

2021 Summer Newsletter



**Rik Kowall
Supervisor**

Check out our new website:
www.whitelaketwp.com

Join us on Facebook:
WHITE LAKE TWP

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE



This past year has been like no other. All of us faced challenges and unknown territory with the COVID-19 pandemic. We are finally beginning to reach the other side. The vaccine has given us a tool of hope against an unforgivable foe.

When the mandatory shut down occurred last year, we quickly learned to "Zoom". This was crucial to continue business and to stay in touch with you.

Residents have been patient and understanding. Thank you for that! Our staff has strived to keep serving you as efficiently as possible during these difficult times. They continue to do an outstanding job! I want to give a special shout out to our White Lake first responders. They are top notch and never missed a beat! Additionally, I am pleased to announce our own Fire Marshall, John Holland has been promoted to Fire Chief! Congratulations John!

We have been very busy inside the Township Offices. We are moving forward with the community planning of our proposed Civic Center, Triangle Trail, and Stanley Park. In addition, we are in progress on a 2.2 mile water main extension plan approved in conjunction with the Huron Valley School District. See the DPS update on page 2.

We are also excited to announce that in March of this year, we launched our new website, which we hope will allow us to serve you even better. Please visit us at www.whitelaketwp.com and click subscribe on the home page to sign up to receive our newsletters electronically. You may also subscribe to receive electronic meeting notices for our various Boards, Commissions, and Committees. Additionally, on our website homepage, we have integrated a link to our Facebook page where we may post other community minded items or you may go directly to Facebook and search **White Lake Twp.**

Please note: The Township will have Friday summer hours again this year. Beginning the week of June 7th through September 3rd, the Township Summer Hours will be:

Monday thru Thursday 8 am to 5 pm

Friday 8 am to Noon

Rik Kowall, Supervisor

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Planning Department is very busy with various commercial and residential projects. In the southeast quadrant of the Township, construction is progressing on 500 residential units across multiple projects. More information can be found on these projects by contacting our department at **248-698-3300 X-5.**

Stanley Park clean up is under way and the park is now open for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The Township has applied for a Land and Water Conservation grant for development funds for the park. The award timeline notification for this grant is Fall 2022. In May we received a \$50,000 grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. foundation for the Triangle Trail project mentioned above by the Supervisor.

Our Township fields and pavilions are available for rental. Please visit our website Parks and Recreation page at www.whitelaketwp.com to see park amenities and rental pricing information. For park updates, you may also follow us on our Facebook page at **White Lake Township Parks and Recreation.**

Sean O'Neil AICP, Planning Director

CLERK'S OFFICE

We would like to remember our late Deputy Clerk, Bill Bullard, Jr., whom we lost suddenly at the beginning of my term.

Bill has left an enormous void in public service. I will be forever grateful for his mentorship and he will always have a special place in my heart. I know Bill would be the first to remind me that despite our sadness and personal loss, we must step outside our grief and move forward for the good of the people we serve.



It is because of Bill's leadership that I am pleased to announce that I have recently sworn in Douglas Santiago as our new Deputy Clerk. Mr. Santiago brings over 30 years of experience serving in local government. Mr. Santiago will be a tremendous asset not only to the Clerk's office, but to the residents of White Lake Township.

We have been busy getting to know our new office and the residents we serve. We have been working on moving our Township records to a secure and temperature controlled facility, and setting up improved processes for our office. Please note, during the summer of 2021, the Township Clerk's office plans to open a new section in the White Lake Cemetery for the sale of lots.

Anthony L. Noble, Clerk

Treasurer's Office

Property Tax Payments - Payment in the form of cash or check is accepted at the counter of the Treasurer's Department in the Township offices. Payment may also be made online at www.whitelaketwp.com. See the "Pay Local Taxes" link on the Treasurer's page of the website or the online payments button on the home page. Fees are charged for online payments.



Credit Cards - Now being accepted for Water Bills, Building Permits and Dog Licenses. A convenience fee will be charged for all credit card transactions.

Summer 2021 Property Taxes - Summer taxes are payable through September 14, 2021, without late fees. Please include your phone number on your check or tax remittance slip in case there are questions.

Dog Licenses - Dog licenses expire on December 31st each year. A license is required once a dog reaches the age of four months. A current rabies certificate is required. Dog licenses may be purchased online through Oakland County at <https://www.oakgov.com/petadoption/pages/dog-license.aspx> or at the Township offices Treasurer window.

Retirement - Deputy, Lisa Reaser, retired from our department after almost 20 years of service to our residents. *We wish Lisa a happy retirement! We welcome Kim Patton as our new Deputy Treasurer.*

Mike Roman, Treasurer

Ordinance

Contact Jason Hudson at **248-698-3300 X-134** to report ordinance issues in the Township or go on-line to the Ordinance page to report them electronically at www.whitelaketwp.com.

Jason Hudson, Ordinance Officer



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The past year has been a challenging year for most people and we are very happy to report that the men and women of the police department have been working hard throughout the entire pandemic. We have been able to continue many of our services to the residents of White Lake Township including; vacation house checks, neighborhood patrols, Shop with a Cop, drunk driving initiatives, gun permits, emergency calls, and accident investigations.

However, we have sorely missed interacting with you, our residents, on many of our outreach programs. We are chomping at the bit to resume our Citizens' Academy, Neighborhood Association meetings, Police Open House, Police Youth Academy and much more!

As a friendly reminder, with spring in full swing and summer quickly approaching, we want to encourage everyone to join our **#9PMRoutine**. Every night at 9 pm, you should remember to do the following:

- Remove valuables from your vehicle
- Lock your vehicle doors
- Close your garage door
- Close and lock your exterior doors
- Turn on your exterior lights

Don't forget to like us on Facebook at **White Lake Township Police** where we post all of our current programs, lost animals, and important notices that matter to you!

Dan Keller, Chief of Police

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

We continue to be very busy even during the pandemic. This year we have processed 1,230 permits to date, 55 of which were new home permits.

Permits are required for roofs and windows. Remind your contractors that permits are necessary for these projects. Permits are also required for new homes, additions, renovations, decks, new furnaces, A/C units and other building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing projects.

Building permits provide the means for our Building Official and Inspectors to protect us by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction.

Please call us at **248-698-3300 X-2** for any questions regarding construction projects in the area or permitting questions.

Nick Spencer, Building Official

GARBAGE & RECYCLING INFO

Green For Life (GFL) is the company contracted by the Township to pick up garbage, recycling, yard waste, and bulk items. For garbage questions or concerns, call GFL Customer Service at **1-844-464-3587**.

-A larger, 65-gallon wheeled recycling cart (with lid) may now be purchased for \$65 by calling **GFL at 1-844-464-3587**. Also, call GFL directly if your garbage cart or bin needs to be replaced.

-Bulk items can be placed at the curb on your garbage day for pick-up. No call ahead is required. Visit our garbage & recycling web page at www.whitelaketwp.com for accepted items.

-Please bag all garbage before placing in the cart to ensure all items make it into the truck on windy days and to keep carts clean.

-Services will be delayed by ONE day if your pick-up day falls on or after the following holidays during the business week: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

-2021 yard waste pick-up runs March 29 thru December 10.

-Recycling Tips: NO plastic bags or Styrofoam containers. Plastics labeled #1-7 only. No greasy pizza boxes. Please rinse containers before placing in recycling bin/cart.

The Supervisor's office has secured a free recycling program in which residents can earn coupons for recycling. Look for a mailer from GFL with details regarding how to use this program.

Assessing Department

FIRE DEPARTMENT



We would like to welcome our new Fire Marshall, Jason Hanifen, to his newly sworn in position. Mr. Hanifen has been with the Township since 1999 and we look forward to working with him in his new position.

You may obtain a burn permit at the Township or by visiting our web page. Our web page is now housed on the Township website at www.whitelaketwp.com. Please visit us there for more information regarding our department.

John Holland, Fire Chief

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

New Iron Filtration plant is coming beginning fall of 2021!

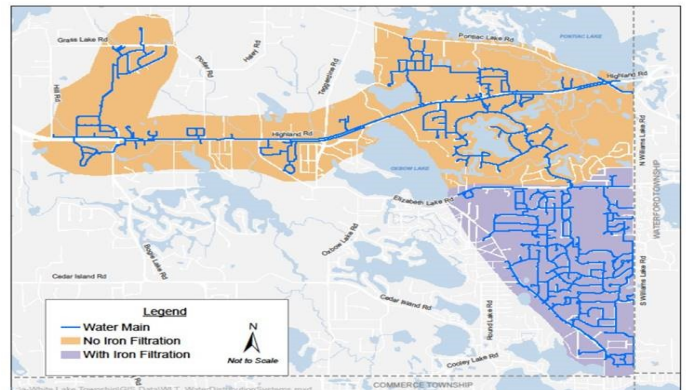


White Lake Township is partnering with Huron Valley School District on a project to bring Township water to the Lakeland Campus. In addition to over 2 miles of watermain to the Lakeland Campus, the project will add iron filtration to the Aspen Meadows Treatment Plant. This is the second largest wellhouse and the main supply for the north half of the Township water system.

In 2017, the Township finished adding iron filtration to the Village Acres Treatment Plant. Village Acres is the largest wellhouse in the Township system which supplies iron free water to the south section of our water system.

The completion of this new project will give White Lake the ability to supply iron free water to the entire Township water system during normal water use periods. Construction is set to begin in the fall of 2021 and will take approximately one year to complete.

Aaron Potter, DPS Director



ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Homeowners who both own and occupy their home as of June 1st are eligible for a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE), which reduces the tax rate of the property. Homeowners can only claim one PRE at a time. (PRE status is listed on your tax bill.) You must file a Request to Rescind PRE when you no longer own and/or occupy the home as your principal residence.

The July Board of Review will meet this year on July 20th, 2021 to correct mutual mistakes of fact or clerical errors on the assessment roll. Poverty appeals and affidavits for disabled veterans, who meet the criteria for an exemption, are also handled at the July Board of Review.

Jeanine Smith, Assessor

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER

We have missed seeing our residents this past year. We plan to open in stages starting June 1, 2021. Please call Dublin for further information at **248-698-2394** or visit our web page at www.whitelaketwp.com. For senior and disabled transportation, please call **248-887-4979** or visit www.ridewota.org for more details.

Kathy Gordinear, Director