

ALAMO TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. - noon

The Township Supervisor, Clerk and/or Deputy Supervisor are available at the Township Hall during office hours. Please feel welcome to stop in.

Township officials are available at other times by appointment.

RECYCLING RESUMES MARCH 14th

Alamo Township recycling resumes March 14th. Household recycling for Township residents is available free of charge on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mixed paper including magazines and junk mail (no waxy coatings), newspaper, cardboard, plastic (#1, #2, #3 & #5 only), clear glass (no lids), tin foil and cans are accepted. A complete list of acceptable materials is on the Township website. Please separate newspaper (for the Boy Scouts) from mixed paper.

Best Way Disposal offers plastic recycling (free of charge) at its transfer station located at 2606 Miller Road. They will accept virtually all plastic bags including grocery, dry cleaning, produce, water softener salt bags, shrink wrap, cereal box liners, etc. No candy wrappers or clear, crinkly plastic. A number of stores will now accept plastic grocery bags.

2009 JUNK DAYS

May 9th (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
October 10th (9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

Junk days are a free service for Alamo Township residents (identification required). Cement, oil-based paint, tires, oil, hazardous materials and appliances containing Freon cannot be accepted. Latex paint is accepted; however, please allow the paint to dry or mix it with a thickening agent (such as cat litter). Metal is collected separately from trash.

Free recycling can be offered because of the generosity of residents donating an hour or two of their time to help with this service. Students needing community service hours are encouraged to volunteer. Please contact Ron Feniger 381-8478 if you are able to provide assistance.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Twenty years ago, residential recycling and the household hazardous waste programs started in Kalamazoo County. To date, households have recycled over 330 million pounds of papers and containers and diverted four million pounds of household chemicals from landfills. These efforts support jobs, help conserve natural resources like trees and groundwater, and reduce waste disposal costs. Thank you for being part of the solution!

Cleaning out your garage?



WE RECYCLE FOR FREE:

- Gas • Car Batteries
- Motor Oil & Filters
- Antifreeze
- Aerosol Cans and More!

Hours:
Tues. & Fri. 8:30am-12:30pm
Wed. 12-6pm
2nd Saturday 8:30am-12:30pm

1301 Lamont Ave. (next to the fairgrounds) 373-5211
www.kalcounty.com/hhw



UPDATES FROM THE TREASURER

Another tax season has come to a conclusion. All 2008 taxes are now considered delinquent and must be paid to the Kalamazoo County Treasurer.

TREASURER (continued)

The Township is investigating an upgrade to its software service to permit more frequent updates to the tax information available on the Township website.



MAY ELECTIONS

Mark your calendars for the May 5th election. Precincts will be combined for this election. Residents in both the Otsego and Plainwell school districts will be selecting school board members on May 5th. Also on the ballot is a millage request to fund a county-wide public transportation system. In November, voters defeated a transportation millage. The November request was designed to replace and augment the 0.38 mills approved by voters in 2006. The May request will be a county-wide request for 0.40 mills.



ALAMO TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

Meeting schedules, approved minutes for the Trustees, Planning Commission (formerly Zoning) and Parks Boards, tax information, department news, and recycling information are readily available at www.alamotownship.org. All Township ordinances are online along with a zoning map of the Township.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Spring brings a flurry of yard clean-up activities. Please remember to obtain a burn permit when burning leaves and brush. Permits may be obtained by sending an e-mail to firedept@alamotownship.org.

The Department will be hosting a pancake breakfast on May 9th from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the fire station. Please try to stop in. Donations will be accepted.

Chief Moore is attending the NFPA Inspector I class. After successful completion, Chief Moore will be both a National and State Certified Fire Inspector.

The Alamo Firefighters' Association sells reflective address signs for \$10.00 per sign. Order signs are available on the Township website.

Department officers meet 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. the 4th Tuesday of each month. These meetings are open to the public and citizen input is welcome. Chief Moore encourages residents to stop in anytime the station is staffed.

The Alamo Fire Department is always looking for men and women with a desire to serve and protect the community. Fire Academy, medical training, and equipment are covered by the Township. Interested persons may obtain more information by calling Chief Moore (345-3010) or by sending an e-mail to alamochief@sbcglobal.net. Applications may be found on the Township website.



MUSEUM

The Township's new curator, Brian Smith (226-9411), and the Museum Committee liaison, Ron Feniger (381-8478), are looking forward to the Museum's 2009 season. At this point, the museum is scheduled to be open May through October on Saturdays and Sundays (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.). Volunteers are welcome.



PARKS DEPARTMENT

The DE Avenue Park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. Access to the park (and parking) when the gates are closed is available at the west gate.

Thanks to Parks Board member Lou Conti, there have been groomed cross country ski trails on the Rector and Stoneburner Trails this season.

The Parks Board completed its 5-year plan and recommended it for adoption to the Board of Trustees who approved it on February 9th. As always, the Parks Board welcomes suggestions.

The Parks Board and the Board of Trustees are looking forward to adding a park on C Avenue as Aggregate Industries donates land to the Township for the 2nd of 3 planned parks.

☑ Mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual 2009 classic car show at the DE Avenue Park: June 27. The June newsletter will contain more information about this event.

PARKS (continued)

The Parks Board is looking for volunteers to develop a Farmer's Market and a community-wide garage sale. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Parks Chair Jon Little (381-8387) or leave a message at the Township (382-3366).



G AVENUE MINE HAUL ROUTE

The traffic engineer hired to review the suitability of G Avenue from 10th to 6th as an appropriate haul route completed his review in January. He concluded there is no evidence to claim G Avenue is inadequate as a haul route; however, the G Avenue route is less adequate than the 10th Street route. The Oshtemo Township truck ordinance prohibits the use of 10th Street (a primary road), instead establishing G Avenue (a border road) as a truck route. Given the traffic engineer's report, the Alamo Board of Trustees approved the use of the G Avenue route until the earlier of 1) November 10th, 2) resolution of the lawsuit pending between Oshtemo and the mining permit holders; or, 3) resolution as a result of recently adopted legislation. In summary, the legislation states if a township places a prohibition or limitation on a county primary road and an adjoining township determines this diverts traffic to a border road, the adjoining township has the right to submit an objection with the county road commission. Both Kalamazoo Township and Alamo Township have filed objections with the Road Commission. In turn, Oshtemo Township also filed an objection. The Kalamazoo County Road Commission is required, by law, to either uphold or void the prohibition/limitation if the impacted townships are unable to resolve the dispute(s).



NEW ALAMO BUSINESSES

Alamo Township welcomes two businesses: Auro PT (7900 Owen Drive) and WDP (Western Diversified Plastics, LLC) at 8100 Neptune Drive.

Sailesh Satpathy, PT, is the owner and President of Auro PT. This new therapeutic clinic offers physical, speech and occupational therapies using individualized treatment plans in an encouraging environment. In addition, many area residents are taking advantage of the clinic's community wellness program and are exercising their way to better health using the clinic's state of the art equipment. Please call 903-CARE (2273) for more information.

Levi Guy is the manager of WDP (Western Diversified Plastics). WDP has in-house capabilities for mold design, mold building and manufacturing. Additionally, WDP offers product design resources and expertise in products ranging from automotive/transportation to medical or electrical.



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Newly designed permit applications are available on the Township website. Applications may also be picked up at the Township Hall during office hours. Completed applications may be mailed or dropped off at the Township Hall, a drop box is available.

Zoning permits are required for projects not otherwise requiring a permit. Agricultural buildings, sheds over 100 square feet are some of the buildings requiring a zoning permit. Applications are on the website and must be obtained before work begins.



SNOW PLOWING

We've received triple digit snowfall this winter. That's a lot of snow and finding places to put it became a major challenge for all of us. Just a reminder: Michigan State law prohibits snow, ice or slush from being placed on any road or highway. This includes pushing snow across a roadway or placing it on the shoulder of a road. Additionally, we know much of Alamo Township is low-lying. Placing snow in ditches tends to accumulate and later interferes with water flow causing unexpected flooding to neighboring properties and roadways. Let's hope we're past significant snowfalls for this year, but it is Michigan, so thank you for your help in keeping our roadways clear and safe.

**ALAMO TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS
MEETING SCHEDULES**

Alamo Township Hall	7901 North 6 th Street	382-3366	Township Website: www.alamotownship.org
	Fax	552-4733	
Supervisor	Bob Vlietstra	382-3366	Township E-Mail Addresses: supervisor@alamotownship.org clerk@alamotownship.org deputysupervisor@alamotownship.org firedept@alamotownship.org info@alamotownship.org
	Cell	501-2288	
Clerk	Garilyn Sportel-Bogard	382-3366	Board of Trustees Regular Meeting 2 nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Treasurer	Mary Stoneburner	345-3822	
Trustee	Ron Feniger	381-8478	Parks Board Regular Meeting Last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
Trustee	Dawn Potter-Williams	375-4820	
Fire Chief	Larry Moore	615-4987	Planning Commission Regular Meeting 1 st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Assessor	Renee Laws	382-4182	
Building Inspector	Kevin Cardiff	330-6292	Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at the Township Hall.
Deputy Supervisor	Barbara Fisher	382-3366	
Ordinance Enforcer	Laura Hoffman	217-0291	
Parks Board Chair	Jon Little	381-8387	
	Belden Smith	344-8511	
Planning Commission Chair	alamozoning@mac.com		
Recycling Coordinator	Ron Feniger	381-8478	
Sexton	Garilyn Sportel-Bogard	382-3366	
Township Hall Rental	Mary Stoneburner	345-3822	



ALAMO TOWNSHIP
7901 North 6th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

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PERMIT #1791**

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POSTAL CUSTOMER**