



BYRON BUGLE



www.byrontownship.org



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October, 2008

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Township Calendar

October 13	Township Board Meeting
October 20	Planning Commission
October 24	Board of Appeals
October 27	Township Board Meeting
November 10	Township Board Meeting
November 17	Planning Commission
November 24	Township Board Meeting
November 26	Board of Appeals
December 8	Township Board Meeting
December 15	Planning Commission
December 22	Township Board Meeting

From the Supervisor

Audrey Nevins

2008 Leaf Drop Off Program

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 an alternative to open burning. The drop-off site will be located near the ball fields 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.

Only dry bagged leaves will be accepted. Township employees will be available to assist in placing the leaves in the compactor truck. Residents will take leaf bags back with them.

A chipper will be available on November 1 and 8 only for branches, twigs or shrubs. **Leaves will only be accepted on these 4 Saturdays. Leaves brought at other times could lead to the end of the program.**

Leaf Collection Dates and Time
 Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 November 1, 8, 15 & 22

Byron Township = Passport Agency

Byron Township is an official Passport Acceptance Agency for the United States Department of State. We have the forms necessary for applying for a passport.

Fees: (Two Separate Checks)

Age 16 and over: \$75 Department of State
 \$25 Byron Township

Under 16: \$60 Department of State
 \$25 Byron Township

Bring the necessary pieces of information:

- Proof of citizenship: certified, sealed birth certificate, or a previous passport, or naturalization papers, or a certificate of citizenship.
- A current Photo ID (Driver's License)
- Two Passport Photos (Available at Walgreens, Meijer, Sam's, Costco, etc.)
- Appropriate Fees (Check or Money Order only)
- For minor children under the age of 14, both parents must be present to sign the application or a notarized form from the absent parent must be attached to the application.
- All Applicants must appear in person.

If you need it processed faster add \$60 to the Department of State check. The cost is the same no matter where you apply. You may combine family members or groups into the two checks.

You can come to the Clerk's office any weekday 8-5, to apply for a passport.

Tips to Remember

Bring all the necessary information. Payments must be made by Check or Money Order.

If you need to renew your passport, you may pick up forms at our office as well.



“Cars, not candy should be Parents’ primary safety concern on Halloween.”



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 your smoke detector batteries when you set your clocks back in the fall.
- Never use an oven or range as a sup-

plemental 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.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season from the Byron Township and Cutlerville

Fire Departments.

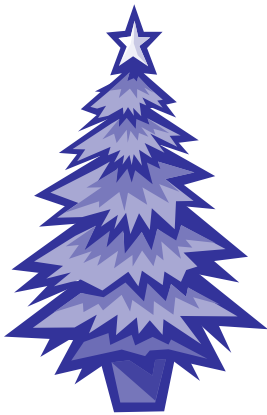
Halloween Safety

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 Safety



- 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 UNATTENDED.**

Also, please make sure you have an address on your home that is visible from the street. This will help emergency vehicles find your home and save precious time.

Clerk’s Corner

Joel Hondorp

Primary Election August 2008

Prec.	Registered	Voted	Percent
1	2334	677	29.01%
2	1436	204	14.21%
3	1376	96	6.98%
4	2114	472	22.33%
5	2057	450	21.88%
6	2300	436	18.96%
7	1210	216	17.85%
8	1968	414	21.04%
Total	14795	2965	20.04%

November 4 is Election Day!!

New Voter ID Regulations

Starting last year, all voters must show a **picture ID** in order to vote in elections. You can satisfy this requirement by showing you Michigan Driver’s License or State ID. Your voter card is not acceptable because it does not have a picture. Other acceptable IDs are passport, other state driver’s license, military ID, Student ID. If you do not have a picture ID, you may fill out an affidavit stating you do not have ID. The process for voting will remain the same except for showing your ID to the worker who checks your name in the book.

Treasurer’s Forum

Another summer is behind us 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 a little quieter these days, since the Summer Tax Cycle was over on September 14. Hopefully, you remembered to pay your property taxes. If you did forget, payments can be made to the Township until February 28, 2008. 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.

There appears to be some confusion on the tax statements. There will continue to be 2 statements per year. The only thing that moved to the summer was the Kent County

Learn where to vote and see a sample ballot online

If you haven’t voted in a while, your precinct lines may have changed or you may still be registered to vote somewhere else. You can find out about your voter registration and see your ballot online at:

www.michigan.gov/vote

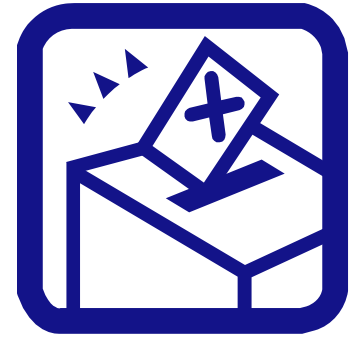
Absentee Ballots

If you are going to be gone on election day or you are over the age of 60 you are eligible to vote by absentee. Absentee Ballots are available in the Clerk’s Office. You may come to the office to fill out an application and receive the ballot.

If you have any questions about any of these items, please call Joel at 878-9104.

What’s on the November Ballot:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| President | Supreme Court |
| US Senate | Court of Appeals |
| US House | Circuit Court |
| State House | Probate Court |
| State Board of Ed. | District Court |
| UM Regents | 2 State Proposals |
| MSU Trustees | 1 Local Proposal |
| WSU Governors | |
| County Wide Offices | |
| Township Offices | |



Carol Houseman

line item. The summer tax bill is approximately 72% of your annual tax bill and the winter tax bill is 28%.

Winter taxes will be in the mail the first week of December. They are due on February 14, 2009. If you wish to use the deduction for your 2008 income taxes, the payments must be in by December 31st. Payments dropped off by 8:00 a.m. on January 5 will be stamped 12-31-08.

2008 dog licenses will be available at the Township from December 1, 2008 through March 1, 2009. After those dates you may get them from Kent County Animal Control.

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



“Winter taxes will be in the mail the first week of December.”

www.byrontownship.org

BYRON TOWNSHIP



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 Township
Holiday Days Closed*

*Thanksgiving
Day after Thanksgiving*

*December 24 - 26
December 31 - January 2*

Byron Township
8085 Byron Center Ave., SW
Byron Center, MI 49315

BYRON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"

TRUNK OR TREAT

The 4th annual Trunk or Treat event will include activities such as hayrides and entertainment. For the main event, families will line up and parade past a line of fully decorated vehicle trunks gathering goodies. Come out and see your favorite trunk in festive decorations. Get a chance to see up close and personal a Fire Truck, Cop Car, and much more.

We are seeking businesses and volunteers for this year's event to decorate trunks and hand out candy and/or promotional items. This annual event is a great opportunity for families to participate in fun and safe Halloween activities. Last year we served 600 children and a total of approximately 1000 guests/parents. If you would like to participate this year by decorating your trunk, volunteering at the event, or giving a donation please contact the Byron Township Recreation Department at 878-1998.

Day: Saturday
Time: 12:00-2:00pm
Age: All ages welcome
Note: You do not have to pre register for this program.

Date: October 25, 2008
Cost: FREE
Location: Whistlestop Park, 2120 76th Street



ADULT WATERCOLOR

Have you dabbled in water coloring painting in the past? Get out those paint brushes and join the water color class to perfect your skills. Instructor Maryleah Marshall will use props to teach new techniques each week.

Day: Wednesdays (6 weeks)
Location: Brown Elementary Cafeteria, 8064 Byron Center Ave
Time: 6:30-8:30pm
Minimum: 6 per class
Registration Begins: Immediately

Date: October 29-December 10, 2008
Skip: November 26, 2008
Cost: \$45 Resident/\$55 Non-Resident
Maximum: 12 per class
Registration Deadline: October 31, 2008

PRIMARILY COLOR

Learn how to use color to enhance your creation not only in art but everyday life skills. It is a tool we will use throughout our lifetime. Use this skill when decorating rooms and it will also help when you get dressed each day.

Day: Mondays (6 weeks)
Time: 4:00-5:30pm
Age: 7-12 years old
Minimum: 8
Registration Begins: Immediately



Date: November 3- December 8, 2008
Cost: \$40 Resident/\$50 Non-Resident
Location: Byron Township Hall, 8085 Byron Center Ave
Maximum: 20
Registration Deadline: October 24, 2008

OPEN RECREATION

Stay Physically Active through the colder months!! Byron Township is offering open recreation at West Middle School. The walking track, weight equipment and gym will be available.

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm (**may vary due to school availability**)
Cost: \$2 Resident per day at the door OR \$50 Resident Pass
\$3 Non-Resident per day at the door OR \$75 Non-Resident Pass

Dates: November 25, 2008-April 2, 2009 (**may vary**)
Location: Byron Center West Middle School, 8654 Homerich

Age: Participants must be at least high school age with proof of student ID. Adults must provide ID for proof of residency.

NOTE: 1. Please enter the school through the side gym entrance. 2. If Byron Center Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather or for holidays the program will be closed too. 3. Participants must provide their own gym equipment, (basketballs, etc...).

MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The men's basketball league will consist of 10 games. Teams will be placed in divisions based on their ability. Trophies and t-shirts will be given to the first place team in each division. Game times may vary depending on the number of teams registered.

Day: Saturdays
Time: 9:00am-2:00pm
Location: Nickels Intermediate School
Minimum: 4 Teams
Registration Begins: Immediately

Date: December 6, 2008-February 28, 2009 (**Skip:** Dec. 27 & Jan. 3)
Age: 18 and older
Cost: \$325 Resident Team/\$400 Non-Resident Team
Maximum: 16 Teams
Registration Deadline: November 14, 2008 (\$20 late fee)

NOTE: Please call for a registration packet or print from the website.

CANDY CANE HUNT

Children ages 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8 will have their own area to hunt for candy canes. Everyone will win a prize. Some special candy canes will be hidden and can be redeemed for special prizes. After the candy cane hunt a pizza lunch will be served inside the township hall. Santa Claus will make a special appearance. After lunch families will be able to make arts and crafts and have a family portrait taken.

Day: Saturday
Time: 11:30am Hunt
12:00pm Lunch
Age: 3-8 year olds
Cost: \$3 Residents/\$5 Non-Residents and
\$2 per adult/other family member for lunch
Registration Begins: Immediately



Date: December 6, 2008
Location: Hunt - Bicentennial Park (park off of Byron Center Ave.)
Lunch - Byron Township Hall
Maximum Attendance: 100

Registration Deadline: November 26, 2008 or until full

NEW! YOUTH THEATER

This new class is built for 1st time theater students. Miss Angie's students will learn instructional memorization, song & dance, and will create their own costumes. At the end of the session participants will have an open house to showcase their talents.

Day: Thursdays (6 weeks)

Time: 7:00-7:45pm

Age: 6- 8 years old

Location: Nickels Mult. Room, 8638 Byron Center Ave

Minimum: 10 per program

Registration Begins: Immediately

Note: We will notify you when to wear craft/paint clothes.

Dates: November 6-December 18, 2008

Skip: November 27, 2008

Cost: \$65 Resident / \$75 Non-Resident

Maximum: 16 per program

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2008



ADULT BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS

Want to brush up on your dance skills for a wedding or class reunion? Learn the latest dance steps to the Foxtrot and a Nightclub Mix. The instructor will move at the pace of the class from beginner to advanced.

Day: Tuesdays

Time: 7:00-8:00pm

Cost: \$61 Resident / \$71 Non-Resident

Minimum: 4 couples per class

Registration Begins: Immediately

Date: November 4-December 9, 2008

Location: Nickels Intermediate- Multipurpose Room
8638 Byron Center Avenue

Maximum: 12 couples per class

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2008

ADULT & 55 AND OLDER FLEX AND TONE FITNESS CLASS

This non-aerobic fitness class is carefully designed to tone muscle and aid in regaining flexibility. Burn fat and firm up by using hand weights, bands, mat and or chair. Open to men and women of all ages and fitness levels.

Day: Monday and Wednesdays (6 weeks)

Time: 9:30-10:20am

Location: Byron Township Hall, 8085 Byron Center Avenue

Minimum: 8 per class

Date: November 10-December 17, 2008

Cost: \$41 Resident/\$51 Non-Resident

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2008

Maximum: 15 per class



HOW TO REGISTER: Mail in, Fax in or drop off your completed registration form and the full registration fee to the Recreation Department to reserve your spot. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm. Cash, Check or Credit Card accepted. Make checks payable to: Byron Township. An after hours drop box may be used to drop off your registrations. The drop box is located outside of the Township Hall East Doors.

AGE REQUIREMENTS: All participants MUST be within the age requirements by the time the program begins. No exceptions.

LATE FEES: There will be a \$5 late fee per registration assessed after the program deadline. Late registrations will only be accepted if space is available.

REFUNDS: No refunds will be given after the program deadline. Refund requests before the deadline will be granted less a \$5 administration fee. A full refund will be given if the Recreation Department cancels a program due to low enrollment.

Byron Township Parks and Recreation * 8085 Byron Center Avenue * Byron Center, MI 49315

Phone: 878-1998 * **Website:** www.byrontownship.org * **Cancellation Hotline:** 878-0623

Participant's Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Age: _____ **Birthdate:** ____/____/____ **Grade:** _____ **School:** _____ **Male / Female**

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Resident:** _____ **Non-Resident:** _____

Phone: _____ **Alternate Phone:** _____

Program Name	Start Date	Program Time	Cost
	TOTAL COST	\$	(\$5 late fee after deadline)

I hereby understand that by signing this form, I agree not to hold Byron Township or Byron Center Public Schools or Athletes in Motion responsible for any injuries that may occur during participation in this Byron Township Recreation Program. Furthermore, I authorize Byron Township to use photographs of participants for Byron Township promotional literature.

Name Printed: _____ **Signature:** _____

Credit Card#: _____ Name on card: _____ Address: _____ Zip: _____
 Expiration Date: _____ VISA MC **For Office Use Only:** Date Paid: _____ Amount: _____ Cash: _____ Check: _____ Receipt #: _____