

# EAST BAY TOWNSHIP NEWS

## SUMMER 2014

### ARE YOU PROUD OF YOUR RESIDENCE....AND YOUR YARD?

When a neighbor has a messy yard, it's likely to affect you in two ways. First, is it's an eyesore and can be bothersome to look at. Second, is that it can lower the value of your home as well as the neighborhood. This is particularly true if you are trying to sell a house, and a potential buyer is hesitant to live next to your messy neighbor.

We live in a beautiful area, and our homes and yards should reflect it! Piles of trash, old junk cars, old appliances, unused building materials, scrap metal, household trash, and the list goes on..... Junk violations are increasing in our township and this summer the township zoning office will make clean-up a top priority.

We realize that getting rid of junk around the house can be stressful for homeowners. Whether it's your old washing machine, bed or another large item, it's a relief when you can get rid of it with ease. Here are 3 junk removal tips to help make your life a little bit easier:

1. **Hire A Junk Removal Service** - The easiest way to dispose of junk is to contact a junk removal service. They offer the time and energy that you might not have. An expert will have the proper truck to transport your junk. You can trust a trained professional to do the job right. He'll use his insured vehicle that is spacious enough to remove almost any sort of bulky items. Set up an initial consultation with a junk removal specialist to obtain a free quote and more details. It will allow you to consider how much money and effort you can save by hiring a professional instead of doing it yourself. Keep in mind that even the most extensively trained junk removal specialist will not be able to remove explosives, liquid waste (Freon), hazardous waste, asbestos, chemicals or anything containing gas or oil. Also, contact your waste hauler; many times they will pick up a bulk item once or twice a month with little or no cost.

2. **Dumpster Rental** - You may consider renting a dumpster. Most communities have businesses that offer dumpster rentals. Search the web or your yellow pages to find a provider. Dumpster rentals are usually available in several sizes and typically delivered to the location that requires the junk removal. However, hazardous wastes are usually not acceptable forms of debris. You can usually rent a dumpster for a week or two, depending on the provider.

3. **Donate It** - If your unwanted items are in good condition you should consider donating them. Charities like the Salvation Army, Goodwill and homeless shelters will often offer to pick up beds, sofas and other large items if they are in decent condition. You could also call your friends and family to see if anyone is interested in your items. Remember, your trash could be another man's treasure. Even if your friends and family aren't interested in your items, you can seize the opportunity to ask them for a helping hand in removing the items. Bring your old computers and printers to Best Buy and Staples where they can be recycled for free.

If residential lawns continue to be treated like junk yards, the East Bay Township Zoning Office has a stern warning for property owners.

Keep your yards clean, please have respect for your neighbors. It's that simple, and if you don't, then they're going to call us, and then we're going to be knocking on your door.

If you're caught letting junk pile up in your yard, you face a \$100 dollar fine per day just for a first offense. If you have any questions or concerns, call the East Bay Township Zoning Office at (231)947-8681.



### New Master Plan

- Overall development concept for Township
- Addresses transportation, housing, parks, economic development, etc.
- Most important, is resident involvement. East Bay is YOUR community and we welcome your input. Please contact Leslie at 947-8681

Be sure to keep your dog on a leash!!!

### Township Meetings

The Public is encouraged to take part in all Township meetings.

Parks Commission:  
1st Monday monthly

Planning Commission:  
1st Tuesday monthly

Township Board Meeting  
2nd Monday monthly

Occasionally they get pushed back a week due to a holiday or election but you can find the exact dates and times on our website at :  
eastbaytwp.org.

## FROM OUR SUPERVISOR



WOW- what a winter, just like the good old days.

Just a note to let you know what is going on in the Township. We are starting the process of design and layout of an additional water tower. We have needed additional water storage capacity for some time and also needed to complete the water main on Hammond Road and connect to

the water tower in English Woods. This will give us the reliability and capacity that we need for the foreseeable future.

I would encourage everyone to enjoy our parks, lakes and the natural beauty of our area. Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful summer.

Supervisor, Glen Lile  
(231) 947-8719

**The pavilions at Grace Macdonald & Killingsworth Parks** are available for rental through the township office. The cost of rental at Grace Macdonald Park is \$50 and at Killingsworth Park is \$20. If you would like to rent a pavilion, we will be happy to take your reservation. Please call Val at the township office at (231) 947-8647.

## EAST BAY TOWNSHIP PARKS NEWS

The Parks Commission has some exciting changes proposed for the parks, including Flushable Toilets, Little Libraries, improvements to East Bay access, and better mapping of the parks.

In March, East Bay Township submitted a grant application for assistance with upgrade to Grace Macdonald Park, the improvements proposed focus on accessibility to the park, as well as flushable bathrooms. If the grant is approved, the improvements to the park should be observed in 2015.

In June, six Free Little Libraries were installed at the Parks. These are a joint venture between the Girl Scouts and the Township. John and Molly McCombs, and the Traverse City Twilight rotary has volunteered to be librarians for the Pine Grove Park Little Library. We are looking for volunteers to be librarians for the Libraries located in our other parks. What does this mean? It means monitoring the libraries for content for all ages, replacing books out as appropriate, and advising the township of any issues. Books were donated by various individuals, and we will likely continue to need additional book donations. If you have any books to donate visit a Little Library, or drop them off at the township hall.

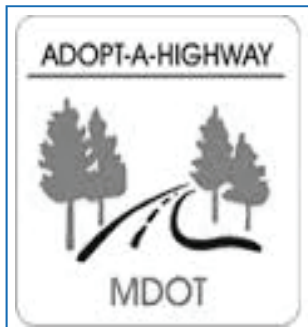
At the end of the year, the Parks Commission is proposing

to submit a second 2014 grant application for improvements to our townships bay front park, Gens Park. At this time, the proposed grant application includes, removal of invasive species (phragmites), a new boardwalk to the water, wheelchair accessible kayak launch, changes to the beach, as well as some additional playground equipment near the grill. We are still in the planning stages of the grant application, if you have any comments or suggestions for Gens Park or any of the other township parks, please let the Parks Commission know.

The Pie Fundraiser is on-going, if you have a picnic, family gathering or reunion for which you are planning on having pies, please remember, the township has certificates for Grand Traverse Pie Company Pies \$15.00, for a 9" fruit pie. The township parks receives \$5.00 for each certificate purchased.

Please enjoy your parks, there is something for everyone, from sledding, to fishing. We invite your suggestions, please contact your Parks Commissioner or attend a meeting, the 1st Monday of every month we would like to see you.

## GRAND TRAVERSE ROAD COMMISSION



We need your help keeping our roadsides clean!

>Groups enroll for a two-year membership and perform three trash pickups per year along a two-mile section of a county road.

>An annual safety meet-

ing among volunteers is required.

>The Road Commission provides two recognition signs, trash bags, vests and trash pickup when your route is complete. Best of all...there is no charge for groups to participate in this program!

Visit the Grand Traverse County Road Commission website for more information or to view routes open in your township, <http://www.gtcrc.org/General/Adopt-A-Road.htm>.

## SAFE GRILLING TIPS FROM METRO

Spring has sprung and that means lots of grilling, lots of entertaining, and unfortunately, lots of opportunities for residential fires to occur. Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department reminds you to follow the Safe Grilling Safety Tips below, and encourages you to visit our website for more information.

[www.gtmetrofire.org](http://www.gtmetrofire.org)

- All barbeque grills must only be used outdoors — using grills indoors or in

enclosed spaces, is not only a fire hazard, but it exposes occupants to toxic gasses and potential asphyxiation.

- Always position the grill well away from combustible objects — buildings, fences, deck railings, and landscaping can easily and quickly ignite.

- Be sure to place the grill a safe distance from other outdoor activities such as lawn games, play areas, foot traffic, pets and children. It is best to establish a

3-foot “safe zone” around the grill and never leave a lit grill unattended.

- Always use long handled grilling utensils and heat resistant oven mitts to avoid exposure burns from heat and flames.

- Periodically remove grease build-up in catch trays to prevent it from igniting.

If you use propane, before each use, check hoses for signs of wear and tear, and be sure that the connection



to the tank is tight. If the unit catches fire, do **not** attempt to extinguish it, especially if propane is burning freely. Dial 9-1-1. Propane can reignite with explosive force.

## NEWS FROM THE COMMISSION ON AGING

Georgia Durga, Director

Did you know that the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging provides a variety of support services that help senior citizens remain living at home? These services make life a little easier and safer for older adults.

Types of assistance we provide include:

Housecleaning

Home Health Care – bath-

ing assistance, oral care, skin care and vital signs.

Respite Care – caregiver relief.

Yard Maintenance and Snow Removal – mowing, leaf removal, window washing.

Foot Care

Personal Emergency Response Units

Information and Assistance

– to learn about other services available.

Senior Center Network –

One of our senior centers is located at Hope Village, Acme Township, where a healthy lunch and many activities are offered.

**For more information**, call (231) 922-4688, or visit our webpage (Google - Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging). A fee, based on income, is charged for most services.

The Commission on Aging is funded by two small local millages – one for in-home services and one for our senior center network. **THANK YOU to the taxpayers of Grand Traverse County for your support!**

## District Forester Provides Free Landowner Assistance

Kama Ross, District Forester for the Grand Traverse Conservation District provides in-office and on-site assistance to county landowners at no charge. This position is funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The goal of the Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) is to encourage and enable

landowners to more actively manage their woodlands. Services include:

- Identification of forest diseases and insects and their control options.

- Advice on the selection and planting of trees and shrubs for reforestation, windbreaks, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

- Information on state and federal forestry cost-share

& tax incentive programs.

- Recommendations for improving woodlots for timber production, wildlife habitat or recreation.

- Referrals to qualified forestry consultants, industry foresters and other natural resource professionals help landowners take the next step in implementing sound forest management practices.

To find out more about these free services, contact Kama at the Leelanau Conservation District office at:

(231) 256-9783, ext. 15

or email her at:

[kama.ross@macd.org](mailto:kama.ross@macd.org).

# EAST BAY CHARTER TOWNSHIP

## EAST BAY BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

[www.tadl.org/eastbay](http://www.tadl.org/eastbay)

The East Bay Branch library is open Tuesday through Saturday, and offers books, dvds, ebooks, free wifi and the Fizz Boom Read! Summer Reading Club for all ages. Some events coming to the library this summer include:

July 3rd @ 10:30 a.m. Early Head Start Preschool Story Time with Miss Rosie.  
July 9th @ 12-4 p.m. Drop In Craft Day for all ages featuring Cherry Crafts!

July 17th 5:30-8:00 p.m. Origami Night for all ages. Learn the art of Japanese paper folding.

August 26th @ 6:30 pm East Bay Book Club featuring Outlander by Diana Gabaldon.

September 13th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Annual Ice Cream Social featuring local entertainment, a used book sale and free ice cream. This event is free and fun for all ages!

The East Bay Branch Library located at 1989 Three Mile Rd. N. TC is a branch of the Traverse Area District Library. Call the library at 922-2058 for more information. Stop in and see what your library has to offer you.

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

- GLEN LILE.....SUPERVISOR
- TRACEY BARTLETT.....TREASURER
- SUE COURTADE.....CLERK
- MATT COURTADE.....TRUSTEE
- BETH FRIEND.....TRUSTEE
- CRAIG GOODRICH.....TRUSTEE
- BRYAN MARROW.....TRUSTEE

### STAFF

- VAL HENDGES.....RECEPTIONIST
- LESLIE COUTURIER.....ZONING
- JO MOLOCI.....DEP TREASURER
- HELEN MACARTHUR.....DEP CLERK
- BOB BURNS.....BLDG & GROUNDS
- SUSAN KARAKOS.....ASSESSOR
- RUSS CASSLEMAN.....ASSESSOR
- BOB PERRY.....INSPECTOR

## DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR NEW VOTING LOCATION IS?

Greetings from the Clerk's office, we hope everyone is enjoying a great spring after such a long and challenging winter. We are busy preparing for the August 5<sup>th</sup> Primary and November 4<sup>th</sup> General elections. To better serve our voters, we have relocated voting precincts #2 and #3 to East Bay Ambulance and Fire Station #9 located at 110 High Lake Road, Traverse City, MI 49696. Voting precinct #1 will continue to vote in the current location, North Conference Room of the Township Hall, to vote and precinct #4 will now vote in the South Conference Room at the Township Hall.

If you are age 60 or older, or otherwise qualify, and would like to be placed on the list to receive an Absentee Ballot Application for every election please fill out the form below and return it to our office. If you are already on our Permanent Absentee Voter list you should be seeing those applications in your mail approximately two months prior to each election.

With warm regards,

Susanne M. Courtade CMMC/CMC Clerk

Helen MacArthur Deputy Clerk



I would like to receive an absent voter application prior to each election. I authorize this application to be mailed to my address on file. I also understand that when I receive this application I must complete the form by checking the reason section and signing the form in order for a ballot to be sent to me once received by the Clerk's office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Voter Name Here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Voter Signature Here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

(You do not need to complete this form if you already receive an absentee application by mail)