

Sumpter Country Times

Sumpter Township

April, May, June 2009

From Your Supervisor, Johnny Vawters

Dear Friends:

After a long and cold winter, it is nice to see spring is here. It has been a rough few months in the township, as it has been everywhere. We have had to make some cut-backs and not so popular decisions (lay-offs), but they were well planned and thought out decisions. We based these decisions on what was best for the township as a whole. Despite the cutbacks we are still progressing and moving the township forward. Listed below are a few examples:

Road Improvements – Construction will begin in September at the intersection of Bemis & Rawsonville Roads. A traffic light, turn lanes, shoulder work, digging new ditches and some road re-surfacing.

Early Warning Emergency

Sirens:

Four (4) new sirens were installed and should be up and running soon. This brings the current total of sirens to eight (8) with a promise of six (6) more in the next phase, Locations are:

Harris Road between Elwell

and Lohr Rds

Willis Road between Martinsville and Haggerty Rds
Fire Station Kozma & Sumpter Rds

Banotai Park Wear and Sherwood Rds

Judd Road on the corner of Carleton West Rds

Judd Road on the corner of Sherwood Rds

Graham Park on the corner of Wear and Sumpter Rds

Sumpter Road between Arkona and Oakville Waltz Rds

The sirens are tested on the first Friday of each month at 12:00 Noon

Former Health Clinic

We are currently in the process of purchasing the former Wayne County Health Clinic on Sumpter Rd just north of Willis Road. My staff negotiated a \$25,000 dollar sale that includes the almost 11 acre site. This building could possibly be used in the future for a Police Station.

New Commercial Business

There have been 5 new commercial business connections since we started the commercial sewer stimulus discount, I'd like to welcome: Steve Kovach on re-opening of the Tin Pan Restaurant, also, the opening of Busted Knuckle Auto Repair by Ann Hammac at 45555 Willis Road. Tim Bowman of Bowman Auto Sales on Sumpter and Willis Road and to Bewey Horn and Kathleen Spires whom are the new owners of the Rollers Ice Cream Eats & Treats and the Roller Rink on Sumpter Road. Rollers Ice Cream Eats & Treats is open for business and the Roller Rink is scheduled to open in September of this year. We welcome them all.

This is just a few of the things we've accomplished already this year and we expect lots more to come.

Until next time,

Your Township Supervisor

Johnny Vawters

July Board of Review

The 2009 July Board of Review is scheduled for

July 21, 2009 10 am to 4 pm

The Board of Review will meet with taxpayers for the purpose of Principal Residential Exemptions, Clerical Errors and Hardship Exemptions

From Your Township Clerk Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr.

Did you know that if you have a complaint about your Comcast cable and are not able to resolve it with their customer service you have another source to help you. The MPSC (Michigan Public Service Commission). www.michigan.gov/mpsc. If you do not have access to the Internet then you can write, call or fax: Michigan Public Service Commission, Attn: Video Franchising, 6545 Mercantile Way, Lansing, MI 48909. Phone: 866-552-7725 - Fax: 517-241-2400. We can not help you with your Comcast bill. The phone number to Comcast is 888-266-2278 the reason our number is on the

bill is because we are the franchise community.

The township garbage collection company is Republic Waste 1-877-264-5544. This number is also on the side of your brown container.

You must have your rubbish can out to the road by 6 am on your scheduled pick up day. If you have a large item call Republic Waste for a special pick up. If you do not know when your day is call the clerks office 734-461-6201 ext 222 or pick up a



schedule at the clerks office.

You can access the township web site for all the meeting minutes. Also if you wish to e-mail the clerks office our address is

sumpter-clerk@comcast.net.



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Emergency numbers 24 hours for police, water & sewer are 911 or (734) 461-6898.

Angel Food Ministries:
Place orders at Sumpter Community Center, most Tuesdays & Thursdays. For information call, 734-497-6773.

Blood Drive

Blood Drive in Sumpter Township is tentatively scheduled for June 9, 2009, at Sumpter Community Center from 1 pm—7 pm. As a resident you can do your part by donating. If you are interested please sign up at the Clerks office. Summer is the time people are on vacation and forget to donate blood. There is a big shortage and we would like to give you a chance to help.



From Your Township Treasurer—John W. Morgan

July 1, 2009 the Summer Tax Bill will be in the mail. The Summer bill this year is canary yellow. The Treasurer's office is using canary yellow for summer bills, and blue for winter bills. Residents can pay their tax bills at the Treasurer's office and at the National City Bank branch in New Boston. You have until September 15, 2009 to pay your taxes without penalty. After that date 1% interest charge will be added monthly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Treasurer's office at 734-461-6201.

Senior citizens, disabled people, veterans, surviving spouses of veterans and farmers may be able to delay paying summer property taxes. **Eligible** taxpayers can apply for a summer tax deferment with this office. This means that the due date would be extended to the end of February without penalty charges; but the full amount of the tax bill must be paid by the end of February.

Currently, there are several programs in place to assist low-income persons with their property taxes. Senior citizens, veterans, surviving

spouses of eligible veterans and disabled persons may be eligible for larger tax relief. Contact the Wayne County Department of Human Services—DHS for further information 313-224-6105.

The Township offices will be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day and Friday, July 3, 2009 for Independence Day.

The staff in the Treasurer's office and myself wishes everyone a safe and happy summer.



Tax Time



From The Department Of Public Services

By: Ron Caryl

Water & Sewer

During these tough economic times we come across many unfortunate situations that we know could be prevented but which we ourselves can't legally correct. Recently we discovered an older resident living alone with a plumbing problem so severe that she is going to receive a water bill in excess of anything I've seen in Sumpter for a residential customer. After we discovered the problem and spoke with her about it, she said she didn't have the means to correct the problem. We put her in touch with the township supervisors office and they were able to help her with a plumber the next day. If you

are having problem of this sort and are having a hard economic time like so many of us, you may qualify for help. Give us a call and we'll try to help if regulations allow us to do so. Due to various laws we must charge you for the water or sewer services you receive.

Summer is coming and with that usually comes higher water use and therefore higher bills. Please don't water your lawn or plants when they don't need it. There are many useful handouts in Supervisor Vawters' office that will give you more information on these issues. Most of us tend to over water and then you wind up with a bigger bill. We don't want you having to pay for a service that's not productive.

Our construction work on our sewer and water projects are complete. The contractors only have restoration work left to do, which they are starting on at this time. They should be complete with this work in the next few weeks.

The water meter change out program is also nearly complete. Only 1 or 2% of the meters haven't been changed. These people will begin receiving **water shut-off notices within the next few days**. We don't really like doing this but it is costing us more to read these few meters than it is to read the rest of the system.

Thanks for letting us be of service.

Siren Warning Protocol For Sumpter Township

Just a reminder from the Chief of Police:

In the event of an emergency that requires the public/community to be notified by use of the Township's Siren System the following protocol should be followed:

- 1 In the event of bad weather (severe thunderstorm with possible 65-70+ mph Winds, large hail, or tornado warning), the siren will be set off one time. Slower wind speeds with the potential to cause severe damage may also require the activation of the system. The community response to the first alert should be to seek shelter where you are on the lowest level or inside a nearby building (if outside or mobile).
- 2 If no basement is available, move into the interior area of the building and Take shelter under sturdy tables or desk. Also try to take shelter in areas with minimum windows.
- 3 A second siren warning means that conditions have worsen and shelter should Be sought inside a stable environment building, such as the township community center or other designated emergency site. Residents inside mobile homes should move to an emergency site inside their park or township community center (if the current conditions permit such a move).
- 4 The all clear for this community will be announced on the radio, TV and Police mobile PA system when applicable.
- 5 If the siren system is set off and there is no apparent bad weather, you should Tune in to your TV or radio stations for a possible public service announcement, which may be related to a non-weather emergency condition (i.e., hazardous material spill, wild fire, Nuclear Power Plant condition, etc.).
- 6 Based on Sumpter Township's location within Wayne County, we also Monitor the counties of Washtenaw, Monroe, and Lenawee to obtain advance severe weather condition information.
- 7 The siren system is tested on the first Friday of each month at 12:00 noon.

Chief James Pierce Jr. /Sumpter Township Police Departments

Most Frequently Asked Questions About Residential Building Projects

What do I have to pull a permit for?

Building

Any new structures, such as a home, addition, garage, accessory buildings, deck, or any structural changes.

Any change of current use of area within a home would require permits (e.g. finishing a basement to provide habitable space, creating a bedroom from an existing space).

Roof replacement—Siding—Window & exterior door replacement—Pools—Non-structural repairs and renovations within a home, or replacement of existing fixtures do not require a permit. (Replacement of cabinets, counters, flooring, painting, awnings/shutters attached to the home) - Plumbing\Mechanical—Furnace replacement—Installing air conditioning—Water heater replacement—Gas piping—Irrigation systems—Repair water\sewer lines—Installation of new plumbing or fixtures

Electrical

Permits are required for all electrical work with the exception of, replacement of fixtures, switches and outlets.

Sumpter Township strongly recommends that, State of Michigan licensed electrical contractors perform electrical installation and repairs.

Permits are issued only to licensed Electrical Contractors, and Homeowners, for the dwelling in which they reside, or intend to reside (new home). Homeowner Permits, will not be issued to owners of rental properties.

How deep do footings have to be?

42" for a house, deck, attached garage or detached garage\utility structure over 600 square feet.

What are basic deck requirements?

Footings 42" deep (undisturbed soil), treated material or naturally weather resistant woods must be used (pressure treated lumber, cedar, or plastic composite are all acceptable materials). The deck is to support 60 lb. live load.

Railings are to be 3 ft. high min. and able to support 200 lbs. Of pressure in any direction. Spindles are required if the deck or stairs are 30" above the finish grade. Spindle spacing should be such that a 4-in. sphere cannot pass through openings.

Stairways are to be 3-ft. wide min. with a graspable handrail no more than 2 5/8 inches wide, located between 34" – 38" in height, measured plumb from the leading edge of each tread.

Stair tread height must be a maximum of 8 1/4" and 4" minimum. Stair tread depth must be 9" minimum. Steps cannot vary more than 3/8" in the "run" of the stairs.

Decks constructed on new homes where posts would be located in a "disturbed soil area" must be attached to the home. Typically, 30" or so around your foundation has been "over-dug"; obviously this area is "settling" fill material and in most cases, will not support your deck adequately. All foundations must be placed upon undisturbed load bearing soil.

What is the maximum number of roof coverings that I can place on my house before completely tearing off the roof to the existing boards?

Only two roofs can be placed on a house before complete replacement.

What do I have to turn in for a building permit?

Two sets of building plans—Certified Survey—A plot plan (showing to scale the dimension of lot, location and accurate size of all existing structures, location and size of proposed structure) - Copy of builder's license—Copy of Signed Contract—Insurance—Homeowner's affidavit (if pulling own permit) - Completed permit application

What specific items should be included on a set of building plans?

Aside from an accurate site plan, all plans should include the following when applicable:

Footings or foundation type and size

Front, rear, and side elevations (views), of the proposed building, with accurate elevations.

A complete floor plan, which indicates accurate dimension of room sizes, use of space, deader, window, and door sizes.

A wall sectional that identifies the stud spacing, insulation type, interior finish, joist spacing and type of flooring, all structural supports. Complete specifications for pre-engineered trusses, and all other engineered wood products (I-joist, LVL, and Glue lam)

What kinds of inspections are generally required on a typical new home in Sumpter Township?

Inspections are required for water\sewer installation, footings, backfill (before it is backfilled), underground plumbing, gas pressure test, electrical service release, rough plumbing, rough electric, rough heating, fireplace, rough frame and exterior rough (together or separate), insulation, drywall, Interior slabs and porches attached to the foundation, final plumbing, final electric, final heating, smoke detectors, and final building.

Inspections for plumbing, mechanical, and electrical must be inspected and approved before inspection for rough/final building can be conducted.

Things All Residents Should Know

It is our intention at the Sumpter Township Building Department to assist in completing all building projects as smooth as possible for you, the resident. Our goal is to insure that your project meets code standards for health, safety, and welfare, for yourself as well as the general public.

Protect Yourself!

When contracting work to be done to your home...

Always, hire a State of Michigan licensed contractor, licensed in the trade in which they are doing work.

Always, have your contractor pull permits (If you, the homeowner, pull the permit and fill out the "Homeowner Affidavit", you, the homeowner are responsible for the work)

Always, make sure that your contractor shows you the copy of the permit, and displays it in a visible location.

Sumpter Senior Citizen Center

23501 Sumpter Rd. 734-461-9373 Hours Mon—Fri 9 am—4 pm

Finally Summer!!! Looking positively, Michigan winter causes us to be productive during the good weather, and appreciate the seasonal change.



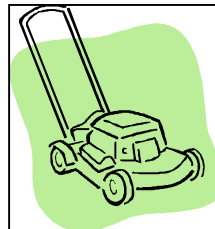
Volunteers are an essential part of our Senior program. Two years in a row a Golden Oldie volunteer has been chosen by the Detroit Rotary Club from Sumpter Township and recognized for their outstanding volunteer effort, 2008, Leonard Rochon and this year, Bertha Payne has that distinguished honor, and we are proud and thankful to see that the volunteer spirit is alive and well here in Sumpter Township

See you at the Center. D.

WANTED—VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer opportunities are available for delivering Meals on Wheels to homebound seniors.

Senior Olympics, August 17—21, for a nominal fee seniors participate in athletic and non-athletic events. Information and registration forms are available at Sumpter Senior Center Office.



Grass Cutting Program—for income qualified Seniors is administered thru the Senior Center Office. Pick-up application and official proof of income is required.

Upcoming Activities

- Picnic
- Fish Fry
- Mystery Trip
- Casino(s)
- Ball Game(s)
- Day Trip
- Shipshewana Day Trip
- Up North

File of Life is available at Senior Center Office

Wayne County Lunch Program

Served: Monday—Friday 11:45 AM
24 Hour Registration Requested

TEFAP Commodities/Focus Hope
3rd Thursday monthly @ WIC Office

Regular Activities

- Stretch & Tone
- Weekly Bible Study
- Local Shopping
- Computer Classes
- Penny Pokeno
- Blood Pressure
- Podiatrist
- Referrals
- Quilting
- Monthly Birthday Bingo is now generously sponsored by Comprehensive Home Health Care & Home Instead Home Health Care

Sumpter Senior Center is supported in part by Senior Alliance I-AAA

House Numbering and Open Burning Info. From Your Fire Department



Housing Numbering ordinance passed in early 2009.

The Sumpter Township Board deems that it necessary in order to provide proper police, fire and emergency services to the residents of the Township, that every developed residential or business parcel of property shall display identification number (address) visible from the public and private roadways adjacent to the property in the township. The display shall be reflective at the driveway (ingress & egress) and on the building.

- A. The property identification number on structure or address shall use numbers not less than 3 (three) inches in height and one-half inch in line width.
- B. Shall be located on the same side of the adjacent roadway as the property it identifies.
- C. Located immediately adjacent to the driveway providing ingress to the property and leading to the building or structure.
- D. Numbers shall be reflective. In the case of shared driveways one at main road, second at individual driveways.

The occupants of all buildings in the township used for

commercial and/or industrial purposes that are connected with or located so close to other buildings as to prevent access between such buildings, and/or which require a different route to the rear of the building than to the front, shall cause the correct business name and property identification number to be placed on the rear entrance door or immediately adjacent to the door. For the complete house numbering ordinance contact the Clerks Office.

Are you aware that we have an ordinance prohibiting open burning in the township?

Open Burning means any combustion processes from (which) the products of combustion are emitted directly into the outdoors atmosphere.

Penalties. Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and cost of prosecution, or by imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

For the complete open burning refer to Section 14.287.1

Services and Community Information

Township

<u>Water/Sewer:</u>	Billing every 3 months any questions call 734-461-6201 ext. 242
<u>Trash Service:</u>	Republic Waste 1-877-264-5544 If your day falls on a holiday (Christmas, Memorial Day, Labor Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, New Years) then your pick-up will be the next day. Trash must be out by 6 am or night before.
<u>Landfill:</u>	Carleton Farms 734-654-0001
<u>Police & Fire:</u>	Emergency only 911
<u>Police Dispatch:</u>	Non-emergency 734-461-6898
<u>Police</u>	
<u>General Info:</u>	734-461-4833
<u>Fire</u>	
<u>General Info:</u>	734-461-6201 ext.# 221 or 222
<u>Senior Citizens</u>	
<u>Services:</u>	734-461-9373
<u>PNA Hall Rental:</u>	734-697-4736

Township Meetings

Board Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays ea. month at 6:30 pm

Planning Commission: 2nd Thursday of the month Quarterly at 6:30 pm

Parks & Recreation: 3rd Wednesday of ea. month at 6 pm



Sumpter Township

23480 Sumpter Road
Belleville, MI 48111

Phone: 734-461-6201
Fax: 734-461-6441

Country Living At Its Finest

Sumpter Township Board of Trustees

- **Johnny Vawters,**
Supervisor
- **Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr.,**
Clerk
- **John W. Morgan,**
Treasurer
- **William Hamm,**
Trustee
- **Alan D. Bates,**
Trustee
- **Linda L. Kennedy,**
Trustee
- **Peggy Morgan,**
Trustee

Parks & Recreation News

Enduro & Derby— Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th at 6 pm
Fairgrounds Behind Community Center

34th Annual Country Fest Cancelled!

The 2009 Country Fest was cancelled this year due to the economic downturn the State is in. We are planning to bring a New & Improved Country Fest back next year. STAY TUNED.

Family Day- July 18th at 1:00 pm located at Graham Park- corner of Sumpter & Wear Rds. Free Hotdogs, Chips, Drink & Popsicles. Kids games include- tug-of-war, pie eating & much more. Free Moon Walk. Adult horseshoe tournament with trophies, softball game between Sumpter Police & Fire and the Belleville Police & Fire.

15th Annual Don Rochon Memorial Car Show & Demolition Derby- September 27.

Car registration begins at 10:00 am. Judging begins at 3:00 p.m. Derby begins at 5:00 p.m.

Graham Park – improvements to Graham Park are to start this spring. Improvements planned are: new playground equipment, new pavilions, new parking lots, new B-B-Q grills, new picnic tables which are paid out of grant monies.

Banotai Park- we are continuing to improve the park. We added new permanent restrooms and improved the swimming area with more improvements to come