

BROOKS TOWNSHIP

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HESS AND BROOKS LAKES

It has come to the attention of the Brooks Township Board that there have been rumors regarding a sewer system being placed around Hess and Brooks Lakes. There has been no discussion about this issue by the township board. If this project was to be addressed it must be initiated by the residents of both lakes. There has been no action taken by the residents regarding this matter and none is anticipated in the foreseeable future.

ZONING NEWS

SEPTIC ORDINANCE:

This ordinance was adopted in December and will require the pumping and inspections of on-site sewage disposal systems (OSDS) prior to the sale or transfer of property on which an OSDS is located. The pumping, inspections and bringing the system up to minimum standards will be required. The ordinance contains the minimum standards for OSDS and procedural information. This ordinance will help us maintain compliance with county and state standards. If you have any questions regarding this ordinance please contact the township Zoning Administrator at 231-652-6763, ext. 14. OSDS inspection forms may be obtained from the township office or on the website.

All zoning ordinances are located on the township website at www.brookstownship.org under publications.

FROM THE ASSESSOR

March Board of Review will be held March 13th and 15th. Please check your assessment notice for the times to make an appointment to meet with the Board of Review if you have questions regarding your property. Also check to see if the information for your mailing address and your principal residence status is correct. If you have any questions regarding any information on your assessment notice please call 231-652-6763 and ask for the treasurer or the assessor.

COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

Newaygo County Deputy Darrin Roesler will be at the Brooks Township office on Friday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. He will be available to the general public to discuss any concerns or problems they may have and to try and provide a solution or avenue for assistance.

*Township Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the Month at 7 pm.
Planning Commission meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the Month at 7 pm.*

MARCH 2006

Bits and Pieces

TRASH DAY 2006

The annual township trash day will be held on **June 3, 2006**. Details will be in the spring newsletter and on our web site. Once again we will be looking for volunteers to help this day go smoothly. Call 652-6763 ext. 13 to help.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Once again the township is participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program. The township adopted a 2-mile section of M-82 in 2001. Our pick-up dates will be in April, July and September. No specific days have been set yet, but if you would like to volunteer please call 231-652-6763, ext.13. We will put you on a list and notify you when the days have been chosen. It is a rewarding and fun experience. If we do not get enough volunteers to continue this project we will have to discontinue it. If you have a few hours to volunteer for this worthwhile project please help us out.

RECYCLING FOR NEWAYGO COUNTY

Submitted by Bob Pinder, Director

What have we saved? Recycling saves natural resources. Every ton of recycled paper saves 17 trees from being cut and 7000 gallons of water from being used. Every ton of recycled plastic saves 3.85 barrels of oil. Every ton of recycled metal saves 2500 lbs. of iron ore, 1400 lbs. of coal and 120 lbs. of limestone. A ton of recycled glass saves 2400 lbs. of sand, soda ash and limestone. For ease of recordkeeping, we'll count what we've saved from the materials that we have shipped away from the plant and not those on hand. From December 6, 2004 through October 31, 2005 here is what we have recycled (shipped) and saved:

***54 tons of paper - saved 918 trees and 378,000 gallons of water**

***4.67 tons of plastics - saved 17 barrels (935 gallons) of oil**

***12.7 tons of glass - saved 30,466 lbs of sand, soda ash and limestone**

***7 tons of metal - saved 17,500 lbs. of iron ore, 9800 lbs. of coal and 840 lbs. of limestone**

Electronics Collection Day

On Saturday, September 17, 2005 Recycling for Newaygo County served 73 Newaygo County "customers," and collected 10,000 lbs. of old electronics, including computers, monitors, printers, TVs and microwaves during its first Electronics Collection Day. People paid \$5/item recycled.

The collection went smoothly thanks to several volunteers, including Recycling for Newaygo County board members, county residents and FHS teens.

The waste electronics were subsequently shipped to Valley City Environmental Services in Grand Rapids for processing where 100% of each item is recycled. Valley City physically disassembles rather than shredding the materials in order to maximize the opportunity for recycling individual components. All disassembly takes place at their Grand Rapids facility under strict compliance with environmental and safety requirements.

Valley City's processing fees of \$0.15/pound plus transportation was offset by the \$5 collection fees. A grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation paid for the supplies, labor and advertising costs (about \$500).

We were pleased with the turnout and volume – another victory for our environment!

If you would like to become a Friend of Recycling or if you would like to receive the Recycling for Newaygo County newsletter you may call 924-5822.