



THE BYRON TOWNSHIP BUGLE



Volume 10, Issue 2

October, 2001

Dates to Note:

October 8	Township Board Meeting
October 15	Planning Commission
October 22	Township Board Meeting
October 24	Zoning Board of Appeals
November 12	Township Board Meeting
November 19	Planning Commission
November 26	Township Board Meeting
November 28	Zoning Board of Appeals
December 10	Township Board Meeting
December 17	Planning Commission
December 26	Zoning Board of Appeals
December 27	Township Board Meeting

BYRON TOWNSHIP LEAF COLLECTION

Byron Township will be providing a Leaf Collection Drop-Off Station to assist Township Residents in disposing of their leaves. The Township Board is encouraging use of this drop-off site as alternative to open burning.

The drop-off site will be located near the ball field at Bi-Centennial Park, 8085 Byron Center Avenue, SW because it is centrally located within the Township.

This service is provided for Byron Township Residents only and proof of residence may be required. The program is provided at no charge for residents.

Residents are encouraged to bring dry bagged leaves only. Township employees will be available to assist in placing the leaves in the compactor truck. Residents will take leaf bags back with them.

People dropping off bags of leaves at other

than designated times and bags of trash or other abuses of this program will jeopardize the program in the future.



This service will be available on five consecutive Saturdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting October 27, 2001. Leaves will not be accepted at any other times.

Leaf Collection Dates and Time

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

October 27

November 3

November 10

November 17

November 24

Inside this issue:

Leaf Collection	1
Softball Champions	1
Building Inspector	2
Holiday Safety	2
The Clerk's Corner	3
Treasurer's Forum	3
Whistle Stop Park Update	3
Holiday Hours	4
Township Contact Numbers	4

2001 Byron Township Softball Champs

Monday Men's Fast Pitch

- Grand Rapids Office Supply
- Berkenpas Builders
- Ace Trucking
- Priority Mortgage

Monday Co-ed Slow Pitch

- Baker's Dozen
- Press-a-Dent

Tuesday Men's Slow Pitch

- Detail Technologies
- Unit Crew

Wednesday Women's Fast Pitch

- Sneakers

Wednesday Men's Slow Pitch

- Nothin' But Net
- Pathway Ministries
- Custom Tool & Die

Thursday Co-ed Slow Pitch

- Marty's Gang
- The Crew

Thursday Men's Slow Pitch

- Lakeside Plumbing
- Woody's

Friday Women's Slow Pitch

- Dentures in a Day

FROM THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

By Randy Zomerlei



I hope everyone had a good summer. With a chill in the air as I write this article, it reminds me of my fall time maintenance duties on my home. Checking out wear on shingles, checking and repairing caulk joints around windows and door. Do not forget the brick. Water and snow could get caught behind the brick, freeze and cause damage to your brick. Check all other areas where you could lose heat.

As of July 31, 2001, the State of Michigan adopted new laws pertaining to building. They are the 2000 Michigan Residential Building Code and the 2000 Michigan Building Code. One important change to the Michigan Residential Building Code is that accessory buildings over 400 square feet in area are required to have frost protection. Slab on grade is no longer acceptable. To have frost protection in Michigan, the post or concrete wall must be 42 inches below grade. If you have any questions on the new code, please stop by my office. Have a safe and fabulous fall.

HOLIDAY SAFETY

General Holiday Safety Tips

- All holiday decorations should be non-combustible or flame-retardant and not placed near heat or electrical sources.
- Keep candles away from flammable materials like curtains, plants, and Christmas Trees—place candles where they can't be blown over.
- Don't forget to change you smoke detector batteries when you set your clocks back in the fall.
- Never use an oven or range as a supplemental heating device. It can be a source of potential toxic fumes.
- Never store gasoline or propane in the basement.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home please keep the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be locate.



Halloween

Cars not candy should be Parents' primary safety concern on Halloween. To help make your child's Halloween safe, Byron Township would like to recommend the following safety precautions:

- Children under the age of 12 should have adult supervision.
- Decorated costumes and bags with reflective tape
- Give trick-or-treaters flashlights.
- Be sure your children dress in flame retardant costumes
- Keep candles, pumpkins with candles, matches and lighters out of the reach of children.



Christmas

- Keep Christmas tree needles moist by replenishing the water supply daily. Dryness is the biggest fire safety hazard. Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.
- Check your indoor and outdoor Christmas lights each year before you use them. If there are frayed cords, exposed wires or broken sockets, replace or repair them before using. Unplug your lights when you leave your home or before going to bed.
- Do not put wrapping paper in a fireplace or stove, it can throw off dangerous sparks.
- NEVER LEAVE CANDLES AND CHILDREN UN-ATTENDED.

A special thank you from the Byron and Cutlerville Fire Departments for the cards and letters sent during the recent New York Tragedy.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season from the Byron Township Fire Departments.

THE CLERK'S CORNER By Joel Hondorp

NEW PRECINCT

On August 20, 2001, the Byron Township Election Commission voted to create a new precinct for the 2002 elections. The new precinct (Precinct 8) was split from Precinct 6. The boundaries for the new precinct are: 76th between Burlingame and Clyde Park, Burlingame between 76th and 68th, 68th between Burlingame and Clyde Park and Clyde Park between 68th and 76th.

REDISTRICTING

The Governor signed into law on September 11, 2001, Public Acts 115 and 116 that redrew the Congressional and Legislative District Lines based on the 2000 census while, the County Commission drew their lines earlier this summer. Byron Township will be in the 3rd Congressional District, the 77th State House District, the 28th State Senate District and the 9th County Commission District. New voter identification cards will be issued to each voter in the coming months.

If you have any questions about the new precinct or redistricting, please contact me.

TREASURER'S FORUM By Carol Houseman

Summer is past and fall has begun. I hope you and your family were able to relax and enjoy the beautiful season together.

The Treasurer's Office is little quieter these days, since the Summer Tax Cycle was over on September 134. Hopefully, you remembered to pay your property taxes. If you did forget, I can take payments until February 28, 2002. Interest of 1% will be added the first of each month on the unpaid balance. If you are in doubt if your taxes were paid, please call my office at 878-3196.

Winter taxes will be in the mail the first week of December. They are due on February 14, 2002. If you wish to use the deduction for your 2001 income taxes, the payments must be in by December 30th.

If you have questions or just want to say hi, please stop in. My door is always open.

WHISTLE STOP PARK UPDATE

In July 2000, Byron Township broke ground for a new park project on 76th Street just east of Byron Center Avenue. A lot has been accomplished in only 14 months:



- Grading of fields and parking areas.
- Four softball fields are lighted, seeded and fenced.
- Fishing pond is excavated and filling with water.
- Bathroom building is almost completed.
- Parking lot and drive is paved.

Next year will see the completion of 3 soccer/football fields, 4 Little League fields, a playground area, picnic shelter, fishing piers, 2 concession/bathroom buildings and a maintenance/bathroom building.

SUCCESSFUL SUMMER FOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION

Summer 2001 was a very successful year for the Byron Township Recreation Department. We continue to have record participation in our many programs and look forward to expanding these programs when Whistle Stop Park opens next year.

• Little League	850+ Participants
• Girls Softball	525+ Participants
• Adult Softball	1275+ Participants
• Summer Recreation	800+ Participants
• Senior Citizen Programs	125+ Participants



Byron Township
8085 Byron Center Avenue
Byron Center, MI 49315
Phone: 616-878-9066
Fax: 616-878-3980

Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Byron Township Phone List

Receptionist	616-878-9066
Supervisor	616-878-1222
Clerk	616-878-9104
Treasurer	616-878-3196
Inspections	616-878-9155
Assessor	616-878-6033
Water and Sewer	616-878-0660
Recreation	616-878-1998



*Byron Township
Holiday Hours*

*Days Closed
Thanksgiving
Day after Thanksgiving*

*Christmas Eve
Christmas*

*New Years Eve (Noon to 5)
New Years Day*

*We will be open 8:00 to Noon
on New Years Eve.*

Byron Township

8085 Byron Center Ave., SW

Byron Center, MI 49315

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour - October 28, 2001