



MILTON TOWNSHIP

Milton Township Newsletter

April 2016

News From Our Township Supervisor

Your township officials are working on addressing issues with our current fire districts. Currently we are serviced by the Edwardsburg Fire Department and Niles Charter Township's Fire Department with Gumwood Road being the dividing line of the fire districts. The taxes that pay for the fire departments are based on the school districts' boundaries which do not match the actual fire coverages. So we are making a couple of changes that will resolve these issues.

We are establishing two fire districts as shown on page 2 of this newsletter. District 2016-1 will be serviced by the Niles Charter Township's Fire Department. District 2016-2 will be serviced by the Edwardsburg Fire Department. The only change from the current fire coverage is the residents living on Harris Lane will now be serviced by Niles Charter Township's Fire Department. Also, we will be establishing a Special Assessment District for each fire district. This special assessment will replace the current fire millage and will be the exact same amount. We will be holding public hearings on May 19th at 7:00pm for those living in the Niles Charter Township's Fire District (2016-1) and May 19th at 8:00pm for those living in the Edwardsburg Fire District (2016-2) to answer any questions about the districts. We will also have another set of public hearings to discuss the change from the fire millage to the special assessment district. The goal is for NO new taxes and better alignment to the respective fire departments.

Every July 1st two positions for the Planning Commission become available. The planning commission reviews certain applications, develops new zoning ordinance changes, and maintains the township's master plan. If you are interested in serving, please send me a letter of interest no later than April 30th.

We have several road projects occurring this year across the township. We will have a list of projected dates for these projects available on our website. We have a 3-year plan on road maintenance that is available online or at the township hall. Also, phase 2 of the Gumwood multi-use path will be constructed and phase 3 will be designed for construction next year. This is a continued effort to use federal grants to extend the Gumwood multi-use path into Michigan.

Are there issues in the township that you are concerned with? Give us a call, e-mail, or drop by if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement in our township.

Robert Benjamin, Township Supervisor
(269) 262-0111
supervisor@miltontwp.org

Special Points of Interest

Big Spring Clean Day

Saturday May 7

7am-11am

(or until the dumpsters are full)

Cass County Hazardous Waste Day

May 21

9am - 12 (Noon)

Election Dates

May 3

August 2

November 8

Holiday Closing Schedule

May 30 Memorial Day

July 4 Independence Day

September 5 Labor Day

Regularly Meetings

Board of Trustees

3rd Tuesday 7:00pm

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday 7:00pm

Smith's Chapel Open House

June 25

10:00am—1:00pm

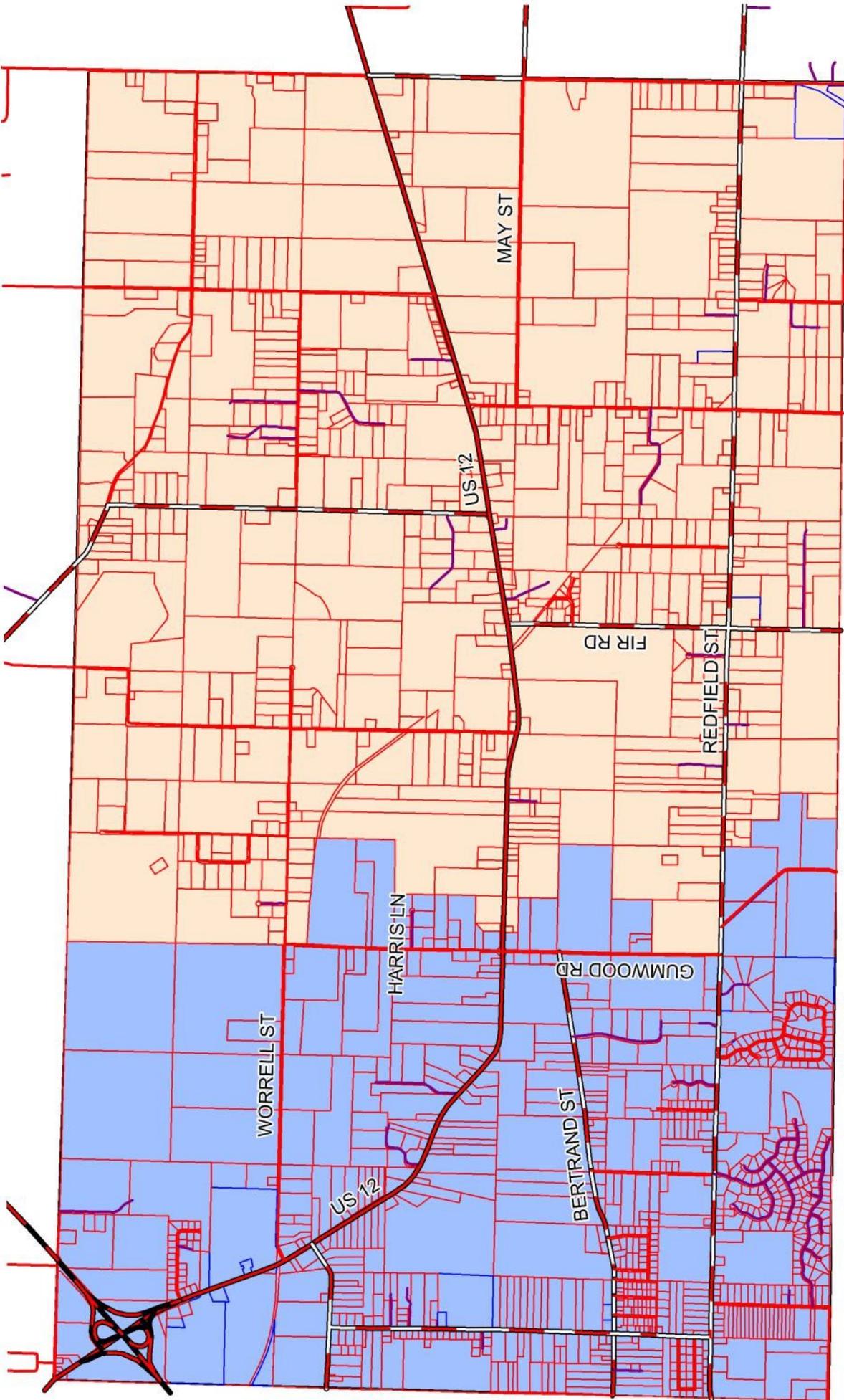
For more information call:

Ann Brown 269-932-5242

<https://www.facebook.com/smithschapelnilesmi>



Spring Clean will be held at the township hall on **Saturday May 7th** from 7am-11am (or until the dumpsters are full). Please remember that this event is **FREE** to Milton Township residents. We will provide trash collection, paper shredding, and metal recycling. We will be accepting old or unwanted prescriptions or over-the-counter drugs this year. Tires of all sizes accepted for a small fee. Address signs are made onsite for only \$15.00! A Goodwill truck will be on site to collect your gently used items and in exchange, they will give you a coupon and a tax-deductible receipt. For more information, call the township at 269-684-7262. To read what items are acceptable or prohibited, go to our website: **www.miltontwp.org**



-  Milton Township Fire Protection Services
Special Assessment District 2016-2
-  Milton Township Fire Protection Services
Special Assessment District 2016-1

Milton Township Fire District Map



Climbing Ropes

TIDINGS FROM THE TREASURER Susan Flowers

ALL residents are invited to use our new township Playground.

The sound of children running, jumping and playing are sounds we love to hear at the New State of the Art Playground to the immediate east of the Township Hall.

Children have been playing since early Spring, testing out the new playground equipment, they are delighted with the rope climbing tower, automatic spinner seats, swings of course; as well as a new style merry-go-round. There is a section for 2-5 years of age and the front of the playground is facing the road and fenced for safety.

The project was in part, funded by a grant from Enbridge Pipeline as part of their community reinvestment.

We invite all residents to come and enjoy your playground with drive up parking. We also have park benches and picnic tables in the fenced area for adults to relax and watch the children.

ELECTION INFORMATION

This year is very active as far as elections go. We have already completed one election and the following elections will be held here in Milton Township:

May 3 Special Election for Brandywine & Edwardsburg Millage Proposals

Aug 2 State & Local Primary Elections

Nov 8 General Election

If you would like to register to vote or need an absentee ballot please feel free to contact me 269-591-7975 and I would be happy to assist you.

The Clerk's office will be open the Saturday before each of the elections above from 9:00am to 2:00pm to issue and receive ballots.



Steve Sante Milton
Township Clerk
269-591-7975

FIRE SAFETY

The Edwardsburg Fire Department, like everyone else, is excited that spring has arrived. With the arrival of warmer weather comes the task of cleaning up all the debris from your yard that's accumulated over winter, sticks, leaves, brush, etc. EFD always notices an up-tick in grass/field fires this time of the year as people start burning those piles. We'd like to pass on five tips that our Milton Twp. Residents can follow to keep safe and avoid wildfires.

- Don't make your burn piles too big. Make your piles small and manageable. People tend to make them too large, and end up with an intense amount of heat; once it gets going, it can easily get out of control and spread.
- If possible, try to place your manageable sized piles within a reachable distance from water; within reach of a water hose where you can cool down the fire and area around it if necessary.
- Burn your piles in a location with no chance of it spreading. Be aware of being too close to a structure, or under power lines, or next to a field of dead grass for example. Try to burn the pile in a spot away from anything while staying within reach of your water source.
- Have your equipment handy that you prepared your burn pile with, a rake, shovel, leaf blower, etc. If you have any trouble you'll have them there for quick use. The bulk of tools firefighters use on grass fires is a leaf blower, a rake and a backpack full of water.
- Finally, and perhaps the most overlooked by homeowners is to watch the weather. If it's windy, it's not a good day to burn. If it's overly dry, the fire could spread more easily. The best time to burn is in zero wind, a day or two after it's rained.

If you plan on burning in the township and are unsure about the safety of your brush pile, feel free to call the Edwardsburg Fire Department at 663-2160 or Niles Charter Fire Department at 683-3311. We'd rather visit you when somethings not burning, than have to come put it out later.

Also, if you didn't do it when we changed our clocks a few weeks ago, please check that your smoke alarm batteries are working. Try to change them twice a year if they need it or not. EFD would like to thank you for your continued support, and hope that your spring 2016 is a safe one.

MILTON TOWNSHIP
32097 Bertrand Street
Niles, MI 49120
Spring 2016 Issue

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Township Board

Supervisor Robert Benjamin 269-262-0111

supervisor@miltontwp.org

Clerk Steve Sante 269-591-7975

clerk@miltontwp.org

Treasurer Susan Flowers 269-591-7974

treasurer@miltontwp.org

Trustee Eric Renken

trusteerenken@miltontwp.org

Trustee Kelly Sweeney

trusteesweeney@miltontwp.org

Planning Commission

Scott Kretchman, Chair

Karen Shirk, Vice Chair

Kelly Sweeney, Ex-Officio

Jeremy Clanton, Member

Richard Hebard, Member

Paul Romanetz, Member

Zoning Administrator & Code Enforcement Officer

Eileen Glick 269-591-7982

zoning@miltontwp.org

Assessor

Bill Gibert 269-369-5285

Building Inspector

Wayne Hardin 269-663-2347

At the Ontwa Twp. Hall in Edwardsburg
(Tue., Thu., Sat. 9am to Noon)

Electrical Inspector

Johnny Hamilton 269-684-7848

Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector

Ed Wainwright 269-663-8542

Board of Review

Roger Kempton

Virginia Kraft

Thomas Talley

William Corbett (Alternate)

Zoning Board of Appeals

Patty Carr, Chair

Susan Flowers, Secretary

Jeremy Clanton