

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP NEWS

Spring/Summer 2007

1080 W. Midland Road

Auburn, MI 48611

(989) 662-4408

www.williamstwp.com



TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

Thru Labor Day: Monday thru
Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
and Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

After Labor Day: Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULES

All meetings are held in the Township Board Room
at 7:00 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 12	Sept. 11	Oct. 23
July 10	Sept. 25 (6 pm)	Nov. 13
Aug. 14	Oct. 9	

PLANNING COMMISSION

June 4	Aug. 6	Oct. 1
July 9	Sept. 10	Nov. 5

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m.

July 12 October 4

**The Public is invited and encouraged to attend
Township meetings.**

QUESTIONS?

Questions can be e-mailed to the appropriate Township department by accessing the Township Website at www.williamstwp.com and clicking on "Contact Us" at the top of the home page.

Please be sure to include your name and phone number since all questions may not be able to be answered by email.

OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

- Independence Day: July 4th, 5th & 6th
- Labor Day: August 31st & September 3rd
- Columbus Day: October 8th
- Veteran's Day: November 12th
- Thanksgiving: November 22nd & 23rd

PASSPORT NEWS

U.S. citizens may apply for their passports during regular hours (and after hours by appointment) at the township clerk's office. A certified birth certificate with a raised seal, not a copy, and two pictures must be presented when making application. Normal processing by the U.S. Department of State previously took approximately six weeks but there were delays this spring and it took 10 weeks or longer for normal processing. Two week rush processing is available for an extra \$60, but delays were also experienced, and for many it was taking 4 weeks. Please plan ahead if you will need a passport for winter 2008 travel.

The standard passport fee is \$97 for adults and \$82 for children younger than 16. Renewals cost \$30 less. We have application forms, renewal forms, and numerous other miscellaneous forms that may be required depending on the applicant's particular situation.

A fill in the blank application is also available online at the only official website for passport information, www.travel.state.gov. Additional information on required documentation and international travel is also available at the website.

All persons traveling by air to Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda must now have a passport to re-enter the United States. As early as January 1, 2008, the requirement will be extended to land border crossings (including ferries) and sea travel.

For questions or additional information, please contact the clerk's office at 662-4408.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER
1080 W. MIDLAND RD
OPEN 9:30A.M. – 1:00P.M.
LUNCH SERVED DAILY AT 12:00 NOON
\$2.00 SUGGESTED DONATION
RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE
1 DAY IN ADVANCE!

CALL MARY AT 662-6521 FOR RESERVATIONS

- ❖ Tuesday June 19, 2007, 11:00a.m. Exercise & Arthritis presentation given by Lisa Lamont, Physical Therapist, Bay Regional Medical Center/Auburn Clinic.
- ❖ Tuesday July 17, 2007, 10:45a.m. Video “The Railway Built of Gold” White Pass and Yukon Route Alaska.
- ❖ Tuesday Sept. 18, 2007, Trash or Treasure. Sign up deadline is Friday Sept. 7, 2007. Terri Applegate, Certified Appraiser will appraise one antique or collectible. A \$5.00 fee includes lunch.
- ❖ Sit & Kick, every Friday, 11:00 a.m. with Beth Trahan, YWCA Fitness Director- **Must Register!!**

SUMMER/FALL LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Free concerts in Auburn City Park (Bands to be announced): June 19th, July 26th, August 16th
- Cornfest: July 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th
- Rock n Wheels: July 20th & July 21st
- Auburn Williams Baseball Tournaments: July 20th & July 21st
- Vintage Baseball Game at Grace Lutheran Church: August 19th 1:00 p.m.
- Open Archery Shooting at the 9 Mile Gun Range: Sept. 18th, 22nd, and 29th
- Open Archery and Shooting Days at the 9 Mile Gun Range: Oct. 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th
- Target Sight in Days: Nov.3rd thru Nov.10th

EFT PAYMENT PROGRAM FOR WATER & SEWER CUSTOMERS

Bay County Department of Water and Sewer (BCDWS) customers can use the electronic fund transfer (EFT) payment program to pay their water and sewer bill. Simply complete the EFT Authorization form and submit it to the BCDWS office. Your new quarterly bill will be sent to you by first class mail with a message “Auto pay Plan – Do Not Pay.” The total amount will be deducted from your checking or savings account on the due date of your bill.

Forms and information are available at the BCDWS offices, 3933 Patterson Road, Bay City, MI or at the Williams Township office.

ELECTION NEWS!

Unlike the cities in Bay County, there are no township elections scheduled for the remainder of 2007. Cities elect their council members in odd numbered years, whereas, township residents select their board of trustees in even years when the President of the United States is elected.

Please remember a permanent list of absent voters is maintained by the township clerk for persons wanting to receive an application for an absent voter ballot prior to each election. Applications are automatically mailed four to six weeks prior to all elections. This is a convenient solution for persons over 60 years of age, those physically unable to attend the polls without assistance, or for those away from the community that want to vote but cannot get to the polls on Election Day.

For more information on our permanent absent voter list or any related questions, call Amy or LeAnne at 662-4408.

2007 SUMMER PROPERTY TAXES

CHANGES:

New state legislation now requires that the **County Operating** Millage be placed on the summer property tax bill. This is **not** an increase in taxes; it simply shifts when the County Operating tax is paid.

This new legislation only affects the **County Operating** millage. All of the other extra voted millages will remain on the winter property tax bill.

July 1 – You should receive your Summer 2007 Property Tax Bill. If you do not receive your tax bill by July 1, or shortly thereafter, let our office know as soon as possible so we can send you a duplicate bill. Be sure to review your tax bill as soon as you get it to verify that all information is correct (i.e. address, principal residence exemption status, etc). If there are any errors, please contact our office immediately so the necessary correction can be made.

July 1 to Sept 14 – Summer taxes may be paid or deferred. If you qualify and plan to defer your summer property taxes, stop by the treasurer’s office as soon as possible to sign a deferment form. A new form must be executed each year.

You may pay your property taxes in person at the treasurer’s office, by mail, or place your payment in our drop box located in the front of our office building. **NO CASH, PLEASE!**

For any tax related questions, please call Connie or Paulette at 662-4091.

2007 DOG AND CAT LICENSES

All dogs and cats four months of age or older are required to have a current rabies vaccination and license. Animal licenses now expire the last day of the month in which the previous rabies vaccination was administered. For example, if the last rabies vaccination was given June 10, 2006, your animal's current license will expire June 30, 2007. Please check your animal's last rabies certificate to see which month its license will come due.

For animals that are currently licensed, a renewal notice will be sent to you (from the Bay County Treasurer) approximately two (2) months before the expiration date. If you are buying a license in person, please bring the renewal notice and your animal's rabies vaccination certificate. If your animal's rabies vaccination expires this year, you must get a new vaccination and show proof of the new vaccination prior to purchasing the license.

The 2007 license fees are \$6.00 for a spayed or neutered animal and \$18.00 for an unaltered animal. Licenses may be purchased at any participating veterinarian or township office, Bay County Animal Control, or the Bay County Treasurer's office.

Licenses not renewed by the last day of the month in which your rabies was given will be considered delinquent and an additional \$20.00 late fee will be charged. Delinquent licenses are **only** sold at the Bay County Treasurer's office and Bay County Animal Control.

FIRE HYDRANTS

Township personnel will be conducting maintenance on fire hydrants in Williams Township this summer and fall. They will check for proper operation, flush and drain the hydrants. If you have a fire hydrant near your property, please help yourself and your neighbors by keeping hydrants clear of grass and weeds. **Your help is greatly appreciated.**

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF FIRE HYDRANTS

Unauthorized use of a fire hydrant to obtain free water should be reported immediately to 9-1-1. Besides not paying for the water, these unauthorized users typically do not pump out the water that remains in the barrel of the hydrant, which can then freeze in cold temperatures and render the hydrant inoperable when needed in an emergency.

FROM THE FIRE CHIEF, MIKE SNYDER

OUTDOOR GRILLING SAFETY

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), gas and charcoal grills cause an average of 900 structure fires and 3,500 outdoor fires in or on home properties each year, resulting in a combined direct property loss of \$30 million.

Nearly half of home outdoor gas grill fires and almost one-third of home gas grill structure fires are due to leaks and breaks in the equipment. The two leading causes for charcoal grill home structure fires are combustible materials, including the home itself, that are too close to the grill, and unattended cooking. Selecting a safe location outside the home for grilling is important. **Almost half of all home structure charcoal grill fires and one-third of the gas grill fires began on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch.**

To make sure your next barbecue doesn't go up in flames, the Auburn-Williams Fire Department recommends the following safety tips:

- ✓ Gas and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.
- ✓ Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. The grill should be positioned at least 3 feet away from any combustible object.
- ✓ Designate the grilling area a "No Play Zone", keeping children and pets well away until grill equipment is completely cool.
- ✓ Only use starter fluid made for barbecue grills when starting a fire in a charcoal grill.
- ✓ Check the gas cylinder hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane by releasing bubbles. If you determine your grill has a leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, immediately turn the gas supply off and get the grill serviced by a professional. **Immediately call the Fire Department if a detected gas leak is not stopped when the gas tank valve is closed.**
- ✓ **Never store propane gas cylinders inside buildings or garages.** If you store a gas grill inside during the winter, disconnect the cylinder and leave it outside.

FROM THE SUPERVISOR, TOM PAIGE

BRUSH CHIPPING AND DISPOSAL

Williams Township continues to offer a residential brush chipping service. This service is for township residents that have trimmed their own trees themselves as an alternative to open burning. Commercial tree cutting services and "For-Hire" tree cutters must dispose of the trees and brush they cut and trim.

Brush must be placed at the road shoulder with all ends facing towards the road. Pieces must be small enough and piled appropriately for one person to handle. Please call the township office to be placed on the "Chipping List" when the brush is ready to chip. It is greatly appreciated if chipping requests are limited to one request per month per household.

Whenever you have a couple of branches or a small amount of brush please put it out for Waste Management to pick up as yard waste on your normal trash pickup day. Brush for Waste Management pickup needs to be placed in paper yard waste bags, containers marked "Yard Waste," or tied together in bundles up to 24 inches in diameter, up to 48 inches in length, and weighing no more than 50 pounds per bundle, with individual pieces not exceeding 2 inches in diameter.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

For proper disposal of all hazardous materials, contact the Bay County Health Department at 895-4006.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

It is strongly encouraged that all trash be placed in bags, whether in or out of trash cans (including "Green Monsters"). This will help assure that the trash ends up in the landfill where it belongs, and not blowing around the township, especially on windy collection days.

Whole tires and beverage containers were added to the list of items banned from Michigan landfills in 2004. Other banned items include yard waste, lead acid batteries, used oil, low-level radioactive waste, regulated hazardous waste, liquid waste, sewage, PCBs and asbestos waste.

Waste Management will pick up beverage containers for recycling on your regularly scheduled pickup day for recyclable items. Whole tires can be disposed of through tire dealers or through the Bay County Mosquito Control Scrap Tire Collection Program on June 22-23, 2007, and September 14-15, 2007. Contact Mosquito Control at 894-4555 for details.

An optional service that is available from Waste Management for a nominal fee is the availability of 96 gallon, "Green Monster" receptacles. These are the 96-gallon, large green receptacles on wheels with covers that are seen in several neighboring communities. Williams Township residents can lease a "Green Monster" directly from Waste Management. The current cost is \$1.50 per month billed annually, and includes any maintenance required to the receptacle, like wheels or covers. Please call Waste Management Customer Service at 1-800-796-9696 if you are interested in leasing a "Green Monster."

YARD WASTE IN DITCHES

Please do not place grass clippings, yard waste, leaves, or debris in the ditches. This contributes to poor drainage for you, your neighbors, and the entire township. Waste Management picks up yard waste weekly on your normal trash collection day from April 1st through the end of November.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Local township roads currently receiving major work are Kiesel Road, between Flajole and Rockwell, and Wilder Road, between Garfield and Carter. These roads were crushed and shaped with additional gravel applied last fall. A double layer of Chip Seal will be applied in mid to late June 2007, with a third layer of Chip Seal to be applied in 2008.

Two more miles of Wilder Road, between 8 Mile and Carter, are scheduled to be crushed and shaped with additional gravel applied this fall. A double layer of Chip Seal will be applied in 2008, with a third layer of Chip Seal to be applied in 2009.

Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated during all road improvement projects.

ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

If you would like to report a violation of any of the Township Ordinances, you may do so by filing a written complaint with the township. Complaint forms are available in the Township Office. The Zoning Administrator will investigate the complaint and take an appropriate course of action.

Please drive carefully, and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

AUBURN/WILLIAMS SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

June 25th – August 9th

Call for trip reservations Monday –Thursday

Between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. & Friday between 9:00 a.m. & noon at 662-2675.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
June 25 th 10-12 Carnival Day 12:30 – 2:00 Hot Dog Roast 2 Kickball	June 26 th 10 T-Ball/Softball 11 Capture the Flag 12:00 PBJ Festival 1:30 Game Choice 2 Doll Show/Free Throw 2:30 Free Time	June 27 th 10 Games 11 Dodge Ball 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Craft Time 2 Soccer	June 28 th 10 Game Choice 11 Free Choice 12:30 – 2:30 Ice Skating Civic Arena
July 2 nd NO	July 3 rd PROGRAM	July 4 th THIS	July 5 th WEEK
July 9 th 10 Story Hour 11 Games 12 Hot Dog Roast 1 Craft Time 2 Soccer	July 10 th 10 T-Ball/Softball 11 Kickball 12 PBJ Festival 1 Volleyball 2 Matchbox Car Race	July 11 th 10 Dodge Ball 11 Capture the Flag 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Jewelry Making 2 Game Choice	July 12 th 10 – 11:30 Game Choice 11:30 Free Time 11:40 – 2:30 Swimming at Delta College Pool
July 16 th 10 Story Hour 11 Games 12 – 1:30 Face Painting 1:30 – 3:00 McDonald's	July 17 th 10 T-Ball/Softball 11 Kickball 12 PBJ Festival 1-3 Olympic Day	July 18 th 10 Kickball 11 Dodge Ball 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Craft Time 2 Game Choice	July 19 th 9:30 – 11:30 Fishing Contest 11:45 Free Time 12:30 – 3:30 Roller Skating at Metro Skate
July 23 rd 10 Story Hour 11 Games 12 Hot Dog Roast 1 Volleyball 2 Game Choice	July 24 th 10-12 Tye Dye 12 PBJ Festival 1 Dodge Ball 2 Soccer	July 25 th 10 Free Choice 11 Capture the Flag 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Craft Time 2 Remote Control Car Day	July 26 th 10 Game Choice 11 – 11:30 Free Time 11:45 – 2:45 Putt Putt Golf at Buoy 18
July 30 th 10 Story Hour 11 Basketball 12 Hot Dog Roast 1 Craft Time 2 Kickball	July 31 st 10 T-Ball/Softball 11 Game Choice 12 PBJ Festival 1 Free Time 2 Volleyball	Aug 1 st 10 Free Choice 11 Capture the Flag 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Craft Time 2 Basketball	Aug 2 nd 10 Game Choice 11 – 11:30 Free Time 11:45 – 2:45 Swimming at Community Center Swimming
Aug 6 th 10 Story Hour 11 Basketball 12 Hot Dog Roast 1 Craft Time 2 Kickball	Aug 7 th 10 T-Ball/Softball 11 Game Choice 12 PBJ Festival 1 – 3:00 Bicycle Day	Aug 8 th 10 Free Choice 11 Capture the Flag 12 Pizza & Pop 1 Craft Time 2 Basketball	Aug 9 th Fun Day.....All Day 10:00 – 3:00

Sign up for the Thursday field trips can be made one week in advance.

DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST, THERE WILL BE NO ARCHERY THIS YEAR.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF
2007!!