

Essex Township Echo ~ Voice of the Township

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WINTER 2018

Recycling Update

Recently there have been items dropped off at the Maple Rapids recycling center that cannot be accepted, including plastic grocery bags. Clinton County sponsors a Clean Community Event every spring to take in nearly everything that isn't accepted at the local drop off sites, and most items are taken without charge. Plastic grocery bags can be recycled at most grocery stores. If you have any questions about the following guidelines or the Clean Community Event, contact Kate Neese at Clinton County Department of Waste Management. (989) 224-5186 recycle@clinton-county.org

ITEMS TO RECYCLE AT THE LOCAL SITE: (items should be rinsed clean)

Dry plastic bottles, jugs, tubs and containers. Loose newspapers, magazines and catalogs (not books), office paper and junk mail without plastic or stickers. Do not bundle paper in grocery bags or secure them with string. Tin and aluminum cans, aluminum foil and trays. Clear and colored container glass with lids removed. Boxboard for dry goods such as cereal/tissue boxes, paper towel rolls, etc. (NO wax- or plastic-coated cardboard, including 6-, 12-, or 24-pack beverage cases)

ITEMS TO RECYCLE AT THE CLEAN COMMUNITY EVENT:

Foam containers/packaging, syringes, garden hoses, furniture, pools, toys, buckets, laundry baskets, barrels, free-flowing liquids, books, paint cans, appliances, hangers, fencing, scrap metal, yard waste, aerosol cans, electronics (including tv, computers and accessories), light bulbs, window glass, mirrors, drinking glasses, cups, bowls or plates, Styrofoam, prescription medications, tires, clothing.

Township Roads

On August 7, Essex Township residents voted 265-78 to renew the millage for maintaining and improving our roads, which raises an estimated \$27,700 a year. This is just a portion of how much tax money we spend on the roads, as it is one of our biggest budget items each year.

So far in 2018, we have completed and paid for these projects:

Gravel - Kinley Rd (Forest Hill to Wacousta) \$6,707.24

Gravel - Grove Rd (Kinley to Colony) \$5,094.95

Gravel - Bauer (Stone to Moss) \$4,106.74

Gravel - Hyde (Lowell to McNeil) \$13,974.25

Brine (chloride) - 209,630 gal (3 applications) \$34,064.88

Foliar brush spray - \$4,448.50

Chip seal - Hyde (Forest Hill to Maple Ave) \$12,386.96

Chip seal - French (Airport to McNeil) \$11,864.48

Culvert - Island Rd \$28,382.42

If you ever have road concerns, please contact Joseph Pulver at the Clinton County Road Commission (989-668-0030, pulverj@ccrc-roads.com) or Supervisor Carla Wardin (989-640-9284, essexsupervisor@gmail.com).

Audit Results

The results are in for the most recent audit of Essex Township, and we are pleased with the good news! While there are some things that the township could change to be more efficient in the way we handle paperwork, there were no major faults with our processes and documentation. Minor changes have already been implemented to increase our efficiency and accuracy. We are scheduled for our next audit in 2020.

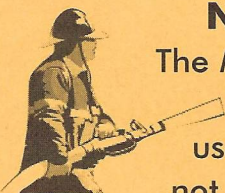
Tax Collection Dates

Please note tax collection dates and cutoff dates on your bill. Postmarks can no longer be accepted. Taxes can be mailed or left in the drop box at the treasurer's home, but please make cash payments in person! Office hours will be December 26th and February 28th from 9-5. Please call ahead to make arrangements if you need to pay in person on another day.

DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?

Thanks to Jim and Dottie Bancroft, our township's cemeteries have been kept nicely trimmed and clean for several years. In order to prevent loose items from blowing around the cemetery, we need them to be removed before the harsh winter weather arrives. Plastic flowers are often forgotten by family members, and this fall Jim and Dottie removed five garbage bags full of them. Please remember to make a quick trip to the cemetery before winter to remove the plastic flowers from your loved ones' graves. Thank you for helping keep our cemeteries beautiful!

New ATV for MRFD



The Maple Rapids Fire Department has acquired a new ATV to use for rescues in areas that are not easily accessible to traditional vehicles. Even before the lights were

installed and it was completely detailed, the ATV had already been used for two rescues!

Members of the fire department are happy with this new piece of equipment that will keep everyone safer in a remote rescue situation.

ASSESSOR RECEIVES AWARD

Congratulations to our assessor, Beth Botke, on receiving the Distinguished Service (President's) Award from the Michigan Assessors Association. This award is presented to an individual or individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the association in the past year.

2018 has been a busy year for Beth. She joined the MAA Board as the District 2 Rep, and stepped up as their Education Coordinator. Beth received the President's Award for her outstanding work for the Michigan Assessors Association and for her dedication and passion to the assessing profession. Essex Township is fortunate to have such a hard-working, knowledgeable assessor!

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

December 19, 2018

February 20, 2019

March 20, 2019

All meetings will be held at 7 p.m.
at the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall
5485 W Lowe Rd.

We'd love to see you there!

A LOOK BACK...

The following information about the Hammond School was published in the Clinton Republican in October, 1898 from the Michigan State Superintendent's Annual Report. Hammond School once stood on the south side of Colony Rd about 1/4 mile west of Essex Center Rd.

"This building is of brick and the same style of architecture prevailing throughout the township with a good-sized yard surrounding it and 15 or 20 small maples, giving promise of future shade. The teacher's desk is opposite the entrance, thus giving blackboard space in front of the pupils and light from the sides. The "round oak" stove standing near entrance—though this is the best possible arrangement for these buildings, is still open to the objection that the chimney is back of the teacher so that the stove pipe must traverse entire length of the room. The interior walls and ceilings are in excellent condition, and the well-painted flagstaff is supplied with a good rope which is not always found to be true."

Some of the families listed at the school in 1898 are Allen, Casterline, Coulter, Ellison, Ferguson, Forbis, Gordanier, Heller, Jones, McCracken, Nobis, Ordway, Peterson, Porter, Potter, Skinner, Sullivan, Teehan, Treester, Ward, Weaver and Wilson. Many of the families in the township today are direct descendants of these families.