

# Fruitland Township

## E-News

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**Township Board**  
Marcia Jeske, Supervisor  
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Treasurer  
**Trustees**  
Mary Ann Bard  
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Fruitland Township  
White River Light Station Museum

November 30, 2017



### FRUITLAND ECOLOGY STATION & HOLIDAY HOURS

The Ecology Station is now closed on Wednesday's through March 1, 2018. Wednesday service will resume on March 7, 2018.

The Township Hall will be closed for the holidays on:

Friday, December 22, 2017  
Monday, December 25, 2017  
Tuesday, December 26, 2017  
Monday, January 1, 2018

### PROTECT WHAT'S YOURS WITH STRONG PASSWORDS

Passwords are a fact of life on the Internet today—we use them for everything from ordering flowers and online banking to logging into our favorite airline Web site to see how many miles we have accumulated. The following tips can help make your online experiences secure:

Selecting a password that cannot be easily guessed is the first step toward keeping passwords secure and away from the wrong hands. Strong passwords have eight characters or more and use a combination of letters, numbers and symbols (e.g. # \$ % ! ?). Avoid using any of the following as your password: your login name, anything based on your personal information such as your last name, and words that can be found in the dictionary. Try to select especially strong, unique passwords for protecting activities like online banking.

- Keep your passwords in a safe place and try not to use the same password for every service you use online.
- Change passwords on a regular basis, at least every 90 days. This can limit the damage caused by someone who has already gained access to your account. If you notice something suspicious with one of your online accounts, one of the first steps you can take is to change your password.

It doesn't take long for a hacker's computer to guess a password:

#### 6 Character Passwords

Lowercase 10 minutes  
+ Uppercase 10 hours  
+ Numbers, symbols 18 days

#### 9 character Passwords

Lowercase 4 months  
+ Uppercase 178 years  
+ Numbers, symbols 44,530 years

## **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 27, 2017 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, 2018 (new property tax law, Public Act 123).

## **CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWS**

### **ATTRACT BIRDS TO YOUR BACK YARD THIS WINTER**

Bird feeding stations provide nutritious meals for our avian friends in the winter when resources are hard to find. Here are some helpful tips to attract some of your winged friends:

- Not all birds have the same diet. Providing many feeding stations with different types of seed will increase the number of bird species. Try adding a station this winter that has dried fruit to get some of those birds like Cedar Waxwings to visit your feeders.
- Provide safe havens for your birds to hide if they are in danger will make them more apt to visit your feeder.
- Birds need water. Providing a bird bath with open water will attract many birds to your backyard. You can buy heaters for your bird bath at your local feed store.

Here are some links to make your own suet:

<http://www.audubon.org/news/make-your-own-suet>

<http://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/attracting-birds/feeding-birds/make-homemade-suet/?1>

The Muskegon Conservation District sells a variety of seed mixes for your hungry birds. Please call (231) 828-5097 today to learn what we carry.

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

**Marcia Jeske  
Supervisor**

