

# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## Popular Open House returns in October

It's back! After a two-year hiatus due to campus-wide construction, Bloomfield Township is once again holding its Open House this fall. Come and bring the family. You'll be glad the tradition is continuing.

The Fire Department will stage crowd-pleasing demonstrations that are exciting to see and teach valuable lessons as well. Watch firefighters extinguish live fires. See a variety of presentations in the fire safety trailer showing how to handle home emergencies. Tour the newly renovated Central Fire Station. Get an up-close look at a survival flight helicopter. And,



of course, Sparky, the firefighter dog, will mingle in the crowd and remind everybody about fire safety. If all that isn't enough to convince you to come, perhaps the menu will do the trick – cider, hot dogs and cookies!

The Police Department is planning something for everyone. Kids can ride in a patrol car while teens and adults (those with drivers' licenses)

can try driving a golf cart while wearing "drunk goggles." You may tour the station, look at confiscated property and see how fingerprints are taken. You can also tour the Animal Shelter

Sunday, October 10, 2010
12:00 noon – 4:00 PM
Bloomfield Township campus
West off Telegraph Road
South of Long Lake Road
FREE!

Map of parking lots and locations of activities available online and at the event

and learn more about pet adoptions. Long-time favorites such as the K-9 dog demonstration will be back, along with a few new activities like a scavenger hunt for kids. There will be food here too — cider, donuts, and even chili.

The Fire and Police Departments' Open House activities are always fun, but save time for other Township displays and demonstrations too. Public Services will give kids tattoos (just the temporary kind!) and paint their faces. Kids can have their picture taken while they sit in a large road grader. Parents can learn more about West Nile disease. Oak Wilt, and other important topics. You can see what really goes through those sewer lines and watch the impact a leaky faucet

has on your water meter.

See how the new Clearzoning ordinance software works at the Planning Division display, and watch the Building Division's video that shows how building codes protect the public's safety. The Ordinance Division will dispense helpful information about play structures, sheds, hot tubs and fire pits.

Bloomfield Community
Television will invite you into
the state-of-the-art video production truck it uses to shoot
programs of concerts, parades
and other events in the community. You'll be able to watch
yourself on TV and learn how
you can become involved in
local television programming.

Last but not least, this is your chance to tour the beautiful new Senior Center. You may be especially interested in seeing



where the Friendship Club members find recreation and loving care during the day while their family members have much needed respite.



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARDS 2010

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### ADMINISTRATION

Dave Payne, Supervisor Janet Roncelli, Clerk Dan Devine, Treasurer

### **TRUSTEES**

David Buckley Neal J. Barnett Leo C. Savoie Brian Kepes

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

Scot Goldberg, Chairman Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman Sherry Stefanes, Secretary Neal Barnett Richard Mintz Thomas Petinga William Stark

#### BOARD OF APPEALS

Corinne Khederian, Chairman Robert E. Taylor, Jr., Vice Chairman James Aldrich David Buckley Brian Henry Tracy Leone, Alternate Carol Rosati, Alternate Lisa Seneker Sherry Stefanes

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Visit the website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org and click on the E-Mail List link on the upper right of the home page

Meet Officer Jason Kollman and Rico, pictured above, at the Township Open House

The Clerk's Office will be open on Friday, October 29, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 30, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of processing Absent Voter Ballot Requests.

Please contact the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 with any questions you may have regarding the November 2 election.



### Board of Trustees

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday LOCATION: Township Auditorium

### Planning Commission

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

DATE: Ist and 3rd Monday LOCATION: Township Auditorium

### Zoning Board of Appeals

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd Tuesday

LOCATION: Township Auditorium

NOTE: The Charter Township of Bloomfield will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at all meetings to individuals with disabilities. All such requests must be made at least five days prior to said meeting. Please contact the Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office. 4200 Telegraph Road P.O. Box 489 Bloomfield Hills MI 48303--0489 248-433-7702 Fax: 248-433-7714

## Record voter turnout expected in November

Bloomfield Township voters will turn out in record numbers on Tuesday, November 2, 2010. This General Election will shape the future of the State of Michigan. Your vote counts. If you are not a registered voter in Bloomfield Township, please note that the last day to register for this election is Monday, October 4, 2010, at 4:00 p.m.

If you want to avoid the long lines at the polls, request an absentee ballot. The application is available online at http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/forms/Clerk.htm or by calling the Clerk's Office. To qualify for an absentee ballot, the voter must meet one of the following reasons: 1) 60 years of age or older; 2) anticipated absence from the community in which the voter is registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day; 3) physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; 4) unable to attend the polls because of religious beliefs; 5) appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where the voter resides; or 6) unable to attend the polls because the voter is confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial. For more information regarding absentee voting, see insert in this newsletter.



On Election Day, the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Information regarding polling locations, sample ballots, and absentee voting can be found on our website <a href="http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Clerk/">http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Clerk/</a> Elections.htm.

Offices on the ballot include:

Governor, Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

Attorney General

U.S. Representative in Congress, State Senator

State Representative

State Board of Education (2 seats)

University of Michigan Regents (2 seats)

Michigan State University Trustees (2 seats)

Wayne State University Governors (2 seats)

County Commissioner

Bloomfield Township Trustee (I seat)

Nonpartisan Positions:

Justice of the Supreme Court Judge of the Court of Appeals

Judge of the Circuit Court

ludge of the District Court

Judge of the Probate Court

Township Library Board Members (2)

School District Board Positions in

Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, and Pontiac

Oakland Community College Board of

Trustees Positions (3)

State Proposals

Bloomfield Hills Schools Bond Proposal and

Sinking Fund Renewal

Voters line up in Township Hall to receive absentee ballots for the November 2008 election

### File of Life packets available to residents

What would happen in the event of an emergency if you could not give paramedics your health or insurance information, or even tell them your name? The File of Life enables paramedics to obtain a quick, accurate medical history in an emergency when a patient is unable to offer one. It is a card that lists name, emergency contact, insurance information, health problems, medications and dosages, allergies, recent surgeries, religion and a health care proxy. It is kept in a red plastic pouch that can be attached with mag-

nets to the refrigerator or any other easily visible metal surface. The File of Life packet comes with a smaller version that can be carried in a wallet or purse, and a sticker to place on the front door to alert EMS.

You can obtain the free packet at the Bloomfield Township Senior Center or at any Bloomfield Township fire station. For more information call Senior Services at 248.723.3500 or the Fire Department at 248.433.7745.



### A NOTE FROM

### Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

## Employees strive to lower health costs

Those of you who have loyally read this column for the past year and a half know that the Bloomfield Township Trustees, administration and employees not only have a strategic plan, but we review and update it quarterly. Even more significant, we implement it every single day we come to work.

One of the more innovative steps we've taken under the general goal of reducing expenses is the adoption of a high deductible, preferred provider (PPO) health plan that includes a health reimbursement account (HRA) for eligible employees. We believe we are one of only a few municipalities currently making this progressive move to cut long-term health care costs.

The HRA encourages employees to make responsible decisions in managing their

health care. It rewards employees who find low cost solutions for their health care needs. Bloomfield Township funds individual accounts for eligible employees which they can spend on their covered health care expenses. Unused funds roll over to the next year, giving incentive to use the account wisely. If it is depleted, they must pay further medical costs until they satisfy a high deductible. After meeting the deductible they enter into a co-insurance arrangement.

Treating medical conditions early in their progression is less expensive than treating them once they have advanced. To encourage early diagnosis of medical problems, in-network preventive care is covered 100%. This not only removes a roadblock that may stand in the way of an employee taking preventative

action, it should, in the long run, lower health care costs. An added bonus – Bloomfield Township will benefit from a healthier work force!

People who are healthy and in good physical condition are generally less expensive to insure than their not-so-fit counterparts. Therefore, our new health care plan includes a pro-active wellness campaign that encourages employees to follow healthy lifestyle practices. I'm proud to report that almost half of our eligible employees are participating in this.

The campaign kicked off over the summer with a Health Assessment Day. Participating employees took screening tests that measured glucose and cholesterol levels, blood pressure, and calculated their Body Mass Index (BMI). They also filled out a health assessment survey that will be

analyzed to give us a composite picture indicating our highest health risks. The next phase of the campaign, scheduled to start in early 2011, will offer programs to help employees adjust their lifestyles to reduce individual risk in those areas.

A special component of the plan, designed by a team of employees, offers employees "challenges" in three areas: cardio, strength training, and nutrition education. Employees may choose to participate individually by setting a goal and working to meet it, or they can participate as a member of a team and compete against other teams. Winning teams and successful individuals will be awarded small prizes. This has created a good sense of fun and excitement in our workplace. More importantly, it is instilling a culture of health and fitness in the workplace which will, over the years, help contain Bloomfield Township's health costs.

### Clerk's Office announces passport fee increase

Process your passport applications at the Clerk's Office in Township Hall, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Passport photo service is available for a fee of \$10.00. All forms are available in our office or online at <a href="http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms">http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms</a>

For those residents who require emergency issuance and urgent travel, the new Detroit Passport Agency offers appointments from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Proof of travel must be submitted during your appointment. The Detroit Passport Agency eliminates the need to travel to Chicago for one-day processing. The agency is located at 211 W. Fort Street, Suite 200, Detroit, MI 48226. For appointments and information, contact the agency at 877.487.2778.

Passport fees increased across the country effective July 13, 2010. The new fees are listed below. Please call the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 with any questions.

U.S. Passport Book for First Time Applicants and Minors				
	Passport Fee	Acceptance Fee	Total Fee	
Adults (age 16 and over)	\$110	\$25	\$135	
Minors (under 16)	\$80	\$25	\$105	
U.S. Passport Card for First Time Applicants and Minors				
	Passport Fee	Acceptance Fee	Total Fee	
Adults (age 16 and over)	\$30	\$25	\$55	
Minors (under 16)	\$15	\$25	\$40	





From the Police Department

## Be vigilant about home security

The Bloomfield Township Police Department has seen an uptick in the number of home invasions this summer. That's the bad news. The good news is that there is a lot you and your neighbors can do about them! Here are some ideas:

- Be a good nosy neighbor. Many people have actually seen a crime in progress, thought it looked suspicious, but never called the police.
- Keep doors closed and

Maintain property values

Property values are a major

concern in every community.

Please do your part this fall to

keep your neighborhood look-

ing the best it can. Do that final

cleanup of your yard. Weed the

flowerbeds, clean the gutters,

and remove unwanted and

unused items from the yard.

Place trash cans and similar

items out of view. Property

maintenance is an important

of your home as well as the

value of your neighborhood.

Contact the Ordinance Division

erty maintenance questions.

element in sustaining the value

at 248.594.2845 with any prop-

locked. A number of home invasions have occurred where home doors and windows weren't even closed, let alone locked.

- If you have an alarm system, use it. An alarm that isn't set can't do any good. If you don't have an alarm system, get one.
- Keep landscaping trimmed away from doors and windows. Hedges and trees along your property line can keep

neighbors from seeing a burglar breaking into your home. Everyone loves privacy, especially burglars.

■ Get a home security survey. This is a free service afforded to our residents.

We have made arrests on several of these burglaries, with more to come, we're sure. If you would like advice on alarm systems or a home security survey, call Officer Matejcik at 248.433.7724.



Officer Matejcik on patrol in a Township neighborhood

### Hazardous waste drop off day to take place Oct. 2

The Fall Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day will be held on Saturday, October 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. sharp. It will take place in the Public Services parking lot on the south side of Exeter Road. Enter off Andover Road from either Telegraph or Long Lake and follow the signs. This service is for Bloomfield Township residents only; remember to bring proof of residency. Township residents have been taking advantage of this environmentally friendly program since 1991 and it continues to be a favorite service.

The Thermometer Exchange Program will also be offered. Bring in your unwanted mercury fever thermometers to exchange for a mercury-free digital thermometer. Limit one per car, while supplies last.

For more information and a list of acceptable items, check the Bloomfield Township website, <a href="https://www.bloomfieldtwp.org">www.bloomfieldtwp.org</a> Call the Department of Public Works at 248.594.2800 with any questions.

Mark your calendar ...
Yard waste collection ends the week of December 13. Questions? Call

### WDC Classic Car Show a success in spite of rain

The steady drizzle didn't dampen the spirits of all those who participated in the Classic Car Show on the day



of the Woodward Dream Cruise. As promised, the Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield lot was filled with spectacular cars. Students from Lawrence Technological University and Michigan State University added their Formula SAE cars to the show. Coldstone Creamery and the Marian High School Dads Club sold refreshments and 97.1 "The Ticket" broadcast live from the event. Tunes from a DJ added to the party atmosphere.

Next door at Comerica Bank, a huge Superformance, LLC. truck rolled out its lineup of Shelby Cobras to admiring crowds. These hand-built reproductions of racecars from the 1960s stole the

Daniel Krug and Associates, a Clarkston based financial and estate planning firm, entertained friends and clients under a large tent watching the cruisers and enjoying the special displays.

Families and car buffs alike roamed the lots, taking in the sights and sounds of the Woodward Dream Cruise. If you missed it this year, mark your calendar now for the third Saturday in August next year and plan to come!



Families enjoyed the Classic Car Show



From the Fire Department

## Keep safety in mind while enjoying autumn

As we move into autumn, fire hazards change. Here are some fire safety reminders for the fall season:

- Each year we have many fires related to fireplaces.

  Make sure that your chimney is cleaned each year by a reputable, licensed contractor.

  The contractor will also inspect the system as a whole and point out things that need to be repaired or could cause a fire.
- Keep fires small, burning only one or two logs at a time. Wait at least 24 hours before removing the ashes. Put them in an empty metal can and set them outside, away from the house and the garage. We respond to a number of fires each year caused by ashes that were handled improperly.

■ Make sure that your smoke detectors work when needed. Test them once a month and change your bat-

teries once a year. An excellent reminder is daylight savings time: when you change your clock, change your battery. We recommend that a

smoke detector be located on every floor and in each bedroom. Replace smoke detectors older than 10 years old.

Plan ahead. Have an escape plan with two ways out of every room. This ensures that everyone will know what to do before an emergency happens. For more informa-

tion and/or help with your family's escape plan, contact the Fire Department at 248.433.7745.

On October 2, 2010, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department will host an Open House for children with special needs. Space is limited for this event so please register by calling Lt. Peter Vlahos at 248.433.7745.

stalks and bales of hay and straw make nice decorations, they can also create a serious fire hazard when stacked around the house. These items should be

■ While corn

treated with a fire retardant spray. This spray can be purchased from your local hardware or home improvement store. Candles and other sources of ignition should be kept well away from these types of decorations.

■ Make sure that the Halloween costumes your chil-



dren wear are made of a flame retardant material. Many jack-o-lanterns contain lighted candles, and young children don't stop to think where they are standing in relation to these candles. While a flame retardant costume doesn't guarantee their safety, it will reduce the chances of their clothing catching on fire. In case clothing does catch on fire, make sure that your children know how to Stop, Drop and Roll.

### Residents assist first responders as CERT volunteers

Since 2005 Bloomfield Township has been organizing groups of residents to assist the Police and Fire

Departments in overwhelming

emergency situations such as tornados or large-scale fires. Today there are

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

nearly fifty trained and equipped Community
Emergency Response Team
(CERT) volunteers. Volunteers include professionals with medical, engineering, legal, law enforcement and financial backgrounds. Bloomfield
CERT volunteers, all members

of our community, are highly motivated and trained to respond to a variety of disasters when deployed by Bloomfield Township officials.

CERT was first developed and implemented by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department in 1985. Los Angeles

officials knew that after a catastrophic disaster, some citizens could be without first responder assistance for several hours, possibly days. CERT offered citizens basic training in disaster survival, rescue and first aid to enable them to be self-reliant and survive until

first responders or other assistance could arrive. The Los Angeles Fire Department CERT program proved to be so beneficial that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) felt that the program should be made available to communities nationwide.

Bloomfield Township CERT training includes first aid, search and rescue, fire fighting, severe weather survival, and low frequency radio communications in the event that traditional communication systems are inoperative. The team has responded to residential fires, missing persons and traffic control situations. CERT mem-

bers volunteer dozens of hours each year to the community through education, training and assisting first responders in emergency situations.

For more information about Bloomfield Township CERT see the website,

http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/ Services/Fire/CERT.asp



Township firefighters conduct CERT training



PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE

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ROYAL OAK, MI PERMIT#759

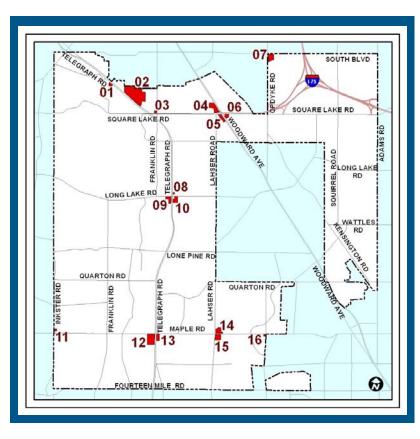
4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD
PO BOX 489
PLOOMEIELD HILLS MI 48202 0488

BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303-0489				
TOWNSHIP				
DIRECTO	PY			
Water/Sewer Emergency				
433-7730				
Administration	433-7700			
Accounting	433-7712			
Assessor's Office	433-7710			
Building Division	433-7715			
Clerk's Office	433-7702			
Community Cable	433-7790			
Engineering & Env.	594-2800			
Fire Non-Emergency	433-7745			
Ordinance Division	594-2845			
Planning Division	433-7795			
Police Department				
Administration	433-7750			
Non-Emergency	433-7755			
Animal Welfare	433-7757			
Investigations	433-7760			
Alarm Info	433-7775			
Property	433-7777			
Records	433-7776			
Public Works				
Road Division	594-2800			
Water & Sewer	594-2800			
Senior Services	723-3500			
Adult Day Service	723-3530			
Treasurer's Office	433-7705			

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## Shop locally! Township offers a variety of choices



Scattered throughout Bloomfield Township are a number of unique shopping centers, with stores to cater to every need. As the holiday shopping season approaches, remember to patronize our local businesses. Use this handy guide.

### **Bloomfield Township Shopping Centers**

- **01** Bloomfield Market Place
- 02 Bloomfield Town Square
- 03 Sugarbush Plaza
- 04 Kingswood Plaza
- 05 Woodward Square Shopping Center
- 06 CVS Pharmacy Center
- 07 Bloomfield Hills Center
- 08 Bonaventure Plaza
- 09 Telegraph-Long Lake Shops
- 10 Bloomfield Village Square
- II Maple-Inkster Plaza
- 12 Bloomfield Plaza
- 13 Maple & Telegraph Stores
- 14 Bloomfield Village Knoll
- 15 Bloomfield Commons
- 16 Maple-Cranbrook Stores



## Absentee Voting



The procedures for absentee voting are often misunderstood, especially during the gubernatorial and presidential elections. Below you will find answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

### I. Who is eligible to obtain an absentee ballot for an upcoming election?

A registered voter is eligible to obtain an absentee ballot for an upcoming election if one of the following reasons applies: I) 60 years of age or older; 2) anticipated absence from the community in which the voter is registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day; 3) physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; 4) unable to attend the polls because of religious beliefs; 5) appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where the voter resides; or 6) unable to attend the polls because the voter is confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

A person who registers to vote by mail must vote in person in the first election in which he or she participates. This restriction does not apply to overseas voters, physically disabled voters or voters who are 60 years of age or older.

Visit the Clerk's Office and complete an application for an absentee ballot or call the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 to request one by mail. The application is also available on our website at <a href="http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/forms/PDFForms/AbsenteeBallot101102.pdf">http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/forms/PDFForms/AbsenteeBallot101102.pdf</a>.

### 2. Do I have to use a preprinted application in order to receive an absentee ballot?

No. An absentee ballot can be issued as long as the registered voter submits a written request, which includes a statutory reason for the request (see #I - Who is Eligible?), the applicant's signature and mailing address.

#### 3. What is the Permanent Absentee Voter List?

This list contains the names of registered voters in Bloomfield Township who have submitted a verbal or written request to be placed on the Permanent Absentee Voter List. The benefit to being on this list is that it allows the voter to automatically receive an Absentee Voter Application for every election. Any registered voter can request to be on this list. Upon receipt of the application for a ballot, the voter must select one of the six reasons to receive a ballot.

- 4. I've been on the Permanent Absentee Voter List for many years. Why do I have to make a formal request now? Recent challenges to Michigan election laws require the Clerk's Office to have a written or verbal request from any registered voter wishing Permanent Absentee Voter status.
- 5. If I am on the Permanent Absentee Voter List, will I automatically receive an absentee ballot for every election?

  No. Absentee ballots are not automatically sent to a voter unless a completed application is submitted first.

  Applications for an absentee ballot are sent to people on the Permanent Absentee Voter List for every election, except even year elections. In those elections, the Clerk's Office sends a dual application for an absentee ballot, allowing the voter to request a ballot for both the August and November elections on one convenient form.

### 6. Can college students request an absentee ballot or request to be on the Permanent Absentee Voter List?

College students away at school, who registered in person to vote in Bloomfield Township, are encouraged to take advantage of the absentee voting process. They can request a ballot for a specific election or request to be placed on the Permanent Absentee List. Either procedure allows the ballot to be sent directly to the student's college address. However, college students who register to vote by mail must vote in person the first time they vote (see #I - Who is Eligible?).

Note: If the college student registers to vote in their college community, their registration in Bloomfield Township will be cancelled and they must vote in their college community.

### 7. Can I pick up a ballot for a family member or friend?

No. Ballots can only be given to the registered voter. Ballots must be mailed to the registered address of the voter, mailed to the alternate temporary address listed on the AV Ballot Application or picked up in person. Emergency situations can be addressed directly to the Clerk, Janet Roncelli.

### 8. When do I have to return my ballot?

All absentee ballots must be returned to the Clerk's Office by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots may be returned by mail (express mail is suggested for out-of-state and out-of-country voters), deposited in our 24-hour drop-box in the front lobby or dropped off at the Clerk's Office during business hours, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

### 9. Will my absentee ballot be forwarded along with my other mail while I am on vacation?

Absentee ballots must be sent to your registered address. You must request in writing that you want your ballot sent to an alternate address. The preprinted application provides for this information.

### 10. What if I receive an application for an absentee ballot, but decide to vote at the polls?

A voter can still vote in person simply by not returning the absentee ballot application for processing. Even if the voter changes their mind after receiving a ballot, they can still vote in person by not voting the absentee ballot and appearing at the polls, preferably with the unvoted ballot in hand so it can be spoiled.

### 11. How can I be placed on the Permanent Absentee Voter List?

If you would like to be added to the Permanent Absentee Voter List, complete the form below and return it to the Clerk's Office.

### REQUEST TO BE ADDED TO THE PERMANENT ABSENTEE VOTER LIST

Please add my name to your Permanent Absentee Voter List. I understand that I will automatically receive an Absentee Ballot Application prior to each upcoming election until such time that I should request to have my name removed. I understand that on the application I will be required to check a reason for requesting a ballot.

X		
Signature		Date: MM/DD/YY
Please Print Name		
Street Number	City	Zip
Phone Number	E-mail	

Please mail or fax this form:
FAX: 248.642.7610
MAIL: Janet Roncelli, Bloomfield Township Clerk
4200 Telegraph Road, P.O. Box 489, Bloomfield, MI 48303-0489