

APRIL 2021

Your Township Board

Supervisor.....Roger Seely
 Clerk.....Patrice Rose
 Treasurer.....Dave Vonk
 Trustee.....Ed Meny
 Trustee.....Tom Milnikel
 Trustee.....Ron Griffin
 Trustee.....Melissa Hahn
 Manager.....Denise Cook

Other Township Officials

Building Inspector.....Troy Gano
 Ordinance Officer.....Troy Gano
 Assessor.....Sue Rice
 Chief of Police.....Randy Leng

Township Meetings

Township Board of Trustees
 6 p.m. 1st Monday of the month
 (Board Workshop at 12:00 Noon)

Planning Commission
 6:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday Monthly

Zoning Board of Appeals
 7 p.m. 2nd Wednesday
 (As Requested)

**MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE
 TOWNSHIP HALL AND ARE
 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Township Hours
 The Township Hall is open
 Monday-Friday
 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



"Update" is published periodically in an effort to inform residents of the many activities in St. Joseph Charter Township. Inquiries or future articles should be directed to the Manager.

FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

Roger Seely, Supervisor

ROAD MILLAGE

On behalf of myself and the Board of Trustees, I send sincere thanks to our residents for supporting the road millage that was voted in per the November election. The successful passage of this millage allows the Township to make more funding available to the Berrien County Road Department to maintain and bring roads in the Township to a "good" rating. Thank you for your support!

SPRING CLEANUP PASSES

Landfill passes will be available for pickup at the Township Hall beginning April 12th. Passes are good for rubbish drop-off at Orchard Hill Landfill in Watervliet on the following dates: April 23-24, and May 14-15. A household may have one (1) pass for rubbish clean up from that property. If you have any questions on what is allowed, please call the landfill office at 468-3658.



Yard waste pickup through Best Way begins April 1st and runs through November 30th. The landfill does not accept plastic bags. Be sure to use paper bags or containers labeled "yard waste".

For hazardous waste disposal, please call Berrien County: 269-983-7111, ext. 8234 or go to their website, www.berriencounty.org/recycle. Hazardous waste would include household/garden chemicals and pesticides, medications, tire, and electronics.

YARD MAINTENANCE

In order to minimize rodent harborage and to keep our neighborhoods looking tidy and well-cared for, we ask that residents adhere to the maximum grass height of 6".



If we see or receive a complaint that property is overgrown, a notice will be posted to bring it into compliance. If there is no response to the notice, the grass will be cut, without further notice, and that property will be invoiced for the charges. Any unpaid invoices will be placed on the winter property tax bill. Please note this extra charge on your winter tax bill could affect your monthly mortgage payment. The requirement for mowing applies to all properties, even those with deep lots. The exception for full mowing is undeveloped, wooded lots, which must be kept maintained at least around the perimeters. Please assure that your neighborhood is a great place to live in by keeping your property picked up, trimmed and mowed. Your neighbors and the Township thank you!



FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK ... *continued*

Roger Seely, Supervisor

PET ORDINANCE

If you bring your four legged furry friend to any Township park or trail it must be on a leash as stated in Township ordinances. Please be courteous and, if needed, clean up after your pet. "Doggie" bags have been placed on the trails and in the parks for your convenience.

**FIRE IMPROVEMENT MILLAGE FUND**

In December of 2018 the Township began collecting taxes for the ten year Fire Improvement Millage that was approved by the voters at the August 2018 election. In October the Board of Trustees approved the purchase of a Rosenbauer fire truck at a cost not to exceed \$725,000. The truck has been ordered, is being built, and is expected to be completed in 2021.

PARKS AND TRAILS MILLAGE FUND

In December of 2018 the Township began collecting taxes for the ten year Parks and Trails Millage that was approved by the voters at the August 2018 election. In 2020, approximately \$23,000 was used from this fund to construct a new pavilion at Carronde Park and to furnish it with trash receptacles and picnic tables.



Much of the work was completed by Township staff. Please see the Parks Department section of this newsletter for more information on 2021 projects and to view plans for 2022 and 2023 parks and trail improvements.

REVENUE SHARING

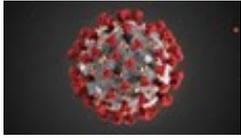
In order to receive CVT revenue sharing payments the Township must meet all State requirements. One of the requirements is to complete and publish an annual performance dashboard and provide public access to that information. St. Joseph Charter Township's Dashboard is available on the website. Visit www.sjct.org and click on **Public Hub** in the upper right to view the dashboard information.

THE 2020 CENSUS

The Census count ended October 15, 2020. 84.3% of the households in St. Joseph Charter Township self-responded to the census. This is a 3.4% higher self-response rate than for the 2010 Census and the highest self-response rate of any community in Berrien County. Thank you to all of you who self-responded! As of January 28, the Census Bureau's schedule to complete and reveal the official ten-year population appropriation points to April 30, 2021. However, the Census Bureau advises that this date remains fluid and could continue to change as data processing continues.



FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK ... *continued*Roger Seely, Supervisor

COVID-19 and the Township:

At the time this newsletter went to print, per the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services pandemic directives, the Township Hall entrance continued to be locked. Residents are urged to avoid in-person contact and use one or more of the tools listed below to access Township services.

If none of the options listed below work for you, in-person service is available. To access in-person service, ring the bell on the main entrance door of the Township Hall. A staff member will allow you to enter via a buzzer system. There may be a short delay as Township staff will buzz you in when they have finished helping those that arrived before you. A proper face covering is required except when an individual is medically unable. Please note that Halloween masks or face coverings with holes in them are not acceptable.

Tools to access Township services:

- Permit forms, Assessing information forms, Tax information and much more can be accessed from the Township website under *Departments* at www.sjct.org. Also, check out the main page of the website for current general information.
- You may email the Township at info@sjct.org.
- Secured, camera monitored, and frequently checked drop boxes, both curbside and at the building to the left of the main entrance door are available to drop off payments and other documents.
- You may send information via postal mail to St. Joseph Charter Township, P.O. Box 147, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
- You may phone the Township at [\(269\) 429-7703](tel:(269) 429-7703) for information.
- TextMyGov is a new smartphone texting application that allows you to text in a number to look up Township information. You may also text in a number that will allow you to receive notifications from the Township. See the [TextMyGov](#) section in this newsletter for more information on how to get started.
- The Township also sends information to its [Facebook page, St. Joseph Charter Township](#).

We appreciate your understanding as we work to keep our residents and employees safe and healthy.

Napier Avenue Non/Motorized Pathway:

In the past four years, the Township was involved in a study, applied for and received approval for a CMAQ grant, and is now beginning planning for construction of non-motorized pathways on both sides of Napier Avenue from Miami to Colfax. Wightman and Associates has begun engineering, bids will be solicited for the construction portion of the project, and completion of construction is planned for 2022.



Receive Township Alerts

St. Joseph Charter Township

Sign up to receive township notifications via text message.
Opt-in to the following program:

- ✓ Township Notifications keyword: **SJCTOWNSHIP**

Get Started:

Text in the above keyword to: **91896**

What to Expect:

- After the initial keyword is sent, you will receive a confirmation message asking you to reply YES to verify opt-in.
- You will receive up to 4 text messages a month with a notification for each alert category selection.
- Message and data rates may apply. Check with your carrier for more details.

How to Opt-Out:

Text STOP at any time to remove yourself from the notification list.

View terms and privacy policy info at: textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions Msg & Data rates apply. Msg frequency varies. Text HELP for contact info.

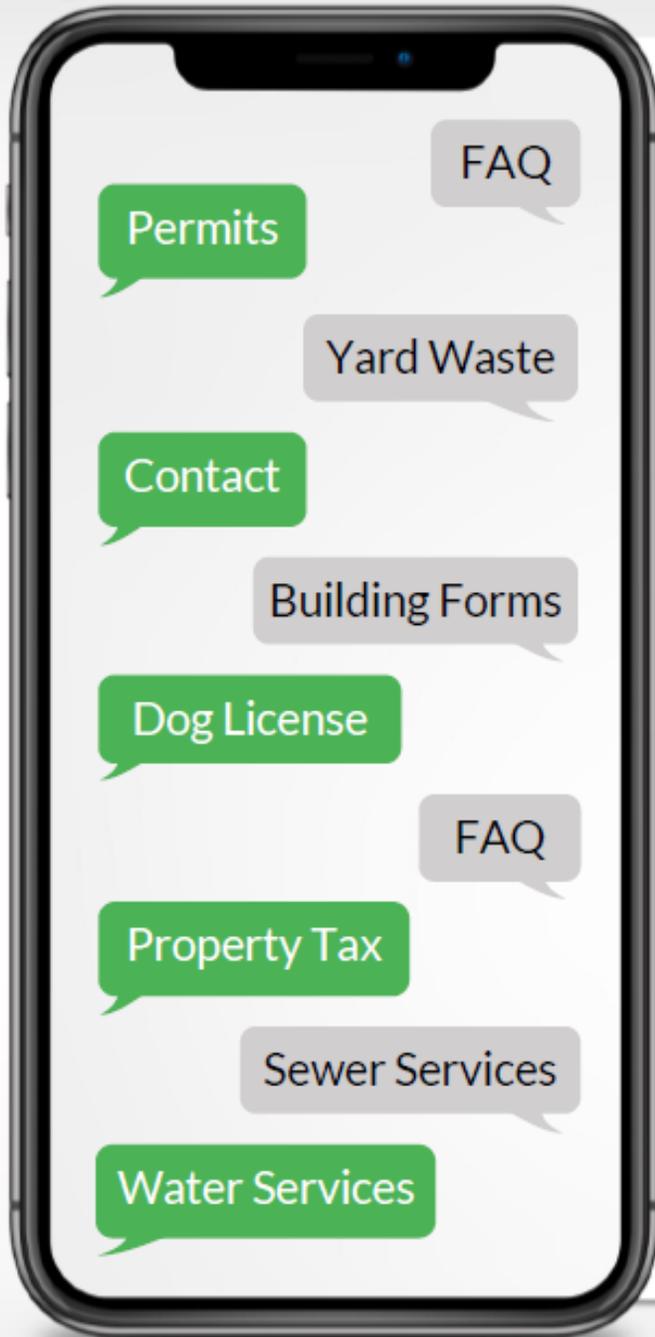


Powered by

TextMyGov

St Joseph Charter Township

Report Issues & Find Answers



Connect Via Text

Introducing a new way to skip a phone call and use your mobile phone's text messaging service to quickly report issues and find information on the go.

24/7 Assistance

Smart texting technology searches keywords to provide assistance anytime, day or night.

Get Started

Text **Hi** or any of the other featured keywords to:

(269)421-4001

View terms and privacy policy info at: textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions
 Msg & Data rates apply. Msg frequency varies. Text STOP at any time to opt-out.
 Text HELP for contact info.

Powered by

TextMyGov

POLICE / PUBLIC SAFETY*Randy Leng, Chief of Police*

Spring is fast approaching and we once again will experience cars being broken into. As we have stated in the past, please do not leave anything of value inside your vehicles where they can be seen. Only on very rare occasions have car windows been broken to gain access to the items. Most always the car doors are left unlocked. Please help us out by **locking your car doors**.



Please report any suspicious persons or incidents to the Police Department. It takes all of us working together in order to keep St. Joseph Charter Township's crime rate low.

We distribute a lot of information by social media, mainly Facebook. If you have not done so, please like us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SJTwpPD. We try and update residents on upcoming community events involving our Police and Fire Departments, along with posting information on what is happening in the neighboring municipalities.

Please note that the Police Department is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to serve our residents. If you need to speak to an Officer call dispatch at 269-983-3060. In an emergency always dial 911. Our office number is 269-429-6890.

ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH*Lt. Rick Knapp, Coordinator***NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

St. Joseph Township Police Department encourages all residents to become involved in the Neighborhood Watch Program. The ultimate goal is to establish the program in all neighborhoods of St. Joseph Charter Township.

Township residents who wish to become involved in the Neighborhood Watch Program may contact Lt. Rick Knapp at (269) 429-6890 for further information. Lt. Knapp will be conducting several brief training sessions for participants and block captains in the coming months.

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT*Sue Rice, Assessor*

The State Tax Commission requires that assessors annually inspect a percentage of the properties in each class. New photos of the homes included in this percentage will be taken.

Over the years changes are sometimes made to your property, things added, and sometimes things are removed. The only way your record card can be accurate is by making sure that any changes you make (or have made in the past) have been accounted for. If, for example, you recently removed an inground swimming pool and did not get a demolition permit we would not know it was gone and it would remain on record card and you would be paying taxes on something that is no longer there. Remember, **YOU** pay property taxes based upon the information I have in my files – and if that information is not current then neither is your assessed and taxable value.

In February you received an Assessment Change Notice showing your new 2021 Assessed and Taxable Values. It has a section that says...% **Exempt As "Homeowner's Principal Residence"**. If this property is your principal residence, not a second/vacation home, as noted on your Michigan driver's license, your Michigan voter's registration card, and the address you file your Michigan Income Tax from then the % here should be 100%. If it is 0 and you feel that it is incorrect please contact this office as soon as possible as this % is used in computing your **summer tax bill** as either Homestead or Non-Homestead. It is a little number but it makes a **HUGE** difference on your tax bill. So please take a second look at your notice and check – if you cannot find your notice you can call and we can check for you. It is much easier to correct this now before the summer bills are processed.

As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 269-932-0272 or srice@sjct.org.

FROM THE CLERK - Elections*Danielle Riegel, Election Coordinator***2021 Election Information**

At this point, we have no elections scheduled for 2021.

A HUGE Thank You

The election staff at St. Joseph Charter Township would like to thank all of the election inspectors who stepped up to the plate and made the November 3rd Presidential Election a huge success!

From working in the polling places, to processing absentee ballots, we could not have done it without you. Everyone of you attended training (some multiple trainings) and worked long hours on election day - all during a global pandemic!

Thank you to the St. Joseph Charter Township Public Works and Police Department. They assist in setting up the polling locations and bring everything back to our building after each election.

The staff, from the building department to the police department to the manager's office, helped stuff absentee ballot envelopes and verify signatures. It was truly a group effort – thank you.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for serving the residents of St. Joseph Charter Township and doing your best to keep everyone safe.

The next time you go in to vote, please be sure to thank the person behind the table/counter. Without them, we wouldn't be able to hold our elections at full capacity and without flaw.

I would also like to thank the residents of St. Joseph Charter Township for your patience and bearing with us during the Presidential Election. With an unprecedented number of absentee ballots, changes coming down from the Bureau of Elections, and delays that were out of our control, you understood and some even offered to help where they could. Thank you for your understanding and know that we will always do our very best to be sure that every vote is counted.

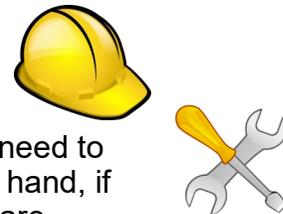
If you ever have any election or voter registration questions, please feel free to contact Tammy Conrad or myself, Danielle Riegel, at (269) 429-7703.



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Troy Gano, Building Inspector

Please remember that building projects such as decks, additions, re-roofing, window replacement, etc. require permits. You may want to tackle some of these projects yourself, and as a homeowner you are allowed to do so, but you need to obtain the required permits and ensure that the work is inspected. On the other hand, if you were to have a contractor do any of this work, you want to ensure that they are licensed as a residential builder in Michigan and that they obtain the required permits for work being done at your home. As always, if you have a question on permitting or general inquiry, we would rather you ask the question than have us come to you and make you change something that could have been avoided. Let's build safely and keep our community looking great.



Visit our link to obtain permit applications and view codes currently enforced.

<http://sjct.org/departments/building-dept>.

ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT

Troy Gano, Ordinance Enforcement

In order to keep our Township looking great, here are a few ordinances that regularly come up as issues:



Lawn maintenance such as keeping it mowed and not to exceed 6 inches in height. Please note that if your grass gets too high, it will be posted and mowed by the Township contractor at your expense.

Parking in the road right of way and/or on unimproved surface, such as grass, is not allowed in the Township.

Property maintenance such as junk and debris on a property or peeling paint and surface conditions in disrepair need to be tended to. We will be sending out notices to become compliant as we see these issues. We currently enforce the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code.

Rental properties must be registered with the Township, however we will only be doing inspections if the unit is vacant, due to Covid-19 restrictions. If the unit is occupied we will send you a homeowner affidavit that you will need to complete, sign, and return for this two year cycle until restrictions are loosened.

House numbers are required to be on the front of the primary structure and at least 4 inches in height, so as to be visible from the road.



PARKS / PUBLIC WORKS

Dave Rindfield, Director

Parks

Parks officially open April 1st and, weather pending, water should be turned on by April 15th.

MDNR Grants...2019 Maiden Lane Playground Structure Project LWC grant application - The \$110,000 grant that the Township applied for was awarded to the Township and project construction was originally scheduled for the spring and summer of 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic put a hold on the project. The funds are still secured and we are hoping to have the structure completed this year...hopefully for the annual National Night Out which takes place in August.

The 2019 **Carronde Park Water Trail Connection & Fishing Platform Development Project Land and Water Conservation Fund grant application** for installation of fishing platforms, a walkway along the river bank, and an all-inclusive kayak launch was approved for funding. Permits will be applied for in 2021 with an expected completion date sometime in 2023.

In 2020, the Township submitted a Trust Fund grant application for **Carronde Park Tennis Court Renovation Project**. The grant was not awarded in the 2020 cycle. The Board approved re-submitting this grant application in 2021. This project will renovate three tennis courts to include improving one existing tennis court and refurbishing the other two courts to add green space and two pickle ball courts. If this grant is received the project is expected to be constructed and completed in either 2022 or 2023.

The Township also submitted a Trust Fund grant application for **Kedzie Park Playground Development Project** in 2020. The grant was not awarded in the 2020 cycle. The Board approved re-submitting this grant application in 2021. The grant would replace equipment and surfacing with structures to better meet the needs of users. If this grant is received this project is expected to be constructed and completed in either 2022 or 2023.

St Joseph Charter Township has six pavilions available to rent. Five of the pavilions are open air pavilions and one is an enclosed pavilion with a small kitchen area. Park reservations are secured on a first come first serve basis.

Contact St. Joseph Charter Township (SJCT) for more information pertaining to the parks.



Eaton Park Pavilion #1



Eaton Park Pavilion #2



Maiden Lane Pavilions—Open Air and Enclosed



Carronde Pavilion #1



Carronde Pavilion #2

PARKS / PUBLIC WORKS ... *Continued*

Dave Rindfield, Director

Sewer

A reminder to all residents...**Do not discharge the following to the sanitary sewer:** storm water, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters.

As noted in the past, disposable flushable wipes should never be flushed as these wipes cause issues to our lift stations and the treatment plant.

Washington Avenue & Hillview Lift Stations/Sewer Main Upgrade: The Township is working with engineers on an upgrade for the Washington Avenue lift station and sewer main along with the Hillview lift station and sewer main. The project will take place this year and will coincide with a Berrien County Road Department project for Washington Avenue which includes a 2" mill and fill from Hilltop Avenue to Maiden Lane. The coordination of these two projects aligns with the Township's plan to bundle road and utility projects to save taxpayer dollars.

Water

Fire hydrant flushing will begin May 1st and continue through the fall. During this time you may see water that is dirty or rusty. If this happens, run your water a few minutes until it clears up. If dirty or rusty water continues contact Township Public Works at 429-8113.

Please note: Per the International Fire Code, all fire hydrants must maintain a 3 foot radius so please be sure that all fire hydrants are cleared of bushes and trees and no other landscaping hides a hydrant.

Hollywood Water Main Replacement Project: In the last several years, the water main on Hollywood Rd. has experienced multiple breaks with many of the repairs requiring a temporary water shutoff to businesses on Hollywood Rd. north of Maiden Lane and south of Niles Rd. In 2020 there were back-to-back breaks within a 24 hour period. In December, the Township Board approved replacement of the water main with construction to occur in 2021.

Storm Water/Watershed Management

Just a reminder we all have to work together to prevent pollution of the surface water runoff to the rivers and streams. There are brochures located on the counter at the township hall showing how to prevent pollution to our storm water system.



We are Open!



Discover! Imagine! Learn!
**ST. JOSEPH/MAUD PRESTON
PALENSKE MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

publiclibrary@sjcity.com

www.stjoseph.lib.mi.us

500 Market Street,

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Hours:

Mon-Fri 12pm–6pm

*Saturday 12pm–4pm

Call us (269) 983-7167

* Closed last Saturday of the month

Digital library available 24/7:

hoopla

Tap into Discovery.
Instantly Read, Listen, and Watch
with Your Library Card.

3-Step Sign-Up

1. Download the app or go to hoopladigital.com.
2. Log in with your library card.
3. Borrow and enjoy!



Borrow ebooks & audiobooks



Libby.

The reading app from our
library, built by OverDrive.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave Vonk, Treasurer

IMPORTANT TAX DATES:

- **Summer Tax Bills** are mailed **July 1st** and due by 5:00 p.m. on **September 14, 2021**.
- **Winter Tax Bills** are mailed **December 1st** and due by 5:00 p.m. on **February 14, 2022**.
- After **March 1, 2021**, all delinquent payments for 2020 taxes are due to the Berrien County Treasurer 269-983-7111 ext. 8569.

PAYMENTS:

- You can pay your tax bill by check, cash or credit/debit card. There is a 3% fee (\$2 minimum) for using a credit or debit card.
- We can accept partial payments starting the day you receive your tax bill.
- Please call 269-932-0269 for current balance due if you did not pay by the due date.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- **Tax Bill Address Changes:** call Sue Rice, Assessor 269-932-0272.
- **Tax Bill Name Changes:** call the Berrien County Register of Deeds 269-983-7111.
- **Drain Assessments:** call the Drain Commissioner 269-983-7111 ext. 8255.
- Your **taxable value** is based on the value of your property on December 31st of the preceding year.
- Valuable **income tax information** can be found on your tax bills. Please save them.

You can access your tax information free online at www.bsaonline.com. After creating an account, you will have unlimited access to your property tax information. BS&A charges a \$2.00 fee for online inquiries by non-owners of any property.

“Like” our Facebook page: **St. Joseph Charter Township** to keep up to date on Township happenings. Or go to our website **SJCT.org**. Please see the following Facebook pages for Police and Fire Department information:



St. Joseph Township Police Department
 St. Joseph Charter Township Fire Department Station #1
 St. Joseph Charter Township Fire Department Station #2

Curbside Recycling Services

Best Way Disposal is committed to the conservation of natural resources and minimizing the strain on the planet. The Curbside Recycling Program provides for the collection of recyclable materials at the curbside. The **SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM** allows residents to **mix all acceptable recyclables in one cart—no sorting!** Keep this brochure handy for easy reference when preparing materials.
Improperly prepared materials leads to contamination and increased recycling costs!

Accepted Items & Preparation Instructions

- ◆ Newspapers, including inserts, comics and advertisements. Place papers directly into the recycling cart, No need to bag papers separately.
 - ◆ Magazines, catalogs, books, phone books, office paper, unwanted mail, paper bags, etc. Food boxes must be clean and free of food Remove hard covers from books before recycling.
 - ◆ Paperboard, such as cereal boxes, cracker boxes, paper towel rolls, etc. Corrugated cardboard must be flattened and/or cut down to a size that will fit in the recycling cart
 - ◆ Corrugated cardboard. Shredded papers can be placed in a brown paper bag and placed in the cart.
 - ◆ Glass jars and bottles of any color. Place materials directly into the recycling cart No need to separate recyclable materials.
 - ◆ Aluminum cans, foil pie tins, etc. Placing material in plastic bags is not acceptable.
 - ◆ Tin or steel food cans and lids. Labels are OK. Remove caps from bottles.
 - ◆ Plastics such as milk jugs, food tubs detergent bottles, personal care products, etc... Rinse containers well—all materials must be clean and free of food, liquid or original contents.
- Only RIGID plastics marked with symbols 1 - 7 Symbols without a number are not recyclable

Recycling Tips



PLASTICS

WISH-CYCLING

Many items we purchase are made of recyclable materials, but unfortunately not all are recyclable. When in doubt, leave it out.

Instructions Also Located On Lid



Not Acceptable Items

- ◆ Aerosol cans
- ◆ Batteries
- ◆ Hazardous liquids or materials
- ◆ Light bulbs
- ◆ Microwave food containers
- ◆ Motor oil / motor oil containers
- ◆ Paint / paint cans
- ◆ Pizza boxes
- ◆ Plastic bags or plastic wrap
- ◆ Scrap metal
- ◆ Soiled food containers
- ◆ Styrofoam of any kind
- ◆ Wax-coated cardboard
- ◆ Window glass
- ◆ Yard waste



(269) 463-3232



Presort Standard US Postage
PAID
Kalamazoo, MI Permit No. 1366

**ST. JOSEPH CHARTER
TOWNSHIP**

3000 Washington Ave
P.O. Box 147
St. Joseph MI 49085

PHONE NUMBERS

TOWNSHIP HALL429-7703
Fax.....429-2079
(Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Emergency Only.....9-1-1
Police Administration.....429-6890
(Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
Non-Emergency.....983-3060
(Dispatch – 24 hr.)

FIRE: Emergency.....9-1-1
Fire Administration
Station #1 - 3000 Washington Ave.....429-4100
Station #2 - 1750 Colfax Ave.....429-4100

AMBULANCE.....9-1-1
Public Works - Sewer/Water Problems.....429-8113
Water/Sewer Bills983-6324

Berrien County Road Department.....925-1196
Berrien County Animal Control927-5648
I&M Electric800-311-6424
Michigan Gas800-401-6451

**YARD WASTE PICKUP IS FROM APRIL
THROUGH NOVEMBER ON YOUR NORMAL
TRASH DAY**

Office Closures for 2021

Friday, April 2nd — **Spring Holiday**

Friday and Monday, May 28th and 31st— **Memorial Day**

Friday and Monday, July 2nd and 5th— **Fourth of July**

Friday and Monday, September 3rd and 6th— **Labor Day**

Other Holidays Observed: Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving Friday,
and Christmas Eve.

**BEST WAY DISPOSAL OBSERVES THE
FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS**

**Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Day, New Years Day**

Usually, if a holiday falls on your regularly scheduled collection day, that day and every collection day after that day will be moved back one day for the remainder of that week. **Please call Best Way directly (463-3232) with any questions on holiday pickup or recycling schedules.**

Arrangements for extra rubbish carts, yard waste carts, or recycling containers can be made by calling Best Way. Please call Tami at **269-463-3232** with any questions or concerns on our rubbish/yard waste/recycling programs.

STREET LIGHTS: If you notice a street light that is not working, report it to Indiana Michigan Power on their website: <https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/> You will be asked for the pole number and the nearest street address or cross street. The pole number is located on a metal tag about eye level on the street light pole. If you do not have internet access, you may contact the Police Department at 429-6890 to have them enter your request into I&M's website.

FIRE HYDRANTS are a vital part of our overall community public safety. **Please try to keep them free of over growth 3' around and easily visible.**

Seconds can make a difference between saving and losing someone's home or life. Please help us keep them readily visible for emergency personnel, even in winter. Our fire fighters thank you for your help!

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Your water service may be turned off if your bill remains unpaid 45 days after the date of the bill. There will be a fee to turn the water back on, so please call 983-6324 with any questions or problems *before* this occurs.

Unpaid bills are added to December property tax bills, and these additional fees, which raise the amount that mortgage companies with escrow accounts pay, COULD affect your monthly mortgage payment, so please keep your account current. Call 983-6324 to make payment arrangements.