

# Hayes Township

## 2015 NEWSLETTER

### Hayes Township Board of Trustees

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#### HALL RENTAL

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Hayes Township

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## Hayes Township Park

The good news continues at Hayes Township Park! Since Hayes

Township acquired the Camp Sea-Gull property early last year, progress continues toward making the park a fun and usable destination for all to enjoy. Here's a synopsis of what transpired in 2014:

- Hayes Township acquired ownership on January 2014
- The park opened immediately to the public; many celebrated the official Grand Opening on June 7.
- A Park Master Plan was completed. A generous, anonymous donation allowed the Township to hire a professional team, led by Landscape Architects and Planners, Inc., to navigate a complex public process and create a balanced plan that allows for many possibilities for the future development and use of the park while preserving its natural character. The plan provides guidance for an initial phase that considers park ingress-egress, access to the beach area and a boat launch. Find the Master Plan on the Hayes Township website or use the following link: [www.hayestownshipmi.gov/hayes-township-seagull-park/](http://www.hayestownshipmi.gov/hayes-township-seagull-park/).



### HAYES TOWNSHIP PARK CAMP SEA-GULL

- The Township received a grant from the Great Lakes Energy Peoples Fund for a park sign, designs for which are now being considered. The new sign should be erected this spring.
- We also received a grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to help offset engineering costs associated with developing the Park Master Plan.
- Volunteers really cleaned house during two volunteer days! They filled numerous dumpsters, donated by American Waste, with old, extraneous stuff. Some usable items will likely be auctioned off later this year. THANK YOU to Bible Baptist Church, 4-H and all the township residents that pitched in to help. We will be having more volunteer days this spring, May 9th and 30th, so prepare to save the dates!
- The biggest project accomplished last year was the removal of dead and dying Ash, Beech and Pine trees. This service was provided by a professional Hayes Township business.

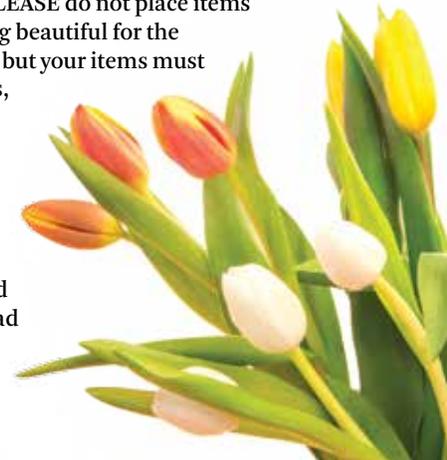
▪ A diverse group of nine volunteers formed the Hayes Township Parks

and Recreation Committee to oversee the park. The committee continues to assess park needs and to apply for grant assistance to address them. To date, the Michigan DNR Waterways has committed to partial funding which the township hopes to utilize in conjunction with Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant support to complete the initial access road and boat launch construction.

- A fundraising letter was sent to all residents and the cost of that mailer was offset by a generous private donation from a Hayes Township resident. To date approximately \$6000.00 has been raised. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to our beautiful park.
- The Township is seeking a Park Ambassador /Host, a person or couple who may live on-site during the spring and summer months in exchange for light grounds maintenance duties and public interface. Contact the township if you or someone you know may be interested.

## Spring Clean-Up

Curbside spring clean-up for Hayes Township residents is June 10, 2015. PLEASE do not place items for pickup curbside until after Memorial Day; help keep our Township looking beautiful for the holiday. It may take several days for all areas in the Township to be picked up but your items must be out by 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 10. Items that can be recycled such as, but not limited to, TVs, computers, appliances and other electronics will not be picked up. Rocks, chunks of concrete, asphalt, brush, yard waste, building materials, tires and all hazardous waste such as paint, chemicals, herbicides and insecticides will also not be picked up. Metal items may be placed out for scrapers to pick up but they are your responsibility and will not be picked up as part of the spring clean-up. Dates for the Charlevoix County Hazardous Household Waste disposal will be June 12 & 13 at the Ironton Road Commission Garage on Shaw Rd and September 11 & 12 at the Boyne City Road Commission Garage on the Boyne City Rd. in Boyne City. For information on Charlevoix County recycling and Hazardous Household Waste disposal go to [www.charlevoixcounty.org/recycling.asp](http://www.charlevoixcounty.org/recycling.asp). Reuse, recycle and donate.





## BOARD OF REVIEW

### Poverty Exemption

If your household income (taxable and non-taxable income) is low enough you may qualify for property tax exemption. The following table is used to determine your eligibility:

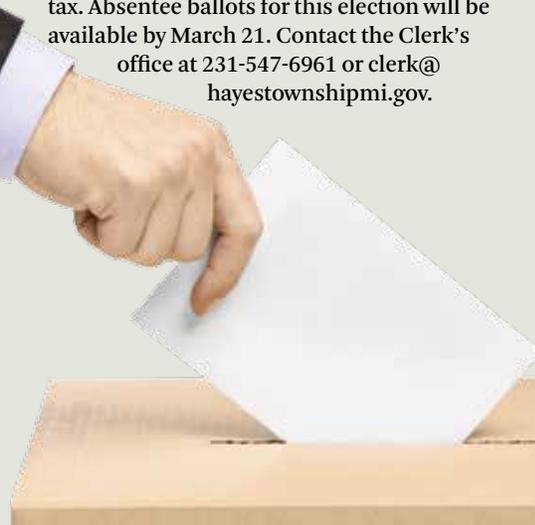
Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guidelines
1	\$11,670
2	\$15,730
3	\$19,700
4	\$23,850
5	\$27,910
6	\$31,970
7	\$35,030
8	\$40,090
For Each Additional Person, Add	\$4,060

As a reminder, the Governor signed a bill into law that provides for veterans with 100% disability to be exempt from property taxes. You must file for this annually.

Please call Supervisor Knepp if you have questions or wish an application prior to March.

### Elections

The Michigan Legislature has called a statewide special election for May 5, 2015. The ballot will include a statewide ballot proposal asking voters to allow for a one-percent increase in the Michigan's sales tax. Absentee ballots for this election will be available by March 21. Contact the Clerk's office at 231-547-6961 or [clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov](mailto:clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov).



### Zoning

As we work with the residents and contractors in Hayes Township on zoning issues, it is always interesting to listen to comments about zoning rules and regulations. Zoning was implemented out of necessity to protect the rights of property owners.

Zoning Ordinances are still created for that purpose and to allow for orderly development of properties while protecting property values, the basic natural resources, water quality, and the scenic and recreational qualities of our community.

Hayes Township recognizes the value Lake Michigan, Lake Charlevoix and Susan Lake add to our area. In recognizing that value, we have implemented, through zoning, protection for them. These rules were created after combining almost unlimited shoreline and water protection studies that have been proven to keep our lakes healthy. Our Zoning Ordinance defines a "Shoreline Protection Strip". It is a strip of land fifty feet in depth from the maximum recorded high water mark bordering the body of water inland and fifty feet from all streams abutting or traversing the property. The purpose of this strip is to protect the lake by preventing soil erosion, providing a filter for the removal of pesticides, fertilizers and other potential water pollutants, and to maintain a visual barrier. The Ordinance requires that this strip remain in a natural state.

We recognize the preservation of our lakes and streams puts extra responsibility on the owners of waterfront lots. We also recognize, because of their proximity to the water, the added enjoyment of the waters' natural beauty. We are constantly trying to balance the protection and the use of these properties. In that effort, the Hayes Township Planning Commission is always open to your comments and suggestions. They meet the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the Hayes Township Hall, 09195 Old US 31 N, Charlevoix.

The Planning Commission is currently looking at several possible changes to the Zoning Ordinance in an effort to provide for the best orderly development, protection and value for our community. We value your opinion and ask that you take part in this important task.



### Road Maintenance

Hayes Township resurfaced a short portion of Pincherry Road from Upper Bayshore to Stolt Road for \$288,448. We also had the portion of Maple Grove Rd from Dalton Rd to the Boyne City Road covered and graded with Afton stone for \$65,972. Road work continues to be one of the largest expenses the Township incurs. The Township is working together with the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians for future road work on Upper Bayshore and a portion of Murray Road. If the partnership is successful, road work would begin in 2017. We encourage you to attend Board meetings to voice your opinion on needed road repairs.

### EMS - Ambulance

Emmet County will be providing ambulance service for the portion of the Township that was previously covered by Allied. Because so many homeowners had joined the Allied subscription plan, Emmet County will honor all Allied agreements. We are confident that this change will be the same quality of service that we have come to expect. The City of Charlevoix will continue to cover a portion of the Township.



### Veterans

Supervisor Knepp is continuing to gather veteran's names and information to complete the veterans' memorial at the Hayes Township Hall. Please contact her at 231-347-2899 or [supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov](mailto:supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov) with the name, rank, branch of service and where they served of any veteran with ties to Hayes Township. The final plaque will be ordered and installed the summer of 2015.