

Orange Barrels Around ... Kensington/Jacoby Roundabout

Shortly work will begin on the construction of the township's first roundabout at the Kensington Road/Jacoby Road intersection. This particular intersection has been the scene of many accidents over the years. With the implementation of the roundabout, the intersection will be made much safer. The *tentative* construction schedule is as follows:



- June 12th - Contractor will mobilize equipment and construction materials to the site. The intersection will be converted to a temporary three-way stop.
- June 19th - Construction begins. Construction will be within the existing triangle shaped "green belt". Roundabout construction is expected to take 2-3 weeks to complete.
- July 5th - Intersection WILL CLOSE to make the tie-ins to the existing road surfaces. The closure is expected to take up to 2 weeks to complete. Detours will be posted and traffic will be **REQUIRED TO TAKE ALTERNATE ROUTES**.
- Mid-August—Restoration work will begin which includes driveway paving, ditching, seeding, clean-up, etc. Restoration work will take approximately three to five weeks to complete. The roundabout will be open during this phase.
- August 25th - Final completion date.

For more information, updates, and alternate routes please go to the Livingston County Road Commission website at www.livingstonroads.org.

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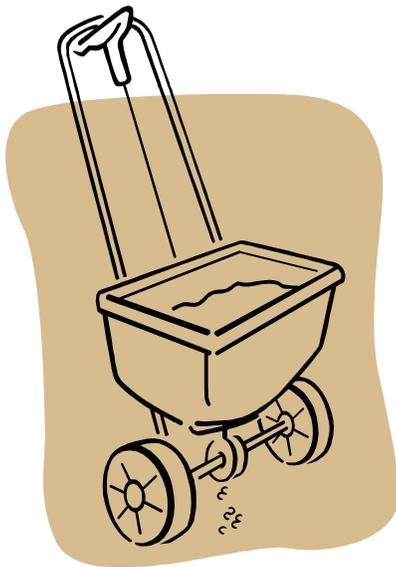
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Regular Board Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each month. The meetings are held in the Board Room in the lower level of Township Hall and are broadcast live on Cable Channel 15.

Meeting start time is 7:00 P.M.

Remember, You're Not Just Fertilizing Your Lawn ... Some Important Tips for Keeping Our Water Clean

Did you know that when we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and rivers?



Did you also know?

... There are an estimated 25 to 30 million acres of turf and lawn in the United States: If lawns were classified as crop they would rank fifth in the nation based upon land area.

... In many areas, soils contain enough phosphorus to grow healthy lawns without any added fertilizer.

While fertilizer is good for our lawn, it contains phosphorus that can be harmful to our lakes and rivers. Storm drains in our streets lead directly to our lakes and rivers. So, excess fertilizer from our yards that enter the storm drains can cause algae to grow and use up oxygen that fish need to survive. With 1.5 million homes in Southeast Michigan, all of us need to know that our lawn care practices can affect our lakes and rivers.

What can you do to help?

Simple. First, find out if your lawn needs fertilizer with a soil test. For information about getting your soil tested, contact the Michigan State University Extension office at 517-546-3950. If you do need to fertilize, choose one with no or low phosphorus. Be sure to sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from pavement back onto your lawn so that they do not wash into storm drains. Also, keep fertilizer at least 20 feet away from the edge of any lakes or rivers.

For more easy steps to protect our lakes and rivers, visit the "Ours to Protect" site at www.semco.org.

Residential Open Burning Allowed

The Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance was recently amended. It is part of the Township's General Code of Ordinances. The major changes to the Ordinance include the adoption of the current edition of the International Fire Code as published by the International Code Council and changes to the regulations related to open burning on public and private property. Permits are **no longer required in most cases**. Below is a summary of the new regulations:

- Burning of leaves, brush, twigs and tree limbs is allowed between sunrise and sunset
ONLY
- Burning is allowed year-round
- Fires must be tended by adults
- Adequate fire containment methods need to be present when the burning occurs
- Burning of construction debris is prohibited
- Burning on commercial property is prohibited
- Materials to be burned for domestic campfires should be placed in a burner constructed of metal or masonry and should not be placed closer than twenty-five (25) feet to any building or structure and they should not be any closer than five (5) feet to any property line
- Campfires or barbecue type fires should be contained and supervised at ALL times



PERMIT REQUIRED for Special Event Fires at least seven (7) days in advance of the event from the Brighton Area Fire Department. Special events include such things as incidental commemorative events by schools, municipalities, and charitable type organizations.

The Brighton Area Fire Department has the authority to ban all open burning if conditions are considered to be hazardous or if it is determined to be offensive or objectionable due to smoke, odor or particle emissions when conditions or local circumstances make the fire hazardous, or when the burning is in violation of codes and rules.

For more information, please contact the Brighton Area Fire Authority (BAFA) at: 810-229-6640 during business hours or visit their website at www.brightonareafire.com.

Dog Licenses Available Through Livingston County



All dogs must be licensed in Livingston County. No dog licenses are available at Township Hall until 12-01-2006. You can purchase the licenses through Livingston County. Sorry for the inconvenience.

E Grand River & Pathways Master Plan

Green Oak and Brighton Townships commissioned and paid for a consultant, Carlisle / Wortman Associates, Inc., to facilitate the development of a corridor plan for E. Grand River which was begun in June 2005; approved by both Planning Commissions in November 2005; and adopted in January 2006 by both Township Boards of Trustees. The adopted plan has been sent to the Livingston County Road Commission for use in their design plans for the widening of E. Grand River planned for Spring 2007. Other plan aspects include future ordinance revisions, development guidelines and potential adoption of an overlay district for improvements to the area. The townships will also be submitting a joint grant application through the Livingston County Road Commission to assist with the proposed streetscape improvements. The Transportation Enhancement grant (TEA-21) will be applied for this year (2006) with the townships each contributing approximately \$150,000 in matching funds.

Brighton Township also commissioned a pathways master plan with its consultants; LSL Planning and Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, Inc. which commenced in January and will be adopted later this year. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 26th. Following the public hearing, the plan will be adopted by both the planning commission and township board. The plan will identify where pathways or sidewalks should go and will include a priority / phased approach. The plan is a follow-up to the June 2002 Master Plan which called for pathways and sidewalks in the Township and the follow-up Zoning Ordinance approved in March 2004 which requires them along a site's frontage if it is on a road identified in the June 2002 Master Plan.

Road Complaints

If you are experiencing problems with your public road, please call the Livingston County Road Commission at 517-546-4250. Private roads are the responsibility of the respective homeowners or homeowners' associations.

While the Township is always interested in feedback from the residents, the Township does not own or maintain any roads. We will however try and assist you in any way that we can.

Water Main

The Townships of Brighton, Green Oak and Hamburg formed the Livingston Community Water Authority (LCWA) in order to bring water into their respective Townships. This construction season Brighton Township will have a 20" water main installed on Whitmore Lake Road at the Township borderline and continuing north past Grand River to Weber Street. This line is being constructed in part by the State of Michigan because of contamination to several properties on Whitmore Lake Road due to road salt storage. Water will be available to properties along Whitmore Lake Road / Old US 23 up to Weber Street. No one will be forced to tap in, but it will be available.



If you have any questions, please contact David Murphy, township manager, at 810-229-0550.

Principal Residence Exemption (Formerly Known as Homestead Exemption)

Please check your tax bill to make sure that the Principal Residential Exemption (P.R.E.) information is correct. If you owned and occupied your primary residence on or before May 1, 2006 you may qualify for a P.R.E. If you claim an exemption on another home in Michigan or any other state you must rescind that exemption before you can claim another. Your P.R.E. must be filed on your primary residence. This is typically the address that is on your driver's license and voter registration card. If you think there is an error on your tax bill regarding the P.R.E. please contact the Assessor's Office at 810-229-0558.

Summer Tax Collection

We will be collecting 100% non-homestead taxes for Howell and Hartland Schools as well as the S.E.T. and 2/3's of the County allocated taxes for all districts. Questions, please call the Treasurer's Office at 810-229-0556.

Charter Township of Brighton

4363 Buno Road
Brighton, MI 48114
Phone: (810) 229.0550
Fax: (810)229.1778

Absent Voter Ballots Available

If you would like to receive an absent voter ballot for the August Primary Election or the November General Election you must first complete an application. They are available by:

- Calling the clerk's office at 810-229-0560
- Visiting the clerk's office
- E-mailing the clerk at clerk@brightontwp.com. Please be sure to put AV ballot application in the subject line so it doesn't get "spammed"
- Visiting the township website at www.brightontwp.com. Click on the clerk's department.

The applications must be completed, signed and returned to the clerk's office. Be sure to check the reason you need an absent voter ballot and also for which election (s) you would like to receive an absent voter ballot.



Primary Election
General Election

August 8
November 7

Polls Open

7:00 A.M.

Please forward newsletter comments to:
clerk@brightontwp.com or
david.murphy@brightontwp.com

Please be sure to add "newsletter" in the subject line

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

www.brightontwp.com

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*Regular Meeting Days and Times**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1st & 3rd Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

4th Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM

**Meetings are subject to change. Contact the Clerk's office for more information.*

***Phone messages may be left at (810) 229-0550 for all trustees.*