



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Consequences of the 2010 Census

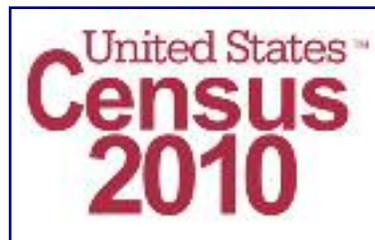
The 2010 Census is underway and completion of your household form has consequences. This will be one of the shortest forms in history, requiring your answers to 10 questions that can be completed in 10 minutes. Each question helps determine how more than \$400 billion will be allocated to communities across the country, including Bloomfield Township. The 2010 Census aims to count all U.S. residents—citizens and non-citizens alike. To do so, the Census Bureau:

- Delivers a short 10-question form to every household in America;
- Requires that you fill in the form to account for everyone living at your address as of April 1, 2010;
- Includes a prepaid envelope with the form so you can mail it back as soon as possible;
- Protects any personal data that you provide under federal law.

The significance of the census cannot be overstated. Federal funding flows to states based on the census. These funds are used for programs such as Head Start, food grants for children, immunizations for infants, road rehabilitation and construction projects, programs for

the elderly, emergency services, shelter funding and empowerment zones. Michigan can't afford to leave federal funds on the table for other states.

Census results determine congressional districts and the strength of Michigan's voice in Congress. The loss of a congressional district undermines Michigan's political influence and we need to retain as many



seats as possible to maximize our voice. While we may lose a congressional seat due to the exodus of people leaving for jobs in other states, we don't want to lose a seat because of uncounted Michigan snowbirds.

Township residents vacationing in other states should not complete the census forms sent to them at their temporary address. If you receive a census form in your seasonal home, mark 0 on the form for the number of people residing here and enter the following: *usual residence elsewhere*. Your Michigan census cannot be forwarded, but rest assured that a

census taker will follow up in person with every address that doesn't mail back the form in order to obtain the responses. When your Michigan form is returned to the U.S. Bureau because it cannot be forwarded to your seasonal address, this will signal the Bureau to send a census taker to your Bloomfield Township address. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau will hire 16,000 people in Michigan to knock on the doors of households that have not returned a completed census. This process will continue until September 2010.

Remember, the U.S. Census benefits the people who are counted. The numbers give political representation to those who are counted. Federal dollars are distributed based on the population count for services like education, transportation, health care and job training.

Stand up and be counted. But count on completing the form at your Bloomfield Township address. Your household response will inform planning and funding decisions that affect Michigan, Oakland County and Bloomfield Township.

Township Clerk Jan Roncelli is pictured above



BLOOMFIELD
TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF
TRUSTEES 2010

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Dave Payne, Supervisor
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Dan Devine, Treasurer

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Neal J. Barnett
Leo C. Savoie
Brian Kepes

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Sherry Stefanos, Secretary
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William Stark

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David Buckley
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Carol Rosati, Alternate
Lisa Seneker
Sherry Stefanos

Watch for these upcoming Bloomfield Township events:

April 24 & 25 – Clean Sweep

April 24 – Electronic Recycling, Medication Disposal & Paper Shredding

May 1 – Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

For details please see page 4

Reconstruction of Telegraph Road begins

Telegraph Road in Bloomfield Township has come a long way since the days of horse-drawn carriages. Telegraph carries thousands of vehicles each day. This heavy volume of traffic has taken its toll on the road surface. The last major renovation and expansion of Telegraph took place in the late 1970s, and since that time the road has been repaired and patched numerous times.

Beginning in April, anyone who regularly travels Telegraph Road will want to find alternate routes. An extensive reconstruction project that will include new storm sewers and new pavement will close multiple lanes through November.

The northbound lanes will undergo reconstruction from Square Lake Road to Orchard Lake Road and the southbound lanes in that stretch will be patched where needed.



Telegraph Road, 1907

Reconstruction of the northbound and southbound lanes of Telegraph between Long Lake Road and 14 Mile Road

will also take place. Traffic in the construction zone will be limited to two lanes in each direction.

The Township has been working closely with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to ensure that water and sewer utilities are protected during this work. MDOT will be including nearly 2.5 miles of new safety paths within the construction areas at no additional cost to Township residents. The completion of this project will be a great improvement for the Telegraph corridor and will mean a safe and durable road surface for years to come.

BCTV shows now on website

You can now watch programs produced by Bloomfield Community Television by visiting our website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org, and clicking on Township Video on Demand under News & Events. You will find an extensive list of shows, including those produced in our studio as well as on-location shoots that chronicle community events. This is a great way to watch a favorite show again, or for those who may not have Comcast cable, a way to discover a new show.

Shows produced by

Bloomfield Community Television are carried only by Comcast channel 15 in Bloomfield Township. At this time, these programs are not carried on AT&T's U-verse system. There are three reasons for this. First, AT&T requires municipalities to bear the cost of transmitting the channel to AT&T, which would require a major equipment purchase initially and ongoing monthly transmission expenses. Second, U-verse does not give PEG programs their own channels, but rather groups them together on a computer appli-

cation that is technically inferior to all the other channels. Finally, because of the way U-verse is engineered, a viewer cannot get to our channel by simply surfing or going up and down the channel lineup. The viewer must select a number in the U-verse lineup, scroll through a drop-down menu, select the desired channel from a list from other communities, then wait almost 20 seconds for the program to load. We believe this process will discourage people from watching BCTV's programs.

Water billing information can be accessed online

You can now see your water and sewer billing data online at www.bloomfieldtwp.org. Access information about your accounts, including current balance due and historical water consumption data. This is one step toward increasing efficiencies, with more upgrades coming soon. These will include changing the way billing data is presented to customers and the elimination of a second water bill in cases where a secondary account exists along with a primary account. For more information call 248-594-2800 or visit the website.



As the Telegraph Road reconstruction project gets underway, you may notice that the Telegraph and Fourteen Mile intersection is missing the Bloomfield Township gateway sign. Don't worry, the sign hasn't been damaged. We've removed it to keep it safe while the construction is taking place.



Board of Trustees

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

Planning Commission

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 1st 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



A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Millage passes; cost cutting to continue

Bloomfield Township voters approved a millage request in February, thereby preventing drastic cuts to their local public services. Even though it passed, the Board of Trustees is painfully aware that it was a difficult decision for many people. Many of our residents are in the midst of financial difficulties. Many others may be doing well enough today but are concerned about what the future holds.

The Board of Trustees pledges to our community that we will continue to take every reasonable cost-cutting step and explore every innovative change in the way we can do business in order to be responsible with the revenue restored to us by this new

millage. We are deeply aware of our accountability to our constituents.

The Board did not easily or quickly come to the decision to ask for a millage. After studying financial forecasts for several years, analyzing the local, state and national economic climate and developing a comprehensive issues-based strategic plan we concluded we simply could not make enough cuts to balance the budget without jeopardizing essential services. We knew we had to give voters the option of either restoring a portion of the revenues being lost because of the declining tax base or accepting dramatic cuts to the levels of service they are accustomed to. Therefore, we left it to them

to decide the quality of Bloomfield Township's future, and they told us what they wanted.

Our focus now is to follow the goals we identified in our 2009 – 2014 issues-based strategic plan. The plan, available online at www.bloomfieldtwp.org, is reviewed and updated quarterly. It addresses our finances, aging infrastructure, changing technological needs, personnel matters and community expectations.

We are actively working with the cities of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills to consolidate services where it makes sense to do so. In other efforts to save money and maximize services, we have always participated in

multi-jurisdictional task forces, emergency response teams and purchasing consortiums.

We have already cut more than \$2.5 million from personnel expenses and we continue to look for further reductions. Through attrition we have reduced our staff by 18 positions since 2007. Many of our employees are cross-trained so they can perform multiple functions across divisions and departments. These and other efforts will continue in our on-going work to reduce costs and increase efficiencies.

We are thankful to the voters who passed the millage. They understood the seriousness of the community's financial situation. The Board of Trustees, administration, and employees will continue the hard work necessary to keep Bloomfield Township the desirable place it has always been.

It's time to plan for the 2010 Classic Car Show

Bloomfield Township's annual Classic Car Show, held in conjunction with the Woodward Dream Cruise, will return for its sixth year on Saturday, August 21, 2010. The event, which runs from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., takes place at Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield, on Woodward south of Big Beaver. It will feature entertainment, food, bleacher seating and portable toilets. It's a great place to

enjoy the Dream Cruise with friends and family at no charge. General parking will be available for \$5.00.

There will be car club parking at the adjacent Comerica Bank so that club members can display their cars while enjoying the party. Registration information for individuals and car clubs interested in displaying their classic cars will be available soon on the Bloomfield Township website,



www.bloomfieldtwp.org.

The Classic is a car show, party and charity event rolled into one. All proceeds from the Classic go to support the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities, Bloomfield Township Police Department Benevolent Fund and the Bloomfield Optimist Club.

It's easy to keep up with what's happening in Bloomfield Township

Interested in what's going on in Bloomfield Township? You can subscribe to our news update service and receive periodic email updates from Bloomfield Township on items related to Township services and events. The e-newsletter is typically sent once every three or four weeks. Visit the website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org and click on the E-Mail List link on the upper right of the home page.



Annual Clean Sweep returns

Neighborhood associations, school and community groups and residents are invited to participate in the fifth annual Clean Sweep weekend on April 24 and 25.



Clean Sweepers will spruce up the right-of-way areas near safety paths, throughout neighborhoods and at the entrances to subdivi-

sions. The event is a great way to get kids involved in conservation and for students to earn community service hours.

To participate, please register with the Department of Public Works by filling out the volunteer sign up sheet on the township website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org or by calling (248) 594-2800. The DPW office will provide plastic trash bags for general debris and paper bags for yard waste. Lawn signs will also be available at the Public Works office to promote Clean Sweep in neighborhoods. Sign up today!

Board of Trustees adopts new Fertilizer Ordinance

The Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees recently adopted a Fertilizer Ordinance that will regulate the application of fertilizer by commercial entities within the Township. The ordinance is modeled after a Fertilizer Resolution enacted by the Township Board in 2001. The ordinance will regulate commercial fertilizer applicators by restricting the type, location, timing and quantity of fertilizer they apply to any

property within the Township. Through a registered fertilizer applicator program, commercial fertilizer firms will commit to follow the requirements of the Fertilizer Ordinance for all work done in the Township.

Homeowners may wish to check with their lawn care companies to make sure they are registered. Please visit the Township website for registration and ordinance information.

Popular electronics recycling, medication disposal event to take place April 24

To help protect our environment and serve our residents, Bloomfield Township will host an Electronic Recycling, Medication Disposal & Paper Shredding Event for residents. This one-day event will take place on Saturday, April 24, 2010, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Bloomfield Township Senior Services building on the Township campus. It will coincide with Earth Day and Township Clean Sweep activities.

This year's event will again facilitate the collection and

proper disposal of unwanted or unused medication. This includes over the counter and prescription pharmaceuticals. All sensitive information must be blacked out but the name of the medication must remain on the bottle.

The following residential electronic waste items may be brought in for recycling or disposal: computer systems/laptops, televisions, keyboards, scanners,

PDA's/pagers, cell phones and fax machines. No household appliances (e.g. refrigerators, stoves, washer/dryers, dishwashers) are allowed.



Bulk paper shredding services will also be available to residents as an option for disposal of residentially generated paper waste in a safe and efficient manner. Residents may bring up to five boxes of paper for shredding. Content of the material is limited to office grade paper;

no newspaper, binders or computer disks can be included. Sorry, no businesses or business equipment of any kind are allowed.

You may participate in the May 1st household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event to properly dispose of items like oil-based paint, pesticides and mercury thermometers. (See story below for details.) We will be unable to collect any HHW items at the April 24th event.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day is Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the parking lot of the Bloomfield Township Senior Services building, located off Andover Road, west off Telegraph, south of Long Lake Rd. (Look for signs on drop-off day.) This service is for residents only; proof of residency is required.

Dispose of hazardous materials at Drop-Off Day on May 1

Township residents have been taking advantage of Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day since 1991. This environmentally friendly program continues to be a favorite service.



Most households contain materials that can be hazardous and must be disposed of carefully. Improper disposal can be dangerous to people and the environment. A community the size of Bloomfield Township discards two tons of toilet bowl cleaner, seven tons of liquid household cleaner and two tons of motor oil each month. Let's discard these materials in an environmentally safe manner. The Township website www.bloomfieldtwp.org contains an extensive list of acceptable materials for drop-off. Questions? Call DPW at 248-594-2800.



From the Fire Department

Keep your home and family safe this spring

The arrival of spring means it's time to think about outdoor safety and fire prevention. A few easy steps on your part can help keep your home and family safe. Keep these tips in mind as you begin to spruce up your yard.

Trim trees so branches don't hang over your roof. Keep eaves and gutters free of leaves and other flammable debris. Clear dried weeds and brush from around your home. Store firewood away from structures.

Always store gasoline in an approved, clearly marked container. If possible, keep it in a locked shed and store just

enough to power your gasoline-fueled equipment. Make sure gasoline and all flammable liquids are well away from any heat source or flame.

When using gasoline:

- Remove fuel cans from your vehicle and set them on the ground when refilling them. Never store gasoline in a vehicle;
- Fuel power equipment in a well-ventilated area away from any ignition sources;
- Never refuel your mower while the motor is running;
- Cool the motor before refueling.

Remember that Bloomfield Township ordinance prohibits

open burning of yard waste. For more information pertaining to this ordinance call 248-433-7745 or visit the website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Fire/BurningOrdinances.htm

Make sure your smoke



detectors are working. A smoke detector should be located on every floor and in each bedroom of your home. Test your smoke detectors once a month and change the batteries twice a year. Making and practicing an escape plan with your family can be the difference between life and death if a fire occurs. Fire can grow and spread very quickly. For more information on escape plans contact the Fire Prevention Division of the Fire Department at 248-433-7745.

Fire Department wins Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has been awarded a 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) of \$127,500. Assistant Fire Chief Lyal Bigger, Lt. Fire Inspector Pete Vlahos and firefighter Mike Scott researched, developed and wrote the grant, which will provide the money to purchase new cardiac monitors, laptops for rescue vehicles, and tuition money to send six firefighters to paramedic school.

AFG grants are awarded only after a very extensive and



Continuing training and updated equipment help maintain high standards.

competitive process. In this particular case, 30,000 departments were competing for the awards. After Fire Department personnel have researched equipment needs and consulted with other municipalities, the grant is written and submitted to FEMA.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has been very successful in winning AFG money since the grants were first instituted in 2001. In 2003

we received AFG money to purchase the Fire Safety Smoke House; in 2005, we were awarded a Wellness and Fitness grant that provided for the purchase of fitness equipment for all fire stations; and in 2008 we received a grant to purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus units for firefighters. In a tight economy, grant money helps the Fire Department maintain its high standards in training and service.

Be mindful of your neighbors as you enjoy the Township's safety paths



The warmer weather of spring means more residents out enjoying the Township safety paths. Please remember as you enjoy the paths to be mindful of your neighbors. Be sure to pick up after your pets and to properly dispose of any trash. Bikers should be aware that walkers may not hear them. They should alert walkers when they are approaching from behind. Both walkers and bikers should be aware that private driveways intersect the safety paths. Use caution and watch for cars that may be backing down the driveways.

Do you know what to do in an emergency?



Check the Township website for information about calling 9-1-1. You will find helpful tips, useful phone numbers and Frequently Asked Questions.

Bloomfield Living... A Brilliant Move

Enter a video contest to spread the word. Win a unique prize!



Most Township residents already know that Bloomfield Township is a great place to live, and now we are setting our sights on telling the rest of the world.

In partnership with Bloomfield Hills Schools, Bloomfield Township Public Library and the City of Bloomfield Hills, the Township is kicking off a campaign to encourage potential homebuyers to consider the Bloomfield area when shopping for houses. In addition to our combined traditional communica-

tion methods, we are sponsoring a video contest. Residents of all ages are invited to create their own Public Service Announcement (PSA) that will promote the excellent public schools, neighborhood amenities or public services.

Winning PSAs will be posted on YouTube and the websites of the "Bloomfield Living... A Brilliant Move" partners. They will also run on the Bloomfield Hills Schools and Bloomfield Township cable channels (Channel 16 and Channel 15 respectively).

Winners will receive one of three prizes:

- A family-style dinner for 8 at the Bloomfield Township Fire Department's Central

Station, prepared by Township firefighters. Includes a ride on the fire truck and an opportunity for the kids to dress up in firefighter suit.

- Meet and greet with former Dick Purtan show announcer Big Al, who will record your voicemail greeting on your phone.

- Birthday party for 12 at the Bowers Farm, with cake, hayride and games.

To create and submit a video, you can do it yourself or enlist professional support. (Entries will be judged on content, not technical quality.) To do it yourself, use your own cell phone or other video camera. Upload it to YouTube and send a link to

info@bloomfield.org. Once uploaded, get your friends to view and rate the video.

For professional assistance, contact Bloomfield Community Television, (email address and phone) and ask to schedule an appointment with one of the staff production specialists. They will take care of the technical steps and send it to YouTube.

Winners will be selected by number of views, viewer ratings, and judges' discretion. Judges will be representatives of the "Bloomfield Living... A Brilliant Move" partners.

All entries must be submitted by April 30.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

433-7700	Administration
433-7712	Accounting
433-7710	Assessor's Office
433-7715	Building Dept.
433-7702	Clerk's Office
433-7790	Community Cable
594-2800	Engineering & Env.
433-7745	Fire Non-Emergency
433-7795	Planning Dept
433-7750	Police Department
433-7750	Administration
433-7755	Non-Emergency
433-7757	Animal Welfare
433-7760	Investigations
433-7775	Alarm Info
433-7777	Property
433-7776	Records
433-7776	Public Works
594-2800	Road Division
594-2800	Water & Sewer
723-3500	Senior Services
335-2813	Adult Day Service
433-7705	Treasurer's Office

4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD
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BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



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