



Sumpter Country Times

Summer 2018



From the Office of the Supervisor: John W. Morgan

As we welcome in the warm weather our thoughts also go to chores that we've been planning to do when the warm weather arrived. Cleaning up around our premises might be one such chore. Free landfill passes are available at the Clerk's office, in order for you to take large loads to the landfill. There are also numerous hazardous drop-off dates through Wayne County available. You can check our website for locations and dates. Recycling is also available at the Township hall on Saturday mornings. Please fill out the recycle survey.

The spring thaw is usually the worst time of the year for our roads. This year is no exception, the roads in our Township are bad to put it mildly. We must not forget, though, these roads are County roads and must be maintained by the County. The township has neither the authority nor the resources to maintain County roads. We can and we do contact the County when we receive a complaint about a road and we're politely told in so many words to "get in line". I personally drive these roads throughout the Township at least once weekly and I know first-hand they are horrendous. The Supervisor's office will continue to take your complaints and we'll continue call the road commission if you don't get through to the County. The number for the County road commission is 888-762-3273. Get a ticket number.

We have just concluded our annual Sumpter Fest activities at our fairgrounds and as usual the recreation committee did a fantastic job. The car show, demolition derbies and fireworks were all well attended.

"Supervisor, John W. Morgan," - continued, page 2 . . .

... **"From the Office of the Supervisor: John W. Morgan," continued from page 1**

On August 7, 2018, a primary election will be held. Due to the appointment of board members since the last election, these members must now run for office. Please get out and vote on August 7 for the leaders that you feel will best shape and guide this Township for the next two years. The Township future will be determined to a large extent when the voters will determine who some of their leaders will be for the remaining two years.

Currently, the Township is undergoing a re-construction on our government channel number 12. The Board approved a total re-vamping of the channel to better serve all of you. Along with all of the upgrades, the meeting room at the township hall will be upgraded with new sound systems and TV monitors for presentations for everyone to be better informed.

As your Supervisor, I am committed to serving our citizens and am always available to listen to your concerns. Please feel free to call or visit the Supervisor's office during any business day. You can be sure that your concerns will be listened to with respect and taken seriously. Be assured that every effort will be made to address your concerns. The number to the Supervisor's office is 734-461-6201 ext. 2227.

I invite you to attend our Township Board meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

God bless all of you and let's work together so that Sumpter Township will continue to be the place where you'll find "Country Living At Its Finest".



Summer 2018



RECYCLE SURVEY

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN CURBSIDE RECYCLING? YES NO

IF YOU WANT THE CONVIENCE OF CURBSIDE RECYCLING...FACTS TO CONSIDER
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

COST WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$10.00 PER MONTH, (ROUGH ESTIMATE).

TRUCKS WOULD BE ON THE ROADS TWICE INSTEAD OF ONCE.

THIS WOULD BE A CHARGE TO ALL RESIDENTS, NOT JUST RECYCLE RESIDENTS.

SATURDAYS ARE OFFERED NOW AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL. WOULD YOU RATHER
HAVE EXTRA DAYS AT TOWNSHIP HALL TO BRING YOUR RECYCLE AT NO COST?

YES NO





News from Your Clerk: Esther Hurst

A letter from Esther Hurst, Clerk:

What an exciting start this year has been for me and my staff! From receiving the new election equipment last year, to the implementation of "QVF Refresh", rolled out in April by the Bureau of Elections. My staff and I have been working diligently to familiarize ourselves with the new procedures and equipment, to better serve our residents. As of August of last year we have had three school elections within our jurisdiction, but the majority of our residents haven't had the opportunity to utilize the equipment as of yet. So as we gear up for the 2018 August primary, I'd personally like to invite the residents of Sumpter Township to an open house to tryout the new election equipment on Wednesday, July 18th at 5:00 pm. I hope to see you there!



2018 Elections

On August 7, 2018, the primary elections will be held at your precinct location. A map of the precinct locations can be viewed on our website at http://sumptertwp.com/Clerks_Office.html. Absentee applications and sample ballots can be picked up at the Clerk's office during normal business hours.

Election Workers Needed

If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, please stop by the Clerk's Office to fill out an application or visit our website at www.sumptertwp.com. The following requirements are required to apply:

- U.S. Citizen and a State of MI Resident
- 16 & 17 years of age
- 18 years + must be a registered voter in the State of Michigan
- Specify a political party affiliation
- Submit an Election Inspector Application, W4, and an Employee Verification Form
- Attend a paid Election Training Session
- Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Working hours after polls open and close may vary.)
- Daily pay ranges from \$160 - \$180
- Anyone with a felony conviction is excluded from eligibility



Recycling

The Recycling Center is open on Saturdays from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The center will be closed on holiday weekends, to see a current 2017-2018 calendar you can visit our website at www.sumptertwp.com. There is no fee to recycle except for the recycling of tires. The fee schedule for recycling tires is listed below:

\$1.40 passenger and light truck tire	\$2.80 passenger and light truck tire on rim
\$5.60 semi-truck tire	\$11.20 semi-truck tire on rim
\$21.00 tractor tire	\$42.00 tractor tire on rim

The Clerk's office would personally like to THANK all of our volunteers who have assisted run the facility. **If your group is interested in becoming a volunteer for the new calendar year, please contact the Clerk's office no later than July 9th.**



Facility Rental

Sumpter Township has two parks located within the township (Banotai and Graham) which have pavilions available to rent, with a capacity of 50 people for a fee of \$50.00. Stop by the Clerk's office to see a full list of rentals or to book a facility.

Large Trash Items

If you have large items to throw away (furniture, sink, carpeting, etc.), you must call Republic Waste (877) 264-5544, for a "special pick-up", **before** setting it out at the roadside. Republic Waste will give you instructions on how you need to prepare your item for pickup.

Landfill Permits

Landfill permits are available at the Clerk's Office. You must have a current driver's license with a Sumpter Township address. You will be able to take your non-toxic items to the landfill twice a month (not to exceed a five (5) cubic yard maximum per month). The landfill is located at Clark & Oakville Waltz on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30 pm until 4:30 pm and Saturday mornings from 7:00 am until 12:30 pm.



SALE

Garage/Yard Sale Permits

The Township of Sumpter requires that all residents wishing to host a garage or yard sale obtain a permit through the Clerk's office. The permit is valid for a four (4) consecutive day sale. Residents may hold a maximum of five (5) garage sales per year. The cost is \$2 for each permit, with thirty (30) days between each garage/yard sale.



From Your Treasurer—Peggy Morgan

During the first week of July 2018 the Summer Tax Bill will be sent in the mail. The Summer Bill is the color Pink. The Treasurer's office is using pink for summer bills, and blue for the winter bills. Payment must be received by Sumpter Township Treasurer's office only. We accept cash, checks and money orders. You will have until September 14, 2018 to pay your taxes without penalty. After that date a 1% interest charge will be added monthly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Treasurer's office at (734) 461-6201 ext. 2245.

Senior citizens, disabled people, veterans and farmers may be able to delay paying summer property taxes. **Eligible** taxpayers can apply for a summer tax deferment with this office. This means that the due date would be extended to the end of February without penalty charges; but the full amount of the tax bill must be paid by the end of February.

Currently there are several programs in place to assist low-income persons with their property taxes. Senior citizens, veterans, surviving spouses of eligible veterans and disabled persons may be eligible for larger tax relief. Contact the Wayne County Department of Human Services-DHS for further information. (313) 224-6105.

Just a few reminders...

Tax bill amounts and water bill amounts can be accessed online at www.sumptertwp.com under the Treasurer's department tab. You will be directed to a link BS&A website. You can set up your account and have access to your amounts due. This is for information only, not payments. You can make payment through your own bank account and they will send a physical check to Sumpter Township.



The Treasurer's office is open Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and open late on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month until 7:00 p.m.

Summer 2018



For your convenience if the Township hall is not open, there is a drop box located to the right of the double doors on the front of the building. This is a secure location right in the Treasurer's office.

Monday, September 3, 2018, Sumpter Township will be closed for Labor Day.

Find your cycle number on your bill, and check the chart below, to estimate when you can expect your next water bill to come in the mail.

Cycle 1 – Green	Cycle 2 – Red	Cycle 4 - Black	Cycle 3 – Blue
			Cycles 5, 6 and 8 – Black
			Cycle – 7 Brown Rubbish Only
Feb 2 – May 1	Jan 2 – Apr 1	Billed Monthly	Mar 2 – Jun 1
May 2 – Aug 1	Apr 2 – Jul 1		Jun 2 – Sep 1
Aug 2 – Nov 1	Jul 2 – Oct 1		Sep 2 – Dec 1
Nov 2 – Feb 1	Oct 2 – Jan 1		Dec 2 – Mar 1



- ♦ The Treasurer's office would like to Welcome Anna Winter to the department as our new Water Clerk.
- ♦ Treasurer Peggy Morgan along with our Finance director are looking into getting an ATM in the Township Hall for the convenience of our residents who may come to pay a bill but only have a debit/credit card on them.
- ♦ Treasurer Peggy Morgan, Deputy Treasurer Janet R. Hoffman and Water Clerk Anna Winter would like to wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer!



From Your Police Department—Eric Luke, Chief of Police WAY TO GO SUMPTER TOWNSHIP!



Every few years, a new study comes out ranking the safest municipalities in Michigan. Each study varies in that the criteria used for the study is usually based on a population threshold, then use the past year's crime statistics from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

This year, Alarms.org and the National Council for Home Safety and Security released their annual list of the safest cities in Michigan. Here is the methodology they used:

"To identify the safest cities in Michigan, we reviewed the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics along with our own population data and internal research. We eliminated any cities that failed to submit a complete crime report to the FBI and removed cities with populations under 10,000.

The remaining cities were ranked based on the number of reported violent crimes (aggravated assault, murder, rape, and robbery) and property crimes (burglary, arson, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) per 1,000 people. These variables were then weighted, with violent crimes accounting for 1.5 of the total (due to their severity) than property crimes. "

While we fell just short of the population threshold of 10,000 residents to be included on this particular list, our crime rate numbers would put Sumpter Township at approximately #25. The statistics they used to compile the rankings show us at an estimated census number of 9,265 residents. We believe we're actually several hundred higher... which would make our numbers even better!

Our crime rates per 1,000 residents are as follows:

Violent Crime = .75 (yes you read that right, .75!)

Property Crime = 10.04

Summer 2018



By comparison, the averages for the State of Michigan are:

Violent Crime = 6.11

Property Crime = 23.98

As to our standing compared to neighboring communities, Canton Township is #38 (1.69 & 11.48 respectively), Huron Township is #44 (1.17 & 12.67), Van Buren Township is #84 (3.88 & 23.39) and Romulus comes in at # 111 (7.25 & 29.38). The City of Belleville, who also doesn't meet the population threshold to be included on this list has a crime rate of 1.55 violent & 23.32 property.

These excellent crime rates for Sumpter Township would not be possible but for the great partnership between the department and you, the residents we proudly serve. We thank you for being vigilant partners and continuing to report all suspicious activity to our dispatch at 734-461-6898.

Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Commission



The Sumpter Twp. Parks & Recreation building has been given a new look thankful to grants that were received from the Wayne County Parks Division. Another grant has been approved to do more improvements to the building with putting on a storage area. This should take place within the next few months.

More improvements to the parks in the up coming months that we will be asking for community involvement such as applying mulch at the children's play areas of both parks. If you ever have any questions and need information from Parks & Recreation please contact either the township hall or one of the executive board members of Parks & Recreation.

Sumpter Country Fest was good and no real problems except the heat. The Fireworks were great, entertainment was great and we thank all that came out to enjoy it with family and friends.



for the Remainder of 2018!

Family Fun Day – July 14, 2018 Noon Sharp

Don Rochon Memorial Car Show -September 16, 2018 9am

Turkey Shoot – October 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018 Registration at 11:30 am

Sumpter Twp. Children's Christmas Party—December

ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR SUMMER!



From Your Finance Dept.— Scott Holtz, Finance Director

Year End and Fiscal Audit –

Currently, Post, Smythe, Lutz and Ziel are here auditing fiscal year 2018 (April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018). With their help, we are looking at our current practices and reviewing our Internal Controls and Internal Processes to improve Sumpter Township's operations. Along with this, our Consolidated Audited Financial Reports (CAFR) will be presented to the Township Board and submitted to the State of Michigan no later than September 30, 2018.

Unfunded Pension Liability –

One of the major issues across the State of Michigan is local government's unfunded pension liability. I will receive the new statement for year ending December 31, 2017 from Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) by the end of June, 2018. Last year, our funding ratio was 74.3% funded. Many municipalities' retirements were affected during the Recession of 2008. The State of Michigan has passed new laws to make governmental units resolve unfunded balances. At Sumpter, we have been making extra payments to make up this unfunded liability without causing an impact for our residents.

Financial State of the Township –

Sumpter Township is in a good financial position. Building permits, Metro Act dollars and State Revenue Sharing have increased, bringing more dollars into the township. With that, we are consistently watching expenditures for necessity and cost savings.

A Little about me –

I have 20 years of experience in Higher Education, Non-Profit and Governmental Accounting. My Governmental Experience comes from the City of Adrian, Michigan, where I was Assistant Director of Finance and from Calhoun County, Michigan where I was the Fiscal Manager for the Treasurer's Office. I have a Bachelor of Business degree from Adrian College and I live in Adrian. I enjoy working in local municipalities to ensure residents' needs are met in a fiscally responsible environment. Please stop in and say Hi, If you have any questions or concerns.



Summer 2018

From Your Fire Chief—Joe Janusyk

There's a lot of exciting things going on at the fire department in the next couple of months. We will be having our open house on July 21st from 12-3pm. There will be a lot of fun activities for the whole family.

- Dunk Tank
- Spray Station for Kids
- Blood Pressure Station
- Fire Truck, Ambulance and Police Car
- Food and Prizes for kids



We will also be having our Annual Chicken Broil on September 9th from 12-5pm. Tickets will be available for purchase in August for this event.



Hope you all have a fun and safe summer!



to Jamie Krushlin for becoming the Fire Department's new Health and Safety Officer. And we want to Thank Captain James Stumpf for his 32 years of service with the Sumpter Fire Department. You will be greatly missed. We hope you have a happy retirement.!



Address/life Signs are still available at Township hall for \$20.00.



Sumpter Senior Center

23501 Sumpter Rd.

734-461-9373



- Free and low cost transportation & travel
- Weekly shopping & errands to Belleville
- Daily lunch served at 11:45
- Focus Hope /TEFAP food available
To qualifying individuals
- Computer Lab, WIFI, Exercise Room
- Upholstery class, Quilting, Bible Study
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise free to members
- MICAPE

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

New Medicare cards will be mailed this year!

Greenfield Village Trip July 25

Boat Cruise Lake Erie Metro Park August 1

Summer Picnic August 15 2pm

Tiger Game August 23

Senior Day at the Detroit Zoo Sept. 5

Upholstery Class starts Sept. 12

Sept 14 & 15 rent a table to sell your treasures

\$10.00 indoor rummage sale

**Monthly Lunch trips to various Detroit Area
Restaurants**



Maryann Watson
Senior Center Specialist
734-461-9373

Senior Liaison
Clerk Esther Hurst

Senior Advisory Board

Karen Mickens Margaret Rochon

Barbara Thomason Joe Wilson



• Cardio Drumming Class Free

Mission Statement (Condensed)

It is the expressed mission of the Sumpter Township Senior Center to do all within its restraints of time, funding and manpower to:

Provide a safe and enjoyable environment wherein seniors may congregate.

Act as a liaison between area seniors, social service agencies, Wayne Co. & Sumpter Twp. Admins. Create activities promoting health, recreation, education socialization empowerment.

Open to suggestions

Comply with all State of Michigan non-discriminatory precepts.





WIC Program

Wayne County Health Department has a WIC Office located at 23501 Sumpter Road (Corner of Sumpter and Dunn). If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, or have a child up to the age of five, you could be eligible to receive healthy food and nutrition education to help your money go further. Call 734-461-6419 and make an appointment to see if you are income eligible for services WIC has to offer. No walk-ins.

Community Food Bank

Nourishing Gardens

If you are in need of food, please do not hesitate to come down. Nourishing Gardens will be able to assist in providing food for all families. If you have any questions, please call at 734-713-7715, or visit their website at www.nourishinggardens.org. Nourishing Gardens hours of operation: Sunday 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. Location: 24831 Sumpter Rd., Belleville (Between Wear & Willow Roads).

WAYNE COUNTY NUTRITION

SENIOR DINING

call 734-461-1186 to RSVP



Enjoy a hot, well-balanced meal, with friends Monday thru Friday 11:45

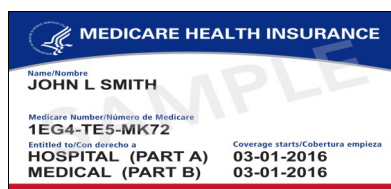
\$3.00 suggested donation \$5.00 for Guests

For persons 60 years or older

Sumpter Senior Center — 23501 Sumpter Road

For Meals on Wheels call Wayne County @ 800-851-1454, or 734-326-5202

New Medicare cards are coming See page 15 . . .



Medicare is mailing new Medicare cards to all people with Medicare now. View an example of the current card by visiting <https://www.medicare.gov/newcard/>

Water & Sewer Department—Ken Kunka, Superintendent

Water Customers:

Reading your water meter, which is located in the basement or utility room, and keeping track of how much water your household uses will help identify any unusual water usage. In just 10 minutes you can search your home for leaks and crack down on any water waste. Worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, an overset humidifier, a leak in your water heater and leaking showerheads all are easily correctable and can save on your water bill.

It's important that our customers receive accurate bills for the amount of water consumed by their household. Thus, it is imperative that when Township Water Department leaves a notice at your property requesting access to our metering equipment, that an appointment be promptly scheduled with the water billing department at (734) 461-6201 ex 2242.

In the event of a fire, could a firefighter easily find the fire hydrant nearest your home? Does it get buried under a pile of snow in the winter or covered with overgrowth during the summer. Our DPW crews are at work trying to keep the hydrants uncovered during all seasons but various job responsibilities limit the time required for this task. The Township Fire Department and DPW are encouraging residents to “adopt-a-fire-hydrant” near your home to keep clear from snow and over growth. This will help ensure hydrants are visible and speed the response time in case of a fire.



Sewer Customers:

The Environment One grinder pump is capable of accepting and pumping a wide range of materials. However certain materials can cause damage to your pump and might result in you being charged with costly repair bills.

... continued, page 15



WATER TESTING

WHAT'S IN YOUR WATER?

Sumpter Township Water Department working with GLWA and MDEQ routinely tests the Township water to insure that a high quality product is delivered to your homes.



"Sewer Customers," . . . Continued from page 14

- ⇒ Please **DO NOT** introduce these materials plus any similar materials into your system.
- ⇒ **Kitchen grease , Glass, Cotton swabs, Metal, Aquarium gravel, Seafood shells, Personal / cleaning wipes and sponges, Plastic objects (toys, utensils, etc.), Sanitary napkins or tampons, Diapers, socks, rags or cloth, Disposable toothbrushes, Kitty litter, Cigarette butts, Syringes, Latex / Vinyl items, Dental floss.**
- ⇒ Caution: Kitchen garbage disposals do not keep grease/oil out of the plumbing system.
- ⇒ In addition you must never introduce into any sewer: **Explosives, Flammable material, Strong chemicals, Gasoline, Lubricating oil and/or grease.**
- ⇒ **IN PERIODS OF DISUSE:** If your home is left unoccupied for longer than a couple of weeks, perform the following procedure on your grinder pump system.
- ⇒ **PURGE THE SYSTEM:** Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Immediately turn off the water and allow the grinder pump to run until it shuts off.
- ⇒ **DO NOT DISCONNECT THE POWER TO THE UNIT**
- ⇒ **IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A BROWN OUT OR POWER OUTAGE, SHUT OFF YOUR GRINDER PUMP UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED AND USE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE DURING SUCH TIMES.**

"New Medicare cards," . . . Continued from page 13

- ◆ When you're enrolled in Medicare, you'll get your red, white, and blue Medicare card in the mail. If you're automatically enrolled, you'll get your red, white, and blue Medicare card in the mail 3 months before your 65th birthday or your 25th month of getting disability benefits. Your Medicare card shows that you have Medicare health insurance. It shows whether you have Part A (Hospital Insurance), Part B (Medical Insurance) or both, and it shows the date your coverage starts.

Be sure to carry your card with you when you're away from home. Let your doctor, hospital, or other health care provider see your card when you need hospital, medical or other health services.



*****ECRWSS****

Local

Residential Customer

PRSRT
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ROMULUS, MI
PERMIT NO. 34



23480 Sumpter Road
Belleville, MI 48111
Phone: (734) 461-6201

All Postal Customers
Sumpter Township, MI 48111

Sumpter Township

Board of Trustees

- **John W. Morgan, Supervisor**
- **Esther Hurst, Clerk**
- **Peggy Morgan, Treasurer**
- **Sheena Barnes, Trustee**
- **Don LaPorte, Trustee**
- **Matthew Oddy, Trustee**
- **Don Swinson, Trustee**

