



## Whitewater Township September 2012 E-Letter

Questions, comments, ideas for future stories or to be added or removed from future mailings? Contact:

Leslie at [Zoning@whitewatertownship.org](mailto:Zoning@whitewatertownship.org) OR  
Della at [Treasurer@whitewatertownship.org](mailto:Treasurer@whitewatertownship.org)

### Meetings Calendar

9/4 Planning Commission  
9/11 Township Board  
9/15 Spaghetti Dinner  
9/18 ZBA  
9/22 Williamsburg Reunion  
9/25 Township Board  
9/26 Historical Society

## NATURAL GAS EXTENSION BEING INVESTIGATED

Based on your requests, DTE Energy is exploring the feasibility of extending natural gas to the northern portion of the Township, specifically areas from Angell Road north. If you live in this area, you should have received a brief survey from DTE. Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to them BEFORE September 11. If enough of our residents are interested in that service area, natural gas could be available for the 2013-2014 winter season.

Questions? Block Captains have been identified in each of the targeted areas. Please feel free to contact them should you need assistance with the survey.

Scott Wheeler 11631 Topview Drive  
John Goss 11613 Topview Drive  
Paul Hubbell 10937 Elk Lake Road  
Denise Peltonen Lenhardt 10610 Elk Lake Road  
Pat Miller 10199 Elk Lake Trail  
Dick Bukowski 10304 Elk Lake Trail



### SEPTAGE TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

This summer, The Grand Traverse County Commissioners narrowly endorsed a proposal from the Board of Public Works (BPW) for a yearly \$31 yearly special assessment on all septic tanks within Grand Traverse County. The current 12¢ per gallon disposal charge would then be reduced to 6¢.

This is a very unpopular proposal. Township Officials will stay abreast of the situation and keep you informed. When public hearings on the issue are scheduled, we will prepare special email alerts and forward the information.

### Williamsburg School Reunion

The bi-annual reunion for Williamsburg School is scheduled for September 22, 2012. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Millcreek Elementary School on Old M-72.

As the event will take place on the first day of Fall, autumn has been selected as the theme.

For more information, please contact Gay Bannen Scott soon at 231-649-2113 or via email her at [sgscott@medorcian.com](mailto:sgscott@medorcian.com)

Please bring photos, yearbooks and stories to share.

### Whitewater Twp. Spaghetti Dinner

The annual Spaghetti Dinner is set for Saturday, September 15, 4 – 8 p.m. at The Williamsburg Methodist Church, 5750 Williamsburg Rd.

This great community event provides not only great food and prizes, but funding for Township Emergency Service equipment. Our Emergency Volunteers will be displaying equipment that was “assembled” with donated and reclaimed apparatus for everyone to check out!

Please come and show your support of our exemplary emergency service volunteers!

If you have any items you would like to donate for the door prizes please contact Lois @ 231-735-3987.



## **Flood Insurance: Who Needs It? EVERYONE!**

### **It doesn't matter where you live... you could flood at ANY time!**

Everyone living in a participating community of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) can buy flood insurance. Whitewater Township participates in the NFIP. Just because your home is not mapped within the 100-year flood plain does not mean that you are free from the potential to flood. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) show areas subject to flooding from a primary flooding source, typically major rivers, bayous and their tributaries, and are meant to help determine the risk of flooding for a property. However, flooding from sources that are not identified on the FIRMs is possible. Many homes flood because excess storm water cannot drain into a storm drainage system fast enough to prevent localized ponding from reaching the inside of a home. On a national basis, one-third of the flood loss claims are from property located outside of the mapped 1% (100-year) flood plain. This does not mean the FIRMs are wrong. It simply means that not all flooding sources are mapped and that more severe floods can occur than the ones mapped.

FEMA is about to release new flood maps early next year. Whitewater Township has worked directly with the FIRM engineers to assure that our maps are as accurate as possible. This project is called "MAP" (Mapping, Assessing & Planning). The purpose is to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to actions that reduce risk to life and property.

Whitewater Township will also be working with the Grand Traverse County Emergency Management Coordinator to update the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan which expires in July 2013. The importance of this plan update allows for mitigation priority areas to be identified and funded as resources become available. In the event that we face a natural disaster declaration in the future, FEMA offers the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to fund certain identified improvement needs.

The new maps have been delayed temporarily due to the elimination of the Boardman Dam. There were requests to wait until all three dams have been removed, but the request will not be honored. Copies will be available later this fall for your review and inspection at Township Hall.

**If the new maps show your property located within a flood hazard area and if you have a federally-backed loan for your house and you do not currently carry flood insurance, you will be contacted by your lender after the new maps become effective regarding this requirement. You will have 45 days to purchase flood insurance on your home after you are notified. You can purchase flood insurance PRIOR to the new maps taking effect. You would be rated for the lower flood risk zone (from the previous maps) and this rate would be "grandfathered" as long as your policy remains continuous.**

Questions? Contact Leslie, Planning/Zoning Administrator at 231-267-5141 ext. 21.



## **Upcoming Events:**

Halloween Party—The premier "Spooktacular" event of the year. Saturday, October 27, 2012. Plan to join in the fun with games, treats, a haunted hayride and much more.

Community Tree Lighting Ceremony—Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Hi Pray Park.

Care to volunteer? Contact Lois MacLean @ 231-735-3987.