

Charter Township of Brighton

Volume VII, Issue 11

Summer 2010

Fireworks Permit Required

The State of Michigan requires that a permit be obtained through the local unit of government for ALL fireworks displays. An application must be submitted on a State of Michigan application form to the local clerk's office. The local unit of government may establish additional criteria beyond the State of Michigan's application. Brighton Township requires a review of the permit by the Brighton Area Fire Authority, an inventory listing of the fireworks to be displayed, identification of the proposed shooting site, proof of applicable training/licensing of the person(s) shooting off the fireworks, and insurance naming the Brighton Area Fire Authority and the Township as an additional insured. This information is required to be submitted with the application for review prior to approval by the Township Board of Trustees.



NO displays are permitted without prior approval by the Township.

We know this sounds like a lot of paperwork for events that we all enjoy but the goal is to have a safe and enjoyable event. These criteria are similar to what other Michigan communities require. In fact there are many communities that prohibit the activity altogether.

Please contact Dan Bishop, Township Manager, at 810-229-0550, if you have any questions.

YARD WASTE CLEAN UP DAYS

Saturday October 16th
Saturday November 20th

8:00 AM—Noon
Township Hall
4363 Buno Road



Questions? Call the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560.

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Regular Board Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Monday 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.



TRANSFER TO LIVINGSTON COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT COMPLETED—LAND USE PERMITS NOW REQUIRED

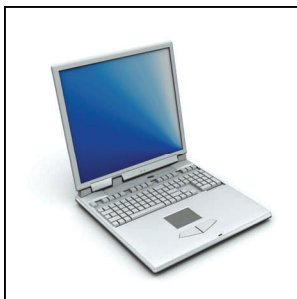
The transition to the Livingston County Building Department through an intergovernmental agreement has been completed. The intergovernmental agreement calls for the issuance of all building permits and inspections to be performed by the Livingston County Building Department. The transfer of these responsibilities was a direct result of the decline in building industry activity over the past few years. As a result of the transfer, a Land Use Permit (LUP) will now be required before applying for a building permit.

Prior to submitting a permit application to the County, applicants should contact the Township directly to obtain the LUP. The LUP is required for any construction outside of the house or any serious remodeling inside the house. For example, an addition would require a LUP whereas smaller jobs such as replacing a water heater or furnace would not. LUP permits can be obtained through the Planning Department at Township Hall. Contact Kelly Mathews, Planner, for additional information. She can be reached at 810.229.0562.

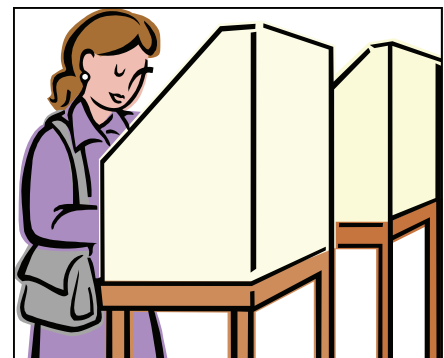
Please note that a representative from the Livingston County Building Department is available at Township Hall on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to answer questions. You may also contact the Livingston County Building Department directly at 517-546-3240 with questions.

ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK TO BE USED AT POLLING LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP

Beginning with the August 2010 Primary election, voters will see some changes when they vote in person at their precinct locations. Voters will be processed using an electronic poll book. The electronic poll book (EPB) will be used during elections to automate and document certain voter verification and ballot tracking functions and to automate the updating of the Qualified Voter File (QVF) voter history following an election.



EPB equipment utilizes magnetic strip card readers and laptop computers to process voters in the precincts. The equipment was purchased through a grant agreement with the Michigan Department of State under the provisions of Title II, Section 251, of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The program is referred to as the Electronic Poll Book Project.



The EPB was used in the February and May 2010 Hartland school elections and proved to be very efficient.

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Weatherization Assistance Program is a free service funded by the Federal Department of Energy (DOE) that provides free energy conservation services for eligible low-income households. Weatherization can help reduce energy use and lower your energy bills. It may include services such as wall, ceiling and attic insulation; ventilation; combustion-appliance testing; furnace repair or replacement; air leakage reduction, and many other energy-saving measures. Program information is available through OLHSA (Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency).



Program eligibility guidelines:

- *Families and individuals must meet current federal income guidelines which include the gross income of all persons residing in the home at the time of application
- *Recipients of FIP, SSI or SDA who have received benefits during any part of the past twelve months are automatically eligible
- *Applicants must be residents of Oakland or Livingston County
- *Weatherization serves homeowners, mobile home owners, and renters

For more information contact OLHSA at 517-546-8500.

TREASURER'S TIDBITS HOW TO BUILD A TAX BILL

Property Tax law goes way back in Michigan. Back to 1893 to be exact. While there have been changes to the law to keep up with the times, property tax is still the way many facets of government and public education are funded.

Each parcel has an assessed and taxable value as determined by the assessor using specific equations based upon state statute. Once these are determined by the assessor and incorporated into a database it becomes the "assessor's roll". The information is provided to the Treasurer to apply the applicable millage rates where it becomes known as the "tax roll".

The applicable millage rates are determined by the various taxing entities (school districts, libraries, local unit, county, etc.) and provided to the local Treasurer to include on the tax bill. Each taxing jurisdiction's governing body determines the applicable millage to be levied in conjunction with state statute and a vote of the residents within their district (i.e. school district bond referendum). Each entity also identifies whether the tax will be included on the Summer or Winter tax bill.

Once these millage rates are identified, an equation is applied to determine the amount of taxes due. The taxes due are determined by $\text{taxable value} \div 1000 \times \text{millage rate} + 1\% \text{ administrative fee}$. Additional items may be on your tax bill such as special assessments or delinquent utility bills.

Summer bills are due and payable from July through September 14 of each year. Winter bills are due and payable from December 1 through February 28. In accordance with statute, the real property tax roll is transferred to the County Treasurer after February 28th and payment can no longer be made at the Township.

Charter Township of Brighton

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

PROPERTY VERIFICATION

The Assessing Department is in the process of reviewing all parcels in the Township in an effort to update the records so they are as accurate as possible. We will be visiting each parcel to check exterior measurements, story heights, decks, outbuildings, etc. We will also be verifying interior information with property owners. If you are not home during our visit, a tag will be left on your door. The tag requests the owner to contact us to answer any questions we may have regarding the property. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Please contact the Assessing Department at 810-229-0558 with any questions.

2010 ELECTION DATES

Tuesday August 3 Primary Election
Tuesday November 2 General Election

For additional information contact the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560.

MICHIGAN VOTER INFORMATION CENTER

The Michigan Voter Information Center is a great resource and provides an assortment of information related to voter registration and election administration in Michigan. By visiting [www. Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote) you can:

- Determine if you are registered
- Find your polling location
- Learn to use the voting equipment
- Find answers to frequently asked questions

Please forward newsletter comments to the editor:
clerk@brightontwp.com

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

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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.*