



Inside this issue:

Curbside yard waste collection back April 4	2
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days	2
Watershed Wisdom: water runoff	3
Police offer Vacation Watch Program	4
Supervisor's Corner: moving forward	5
Clerk to issue new Voter I.D. cards	5
Playscape 10-year Anniversary at Park	6

Important Phone Numbers:

General Twp. Government Number: 453-3840

Police, Fire, EMS Emergencies: 911
Police (non-emergency): 453-3869

Supervisor 354-3201
Clerk 354-3224
Treasurer 354-3214

Trustees:
Kay Arnold 455-2683
Charles Curmi 455-9658
Bob Doroshewitz 451-1250
Steve Mann 207-8253

Beautification efforts continue on Ann Arbor Rd. Corridor

With the arrival of spring and the promise of warm weather residents, business owners and visitors to our community can expect to see additional improvements to the Ann Arbor Road corridor.

The DDA (Downtown Development Authority) is concentrating its efforts on the area of Ann Arbor Road between Eckles and Haggerty Road, at the east entrance to the Township.

In addition to new sidewalks being installed, other new design features will be put in place, consistent with the elements chosen by the DDA to revitalize the corridor. Decorative street lighting, a concrete verge along the roadway, brick columns and decorative fencing will be constructed.

This portion of the streetscape project is anticipated to be completed by late summer. As more money becomes available, the DDA looks to continue the beautification, moving west from Haggerty Road to just west of Sheldon Road.



A stamped concrete verge is being installed along the Ann Arbor Road corridor (above). New sidewalks will help to make the area more pedestrian-friendly (below).



Residential sidewalk inspection/repair programs to resume

Once weather permits this spring, the Township will be busy inspecting sidewalks, looking for those in need of repair. Sidewalks found not to be in compliance with the Sidewalk Ordinance will be marked for replacement.

Sidewalk flags marked with an "X" will be the responsibility of the property owner, flags marked with an "O" will be replaced by the Township.

The program will be conducted throughout the community. If sidewalk flags on

your property are marked with an "X", you will be receiving additional information in the mail regarding the program, options for repair and costs.

Property owners may request to have sidewalks replaced for other reasons (cosmetics, uniformity, etc.) but this will only be done at the property owner's expense.

Residents with questions should contact the Department of Public Works at (734) 453-8131, ext. 21.

Solid Waste Notes: Curbside yard waste and compost collection resumes April 4, 2005

Curbside yard waste and compost collection is seasonal in Plymouth Township and will resume on April 4, 2005.

**Plymouth Township/City
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
May 14, 2005
Saturday
9:00 am–2:00 pm**

Compuware Sports Arena

**A complete list of acceptable items may be viewed on Comcast Cable channel 12, WideOpenWest channel 10, at <http://www.plymouthtp.org/Community/SpecialEvents/HHWDay2.htm>
Or call the Solid Waste Department with your questions at (734) 453-8131, ext. 33.**

Wayne County to host Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Wayne County's Department of Environment is hosting three Household Hazardous Waste Collections in 2005 for County residents. The collections are designed to accept unwanted household chemicals for proper disposal and electronics (i.e. computer monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, cell phones, fax machines, and TV's) for recycling from residents.

The first collection is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2005 (see information below). Residents are encouraged to bring in mercury fever thermometers for

disposal. Mercury is a toxic substance and can cause serious health effects if released into a home or the environment. Residents who bring in a mercury thermometer will be given a safe mercury-free digital thermometer as replacement—limit one per car.

For more information, please contact Wayne County's Resource Recovery Coordinator at (734) 326-3936. Collection sponsored by the Wayne County Department of Environment.

**Wayne County Residents
Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Saturday, April 16, 2005, 9:00 am–2:00 pm
Romulus Civic Center, 11111 Wayne Road (at Goddard, just south of I-94 Wayne Rd. exit)**

Examples of Acceptable Items

- Household paints, stains, dyes
- Floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaner
- Furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers
- Medicine, nail polish, glue
- Fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides
- Antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline
- Automotive batteries and dry cell batteries
- Mercury containing thermometers and other devices

Electronic Recycling

- Computer monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mouse
- Cell phones, fax machines, VCR/Cable box and televisions

Hazardous waste items that are NOT accepted include: Commercial waste, Industrial waste, smoke detectors, radioactive material, explosives, ammunition, asbestos, 55-gallon drums, unknown/unlabeled wastes, shock sensitive materials, fire extinguishers, gas cylinders with valves.

**Future Wayne County HHW collections at locations to be announced:
August 6, 2005 and November 5, 2005**

Watershed Wisdom: Do you know what happens to all the snowmelt and rainwater?



The water that flows over the land after a rainstorm or snowmelt is called “runoff”. Runoff travels from your roof-top, lawns and driveways directly into a storm drain. Once in the storm drain, pipes underground Plymouth Township transport the water

rapidly into the Rouge River with no filtration or treatment. Your house, lawn, sidewalks and driveways are directly linked to the Rouge River.

What you do around your home counts!

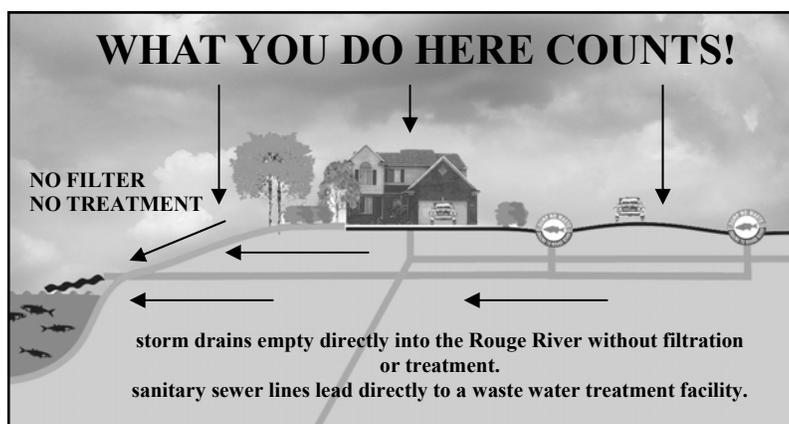
When water washes into the drains, pollutants are carried along for the ride. If you use excess fertilizers, or spill antifreeze or motor oil; if you leave litter and pet waste lying on the ground they may enter our waterways through storm drains.

The Federal Clean Water Act is now being enforced vigorously throughout the United States, and clean up of polluted waterways can result in high costs for communities.

Prevention of pollution ensures that we have a healthy environment for us, our children and our neighbors, and it can be easier on our pocketbooks. We can all help to prevent these types of pollutants from entering our Rouge River by following these simple tips:

- Pick up any litter or debris that could get washed into a storm drain.
- Reduce your use of household hazardous waste, and dispose of those you do use properly, including used motor oil and antifreeze, by bringing them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on May 14 or to a licensed hazardous waste facility.
- Clean up that pet waste! Pet waste left on the lawn can contain bacteria and other pollutants that can quickly wash into a storm drain. Immediately pick up pet waste in a sanitary manner and put into the trash or simply flush down your toilet.
- Going someplace warm for the winter? Remember to dispose of your recreational vehicle waste at a licensed disposal facility.

- Try using sand to keep your driveway ice-free in the winter. Always make sure your sidewalks and approaches are kept clear and dry for safety!
- Don't over fertilize your lawn! When spring comes, remember that grass can only take up so much fertilizer at any one time. The fertilizer not used by your lawn, or fertilizer that has been accidentally placed on a sidewalk or driveway, is washed into the storm drain causing pollution problems for the river including excess growth of plant materials. This excess growth uses up vital oxygen causing other important species to die off.



Want to learn more?

- Join a River Friendly Organization! The Johnson Creek Protection Group (JCPG) can be contacted at (734) 761-1010. Contact Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) at (313) 792-9900.
- See a real life situation: Take a stroll at the Township Park located on Ann Arbor Trail near McClumpha Road. Signs are located throughout the park system which describe how the watershed system of the park works.
- Visit the Environmental Interpretive Center at the University of Michigan—Dearborn. The center has informative displays on the history of the river and information on current activities. Call (313) 593-5338 for hours and directions.

For more information on any of the ideas presented, please call the Department of Public Services at (734) 453-8131, ext. 33.

Sources for further information:

Johnson Creek Protection Group (JCPG) 734-761-1010

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) 313-792-9900

Plymouth Township Department of Public Services 734-453-8131, ext. 33

Police offer Vacation Watch Program

Plymouth Township residents getting ready to travel can make their time away from home even more relaxing by taking advantage of the Plymouth Township Police Department's **Vacation Watch Program**.

Vacation is a time for relaxation and enjoyment. It can also be an opportunity for criminals. The Vacation Watch Program can give residents a sense of security that everything at home is OK.

Residents who register for this free service will leave for their vacation knowing that their homes are being checked by a Police Officer. You can register over the phone by calling (734) 453-3869, or a form is available on the Plymouth Township Website. **No visit to the police station is required.**

While a homeowner is away, the uniformed Patrol Officer will check the security of the house by examining doors and windows to ensure that they have not been tampered with.

When appropriate, police will notify the person designated by the homeowner who has a key for the home and whom the homeowner has asked to handle problems that may crop up, such as a window left open.

When calling to register, participants should be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name and address.
- The dates that the home will be vacant, including the days you plan to leave and return.
- Name, address and telephone number of the person the homeowner designates to have a key to the home.
- Whether or not interior lights or radios will be left on during the time a resident is away, whether continuously or if they are programmed to activate periodically through a preset timer.
- Whether or not a vehicle will be parked on the property. Plan to provide the make, model, year and license plate number of any vehicles that will be parked on the property.
- Whether or not mail and newspaper deliveries have been halted.
- Will there be any animals on the premises?
- Will anyone be physically checking your property?



Remember to check the Plymouth Township website for Crime Prevention Tips and Police Programs.

www.plymouthtwppd.org

Michigan residents may now get credit reports free

Beginning March 1, 2005, Michigan consumers can order a free credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies every year. Consumers can order their free annual credit reports by mail, by telephone, or online.

Reviewing your credit reports can help you detect fraudulent activity early, allowing you to take effective steps to limit the headaches you may encounter if you are a victim of identity theft. Knowing what's in your report before you apply for a loan or a job may also be helpful.

You have a right to order your free annual credit report from each of the three major consumer credit reporting agencies (CRAs): Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. However, it is not necessary for you to order all three at the same time.

Consider marking your calendar to request a report from a different CRA every 4th month. The Attorney General's

Office recommends that consumers ordering reports as a preventative measure against ID theft stagger their requests so that they receive a free report from one of the three CRAs every four months.

To order your free annual credit reports:

- By Telephone: Call 877-322-8228 (toll free)
- By Mail: Complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at the Federal Trade Commission's web site: www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/credit/docs/fact_act_request_form.pdf) and mail it to:
Annual Credit Report Request Service
P. O. Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348-528
- Online: www.annualcreditreport.com

For much more information, please log on to the web site of the Michigan Attorney General, www.michigan.gov/ag.

Supervisor's Corner: Township shows progress despite State's financial picture



The Township continues to move forward and has some amazing results despite the State's financial situation. So instead of look-

ing at the thorns involved with a decrease in our state shared revenue receipts and the sluggish economy, lets look at the rose and the beauty of new buildings and accomplishment around the Township.

The Ann Arbor Road enhancements extend beyond the streetscape infrastructure improvements and include new buildings and road safety issues. CVS and the new office building condominium project, Meridian Square, are now open at Haggerty Road. Further west are the Village Square Condominiums and recently opened

New Liberty Bank. West of McClumpha Road, drivers will see lower speed limits and a new blinker light at the Ridge Road intersection. Both are the result of cooperation with Wayne County, MDOT and the Michigan State Police.

The Five Mile and Beck Road intersection is now experiencing additional growth with the addition of a Max & Erma's on the corner. Ruby Tuesdays will also be added on Beck Road and a new multi-tenant Gateway Plaza will be constructed along Five Mile. Just west on Five Mile, the Township will be receiving an easement from the State of Michigan for a section of former correctional facility property to be used for a second water tower.

The new Township Hall Police/Fire complex is now underway. Bids have been awarded for preparing the site, underground utilities, footings and concrete slab work. Steel fabrication

and erection bids have been received and a groundbreaking ceremony is anticipated soon.

We continue to work hard for our residents and earn your trust. Recently, the Township received an Excellence in Township Government Award from the MTA (Michigan Townships Association) for the 2004 Annual Calendar and a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in financial reporting from the GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association).

We will always plan, work and think creatively as we move forward. I am honored to be your Supervisor and serve Plymouth Township.

Regards,

Richard Reaume

Richard Reaume

From the Office of the Clerk: Consolidated elections prompt issuance of new voter I.D. cards

The State of Michigan adopted legislation to consolidate elections, which in part states that school districts no longer can administer elections. Please note that all Plymouth-Canton Community School District Precincts within Plymouth Township will be dissolved and incorporated into Plymouth Township's seventeen precincts. Therefore, the upcoming May 3, 2005 election will be conducted by the Plymouth Township Clerk's Office and voters will vote at the same precinct location for this election as they do for Federal, State, County and Local elections. New voter I.D. cards will soon be mailed to all Plymouth Township registered voters.

On the ballot for the Tuesday, May 3, 2005 Special Election, voters will vote on a 1.6348 mill renewal and a 0.3652 mill increase (overriding the Headlee rollback) for a total of 2 mills for the period of 2006 through 2025 to be used for Plymouth Township police and fire services. In 1985, Plymouth Township voters approved 2 mills for police and fire services for the period of 1985 through 2005.

Also on the ballot will be Plymouth-Canton Community School District to elect one member to the Board of Education for a full term ending 2009; and Schoolcraft Community College to elect two trustee

members for six-year seats ending June 30, 2011 and one member to a four-year seat ending June 30, 2009.

Residents who registered to vote on or before April 4, 2005 (close of registration deadline), will be eligible to vote in this election. Registered voters who expect to be absent from the community on election day can contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 354-3224 or 354-3228, to request an application for an absentee ballot. Registered voters who have attained the age of 60 and all handicapped of record will automatically receive an absent voter ballot application in the mail. The application must be signed by the voter and returned to the Clerk's Office before a ballot can be mailed.

For your convenience, the Clerk's Office will be open from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 29 for the purpose of issuing absentee ballots. Ballots will be issued until 4:00 pm on Monday, May 2, however, they must be voted in the Clerk's Office. State election law requires that ballots issued on the Monday prior to election day be voted and turned in.

**Remember to vote on Tuesday, May 3, 2005.
The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.**

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Plymouth Township Clerk

Plymouth Township government meetings:

Meeting times are 7 PM, unless otherwise shown.

April:

Thursday, April 7: Zoning Board of Appeals (5 PM)
Monday, April 11: Downtown Development Authority (4 PM)
Tuesday, April 12: Board of Trustees
Wednesday, April 20: Planning Commission
Tuesday, April 26: Board of Trustees

May:

Thursday, May 5: Zoning Board of Appeals (5 PM)
Monday, May 9: Downtown Development Authority (4 PM)
Tuesday, May 10: Board of Trustees
Wednesday, May 18: Planning Commission
Tuesday, May 24: Board of Trustees

Charter Township of
Plymouth
42350 Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, MI 48170-
4394

PRSRST STD
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PLYMOUTH, MI
Permit No. 218

**Attention Postal Customer
Plymouth, MI 48170**

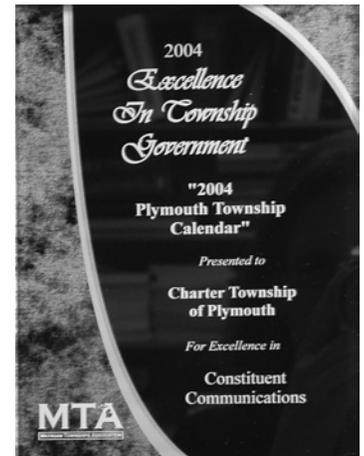
**Postal Carriers: Please deliver
to PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP
RESIDENCES ONLY.**

Visit Plymouth Township government on
the Internet at www.plymouthtwp.org

Township recognized by MTA for constituent communications

Excellence in Township Government Award

At the MTA (Michigan Townships Association) Annual Educational Conference Banquet held in January, Supervisor Richard Reaume accepted an award for "Excellence in Township Government" in the Constituent Communications category for the 2004 calendar. Plymouth Township was one of only five Townships to receive an award this year.



Playscape provides fun for 10 years!



**Can you believe that the playscape
structure at Plymouth Township Park
has been in use for 10 years already?**

**The 10th Anniversary of this very
popular feature, built by hard-working
members of the community, will be
celebrated at a special ceremony on
Sunday, May 22, 2005, 2:00 pm.**

**Mark your calendar! We hope you will
plan to attend.**