



Fruitland Township  
White River Light Station Museum

# **Fruitland Township E-News**

4545 Nestrom Rd  
Whitehall, MI 49461  
Phone: (231) 766-3208  
Fax: (231) 766-3027

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

## **Township Board**

Sam E. St. Amour, Supervisor  
Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Melissa M. Beegle, Treasurer

## **Trustees**

Mary Ann Bard  
Jan Deur  
Terrie Hampel  
Val Rissi

**January 27, 2015**

## **White Lake Community Center**

The White Lake Community Center is celebrating their one year anniversary. Please come and celebrate one year of progress at the open house on Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The address is 541 E. Slocum, Whitehall.

## **White Lake Fire Authority Spaghetti Dinner**

The Friends of the White Lake Fire Authority will hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:00-9:00 p.m. The event will be held at the American Legion Algot Johnson Post 69 and entertainment will be Buddy Poppo from, 9:00-11:00 p.m. For information about tickets, call the fire station at 893-6503.

## **White Lake Community Business Expo 2015**

The White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual White Lake Community Business Expo. The date will be Saturday, March 14, 2015, and will be held in conjunction with the Rotary Pancake Breakfast. This event will be held in the Whitehall High School gymnasium and will be free to the public. I urge everyone to put this event on your calendars and plan to attend.

## **2014 Winter Taxes**

Just a reminder, the last day to pay your 2014 winter property taxes in person without penalty is February 17, 2015. If you are unable to pay in person at the Fruitland Township Hall, the Treasurer's Office will accept U.S. mail postmarks dated on or before February 17, 2015.

Also, we will accept any tax payments that are put into the Township Hall night drop box after 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 13 until Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

**Payments made after February 17, 2015 will include a 3% penalty.**

## **Fruitland Township to Hold Town Hall Meeting on Legal Non-Conforming Uses in the Inland Lakes Zoning District**

At its regular meeting on January 8, 2015, the Fruitland Township Planning Commission voted to conduct a special “town hall” meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, to obtain public input and discussion on the topic of resorts operating as legal non-conforming uses, in the inland lakes zoning district. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 4545 Nestrom Road in Whitehall, Michigan.

The March 4 meeting provides an informal opportunity for residents to comment and offer input on the inland lakes zoning district in relation to resorts located in the zone operating in a legal non-conforming status and will also be a time to inform the public of the laws pertaining to this issue. The planning commission is interested in hearing from residents as well as the general public about their thoughts, ideas or concerns about the current status and uses of resorts in the inland lakes zone and ideas on changes or improvements to Township ordinances related to their use.

Interested parties who are unable to attend the meeting may send any comments or thoughts to be shared during the town hall style discussion to, Attention Sally Dion, Fruitland Township, 4545 Nestrom Road, Whitehall, MI 49461, or send email to [www.buildingdept@fruitlandtwp.org](mailto:www.buildingdept@fruitlandtwp.org).

### **Township Meetings**

Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> – Township Board Work Session at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> – Township Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Planning Commission at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Township Board Work Session at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Township Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m.



**MUSKEGON COUNTY**  
**M I C H I G A N**  
**OFFICE OF THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER**



Brenda M. Moore  
Drain Commissioner  
[www.co.muskegon.mi.us/drain](http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/drain)

141 E. Apple Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan 49442-3404

231-724-6219  
(Fax) 231-724-3480  
[moorebr@co.muskegon.mi.us](mailto:moorebr@co.muskegon.mi.us)

January 21, 2015

To: Residents of the proposed, expanded Saxe Drainage District  
Re: Board of Determination meeting

Dear Landowner:

On March 17<sup>th</sup> and October 12th, 2014, several landowners submitted a petition to my office for the maintenance and improvement of the Saxe Drain because of problems with the function of the overall storm drain system. The Saxe Drain is located in parts of Fruitland and Dalton Townships, Muskegon County, Michigan. You are receiving this notice because Muskegon County records show that you own land within the affected District that drains to the Saxe Drain, and therefore you may be charged for an assessment for benefits derived if a project is determined necessary by a Board of Determination.

To hear this matter, I have appointed a Board of Determination (required by the Michigan Drain Code, MCL 280.1 *et seq.*) composed of three disinterested property owners who live in Muskegon County but do not own land in the Drainage District, Fruitland or Dalton Townships. The Board of Determination will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at the Fruitland Township Hall, 4545 Nestrom Road, Whitehall, MI 49461. Enclosed please find a notice for this public meeting of the Board of Determination. I invite you to attend this meeting to provide your valuable comments and insight to the Board, as they will determine whether the items outlined in the petition are necessary, not I.

Representatives from the engineering firm that performed a study of the Drain will review their inspection and analysis, and answer questions at the meeting. You may view their preliminary study at: [http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/drain/saxe\\_drain\\_engineering\\_report\\_01\\_15\\_2015.pdf](http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/drain/saxe_drain_engineering_report_01_15_2015.pdf)

Please be aware that there is no proposed "project" being presented, as the Board is charged with solely determining whether the petitioned project should continue. The scope of the project, if the petition is found necessary, will be discussed at a separate meeting later in the process. If you cannot attend the meeting, you may provide written correspondence to my office prior to the date of the meeting and it will be read into record at the meeting. You may also email your comments before the meeting to [moorebr@co.muskegon.mi.us](mailto:moorebr@co.muskegon.mi.us).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office prior to the meeting. It is an honor and pleasure serving you and other citizens of Muskegon County and I look forward to meeting with you at the Board of Determination.

Respectfully yours,

Brenda M. Moore  
Muskegon County Drain Commissioner



**MUSKEGON COUNTY**  
**M I C H I G A N**



**OFFICE OF THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER**

Brenda M. Moore  
Drain Commissioner  
www.co.muskegon.mi.us/drain

141 E. Apple Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan 49442-3404

231-724-6219  
(Fax) 231-724-3480  
mcorebn@co.muskegon.mi.us

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**

**OFFICE OF THE MUSKEGON COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER**

**In the Matter of: SAXE DRAIN**

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION**

*Notice Is Hereby Given* to you as a property owner or municipality who may be liable for an assessment for benefits derived, that a Board of Determination, composed Paul Hoppa, Steve Van Hoven, and Tony Crosser with Debra Ackerman as alternate will meet on **Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., at the Fruitland Township Hall, 4545 Nestrom Road, Whitehall, Michigan, 49461**, to hear all interested persons and evidence and to determine whether the drain, known as the Saxe Drain, as prayed for in the Petition For Cleaning Out, Relocating, Widening, Deepening, Straightening, Tiling, Extending, Improving, Providing Structures, Adding Lands, Adding Branches and a Relief Drain and/or Relocating along a highway, dated March 17, 2014 and October 12, 2014, are necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare of the Township of Fruitland and the Township of Dalton in accordance with Sections 72 and 191 of Act No. 40, P.A. 1956, as amended, and to determine whether the Saxe Drain is necessary for the protection of the public health, convenience or welfare of the following cities, villages and townships: Township of Fruitland and Township of Dalton. And further, to determine whether it is necessary to add lands to the Saxe Drain Drainage District pursuant to Section 197 of Act No. 40, P.A. 1956, as amended.

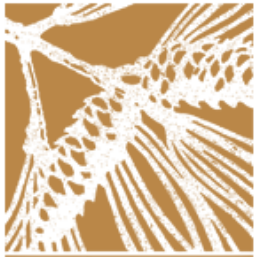
Proceedings conducted at this public hearing will be subject to the provision of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and you are further notified that information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Muskegon County Drain Commissioner. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Muskegon County Drain Commissioner at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting will be on file at the Muskegon County Drain Commissioner's Office.

*You Are Further Notified*, that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review in the Circuit Court for the County of Muskegon within ten (10) days of the determination. If the maintenance and improvement of the Drain is found necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare, a special assessment may be levied against properties or municipalities that benefit. An owner or party having an interest in property to be assessed, or his or her agent, may appear in person to comment on the necessity of the petition.

Publish January 25, 2015: White Lake Beacon

  
Brenda M. Moore  
Muskegon County Drain Commissioner  
141 E. Apple Ave.  
Muskegon, MI 49442-3404  
(231) 724-6219

[View this email in your browser](#)



**MUSKEGON**  
Conservation District

January 2015



## Thank You!

The Muskegon Conservation District would like to thank everyone who contributed to our annual giving campaign. We appreciate your ongoing support of our work to protect and restore local natural resources.

## Spring Seedling Fundraiser Coming Soon!

The dead of winter is a great time to daydream about your plans for spring. Come on in from the cold, grab some coffee, and think about where you might like to plant some trees when it warms up. Would you like to try your hand at growing apples or cherries? Do you need some pines for a windbreak? Maybe a nice flowering tree for the front yard? The catalog for our Spring Seedling Fundraiser will be coming out early next month, and with more than 30 types of native trees as well as fruit trees and bushes, there is plenty to dream about!



## Safe Snow Removal for Clean Water

January in West Michigan. Time for sledding, skiing, snowmobiling....and shoveling. And then shoveling again. Many of us rely on salt, other ice-melt products, and sand to try to make the endless shoveling a bit easier and the sidewalks less slippery. However, as the snow melts, those products can affect water quality.

Snowmelt carries salt, sand, and other ice-melting chemicals to storm drains that lead right to our lakes and streams. Excess salt in the water is harmful to aquatic animals and plants. Salty water also damages soil and kills vegetation along sidewalks, driveways and roadsides. Sand can also cause stormwater pollution and clog storm drains. Here are some tips to reduce salt and sand use in winter:

- **Shovel snow first** to remove it from driveways and sidewalks before using snow melt products.
- **Only use as much de-icer as you need.** A little product goes a long way. Thick ice will not melt faster if you use more salt.
- **Pile shoveled snow downslope** of paved surfaces so that melting snow won't refreeze on the pavement.
- **Sweep up after snowmelt** to keep extra sand, salt, and grit from washing into drains and ditches.