- wood stain
- cleaning products
- paint thinner
- adhesives
- glues

Yard, Garden & Garage

- weed killer
- fertilizer
- pest poisons
- pool chemicals
- antifreeze
- deck sealer
- auto fluids

Miscellaneous

- florescent light bulbs
- mercury thermometers
- batteries (non auto)

**Latex Paint Is
Not Accepted**

HEATH TOWNSHIP RECYCLING

Curbside Collection – Recyclables are collected by Potter Disposal on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month. If that day is on or after a holiday that week, collection will be one day later. Set materials out the night before collection. Recycling bins are available at the Township Hall during regular office hours. One Potter bin is required but overflow materials may be set out next to the bin in paper bags, boxes or other containers.

Papers – Place newspapers and inserts in one paper bag. Place magazines, junk mail, phone books and paperboard (cereal and cracker boxes, etc.) in a separate paper bag. Set bags in or next to the bin. Flatten corrugated cardboard boxes, break down to 3'x3' and stack under or next to the bin.

Containers – Clear, green, and brown glass bottles and jars; #1-#7 plastic jugs, bottles, tubs, trays, cups (no foam); #2 or #4 plastic grocery carry-out bags; metal and foil food containers; empty aerosol cans and household batteries (sealed in a zip-lock bag) may be commingled in the bin. *Please rinse food containers.*

Monitored Depot – Appliances, tires and large cardboard boxes can be taken to the monitored depot site: Allied Waste, 3310 M-40, Hamilton, on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You must present your Resource Recovery card. *NOTE – only the Allied Waste monitored recycling depot is open at these times. The transfer station is closed to the public.*

Household Hazardous Waste Site – For paints, pesticides, solvents and other chemicals.

Allegan County Health Department, 3255 122nd Ave., Suite 200, Allegan. Appointments for drop-off available Tuesday and Thursdays during regular business hours. **You must call to schedule a time, (269) 673-5415.**

Used Motor Oil — *Don't dump it! Recycle it!*

You can take your used motor oil to one of these service stations: *(Call to check their hours.)*

-Auto Zone, 183 W. 32nd Street, Holland, (616) 355-5401

-Fennville Tire Center, 205 W. Main, Fennville, (269) 561-2164

IMPORTANT: Do not mix other wastes with used oil. Such mixtures can create hazards and make recycling more difficult.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM: Many pesticides, cleaning products, and paints contain toxic chemicals which should not be disposed of with household trash. Use these products up, give them away, or **make an appointment** for one of the household hazardous waste collection sites listed below:

Ongoing Weekly Collections:

Allegan County Health Department, 3255 122nd Ave., Suite 200, Allegan.
Appointments available Tuesday and Thursday during regular business hours.

You must call to schedule a time, (269) 673-5415.

2010 Saturday Collections: *By appointment only.
Sites open at noted times, but closed after the last scheduled appointment.*

Saugatuck Township Fire Dept, 3342 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck
For appointments call Resource Recovery, (269) 673-5415.
Saturday, June 12, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The following substances are accepted: **pesticides, weed killers, cleaners & polishes, aerosol, wood preservatives, asphalt & roofing tar, oil based paint products (thinners, solvents, varnish), photographic chemicals, mercury thermometers, fluorescent lamps and home repair products (glue & cement).** NO smoke detectors, explosives or latex paints. Water based paints can be solidified with sawdust or kitty litter and safely disposed of with household trash. Residential materials only. Commercial wastes cannot be accepted.

Mercury Thermometers: The Health Department also accepts mercury thermometers for recycling and recommends that all area residents replace these dangerous instruments with safer digital devices. If mercury spills from a broken thermometer and is not carefully and thoroughly cleaned up, it will continue to evaporate, reaching potentially harmful levels in indoor air. Mercury Thermometers may be dropped off at the Health department any time during business hours; no appointment is required. Double wrap thermometers in plastic zip-lock bags for transport.

Electronics Waste: The South Kent County Landfill, at 300 10th Street, Byron Center, offers free recycling of residential computer, audio and video equipment, including televisions of any size. Many electronics contain heavy metals and should not be disposed of with trash. *Landfill hours are 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.*

Ecosmart Electronic Recycling, LLC of Fennville is a vendor which also will take electronics for recycling for the following fees:

Computer Towers \$5.00 each.
Monitors and Televisions are \$10.00 each up to 17 inch screens
and 19 inches and larger are \$0.25 per pound.
All other electronics are \$0.25 per pound.

They will do pickup of your recyclable electronics for \$0.50 per mile. They can be reached at (866) 415-6127 or for more information please visit their website, www.ecosmartelectronicsrecycling.com.

QUESTIONS? CALL RESOURCE RECOVERY (269) 673-5415

PARKS

Make a visit to one of our parks. The Hamilton Ball Park, Silver Creek County Park and the park by the Rabbit River.



ALLEGAN COUNTY HERITAGE TRAIL

The Allegan County Heritage Trail is a 122 mile driving trail through Allegan County. The trail is a history of our county. A booklet describing the trail and its 28 sites can be purchased for \$3.00 from the Allegan County Library, the Herrick District Library, Heath Township Hall or from the Allegan County Tourist Council by calling (269) 686-9088. Included in the booklet is a map with directions on how to follow the Trail. A two CD packet is also available featuring local historians from around the county and can be purchased also from the above listed sites for \$12.00. This audio version follows the booklet to help make your trip more enjoyable.

Please take time to travel the Heritage Trail – it is most enjoyable!

FALL LEAF BURNING

Please do not burn! The following Burning Ordinance was approved by the Heath Township Board in 2003.

Please take notice that at a meeting of the Township Board held on September 8, 2003, the Heath Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 57, the Open Burning Ordinance. A summary of the ordinance is as follows:

Section I - Title - This ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Heath Township Open Burning Ordinance".

Section II – Purpose - The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the health, safety, welfare and property of the citizens of Heath Township and to prevent environmental and fire hazards which can be caused by open burning.

Section III – General Prohibitions - No open burning shall be permitted in Sections 5 and 6 of Heath Township, Allegan County, Michigan. However, a resident in Section 5 or 6 may apply to the Hamilton Fire Chief or designated officer to obtain a special permit for open burning. In consideration of any permit, adjoining property owners must be notified by an applicant. Open burning in other sections of the Township shall be governed by the provisions in Section IV.

Section IV – Provisions for Open Burning - All open burnings, as in out-of-doors burning on the ground, shall comply with the following provisions:

1. Be attended by a competent person at all times.
2. Be of materials consisting of paper, cardboard, dry leaves, brush and clean untreated lumber.

3. Burning to occur only after sunrise and extinguished and admitting no smoke after 9:00 pm or 10:00 pm during daylight savings time.
4. Burning shall occur at least fifteen feet (15') from any structure, fencing or woodpiles.
5. Burning shall occur at least fifteen feet (15') from any public or private property line.
6. No burning shall occur within a 24-hour period proceeding and during any Trick-or-Treat hours established by the Township Board.

No burning shall occur if it is determined by the Fire Chief that conditions are such that burning would be hazardous to health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the community.

Section V – Enforcements and Penalties - Any violations of this ordinance will be considered a municipal civil infraction punishable by a civil fine which is \$100 for the first offense; \$250 for the second and \$500 for the third offense. The ordinance will be enforced by the Township and the Township may also bring a civil action for injunction and damages.

Section VI - Effective Date and Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances - This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after publication. NOTE this ordinance is currently in effect.

Campfires are now allowed in sections 5 and 6. Please contact Hamilton Fire Department for the regulations pertaining to campfires.

*Dear Heath Township Residents in sections 5 and 6***:*

This coming fall we will resume the leaf pick up service. We ask that you do not burn your leaves. This is for health and safety reasons in these heavily populated areas. We ask that you put your leaves by the roadside, on your lawn, and we will have them picked up weekly by Straight Line Lawn Care.

Many Thanks ~ The Heath Township Board

****(Please note, sections 5 and 6 boundaries are 136th Avenue to the north, 134th Avenue to the south, 48th Street to the west, and 44th Street to the east.)*

FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 2009 Hamilton Fire & Rescue responded to 251 incidents in our coverage area, of which 141 were in Heath Township.



Over the past three years we have been working on getting an improved insurance rating for our area. The process was long and very detailed in the information that was needed and with the support of our community, township boards, mutual aid fire departments, and fire fighter we were informed last December that our rating was changed from a class 9 to a class 7. On an average you should see your fire insurance go down from 5 to 20 percent, but in all cases check with your insurance agent, because each insurance policy will vary. REMEMBER, this is for fire insurance only; it will not effect cars, trucks, boats, liability, etc.

In April of this year we hope to take delivery of a new fire engine. The engine was entirely built in Michigan, with the majority of the work being done by Spencer Mfg. of South Haven, Michigan. It should also be noted that even though the engine is not hear yet, ISO, did give us the maximum credit for it in the rate change.

Please remember to check your smoke detectors and change the batteries.

Spring is coming and for burn permits please call 269-686-5222. It is an automated system you just need to follow the instructions. Please remember also if you live in **sections 5 and 6** you can NOT burn at all.

2010 ROAD WORK



- Repave Marcia Lane.
 - Apply gravel to various roads.
 - Dust control will also be applied three times this summer on gravel roads.
-

2010 ELECTION NEWS

ELECTION DATES

May 4	Election
August 3	State Primary
November 2	State General Election



REGISTRATION DEADLINES

April 5	Last day to register for May Election.
July 6	Last day to register for August State Primary.
October 4	Last day to register for State General Election.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Family Planning and Women's and Men's Health of Allegan County offers annual exams, birth control methods, mammogram referrals, testing and other health services. Services are available regardless of ability to pay. To make an appointment, call (269) 686-4560.

Southwest Michigan Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program and the **Kalamazoo County Human Services Department** coordinate services for women living in Southwest Michigan in the following counties: Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren. They offer free screenings. For more information contact (269) 686-4560 and ask for Erin which can help with eligibility requirements. Website <http://www.kalcounty.com/hsd/bcccp/>

ALLEGAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

The Allegan County Commission on Aging is responsible for distributing the senior millage funds to service providers chosen to provide Access, Community, In-Home services and Nutrition services. They are currently funding Hot Home Delivered Meals, Volunteer Transportation, Personal Care, Homemaking, In-Home Respite, Outreach & Assistance, and Adult Day Care services for seniors age 60 and over living in Allegan County.

For more information you can reach the Allegan County Commission on Aging at 269-673-3333 or 1-877-673-5333. Website <http://www.allegancountycoa.org>

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Another assessing cycle has come and gone which means soon you will be receiving your 2010 tax bills. For the first time since Proposal A passed in 1994 we had a negative consumer price index which means you have seen a decrease in your **taxable** value (unless you built something new or are a new owner). Your assessments may have went up or down but you pay taxes based on taxable value so unless millage rates are increased by a public vote you should see a minor drop in your tax dollars that are due. As always if you have any questions or are splitting your property or removing a structure please call me so I can take care of the issue. Please note I will be at the township office most Monday mornings if you need to see me.

Robert Jones
Heath Township Assessor

Heath Township Annual Newsletter

March 2010

**Heath Township Clean Up Days now held at Heath
Township Hall please see inside for more information!**

**Heath Township Offices
3440 M-40
Hamilton, MI 49419**