

Charter Township of East China Newsletter – Fall 2009

Please Join Us & Celebrate! East China Township's 150th Anniversary Picnic
Saturday, September 12, 2009 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
In the Township Park on River Road

Taste of Michigan
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

- ☺ Farmers Market
- ☺ Antique Auto & Tractor Show

NOON - 4:00 pm

- ☺ Zimmerman's Brats & Dogs
- ☺ Microbrewer Beer Samples
- ☺ Michigan Wine Samples
- ☺ Artisan Cheese Samples
- ☺ Trolley Rides
- ☺ Live Music
- ☺ Locally made Fudge & Chocolates
- ☺ Ice Cream Treats

1 position available on the Zoning Board of Appeals, call the office for more information.

River District Hospital Free Flu Shot Clinic: DATE TO BE DETERMINED

Curbside Chipping November 11-12, 2009, have brush at curb by 6:30 am

Weekly curbside yard waste pickup ends the last Saturday in November (11/28/09)

Free Notary Services at the Township office

Starting the week after Thanksgiving the East China staff will be sponsoring a collection of non-perishable food items, mittens, gloves, hats, socks, toiletries, etc., to donate to local charities. The drop off area is in the lobby.

Your Elected Township Board

John A. Randolph, Supervisor

Gary J. Arnold Clerk

Donald K. Beaudua Treasurer

Trustees: Angelo Patsalis, Larry Simons, Richard Bober and Donald Horn

Township Board meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Monday each month at 7:30 pm

Township Website: [http:// www.eastchinatownship.org](http://www.eastchinatownship.org)

After hours township water/sewer emergencies: 810-76S-8879x131

Township office hours are 8:00 am until 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday

From the Treasurer's Office

SUMMER PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE DUE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

- Tax payments can be paid in person, by mail, or by check in drop box
- Tax payments by check must only be for taxes ONLY, do-not include any other payment to the township in that check
- Deferment of summer taxes. If household income is under \$40,000, age 62+, or is disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceperson, or eligible veteran.
- To Avoid High Water Bills. Old water meters can slow down due to dust, dirt and spider-webs. Please read your inside and outside meters and call readings into the office 765-8879 x113
- Leaky faucets and running toilets are expensive. Over a 90-day billing period, leaks can waste water and cost you a lot of money

Dogs

St. Clair County Dog Licenses are sold at the Township Office. If your dog is older than 4-months, a license is required. You must present a recent rabies certificate before obtaining a license.

Township Ordinance #256 – Dogs - States dogs must be kept within their own yard, unless on a leash, attended by the owner. No person owning or having charge of a dog shall permit such dog at any time, by loud or frequent or habitual barking to cause annoyance to people in the neighborhood, public walks or streets. Keep dogs on a leash when on the bike path or in our parks.

Township Office is closed for these holidays:

Columbus Day - October 12, 2009

Veterans Day - November 11, 2009

Thanksgiving - November 26 & 27, 2009 *(garbage-Saturday)*

Christmas - December 24 & 25, 2009 *(garbage-Saturday)*

2008-New Year's - December 31, 2009 & January 1 *(garbage-Saturday)*

Presidents' Day - February 15, 2010

Helpful Information

- AYSO Soccer Hotline 1-877-297-6673 or www.riversoccer.org
- Household Hazardous Waste Disposal-Smiths Creek Landfill, 810-985-2443
- COMCAST 1-888-266-2278
- St. Clair County Treasurer's Office 810-989-6915
- Marine City Secretary of State 888-767-6424, 9 am-5pm, M,T,TH, F=W 11am-7pm
- Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213 or www.ssa.gov
- Free 411 information: 1-800-GOOG-411 or www.whitepages.com and www.switchboard.com
- Free medical equipment or assistance can be obtained by calling United Way of SCCo. at 8108169, New low income dental clinic, call 16350

- Blue Water Transit (Free Transportation Countywide) 810-987-7373

Services for Seniors

Free prescription drugs to low income 810-984-5061. Homebound senior meals \$2 each, 810-987-8811, or 1-800-297-0099. Transportation 765-8570. Friendly visitors 1-800-297-0099. Home Repair Service 1987-8811. Chore workers (help with cleaning or yard work) 1-810-987-8811.

Open Burning can cause airborne particles that aggravate the symptoms of respiratory disease patients. Fires must be 50-feet away from any building and attended by an adult. You must have a proper method to extinguish the fire.

Marine City Fire Department 765-8840 St. Clair Fire Department 329-3360

Free directory service for your cell phone

Cell phone companies are charging us \$1-\$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have to. When you need to use the 411 information option, dial: 800-373-3411 without incurring any charges at all.

Use of Township Facilities Residents may reserve use of the Township Hall for meetings, bridal or baby showers, family gatherings, etc., twice per year. A \$25 fee, and a \$50 cleaning deposit are required at the time of reservation.

Residents may reserve a park pavilion for a fee of \$25, along with a \$100 cleaning deposit at the time of reservation, beginning Monday, January 4, 2010.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Prepare your emergency supplies kit for sheltering in place:

- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery-powered radio with spare batteries
- Several gallons of bottled water
- Towel for sealing off the bottom of the door
- Non-perishable food
- First-Aid kit
- Extra clothes and bedding
- Prescription medications
- Any other necessities
- The most accurate information will be provided by the following radio stations:
WSAQ 107.1 and WGRT 102.3

A Citizen's Guide to St. Clair County's Watersheds ...

Our water. Our future. Ours to protect.

A watershed is another word for a river basin. It's an area of land shaped like a bowl that drains streams and runoff to a larger body of water. We all live in a watershed!

How does a watershed work? ... When it rains water runs off many different areas of a watershed. All the water that flows within a watershed drains to the lowest point, which is always a body of water. This runoff is called storm water. Storm water running off our yards, roads, rooftops, parking lots and farm fields flows into our rivers carrying with it soil, pet waste, metals, pesticides, fertilizer, and other pollutants. This polluted water drains directly to our rivers, hurting activities like fishing, boating and swimming.

PROTECT YOUR WATERSHED ... The best way for you to protect your local stream or river is through the Adopt-A-Stream program. This program provides free training and equipment for volunteers and it only requires one day of field work in the spring and fall monitoring the health of the waterway. It's a fun family, scout, or group activity and it goes a long way towards helping us understand and protect our waterways.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY WATER QUALITY HOTLINE

1-877-504-SWIM, (810) 987-7253,...report failing septic systems, suspicious dumping, or find out about current beach closings.

Building Department

Jeff Kern, Building Inspector

Fred Ouellette, Electrical Inspector

Garrett Smith, Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector

Call MISS DIG at: 8-1-1, before starting any excavation project

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Department for non-emergencies: 1-800-462-7111

General Information 1-810-985-8115

Use 9-1-1 for emergencies only

Garage Sale Permits

Registration is required prior to garage or yard sales. Maximum 3-per year, 3-days per sale, no consecutive weekends. There is no fee for a garage sale permit.

Garbage, Yard Waste and Recyclables

Have refuse and recyclables at the road by 6:30 a.m. on Fridays. Containers must not weigh more than 50 pounds. Carpets and rugs must be cut into 3-foot lengths and bundled. Yard waste pickup ends the last Saturday of November.

Yard waste containers must be marked with an "X" or paper compost bags can be used.

Waste Management provides our refuse and recycling disposal. Their telephone number is 1-800-796-9696. Refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners must have freon properly removed by a plumber prior to pickup. The item must show a plumber's green sticker in order to be picked up.

From the Parks Department

If you see any vandalism or suspicious behavior on our bike paths or in the parks, please call the Sheriff Department 8108115 or the Township Office.

We will make snow at the sled hill when the temperature is under 24 degrees and the conditions are right. Once freezing temperatures arrive, check out our skating pond as well.

We've gone "Green" in the park restrooms with new super-efficient hand dryers.

Watch for new picnic tables and grills in the parks

From the Beautification Committee

Fall is here and it's time to vote for the 2009 Beautification Awards. Nomination Photos will be set up at the Township Hall around November 6, 2009. Please be sure to stop in and vote for your favorite nominee. Winners will have their yard featured in the 2010 Township calendar.