



Voice Mission Statement:

To share, educate, and connect with our residents and support a strong and engaged community.

Hayes VOICE

TOWNSHIP

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

#25

December 2024

Hayes Township 2024 Community Survey to Shape Future Development

Hayes Township residents have an important opportunity to help shape the future of our community through participation in our 2024 Community Survey. The survey will be distributed in the upcoming December tax bill mailing, and will also be available at the Township Hall. This survey seeks input on a range of topics, and your input will help inform and guide the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees on decisions that affect the future direction of the township.

The feedback gathered will be essential in guiding decisions about Hayes Township's growth, services, and infrastructure. Given the township's unique position between two larger cities, it's especially important to gauge residents' views on access to public services, community amenities, and development preferences. Township leaders encourage everyone to participate, as a high response rate will provide a clearer, more representative picture of the community's aspirations and concerns.

Property owners can fill out the survey when they receive it in their tax bill in December. The survey can be completed on-line or by filling out the mailer and returning the survey with the pre-paid postage provided. Residents who are not property owners can also participate, by picking up a copy of the survey at Hayes Township Hall.

All responses are anonymous, and the collective feedback will be used to help shape planning and development efforts that align with the values and needs of Hayes Township.

This survey is very important for the future direction of Hayes Township. We strongly encourage our residents to participate to let your voices be heard!

**Keep a lookout for this survey
in your December tax bill.**

**THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!**
10 minutes of your time is needed for the Hayes Township 2024 Survey

Hello! The Township is conducting a survey of all property owners. Your input will directly help inform and guide the Planning Commission and Board of Trustees on decisions that affect the future direction of the Township.

You have two options for completing this survey:

- You can go online to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HayesTWP2024> and fill out the survey there. You'll need the code in the red box at the top right of this page to initiate the survey. Or,
- You can fill out this paper survey and mail it back to us in this pre-paid mailer.

All responses are confidential. The number above is only to ensure that we do not get duplicates online.

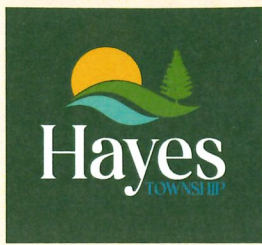
Please complete/return this survey to us by **January 15, 2025**. Thank you very much for your participation!

1. What is your level of satisfaction with currently available services provided by the county and township: (check one level of satisfaction for each below)	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Law Enforcement					
Fire Protection					
Water Access points/Boat launch areas					
EMS/Ambulance					
Road Maintenance					
Township Park Maintenance & Services					
Spring Clean Up Service					
Ordinance Enforcement (blight, zoning, etc.)					
Hayes Township Cemetery					

2. What is your level of satisfaction with current township recreational resources? (check one level of satisfaction for each below)	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Township Parks					
Water Access points/Boat launch areas					
Hiking Trails					
Bike Trails					
Conservation lands (natural land, undeveloped land)					
Beach access					
Playgrounds					

3. Would you like to see more, same, or less of the following in Hayes Township in THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS: (check one option per line below)	More	Same	Less
Restaurants			
Small Retail Shops (e.g. wine shops, gift shops clothing boutiques)			
Bed and Breakfast Inns			
Personal Services (e.g. beauty & nail salons, dog groomers)			
Day Care Facilities			
Assisted Living Communities			
Township Parks			
Farms (examples: dairy farms, commercial crop production farms, orchards)			
Commercial Services (e.g. Banks, auto repair, FedEx store)			
Vineyards & Wineries			

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VOICE VIEWS

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

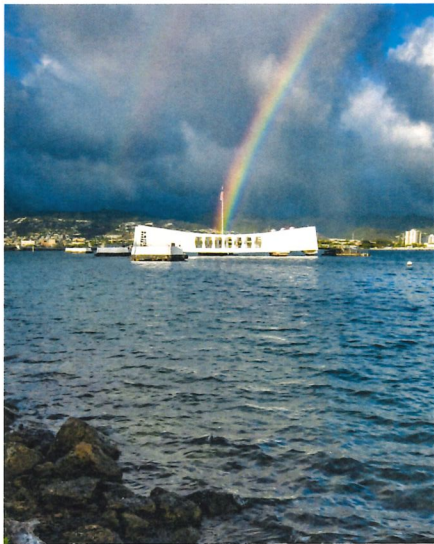
Hayes Township Hall
9195 Major Douglas Sloan Rd.
Charlevoix, MI 49720
231-547-6961

For the most up to date information
visit: hayestownshipmi.gov

December 4th is Wildlife Conservation Day

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP WITH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION:

- Support conservation organizations: Donate money or volunteer to help organizations that protect and restore wildlife habitats.
- Volunteer: You can help clean up beaches, rescue wild animals, or teach tourists about local wild life. Volunteering at a nature reserve can also help you learn about the local species and habitats.
- Plant trees: Trees provide food, shelter, and water for wildlife.
- Educate and advocate: Raise awareness about environmental issues and share information about wild life conservation.
- Consume responsibly: Avoid buying products made from illegally sourced wildlife or their parts.
- Dispose of trash properly: When visiting parks, dispose of trash properly.
- Don't disturb wildlife: Avoid feeding or disturbing wildlife.
- Shop locally: Buy food, produce, and goods from local farmers markets.
- Visit wildlife sanctuaries: Visit wildlife sanctuaries, aquariums, botanical gardens, and national parks.
- Learn about wildlife: Learn about wildlife migration and the flora and fauna of the planet, especially those that are endangered.



Nation Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

- DECEMBER 7th -

Each year in the United States, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day honors all those who lost their lives when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. More than 3,500 Americans lost their lives or were wounded on that solemn day.

The day marked a turn in the United States' position regarding involvement in World War II. The Japanese attack damaged several battle-ships, permanently sinking both the USS Arizona and USS Oklahoma. Still, others capsized, taking crew members with them. One noted ship was the USS Utah. Along with naval vessels, the attack destroyed aircraft, too. As a result, the attack forced the U.S. into a war that had been raging for two years.

WINTER PROPERTY TAX BILLS

Hayes Residents: Your winter property tax bills will be mailed out at the end of November/beginning of December. If your taxes are paid through escrow, the bill mailed to your residence is for convenience only. Winter property taxes are due without penalty by February 14, 2025. You can pay by mail, in person, or online through B,S,A Payments on the Hayes Township website at hayestownshipmi.gov.

I will be in the office:

every Thursday from 11am-1pm • Thursday, December 26, 9am-5pm • Friday, February 14, 9am-5pm

Friday, February 28, 9am-5pm - **last day to pay summer or winter 2024 property taxes before they go to the County.**

As of March 1, 2025, all unpaid taxes go to Charlevoix County.

If you have any questions about your bill, please don't hesitate to contact me at treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov or at (231)675-5927.

- Treasurer, Julie Collard



Local Holiday Events

Looking for something fun to do
this holiday season?

Here are a few local events:

- December 1** Holiday Craft Show, Castle Farms, 11am-5pm
- December 7** Holiday Bazaar, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa, 9am-5pm
- December 14** Holiday Double Feature: 2pm-A Muppet Christmas Carol, 7pm-Meet Me in St. Louis-Great Lakes Center For the Arts
- December 17** Holiday Concert: Petoskey Madrigal Singers, 6:30-8pm, Charlevoix Public Library

10 Tips for Surviving the Holidays

Holidays can bring mixed emotions. Follow these tips to make them more joyous. Here are some tips to "beat the holiday blues".

1. Keep your regular routine.
2. Think moderation.
3. Be realistic, try not to expect the "ideal" holiday.
4. Stay connected.
5. Throw guilt out the window.
6. Don't be alone if you don't want to be.
7. Focus on today, not yesterday.
8. Just say no.
9. Ask for help.
10. Be good to yourself.



NOVEMBER ELECTION THANK YOU

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the wonderful election staff that worked tirelessly all day to help our election run smoothly. Everyone was patient, professional, and dedicated to making each voters experience valuable.

Thank you to all of our residents who took the time to vote, either in person or by absentee.

- Clerk, Kristin Baranski

- Dedicated to transparency, working for the people -



Holiday Meal Boxes

We will be reserving holiday meal boxes for anyone in need this Christmas Season.

If you or someone you know is experiencing food insecurity, please call us at (231)547-6961

or email treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov. We just need a name and contact number.

All boxes will be ready for pick up on Monday, December 23rd.



Congrats!

SPECIAL OCCASION RECOGNITION

On behalf of our Hayes Township Board of Trustees, we would like to wish like to wish **Maureen & Larry Bingham** a happy 50 year anniversary on November 28th.

We would also like to **Joan Wagner** a very happy 80th birthday this December 6th.



Stay Safe This Winter!

If you are stranded while traveling in winter weather, AAA recommends:

- Stay with your vehicle since it provides temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to locate you.
- Do not try to walk in a severe storm since it is easy to lose sight of your vehicle and get lost in blowing snow. Also, passing vehicles may not be able to see you.
- Don't overexert yourself trying to push or dig your vehicle out of the snow.
- Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled-up window to signal distress. At night, keep the dome light on if possible. It only uses a small amount of electricity and will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Make sure the exhaust pipe isn't clogged with snow, ice, or mud. A blocked exhaust could cause deadly carbon monoxide gas to leak into the vehicle when the engine is running.
- Use whatever is available to insulate your body from the cold. If you don't have an emergency kit with extra coats and blankets, you may use floor mats or other similar items. The point is to stay warm.
- If possible, run the engine and heater just long enough to remove the chill and conserve gasoline.

EMERGENCY KIT

AAA strongly recommends drivers keep a well-stocked emergency kit in their vehicle. But this is especially important in the winter.

A well-stocked emergency kit should include the following:

- Cell phone car chargers
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Reflective or warning triangles (put outside of the vehicle to signal a breakdown)
- First-aid kit
- Drinking water and non-perishable food for travelers and pets
- Traction aids (sand, salt, non-clumping cat litter, or traction mats)
- Ice scraper or snow brush and shovel
- Gloves, extra coats or sweatshirts, hats, and blankets

HAPPY
Holidays **TO YOU & YOURS**

Hayes Township Calendar

December 2024

Monday, December 2
Parks & Rec, 6pm

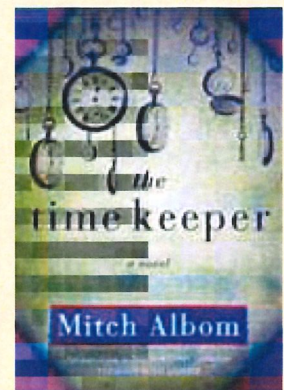
Thursday, December 5
Holiday Community
Coffee, 1pm

Monday, December 9
Board of Trustees, 7pm

Tuesday, December 10
Board of Review, 12 noon
all business is finished

Thursday, December 19
Book Club, 1pm

*All events are held at the
Hayes Township Hall unless
otherwise noted.*



**December
Book Club Pick!**

*The Time Keeper
by Mitch Albom*

To get more information or be added to
our Book Club e-mail list, please
contact Clerk Kristin Baranski at
(231)547-6961

*****ECRWSSDDM****
Local Postal Customer

USPS Mktg. Mail
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage Paid
EDDM Retail