

Hayes Township

2014 NEWSLETTER

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CAMP SEA-GULL

Just in case you have not heard the good news, the sale of the former girl's camp known as Camp Sea-Gull has been completed and it is now a public Hayes Township Park!

THANK YOU to everyone who supported this project financially and otherwise. It truly has been a community project and we are so grateful for everyone's help.

The park includes twenty acres of mostly forested land with 1,400 feet of beach frontage and various buildings. Future plans for the park include a boat launch, fishing pier, pavilion, swimming beach and cabin rentals. One of the existing buildings will be used for an on-site park manager. The Hayes Township Parks and Recreation Committee members have been busy identifying development grant opportunities and applying for a few of them.

The Park was opened to the public February 1, 2014 for access to Lake Charlevoix for ice fishing, snow shoeing and x-country skiing opportunities. An area inside

the entrance is plowed for parking. Please keep in mind all buildings are closed to the public at this time.

Hayes Township is planning a grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony for June 7, 2014. You are all invited for food, fun, and a tour of the property. Mark your calendars now!



MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC

Did you know that as a homeowner you are responsible for maintaining your septic system? Maintaining your septic system both protects your investment in your home and the environment including public lakes and streams.

Both the septic tank and the drainfield must be properly maintained. With conscientious maintenance, the system should work correctly for many years. Such maintenance begins with water use and waste disposal habits. Since your family will determine which materials enter the system, you should establish rules for proper use and maintenance. More sophisticated systems require additional maintenance, possibly at much greater cost.

Because of the many waterfront properties in Hayes Township, properly functioning septic systems are even more important. Failed systems pollute Lake Charlevoix, Susan Lake, our other water bodies and wetlands. Lake Charlevoix and Susan Lake are tested frequently for bacteria related to septic failures. If a failed septic is found to be polluting lakes or streams, Hayes Township may step in to require you to construct a new septic system at your expense.

The frequency with which you will need to pump depends on three variables: the size of your tank, the volume of your wastewater, and the solids content of your wastewater. If you are unsure about when to have the tank pumped, a septic tank with normal usage should be pumped and/or inspected every two years. If the septic system is not used very often (as in an infrequently used vacation home with a correctly sized tank), it will probably not need to be pumped as frequently.

Tips for Maintaining Your Septic System

- **Do not** put too much water into the septic system; typical water use is about 50 gallons per day for each person in the family.
- **Do not** add materials (chemicals, sanitary napkins, applicators, and so on) other than domestic wastewater.
- **Restrict** the use of your garbage disposal.
- **Do not** pour grease or cooking oils down the sink drain.
- Make a diagram showing the location of your tank and drainfield.
- Install a watertight concrete riser over the septic tank to simplify access.
- Periodically have the solids pumped out of the septic tank.
- **Maintain** adequate vegetative cover over the drainfield.
- Keep surface waters away from the tank and drainfield.
- Keep automobiles and heavy equipment off the system.
- **Do not** plan any building additions, pools, driveways, or other construction work near the septic system or the repair area.

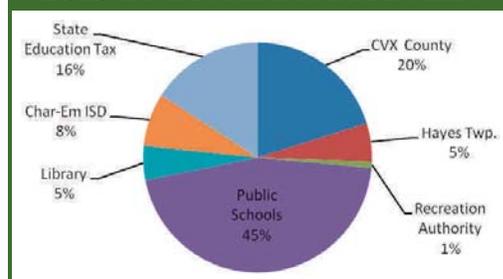
TAXES

Tax bills are confusing as you look at the columns of millages that make up your tax. The following chart is to show you how your tax dollars are distributed once the Hayes Township Treasurer receives your payment.

Each year Charlevoix County Equalization Dept. prepares the Township and City Clerk's Report. The following chart is based on Hayes Township's portion of this report. It is rounded to the nearest whole number and has combined all the public school districts together for simplicity (Boyer City, Charlevoix & Petoskey).

100% of the State Education Tax is sent to the State of Michigan to fund Michigan's K-12 public school students.

2013 Distribution of Tax Dollars



ELECTION NEWS

Please remember to cast your vote at the following elections:

May 6th, 2014	Char-Em Intermediate School District Election
August 5th, 2014	Primary Election
November 4, 2014	General Election

If you are 60 years old or older you can ask to be put on our permanent absentee voter list. Once you are put on this list you will automatically receive an application to apply for an absentee ballot. Please contact the Hayes Township

NEW WEB PAGE

The new Hayes Township web page is user friendly and contains more information relating to the Township and surrounding area. One of the new features on the page will give you the ability to subscribe to the web site and get notices via email or on your smart phone every time something new is posted. This will enable you to get up to the minute information on meeting schedules, special events, etc. Check out the new web page at www.hayestownshipmi.gov or by going to www.charlevoixcounty.org and clicking on our link there.

TRASH

Hayes Township will not be having a spring clean-up this year. Charlevoix County will be having two Household Hazardous Waste Collections on June 13 & 14 at the Ironton Road Commission garage and September 5 & 6 at the Boyne City Road Commission garage. For a detailed list of items that can be dropped off and general information visit www.charlevoixcounty.org/recycling.asp or call Kelly Martin Recycling Coordinator at 231-582-6193. Donating gently used items and recycling is a great way to dispose of your unwanted objects.

VETERANS

The Hayes Township Board would like to continue to honor veterans who have ties to Hayes Township. Please call Ethel Knepp, Supervisor at 231-347-2899 with names of all veterans who have served in wars as well as stateside. We need full name, rank, and where they served. We plan to have additional veteran's plaques next to the World War I & II plaque. A dedication date will be announced.

RECREATION

Hayes Township recently sent a survey out for the update of our recreation plan. One of the things that stood out in the responses to that survey was there are a lot of people who are not aware of the many recreation opportunities in Hayes Township. Please check out the recreation map on our web page <http://www.hayestownshipmi.gov/recreation/> for a complete map of your recreation opportunities or contact Hayes Township at 09195 Old 31, N., Charlevoix, MI 49720 or call 231-547-6961, to have a copy mailed to you.

PLANNING COMMISSION

In 2013 the Planning Commission undertook the task of updating the Hayes Township Master Plan and Hayes Township Recreation Plan. State law requires a township to review their Master Plan and Recreation Plan every five years for any needed updates. The revision of the Recreation Plan was completed and the revision of the Master Plan will be completed soon. Additionally, the Planning Commission revised the Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance to regulate short term housing rentals. And in 2013, for the first time ever, the Planning Commission approved a Conditional Rezone of a property.

CAMP SEA-GULL LOGO CONTEST

The Parks and Recreation Committee is holding a Camp Sea-Gull logo contest. They are seeking a logo design that will be incorporated into the park sign, used on correspondence and other park materials. The park name will be Hayes Township Park, Camp Sea-Gull and this may be used in the logo. Anyone interested in submitting a design may do so by mailing it to the Hayes Township P&R Committee, 09195 Old US 31 N., Charlevoix, MI 49720 or emailed to the Clerk at marlenefountain@hotmail.com with CSG Logo in the tag line. Designs must be received by April 4, 2014.



LCA GUARDIAN PROGRAM

The Lake Charlevoix Association is recruiting property owners and businesses to participate in our new Guardian Program, designed to help keep our wonderful Lake so beautiful. Property owners sign a pledge to manage the care of their lakefront properties in a lake friendly manner in their use of chemicals, control of water runoff and protection of a greenbelt area along the lake shore. Guardians can fly a special pennant from their property or dock post showing their support of the program.

Businesses who conduct services in the watershed, such as landscaping, yard maintenance,

home building, etc., can sign a pledge to adhere to certain principles aimed at protecting the lake, and will be featured on the LCA's website as businesses who are committed to protecting our lake. For a current list of Guardian business supporters, visit the LCA website (www.lakecharlevoix.org).

Property owners are encouraged to sign up on the website as Guardians, and will be contacted by the LCA. Individuals are further encouraged to consider Guardian businesses when in need of services. Businesses interested in joining as Guardian businesses should contact the LCA on the website and a representative will call to discuss the requirements.