

the Cannon Communicator

Published by the Cannon Township Board, Kent County, Michigan

Fall 2006

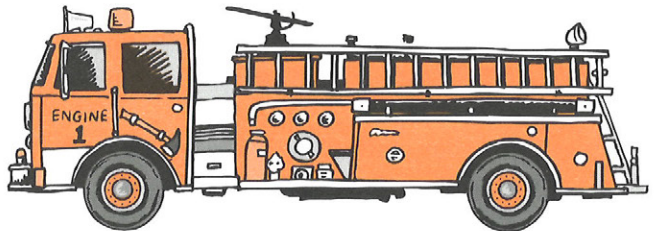
From the Supervisor's Desk...

Fire Department Millage Revision

On August 14, the Cannon Township Board decided to authorize a revised "Fire Protection Millage Proposal" for the residents of Cannon Township to vote on in November's general election.

The reason behind this revised proposal is not because the current millage is expiring, but due to the fact that it does not expire for two more years. The current millage, which was overwhelmingly supported in the 2002 renewal, allows for only operation and maintenance uses. This current fire protection millage does not extend to capital improvements and infrastructure items, such as an expansion of the fire station facilities. Timing of the renewal is the issue at hand.

The current millage of 1.0 was approved in 2002, but reduced yearly since then by Headlee amendment adjustments and Board action. The dollars generated by the original millage are sufficient for our needs at this point in time, but the problem is that we are handcuffed by the way the money can be applied. The language of the current millage only allows the use of the funds for O & M (operation and maintenance). Our Fire Department will be upgrading some vehicles in the next few years and we won't have the facilities to house the enormous pumper trucks and tankers manufactured today. The fire trucks have gotten bigger but our facility was built for the smaller vehicles built in the 1980s.



The renewal, as it currently stands, would not usually be seen on a ballot for another two years, yet we need to begin expansion next winter. When the new vehicles are purchased toward the end of 2007 and in 2009, we need to have adequate space to house them.

The Fire Department will need authorization from the Cannon Township citizens to use the funds generated by the "Fire Protection Millage" for more than just operational expenses. If the citizens

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vote for this revised renewal, the Board and Fire Department can plan accordingly for the physical expansion of our fire facilities.

Will this millage cost the tax payers any more money than they are currently paying? The answer is No! Each renewal in the past has been limited to 1.0 mills. This is what the new revised millage renewal is also requesting. What this revised millage will do, if accepted by the Township citizens, will permit funds received from the Fire Protection Millage to be used for capital improvement (as well as operational needs).

If this millage proposal passes, it will be instead of and will replace the current authorized fire protection millage. However, if this millage proposal does not pass, the existing fire millage will continue to be levied through the end of 2007, without impact.

If you have any questions regarding our Fire Department or the Fire Department Millage please feel free to call me and I will be happy to discuss your thoughts and concerns.

Peter MacGregor, Township Supervisor

Fall Cleanup

Cannon Township has again hired J & S Service to conduct a trash pickup on the Township Center property at 6878 Belding Road for our Township residents.

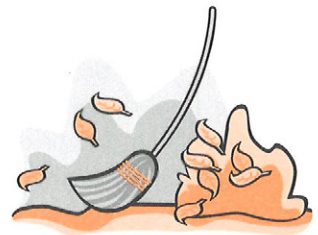
You may bring your junk to the Township Center on the following days:

Wednesday, September 27th from 9 am to 6 pm

Thursday, September 28th from 9 am to 6 pm

Friday, September 29th from 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday, September 30th from 8 am to 1 pm



Also these rules apply:

- All tires must be cut in 4 pieces.
- No shovel offs or loose trash allowed.
- Small items must be in a bag, box, or barrel.
- Fencing must be flattened or folded.
- Barrels must have one end open or be full of holes.
- Fuel oil tanks must be cut in half.
- No liquid, hazardous waste, or yard waste.
- No propane tanks.

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We accept the following items: rubbish, furniture, lumber, metals, appliances, units with Freon (freezers, air conditioners, humidifiers, etc.), and batteries.

It is important to enter the Township property from the Myers Lake Avenue entrance and exit on Belding Road to keep the flow of traffic moving. Be aware that there could be an emergency call while you are in line, so make sure you are not blocking a fire truck or other emergency vehicle.

Cannon Township sponsors this yearly event to help keep our Township clean. You may be asked to provide proof that you are a Township resident, so bring along a copy of your voter ID card, tax bill, or sewer bill. Please do not abuse the rules! Often people get upset when they come too late on Saturday to dump their load. If you are in line before 1 PM, you will be allowed to dump your trash. If you come later than that, you will be asked to leave.

If you have any questions, please call the Township Center (874-6966) during regular office hours.

Burning Dates

Just a reminder for those of you who may be new to this area. Cannon Township adopted an ordinance in 1995 regulating the burning of leaves and grass clippings. Because of the size of our population (over 7500), the State of Michigan required us to adopt an ordinance to allow open burning of grass clippings or leaves or it would otherwise be prohibited. Although some people see burning as an efficient way to dispose of leaves, some people have allergies or medical conditions that are affected by the smoke from these fires. In consideration, only a limited number of days are designated as "burning days."

The designated burning dates this year are:

Thursday, October 19
Friday, October 20
Saturday, October 21
Thursday, October 26
Friday, October 27
Saturday, October 28

Thursday, November 2
Friday, November 3
Saturday, November 4
Thursday, November 9
Friday, November 10
Saturday, November 11



The Board has often voted to extend the dates due to weather conditions. Please watch the website under "What's New" or check the synopsis in the Advance Newspaper to see if additional dates have been added.

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Burning is permitted only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and must be supervised by a responsible person over the age of 18. You must also obtain a permit from the Fire Department by calling 874-9725.

Composting is a great alternative to burning leaves. Watch our website for information on composting.

Cannon Website – Always something new!

If you haven't visited the Cannon Township website lately, you should check it out. Two new features have been added. One is the new green button on the left side that is a link to information about your taxes, assessment, and sewer billing. This information was formerly available on the Treasurer's page, but we added a link on the home page to make it easier to access. This information is up to date – Real Time! – so as soon as your bill is paid, the information is uploaded to the site.

Another feature will be present on the "What's New" part of the website. This is the best place to check for the latest information on Cannon Township events. The new link is called "Trail Update." When you click on this, you will be able to read the most current information on where the Township is with the trail project.

www.cannontwp.org



Bear Creek Watershed sweatshirts and tee-shirts are available for purchase at the Township Office. We have recently restocked our inventory and have most sizes and styles available. Tee-shirts are \$7.00, regular sweatshirts are \$12.00, and hoodies are \$15.00. They would make a great Christmas present!

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE NOW. Please call Nancy Popma for more information.

From the Zoning Administrator

STREET NUMBERING

The Township has a street numbering ordinance. The purpose of the ordinance is to require that numerals identifying buildings in the Township be readable from the road, and placed in uniform locations to facilitate the accurate location of buildings by emergency services. Please refer to the website under General Ordinances for additional information.

DOCKS

All docks shall be removed from inland lakes no later than December 15, 2006. Sunfish Lake docks are exempt from this provision.

HORSES

Horses are permitted on lots of two acres or larger in the A – Agricultural District and on lots of two and ½ acres in the R-1 Low Density Single Family Dwelling District. For parcels less than ten acres, there may be one horse per acre. For parcels over ten acres, there is no limit on the number of horses.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

The Township Board adopted an amendment to the LR – Lakes Residential District that would permit the construction of an accessory structure no larger than 576 square feet on a parcel less than 30,000 in area. Provisions were also made for vacant off lake properties if owned by the lake front property owner. Please contact the Zoning Department for more information.

SIGNS

Portable signs, pendant flags, banners, and other attention seeking devices are not permitted in Cannon Township. For sale signs at intersections are also prohibited and routinely picked up by staff and the Kent County Road Commission.

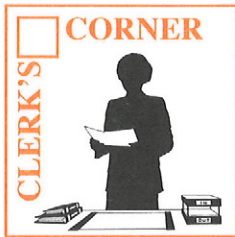
LAND DIVISION APPLICATIONS

Please obtain a land division application and approval before providing a deed for property. All divisions shall be approved by the Township prior to the sale of land.

MICHIGAN ZONING ENABLING ACT

The recent adoption of MZEA changes the notification process for land use changes in the Township. The new law requires all zoning variance requests be published in a newspaper of general circulation no later than 15 days before the meeting. The submittal date for the Zoning Board of Appeals is now one month before the next meeting in order to satisfy this new law.

Christine James, Zoning Administrator



Ballots, Voting and Elections

Ballots -

The November 7th General Election is just around the corner. I received ballots to proof a few days ago, so I thought I would share the contents. Once we get the actual ballots, I will scan one (all precincts are the same for this election) and put it on our website.

The ballot includes the option to vote straight party which would then cast a vote for all candidates of that party, unless you choose to vote individually for someone from another party. There are six parties represented on the ballot. Remember that the November ballot allows you to mix and match if you choose to do so, while the August Primary ballot required you to select candidates from within one political party.

The biggest issue on this ballot is the governor's race. Also included are the partisan positions of Secretary of State, Attorney General, U.S. Senator, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Legislature, State Boards of Education, County Drain Commissioner, and County Commissioner. All of these races are located on the front of the ballot.

The back of the ballot contains the nonpartisan, judicial section and the proposals. In addition to the five state proposals, Cannon Township has a proposal for the renewal of the fire millage.

AV Ballots -

Absent voter ballots are available for those residents 60 years of age or older, those with a handicap, or those who will be away from the community during the hours of the election. The polls open at 7:00 am, and many people try to rush in to vote before they leave for work. This seems to be one of the busiest times of the day. If you have to be to work by 8:00 am and might not return to the community before the polls close at 8:00 pm, you might want to consider an absentee ballot.

Election Workers -

If you're interested in working the election, please contact me because I might still need workers for November 7th. Applications are available on our web site or in the office.

Precinct Changes -

If you haven't voted since the Presidential Election in 2004, this is a warning that most of the precincts have changed since then. A precinct map was included in the summer issue of the Communicator, but it didn't print too well in black and white. A good map is included on the website under "Elections." It may take a while to download, but it shows the divisions quite clearly. We also have a good map available in our lobby, and the information is printed on any voter ID card issued in 2005 or later.

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If you are unsure of where to vote, please call the Township office at 874-6966 and someone will look it up for you.

If, by some chance, you do go to the wrong polling place, there are maps available there. I recommend that you look at the map, even if one of the poll workers tells you which precinct you should vote at. During the primary, we had a lot of confusion, so it doesn't hurt to double check.

Other changes –

In addition to changes in precinct locations, the ballot tabulating system was changed. We are now using the same machine as every other community in Kent County, the M100. Most people seem to like this machine better than the previous one. The ballot requires you to fill in ovals instead of connecting an arrow. You need to use a black ballpoint pen instead of a pencil or marker. Election workers will assist you if you have any questions about the ballot format or the new equipment.

AutoMark –

Each polling place will have a special machine created for use by voters with a handicap. Even though the machine was designed to help those with visual or kinesthetic problems, it can be used by anyone to mark a ballot. The machine works like a touch screen, and also includes headphones for the visually impaired. A connection for a sip and puff device is also available.

For those voters who might like to try the machine to mark an absentee ballot voted in the office, I will have one set up in the Boardroom the week before the election.

In conclusion...

I hope to see all of you at the polls on November 7th. I encourage you all to become informed on the issues and the candidates and exercise your privilege to vote!

Bonnie Shupe Blackledge, Township Clerk



Bonnie Shupe Blackledge? For those of you who are wondering why there's a new addition to my name, I thought I would share with you that I got married on September 2nd. Now in addition to my own three children, I am also a stepmother to four more and a grandmother, too! I plan to continue to use Shupe professionally, at least for a while, until everyone gets used to the change. So, if you see the name Blackledge, remember that I'm the same clerk who has served you for the last fourteen years.



Celebrate Your Watershed

Fall is the perfect time of year to enjoy the great outdoors. The Bear Creek Watershed offers a bevy of opportunities to celebrate its natural resources. Read on ...

1. Go for a nature walk. Pickerel Lake Nature Preserve or Townsend Park offer walking trails. If you bring the kids, make a game out of your walk by playing Treasure Hunt. Make a list of easy things they can find such as a stone, a pinecone, or a fallen leaf. Bring a small bag for the kids to put their treasures in.
2. Take nature photos. Streams, lakes, fall colors against an azure blue sky, pumpkins and wildlife make beautiful photos.
3. Have a fall picnic. It's cooler in fall than summer and the bugs aren't so pesky!
4. Put water conservation into good practice. Follow these tips: shut off water when you shave, brush teeth or wash hands; install low-flow shower heads and faucets in your home; make or buy a rain barrel (www.rainbarrelguide.com); fix leaky faucets; only run your washing machine and dishwasher when they are full. For more water conservation tips go to <http://www.epa.gov/owm/water-efficiency/>
5. Buy fresh produce from a local farmer.
6. Rake a pile of leaves for the kids to jump into. Make sure the video camera is ready!
7. Make a compost pile.
8. When the fall days turn cold and cloudy, curl up with a good "water-theme" book. Here are a few suggestions:
 - The Milagro Beanfield War by John Nichols. A man illegally taps into an irrigation channel that sets off a town of disenfranchised citizens to rally for their lost rights.
 - City of Bones by Martha Wells. A science-fiction action/adventure story about a planet depleted of water, the hunt for ancient relics and the struggle between those who have water and those who don't.
 - Blue Gold by Clive Cussler. An agribusiness tycoon tries to monopolize freshwater supplies, a rain forest tribe has unusual technical abilities, and bio-pirates intent on stealing medicinal secrets will keep you turning the pages of this thriller.

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- Water, Inc. by Varda Burstyn. A political thriller featuring the shipment of water for profit.
- Guns of Vengeance by Lewis B. Patten. When a horrible drought strikes Wild Horse Valley Range one man diverts what little water there is to his ranch. Other ranchers take up the fight in an action-packed western.

And for kids

Rivers Must Run by Paul Kending. Delve into the history of Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula with this fictional account of a boy who grows up amongst loggers, dam builders and the Ojibwa people.

Bear Creek Fall Clean Up

Another way to celebrate your watershed is to help out with the Bear Creek Fall Clean Up. Date and exact location will be announced so check the Cannon Township website for details. Everyone is welcome to band together to pick up litter along Bear Creek. We might also sample the water for macro invertebrates and/or take samples of sediments. Refreshments will be served. Please join your community for a few hours of work, fun and fellowship.

Keep Leaves Away From Storm Sewers

Raking leaves is a fall ritual that is as timeless as Halloween. However, please remember: do NOT rake leaves into the street, especially if there is a storm sewer near by. Why? Because the leaves will clog up the storm grate cover and the leaves will eventually drop into the storm sewer; finding their way into a local waterway. So what's the big deal if that happens? Well, streams and lakes can only handle the decaying leaves from surrounding plant life. When huge amounts of leaves pile up in a waterway, this can lead to excess phosphorus build up in the waterway. Then, algae blooms will appear either now or next spring, as well as excessive aquatic plant growth. So, why not use those piles of leaves for a compost pile? Read on to find out more.

Composting

Fall is a great time to start a compost pile or add to the one you already have. Fallen leaves make a great base for a compost pile. Here is an easy three-step method to get you started:

1. Chop yard materials into smaller pieces to get them to break down quickly.
2. Mix "browns" (dry, woody materials) with "greens" (moist, green materials).
3. Maintain air and water balance by turning the pile over about once a week. Keep the pile as wet as a wrung out sponge.

Harvest rich, brown, finished compost from the bottom and center of the pile in about 12 to 18 months. Mix compost into the garden to improve soil or use coarse compost as mulch to keep weeds

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down. You can even use compost on houseplant soils to provide nutrients. Stop into the Township offices and pick up a free brochure on composting.

Fall Fertilizer Reminder

If you live in the Township's "Lakes District" please remember to comply with the Fertilizer Ordinance. The ordinance prohibits those living in the Lakes District from using fertilizers that contain phosphorus. This includes lawn care companies that treat lawns in the Lakes District. Phosphorus ends up in storm water run off and is deposited into nearby lakes. This causes algae blooms and excess aquatic plant growth. You can read the entire Fertilizer Ordinance at the Township website or stop in at the Township offices for a copy.

Lake Buffer Strips

While having a sandy beach or a lush green lawn carpeted right up to your shoreline is appealing to you, it is not very appealing to a lake. Lakes, in their natural state, have vegetation growing around their perimeters. Nature intended this because the vegetation acts as a buffer for the lake and also serves as a home for all types of wildlife. These vegetative strips are known as buffer strips. They filter water run off from the land and prevent sediments and other pollutants from entering the lake. They also deter shoreline erosion. Here are ways you can encourage a buffer strip on your shoreline:

- Leave an unmowed buffer strip along the lake at least 20 ft. wide
- Set your lawn mower to leave lawn grass two or three inches long
- Plant steep banks with native vegetation that binds the soil and traps water
- Terrace steep banks when possible to slow water and sediments

Since fall is a great time for planting, why not consider planting some native grasses and flowers along part of your shoreline? The plantings will be aesthetically pleasing to you and very pleasing to the health of your lake.

Bostwick Lake Monitoring

Each spring, summer and fall Cannon Township takes part in the Michigan Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. Readings are taken from Bostwick Lake for water clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen and water temperature every other week. These readings are sent to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. They compile this data, along with data from other Michigan Lakes. I would like to extend many thanks to Bostwick Lake residents Tom Buteyn and Kris Hassen for volunteering to take me out on the lake this past season. Also, thank you to Sheila Petrovich and the Bostwick Lake Association for coordinating this project. If you would like to see past data of Bostwick Lake's monitoring, go to the website www.micorps.net Click on "Lake Monitoring" then choose "Annual Reports."

Kim Sapkowski, Cannon Township Watershed Administrative Assistant





Some things are worth repeating. The FEMA article below appeared the same time last year and has some great advice.

Fireplace and Home Fire Safety fact sheet from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration)

More than one-third of Americans use fireplaces, wood stoves and other fuel-fired appliances as primary heat sources in their homes.

Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the fire risks when heating with wood and solid fuels. Heating fires account for 36% of residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) encourages you to practice the following fire safety steps to keep those home fires safely burning. Remember, fire safety is your personal responsibility... *Fire Stops With You!*

KEEP FIREPLACES & WOOD STOVES CLEAN

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise you may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves.

PROTECT THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME

- Stack firewood outdoors at least 30 feet away from your home.
- Keep the roof clear of leaves, pine needles and other debris.
- Cover the chimney with a mesh screen spark arrester.
- Remove branches hanging above the chimney, flues or vents.



PROTECT THE INSIDE OF YOUR HOME

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year. Consider installing the new long life smoke alarms.
- Provide proper venting systems for all heating equipment.
- Extend all vent pipes at least three feet above the roof.

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- Provide proper venting systems for all heating equipment.
- Extend all vent pipes at least three feet above the roof.

For More Information Contact:

The United States Fire Administration, Office of Fire Management Programs
16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Or visit the USFA website: www.usfa.fema.gov

Helpful Hint...Porch Lights

Please make sure to turn on your porch light after you have called 911. This seemingly simple tip allow us to locate and respond to an address more quickly.

Back to School

School is back in session so please make sure to keep an extra cautious eye open while driving! And as a service to our community, the Cannon Township Fire Department also begins fire safety and prevention with the schools within our community in the fall when the kids are back in session. For some children, the excitement of the beginning school year is a great time to discuss and practice an in-home fire safety plan. For some fire safety tips, please check out <http://www.fema.gov/kids/>

Daylight Savings time...take advantage of the time change as a reminder

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. local time on the first Sunday in April. On the last Sunday in October, areas on Daylight Saving Time return to Standard Time at 2:00 a.m. On **Sunday, October 29, 2006**, take a minute to test and replace the batteries in all of your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Halloween Open House

October 31st falls on a Tuesday this year. Make sure all of your trick-or-treaters have reflective material on their costumes or a flashlight if they are going to make their rounds at dusk or after dark. And when you're done, please stop by Station 2 on Belding Rd adjacent to the Township Hall or Station 1 on Cannonsburg Rd in Cannonsburg. We will be serving cider and donuts from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Fall Leaf Burning

Leaf Burning will be permitted during the last two weekends (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) in October and the first two weekends (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) in November. Please call 874-9725 for a burn permit prior to burning your leaves. Burn permits are free but required for Cannon Township residents.



Until next time, stay safe!

Property Taxes

Most of us dislike the subject of property taxes, and for many paying these taxes is a burden. Fortunately there is help for some taxpayers.

The State allows some low-income families to be exempt from these taxes. To obtain information on this program please contact our Township Assessor.



The second area of help is the State Homestead Property Tax Credit. Property taxes in excess of 3.5% of your total income are refunded by the State up to \$1,200 for those seniors 65 and older and 60% of \$1,200 for those under 65. Example: if a senior pays \$2,000 in property taxes and their income is \$25,000 they would receive a credit of \$1,125 ($\$25,000 \times 3.5\% = \875 less \$2,000 equals \$1,125). Non-seniors would receive 60% of \$1,125 or \$675.

Many people believe that our Township Taxes are a large portion of their tax bill because they pay their taxes at the Township Center, but the Township is actually a small part of the tax bill. See table for the breakdown.

Dick Davies, Trustee

Percent of taxes

Schools	48%
County	24%
Kent I.S.D	15%
Township	7%
Community College . . .	6%

Way to go!

The Kent County emergency dispatchers (911) say the Cannon Township Fire Department is ranked among the fastest responding departments in all Kent County.

Just in the month of July, the Fire Department responded to 52 emergencies. As a Cannon Township Citizen, you should be proud of our Fire Department and feel very secure.

Thank you to our Fire Department!

The historical museum in Cannonsburg is open on Sundays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm through the end of September. It is also open by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please call Margaret Janose at 874-6865.

Meeting Michigan's Energy Challenges With Renewable Resources -- from Land and Air

A one-day, three-part comprehensive workshop on renewable energy with the goal to educate and affect public policy.

Hosted by:

The Izaak Walton League

Dwight Lydell Chapter Conservation Center

5641 Myers Lake Road

Saturday, September 30, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 with continental breakfast

Morning session

Aaron Wissner - The state of our energy supply: providing the context – global, state, local

Tom Cary, WMEAC - The Value of Building & Sustaining local economies – renewables opportunities

Steve Smiley - Community success stories from around the world & regional applications

Mark Smiley - Michigan Wind and Sun.

Afternoon session

Sara Lineberry - Methane Digester System.

Gary Willey - Switchgrass, the cellulose alternative to corn

Panel Discussion - Public policy implications for increased use of renewables

Event SPACE IS LIMITED and reservations are required so you are encouraged to make your reservation early by calling Bob & Gail Stegmier @ 616-866-4769 or at rstegmier@ameritech.net. Prepayment will save 10 percent on the event fee of \$20 per adult, \$30 per couple and \$10 for students. Reservation and fee can be mailed Izaak Walton League, 5285 Windmill, Rockford, MI 49341.

Featured presenters include:

- **Steven Smiley**, co-founder of the Great Lakes Renewable Resource Institute, owner/president of Bay Energy services, has particular expertise in commercial wind energy
- **Sarah Lineberry**, assistant to Dr. Imad Mahawili of MAREC, will present on "Biomass to Methane to Electricity: Using Advanced Anaerobic Digester Technology,"
- **Tom Cary** of WMEAC on "Growing and Sustaining Local Economies: the Greenest Energy Is That Which Doesn't Have to Be Produced in the First Place."
- **Gary Willey**, expert and advocate for switchgrass, a cellulosic alternative to corn – great for farmers and consumers, but not necessarily, it seems, for big agribusiness! Hear first hand of the unfolding of this drama.

More speakers on solar, corn, soybean, peak oil and public policy will be added as confirmed.

**For questions regarding the event contact Maurie Houseman, 974-6828, or
Shirley Kallio shirleykallio@msn.com.**

"DATES TO REMEMBER"

- Sep 27-30 **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP – Township Center**
 Wed. (27th) & Thurs. (28th) 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Fri. (29th) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Sat. (30th) 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Oct 1 Quarterly Sewer Bills Mailed
 Oct 9 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Oct 10 Last Day to Register for November 7, 2006 General Election
 Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
 Oct 17 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Oct 19,20,21 Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department
 Oct 23 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Oct 26,27,28 Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department
 Oct 31 **HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT**
 Both Fire Stations - 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
QUARTERLY SEWER BILLS DUE
- Nov 2, 3, 4 Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department
 Nov 4 Office Open for Absentee Ballots – 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
 Nov 6 Absentee Voting in Office until 4:00 pm
 Nov 7 **GENERAL ELECTION – POLLS OPEN 7:00 am – 8:00 pm**
 Nov 9,10,11 Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department
 Nov 13 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Nov 14 Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
 Nov 21 Zoning Board of Appeals – 7:00 pm
 Nov 23, 24 **OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Holiday**
 Nov 27 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Dec 1 Winter Taxes (2006) Mailed to Residents
 2007 Dog Licenses Available at Township Office
 Dec 11 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Dec 12 Board of Review – 9:00 am
 Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
 Dec 19 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting – 7:00 pm
 Dec 25, 26 **OFFICE CLOSED - Christmas Holiday**
- Jan 1, 2 **OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Holiday**

Clip and Save E-mail Addresses

Supervisor, Pete MacGregor	pmacgregor@cannontwp.org
Clerk, Bonnie Shupe Blackledge	bonnies@cannontwp.org
Treasurer, Dan Barker	dbarker@cannontwp.org
Trustee Diane Jones	dianecjones2005@yahoo.com
Trustee Jim LaPeer	jlapeer@cannontwp.org
Trustee Dick Davies	rrd8565@hotmail.com
Trustee Chuck Bloom	heronview@sbcglobal.net
Deputy Clerk, Nancy Popma	nancyp@cannontwp.org
Deputy Treasurer, Milissa Soderstrom	milissas@cannontwp.org
Zoning Administrator, Christine James	christinej@cannontwp.org
Code Enforcement Officer, Bob Devereaux	zeo@cannontwp.org
Administrative Assistant Sue Clarin	suec@cannontwp.org
Watershed Assistant, Kim Sapkowski	ksapkowski@cannontwp.org
Fire Chief, Harry Morris	Chief@Cannontwp.org
State Representative, Tom Pearce	tompearce@house.mi.gov
State Senator, Ken Sikkema	Phone: 1-888-414-3684
	ofcKenSikkema@senate.michigan.gov
	Phone: 1-800-774-1174
Congressman Vern Ehlers	www.house.gov/ehlers
	Phone: 1-202-225-3831
Cannon Township Web Site	www.cannontwp.org
Kent County Web Site	www.accesskent.com
State of Michigan Web Site	www.michigan.gov



CANNON TOWNSHIP
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Rockford, MI 49341

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Township Board

Supervisor	Pete Macgregor
Clerk	Bonnie Shupe Blackledge
Treasurer	Dan Barker
Trustees	Diane Jones
	Dick Davies
	Chuck Bloom
	Jim Lapeer
Township Offices	874-6966
(Hours 8am – 5pm, Mon – Fri)	
Fax	874-8940
Fire Department	874-9725
Emergency	911

Township Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Monday, Monthly
7:00 pm, Township Hall