

# Fruitland Township

## E-News

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November 29, 2018



### **HOLIDAY HOURS**

The Township Hall will be closed for the holidays on:

Monday, December 24, 2018  
Tuesday, December 25, 2018  
Monday, December 31, 2018  
Tuesday, January 1, 2018

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER**

Tax collection hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. – noon.

Additional hours for tax collection are December 26, 2018 and February 28, 2018 until 5:00 p.m.

Summer taxes, if owing, are always paid first and the rest is applied to the winter tax.

All payments received in the mail on or after March 1<sup>st</sup> will be forwarded to the Muskegon County Treasurer's Office and subject to delinquent penalties. Tax sale process begins on March 1, 2019 (new property tax law, Public Act 123).

### **WHITE LAKE FIRE AUTHORITY**

Muskegon County has a program for residents that own their own home (not rent) to schedule smoke detector installations free of charge. White Lake Fire Authority installs smoke detectors within Fruitland and Whitehall Township as well as the City of Whitehall. Smoke detectors are also free to homeowners.

The United States Fire Administration advises to have working smoke alarms on every level of your home. You should also have a smoke alarm inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. The sooner you know there is a fire, the more time you have to escape.

Call 893-6503 to schedule a free installation or to see how you can acquire your free smoke detector.



Fruitland Township  
White River Light Station Museum

**Township Board**  
Marcia Jeske, Supervisor  
Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Melissa M. Beegle,  
Treasurer  
**Trustees**  
Mary Ann Bard  
Manny Cisneros  
Mike Holman  
Terrie Hampel

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Muskegon County Road Commission**  
**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

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***Shake Your Mailbox News Release Muskegon County encourages residents to shake their mailboxes this month before winter takes hold and snow plows hit the roads, Muskegon County Road Commission's Maintenance Department asks Michigan residents to prepare by shaking their mailboxes this month. "A mailbox is the only object allowed by law that homeowners can place in the road right-of-way. The location and construction of mailboxes must conform to the rules and regulations of the United States Postal Service and nationwide standards established by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials," said Eric Scott, Muskegon County Road Commission's Maintenance Superintendent. The road right-of-way is typically 66 feet wide, or 33 feet each direction from the centerline of the road. The right-of-way is maintained by county road agencies and is used for residential and public utility purposes. Over the years, a mailbox post can rot or become wobbly. By grabbing and shaking it, a resident can know if it's secure. Snow coming off a plow going 35 miles per hour has surprising force that can topple a wobbly mailbox. And digging a mailbox out and reinstalling it in frozen ground is no picnic. "Our No. 1 job is to maintain a safe and efficient road and right-of-way system," Scott said. "It is a resident's responsibility to ensure his or her mailbox is secure." The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Muskegon County Road Commission's Maintenance Department have policies in place regarding replacement of mailboxes that have been hit by a snowplow. However, road agencies are not responsible for mailbox damage caused by standard snow removal operations. Residents should prepare mailboxes for winter by tightening screws and ensuring the post and box are secure enough to endure large amounts of snow that is thrown. If the mailbox moves when shaken, the box may need to be repaired or replaced before winter. "We will be out in coming weeks preparing for winter maintenance operations," Scott said. "Each fall we find mailboxes that pose a serious roadside hazard to motorists and a liability risk for homeowners. Damage to posts and receptacles can often be prevented by proper routine maintenance." If you have questions on what is permitted, please contact The Muskegon County Road Commission at 231-788-2381. The Muskegon County Road Commission has served Muskegon County in improving county roads and bridges for 123 years.***

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**SENIOR NAVIGATION SERVICES**

Our community health worker from the Pathways to Better Health of the Lakeshore Program's last day is Thursday, December 6, 2018 from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m. This program is funded through the senior millage so if you're over 60 years of age and you have any medical service or benefits question, or are in need of utility assistance, food or housing please stop by and visit with Julie.

**Wishing you a safe, warm and pleasant holiday season!**

**Marcia Jeske**  
**Supervisor**