

SUMMER 2011

Blair Township



BLAIR TOWNSHIP IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Dear Blair Township Residents:

Each year when we send out the water assessment installment bills we inevitably get calls from residents stating that their mortgage company pays their water assessment. The only way your assessment is paid by your mortgage company is: if you sent them your bill and asked them to pay it, they request the bill (which is usually the case), or it is rolled over onto your winter tax bill. If the latter statement is true then you are paying even more each year for your assessment, because if it is not paid by June 30th you continue to pay a 1% penalty on any late amount each month until we roll it over onto your winter tax bill at the beginning of November.

If you would like to have the mortgage company pay your water assessment, then please have them send us a letter requesting that we send the bill to them. We are happy to do this, but we need something in writing from them for our records to be able to do this. If you have any further questions please feel free to give myself or Lynette a call.

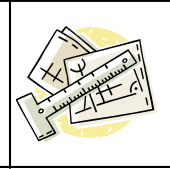
**Brenda DeKuiper
Township Treasurer**

**Lynette Wolfgang
Deputy Treasurer**





The Blair Library Committee is seeking an architect to donate their time to design a building to house the library. If you are interested, please call Brenda DeKuiper at 276-9263. Ext. 102 Thank you.



ELECTION INFORMATION

Greetings from the clerk's office!! Hope you are enjoying the weather now that the snow is **FINALLY** gone. The following dates are for elections that will be held in 2011, so mark them on your calendar:

***July 5th, 2011 is the Registration Deadline for the August Election.
At the time of this**

printing, there is not an August Election scheduled.

***August 2nd, 2011 Election Day (if an election needs to be held)**

***October 11th, 2011 Registration Deadline for the November Election**

***November 8th, 2011 Election Day**

If you have any questions about your voter registration, or anything else pertaining to elections, please call 231-276-9263 ext.106 and ask for Iva Lewis.

Remember.....Every Vote Counts

Betty A Tharp, Clerk

Iva J Lewis, Deputy Clerk



When walking your dog in the park, please use the bags provided to clean up after them.

**We have had numerous complaints already and if this continues to be an issue,
the Township Board may decide to ban dogs in the park.**



Visit us at blairtownship.org

Click on the Treasurer's Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View your tax bill or print a receipt
- ▶ Pay water bills, taxes, assessments and EMS bills online
- ▶ Print Principal Residence Exemption Affidavit (Homestead Exemption)
- ▶ Print request to Rescind Principal Residence Exemption
- ▶ Print Summer Deferment Application

Click on the Clerk's Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View the meeting schedules/agendas/minutes for Township Board, Planning Commission or Zoning Board of Appeals
- ▶ Get the current year's Election Dates
- ▶ Print a voter registration application or absentee ballot application
- ▶ View the precinct voting map
- ▶ Get pricing on cemetery lots and burials (Maple Grove and Monroe Center cemeteries)

Click on the Assessor's Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View the SEV, Taxable Value and other information about your property
- ▶ View the Land Division Ordinance

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- ▶ View the Land Division Ordinance
- ▶ Print the Parcel Division Application

Click on the Planning/Zoning Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View the Blair Township Zoning Ordinance, Master Plan or Land Use Map
- ▶ Print an application for a Land Use Permit, Sign Permit, Administrative Review, Special Use, Site Plan Review, or Zoning Board of Appeals
- ▶ View the meeting schedule/minutes/members of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals
- ▶ View information about Miss Dig
- ▶ View businesses in Blair Township
- ▶ View Blair Township zip codes map, school district map and zoning map



Click on the Fire Department Link if you would like to:

- ▶ Get information on how to obtain a burn permit
- ▶ Fill out an application to become a firefighter
- ▶ View links to Michigan Firefighters Training Council, FEMA, Office of Emergency Preparedness, United States Fire Administration, the National Council on Fireworks Safety

Click on the Water/Sewer Department Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View water and sewer usage and connection rates
- ▶ Apply for water or sewer permit
- ▶ View the Blair Township Water Quality Report
- ▶ View Technical Specifications for Sewer and Water Main Construction in Blair Township
- ▶ View the water district map
- ▶ View the Township's water and sewer ordinances



Click on the Community Info Link if you would like to:

- ▶ View general township information and history
- ▶ View information about the township's handicap accessible playground
- ▶ View information about "COMMUNITY FAMILY FUN DAY"
- ▶ Link to area agencies such as:

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Traverse City Senior Center

Traverse Area District Library

Munson Health Care

Michigan Department of Community Health

Northern Michigan Alliance for Independent Living

Grand Traverse County Health Department

Boardman River Dams Committee

Grand Traverse and Interlochen Chamber of Commerce

Interlochen Center for the Arts

Grand Traverse Parks and Recreation

Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

West Michigan Tourist Association



Water your plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.



Don't over water! Reduce each irrigation cycle by 1-3 minutes or eliminate one irrigation cycle per week. This can save up to 250 gallons per cycle. Use the landscape calculator at

<http://apps.sandiego.gov/landcalc>

The assessing department will be doing fieldwork in the township. You may see us around your home measuring and verifying property information on your record card, as well as taking new pictures. We will be updating the blairtownship.org website with the areas the assessing department will be visiting.

Aaron Plowman—Assessor

Marvel Mallory—Assessing Assistant

The Blair Township Fire Dept. would like to wish everyone a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer. As a reminder, please be responsible and take extra care with outdoor cooking and recreational campfires. Never leave any fire unattended.



Lt. Matt Tallman

Construction on the improvements to the water system is slated to begin sometime in June. The township requested bids and at the bid opening on April 12, 2011 three contractors were selected. The bids for all three, underground storage tank, transmission line, and generator and controls came in lower than expected. The savings on these projects will allow us to paint the exterior of the elevated water tank and the interior if needed. We are also planning to complete several loops in the existing water system to make it more reliable and eliminate dead ends. This will all be done through a loan from Rural Development of 2.7 million dollars. The DEQ has been pushing us to get our fire flow ratings higher and with these improvements, that will be behind us. The sewer extension on East Silver Lake Road should wrap up soon with a few items yet to be resolved. If you have any questions or concerns please give me a call and I will try to address them.

Pat Pahl—Township Supervisor



2121 County Rd. 633
Grawn, MI 49637

Phone: 276-9263
Fax: 276-5111
www.blairtownship.org

We would like to welcome the following business to Blair Township:

- Sleeping Bear Mattress Company**
- Small Wonders Consignment and Resale**
- Goodwill Industries Donation Center**
- Michigan Online Auctions Traverse City**
- Okie's Tobacco**
- Northern Michigan Asset Services**

Zoning Department Update

I hope everyone's summer is going well. I thought that since summer project season is now upon us I would give some information on frequently asked questions in regards to land use permits:

What is a Land Use Permit?

A Land Use Permit is something that authorizes a person or organization to enact a certain use of land or something that confirms that a proposed structure is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Blair Township Zoning Ordinance. A Land Use Permit does not authorize construction if a building permit is required.

Why Does Blair Township Require a Land Use Permit?

Blair Township requires land use permits to ensure that uses of land and structures are compliant with the Zoning Ordinance.

When Do You Need a Land Use Permit?

Blair Township requires a Land Use Permit for the erection of, addition to, alteration or moving of any building or structure. Land Use Permits are also required for any activity or change of use and the grading, leveling, re-contouring of land or the removing of trees in connection with the above mentioned activities.

Ron Akers - Zoning Administrator

EMS Department

I am happy to let all Blair Township residents know that the EMS department recently received a 2% grant from Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to purchase a Lucas 2 Chest Compression System. This device allows for continuous chest compressions for a victim in cardiac arrest.

Have a fun and safe summer. Make sure to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Always wear your protective safety gear when biking, rollerblading or skate boarding. Wear your life jacket when boating and don't leave children unattended near the water. We recently updated (new tile and paint) the kitchen, bathrooms, shower room and day room, so feel free to stop in and meet our staff, look at our equipment and have your blood pressure checked. If you are interested in CPR or First Aid classes please email or call me.

Daryl Case - Medical Director