



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP Newsletter

Jefferson Township Hall
2837 Bird Lk. Rd. • P.O. Box 31
Osseo, MI 49266
Phone 517-523-3165

Jefferson Township Sewer
P.O. Box 34
Pittsford, MI 49271
Phone 517-523-3236

Jefferson Township
Cemetery Sexton
Bill Piippo
Phone 517-523-2228

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www.hillsdalecounty.info

"Working Together To Build A Better Community"

Pittsford Jefferson Fire Department Funding

The decision to dispatch out Pittsford-Jefferson firefighters and medical first responders is made by Hillsdale County Emergency Central Dispatch (911). PJFD has no choice- if dispatched they must respond. Our PJFD personnel are not responsible for deciding who should receive a bill. The Jefferson Township Clerk's office, acting on behalf of the department, will issue a bill or bills based on the incident reports submitted by our firefighters only. The clerk does not receive police or other reports, so she does not have any way of determining who is at fault either. Therefore you are likely to receive a bill if you are involved in an accident and our fire department is dispatched. Insurance companies seem to understand how rural volunteer fire departments are funded. Our PJFD now urge you to submit your bills to your insurance company. Please do so knowing that the proceeds help fund a vital, committed volunteer fire department. By the way shake a firefighters hand and thank him or her real soon.

Steve Wismar

Jefferson Township Supervisor

Donations For MFR Vehicle

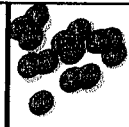
Anyone wishing to donate money for the Pittsford-Jefferson Medical First Response Vehicle can still donate by sending their money to Pittsford-Jefferson Fire Department, P O Box 341, Osseo, MI 49266.

The MFR vehicle is very important. It is the one vehicle that goes out on all runs.

The PJFD has one new firefighter, Robert Kuhn. The fire department went out on 21 runs last month. Two were fire, four were car accidents, and fifteen were medical runs.

Three more of our firefighters have completed Medical First Response Training, they are Mike Pidd, Mat Halleck, and Dallas Russell.

The next Fire Board meeting is July 7th at 6:00 pm at the fire barn in Pittsford.



Summer Taxes



Summer taxes will be sent out July 1st and will be due September 14th. The taxes that will be due will be the state education tax (the same as last year) plus 1/3 of the county allocated tax. If you don't receive your taxes contact Jim Lockwood, Jefferson Township Treasurer, at 523-3165.

Transfer Station Driveway

At the June 14th regular township board meeting the township accepted bids for the paving of the transfer station driveway. The board voted to accept the bid from Quality Asphalt in Homer, MI for \$33,330.00.

**The next Regular Jefferson Township Board Meeting will be Tuesday, July 12th at 7:30 pm at the Jefferson Township Hall at 2837 Bird Lk Rd
Public Welcome**



Pittsford Public Library



The Summer Reading Program Started on June 14th and ends July 26th. Anyone interested can still join. Any child including fall seniors will be able to participate. For the younger: they need to have 10 books read to them. For the older child and teens-50 pages equal a book; therefore, they need to read a total of 500 pages. The ending party will be July 30th. Any child that meets the above reading goal will be invited to attend the cookout and games. A free book will be given each child.

The library will be having story hours the following dates June 22nd, 29th, July 13th, 20th. Any child that is old enough to sit still can come and join the fun. There will be song time, story time, craft time, and refreshments.

Also starting July 5th and going until July 15th; the library will be having a Scholastic Book Fair. This is to enable the library to purchase much needed Accelerated Reader Books.

Don't forget to turn in empty ink cartridges, also Spartan, and other labels. (a list may be had by the asking at the library) These become money for the supplies of the library. The library also needs quart, pint, and jelly jars. If you have any setting around that you don't need please let Susan know.

Pittsford Jefferson Sewer Bond Paid Off

It has been eighteen years since the beginning of the sewer system. On May 1st, 2005 we will make the final bond payment of \$106,522.00. Patrons of the system in Pittsford and Jefferson Townships will see a reduction in their future tax bills starting in December 2005, reflecting the payoff of the debt. However, the user fee will not change it will still remain \$64.50 per quarter. The last time your rate was increased was July 1, 1996 when it went from \$48.00 per quarter to \$64.50. This increased was approved by Resolution by each township. This rate will continue the same for the foreseeable future.

Even though the system will be paid off we need to build up a cushion to cover costs that we know are coming up. We will need to clean the lagoons, which will cost approximately \$200,000.00, plus the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has already informed us that sometime in the future we will have to start removing nitrogen and phosphorus from the effluent before they will allow us to discharge our lagoons. The cost of this procedure is unknown at the time.

It is our desire to keep our sewer system in good working condition at a reasonable cost to its users and be able to pass the inspections the laws require of us.

David Gier- Manager

Road Trash

This article was written by a 12 year old girl that just moved into our township. Just think how clean our township would be if everyone felt this way about keeping our township clean. She picked up 4 garbage bags of trash. That was just the small stuff. Other residents with trucks picked up a shower stall, futon, and other big objects of trash. Anyone interested in adopting a road to clean up in Jefferson Township, contact Debbie Penney, Deputy Clerk, at 523-3165 at the township hall.



Osseo's Swamps

By Kayla Baldwin

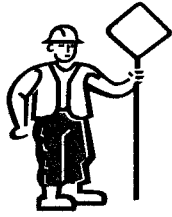
In second grade my teacher told us not to do drugs, drink alcohol, litter, or smoke. In fact the whole class agreed to a paper stating: "I _____ shall not smoke nor do drugs, drink alcohol, or liter."

I still have it to this very day, but just the other day my grandmother and I walked down Bear Lake Rd. towards Doty Rd. When I saw all this trash by the road, I started to say: "Grandma can we come out here some time to clean the road?" Until she finally said: "Ok." So we quickly went home to get heavy-duty garbage bags. As we went down Bear Lake Rd. towards Doty Rd. again, picking up trash, we came to a bag with empty Sudafed and Nasal Decongestion tablet containers and boxes. Then I said to my grandmother: "Grandma somebody took a lot of medicine." Then she corrected me with: "Actually, people make a drug called Meth then sell it to other people." That's when I got my first concern. It came from the thought and feeling that someone actually could be selling drugs in our neighborhood.

My next concern is the fact of how important it is not to litter in the swamps, because when you litter you're hurting the swamps you're also hurting the creatures that live there plus maybe yourself or someone else. When you pollute the swamps the well water of Osseo's residents is also polluted. Not just causing possibly your water, but the snail's, frog's, fox's plus a lot of plant's lives lost.

What's actually happening is when something is thrown on the ground you know it takes a long time to decompose, but in a swamp it only takes maybe about a year. This is because of all the mud. Meaning if you live near a decomposing full bottle of WD-40 guess what's going to be in your well water? You guessed it: WD-40! The swamp is not a junk yard, it is a giant filter that filters out acid rain and other harmful things [Not garbage]. Some things we found in the swamp and by the road were: beer bottles and cans, pop bottles and cans, old tires, toys, diapers, paper and plastic cups, and much, much, more. YUCK!

If you have any Ideas on how to prevent any of these things E-mail the Jefferson Township Hall at jeffersontownshiphall@frontiernet.net or call them at 523-3165.



Jefferson Township Road News



The Jefferson Township Board has signed 5 agreements with the Hillsdale County Road Commission for a variety of work on local roads in the township this summer.

The township's share is estimated to cost \$101,950.

The normal spring maintenance work on the gravel roads will continue this year. The county has removed the berms on 1 mile of Day Road and 2 miles of Rumsey Road. The gravel patching program followed with a new layer of gravel on these 3 miles plus scattered spots on other gravel roads using 2,000 cubic yards of gravel. The township share is \$6,500.

Gravel road stabilization using mineral well brine was scheduled to begin in early June after a good scraping by the motor graders. A second application will follow in August. The township share for 2 applications is \$16,740.

One other gravel road project selected by the township is the rehabilitation of Bear Lake Road between Doty and Lake Pleasant Roads. This is NOT the comprehensive reconstruction project for future paving that was proposed several years ago. It is a minor improvement including selective tree removal, spot ditching, culvert replacements and new gravel surface. The work will probably occur in late summer, and the township share is \$36,775.

One mile of local blacktop on Gilbert Road from Skuse to Reading will be paver patched and sealcoated as part of the county's summer pavement preservation program. The township share is \$8,735.

The fifth project will be the asphalt resurfacing of one mile of Skuse Road from Bird Lake Road (north) to the end of pavement east of Tripp Road. There will be some shoulder berm work and culvert replacements performed prior to paving. The new layer of blacktop is scheduled for July. The township share is \$33,200.

Finally, MDOT is undertaking a big resurfacing project on M-34 in Jefferson and Pittsford Townships this summer at a cost of \$4.3 million. The drainage improvements are will underway. The next phase will be the milling and repaving of the paved shoulder, including those awful potholes along the white edgeline. Concrete curbs will be installed around some of the intersections. The roadway will then be re-paved full width with 2 layers of hot mix asphalt. The guardrails will be replaced after the paving. Completion is scheduled on or before October 28.

Stan Clingerman
HCRC Engineer-Manager