



# BYRON BUGLE



[www.byrontownship.org](http://www.byrontownship.org)

## From the Supervisor Audrey Nevins REGULATIONS FOR TEMPORARY SIGNS

Volume 16, Issue 3

July 2007

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### Township Calendar

July 9	Township Board Meeting
July 16	Planning Commission
July 23	Township Board Meeting
July 25	Board of Appeals
August 13	Township Board Meeting
August 20	Planning Commission
August 22	Board of Appeals
August 27	Township Board Meeting
September 10	Township Board Meeting
September 14	SUMMER TAXES DUE
September 17	Planning Commission
September 24	Township Board Meeting
September 26	Board of Appeals

One of the most difficult Township Ordinances to enforce is our Sign Ordinance as it relates to the placement of temporary signs.

Temporary signs include a variety of signs, but the ones that cause the most difficulty are:

- Real Estate Signs
- Political Signs
- Signs Advertising Diets, Work at Home Projects and Seasonal Services
- Garage and Yard Sale Signs



These signs may be placed on an individual's property only. Signs placed in the right-of-way, within 50 feet of an intersection, and on telephone poles are in violation of Byron Township Ordinance and are restricted by the Kent County Road Commission.

These signs diminish the appearance of the neighborhood, often create vision obstructions and traffic hazards.

Township employees are instructed to take down the signs and a fine could be imposed in accordance with the ordinance.

## From the Water and Sewer Department

The water & sewer assessment bills will go out on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have an annual assessment payment of either water or sewer, or perhaps both, they will be due on July 31, 2007 before the close of business. Any bill that is not paid on or before 5:00 pm, August 31, 2007 will be assigned to your winter tax bill. We have a drop box on the East side of the building for your convenience.

The Consumer Confidence 2006 Water Quality Reports are going out in the summer tax bills if you are in a section within the township that has public water. This report is supplied by the City of Wyoming, and tells you that your drinking water is safe. If you need additional copies, we have them available at the township office for distribution.

Remember that underground sprinkling set automatically can cause an unnecessarily high utility bill. You may want to consider manually setting the underground sprinkling so that you have more control over how much water you are using.

***If the grass is greener on the other side of the fence,  
you can bet their water bill is higher too!!***



## BYRON TOWNSHIP FESTIVAL 2007

July 26-28



### Thursday, July 26

9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market  
(8250 Byron Creek Drive)

### Friday, July 27

9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market  
5:00 p.m. Byron Bank 5K Race Registration (Byron Bank)  
6:00 p.m. Battle of the Bands

### Saturday, July 28

7:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast (Pathway Ministries)  
*Hosted by Byron Center Rotary and  
Pathway Ministries*

8:00 a.m. Softball Tournament (WhistleStop Park)  
8:00 a.m. Rec Sports 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament  
8:30 a.m. Byron Bank 5K Run/Walk (Byron Bank)  
9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market  
9:00 a.m. Byron Center Fine Arts Boosters  
Art and Craft Sale

9:30 a.m. Kids Fun Run (Byron Bank)  
9:30 a.m. Parade Line up (Nickels Intermediate School)  
9:30 a.m. Used Book Sale (Library)  
10:00 a.m. Parade  
11:30 a.m. Family Activities  
11:30 a.m. Food Booths  
Noon Master Arts Theater Youth Summer Stock  
1:30 p.m. Master Arts Street Theater  
8:30 p.m. Master Arts Theater Improv Team  
Dusk **Fireworks**

*All events located in Bicentennial Park unless noted differently.*

# THE CLERK'S CORNER

By Joel Hondorp

**Election 2007**

**Tuesday, August 7**

Polls are open from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm.

There is an election on August 7, 2007. The only issue on the Byron Township Ballot is a millage increase request from Grand Rapids Community College.

If you are not available to vote in person on August 7, you may request an Absentee Ballot by calling or stopping in the Clerk's Office.

### May 8 Turnout

Precinct	Voted	Registered	Percent
1	349	2314	15.08
2	70	1090	6.42
3	57	1377	4.14
4	263	2050	12.83
5	243	2530	9.6
6	197	2176	9.05
7	103	855	12.05
8	254	1875	13.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>1536</b>	<b>14267</b>	<b>10.77</b>

***www.byrontownship.org***

*The Byron Township website is your Township Office online. You can find all kinds of useful information. You may print a building permit application, find a yoga class, find out if you paid your taxes, who won the last election, a short history of the Township and so much more!*

# TREASURER'S FORUM

By Carol Houseman

Very often property owners have concerns over the amount of their tax bill and perhaps do not realize where their taxes go.

Below is a tax chart for a home that has a homestead exemption and is valued at \$200,000 with a taxable value of \$100,000. It will show the taxing authority, millage rate and annual tax dollars.

One mil equals one dollar per thousand of taxable value of your property. In the above example 28.9543 mills equates to 28.9543 X 100 representing the taxable value in thousands and the taxes are \$2895.43 annually.

Non PRE (principle residence exemption) properties, such as Industrial and Commercial properties, rental property and a second residence are not considered your homestead and are assessed 18 mills more than properties with a homestead exemption. That additional tax goes to support education.

In 1993 prior to the implementation of proposal A, the millage rate was 52.891 mills. Today it is 28.8745. That's 24.0165 mills lower than 1993. Proposal A also limits annual property tax increases to the rate of inflation or 5% whichever is less.

While the process is confusing, I hope it answers some of your questions.

<u>Taxing Authority</u>	<u>Millage</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
GR Community College	1.7865	\$178.65
Kent Intermediate Schools	4.6903	\$469.03
Byron Center Public Schools	7.9835	\$798.35
State Education Tax	6.000	\$600.00
Kent County	5.3940	\$539.40
Kent District Library	.88	\$88.00
Byron Township Law	.6000	\$60.00
Byron Township Fire	.9100	\$91.00
Byron Township Allocated	.7100	\$71.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.9543</b>	<b>\$2895.43</b>

The summer tax bill now makes up 72% of your total.

You may sign up to have your taxes automatically deducted from your bank account. There will be two dates that you may choose to have your account debited. The form will be included with your tax bill.

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8085 Byron Center Avenue  
Byron Center, MI 49315

**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 FARMERS' MARKET**  
COMMUNITY WELLNESS CONNECTION

**Every Saturday until October 13**

**8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

Located in the Heart of Byron Center  
8350 Byron Center Avenue, SW  
Parking Lot of Pathway Ministries

**Byron Township**

**8085 Byron Center Ave., SW**

**Byron Center, MI 49315**