



Chairman's Corner

Don't let those leaf piles smolder

It's that time of year when leaves are falling off trees, people are raking their lawns and many of our residents are finding ways to get rid of them. Composting and burning are the two most popular methods to dispose of them. The Township Fire Wardens would like to remind our residents not to leave a smoldering leaf pile unattended. A leaf pile can smolder for hours and become a fire hazard. The smoke can also be distasteful and irritating to some residents. So please be conscientious of your neighbor and put out your fire before going in for the night.



What should I do if I want to put up an outbuilding?

Over the past few years, there have been cases of residents putting up outbuildings without building permits. Our ordinances regarding outbuildings are on the township website. Putting up an outbuilding without a permit and pleading ignorance is no excuse. A resident can have, in most cases, up to two outbuildings, but the size of the outbuilding is regulated by the size of the lot. Outbuildings are also regulated by setbacks to the property lines and where on the lot they can be located. Contact the township Building Inspector, Duane Stensland, at 651-436-7669 for a permit or with questions.

What's going on with the Lake Elmo Airport expansion?

The township and surrounding communities continue to have discussions with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) regarding the lengthening of the runways and the rerouting of 30th St N. Previously, there have been a couple of public involvement meetings held by MAC to gather public comments. MAC has taken these comments as well as

comments from surrounding neighborhood groups, and will re-evaluate their concerns and how it would affect runway safety design. The township hopes to hear back from MAC soon.

Keep an eye on your package delivery

As we get closer to Christmas, more and more people will be ordering their gifts online and having them delivered to their homes. Washington County Sheriff Hutton would like our residents to be on the lookout for thieves. Incidents of thieves following delivery truck drivers, watching them drop off packages, and then taking them off the doorstep is on a sharp rise. UPS has an app that will alert you when a package is delivered. It is also a good idea to have your neighbor either put the packages inside your home or bring them to their house for you to pick up later. Either way, don't let your packages stay outside for very long.

Who are those guys diving into ditches wearing yellow reflective vests?

Each year, the township is required by the MPCA to inspect a portion of our township culverts, waterways, catch basins and holding ponds. The Planning Commission Chair, Dave Dupay, and I do this about now every year. We check for clogged and/or damaged structures (i.e., culverts, storm water pipes that may prevent the flow of storm water to the proper holding pond or river). We routinely find a couple of culverts clogged each year. Branches, leaves, vegetation and grass clippings are often the culprits that obstruct these structures. So please do not throw or dump grass clippings or leaves into the street or a ravine. They often will find their way into our culverts, clogging them up, and costing the township to clean them out.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving,

Daniel Kylo, Town Board Chairman

TOWN CLERK RETIRES AFTER 21 YEARS



The Town Board presented Sue Agrimson a plaque in recognition of her 21 years of dedication and excellence on the Board of West Lakeland Township. She served as Deputy Clerk for 4 years and served as Town Clerk for the rest of her tenure until her retirement this past July. We are deeply grateful for her years of dedicated service to the residents. We wish Sue a wonderful retirement!

TIS THE SEASON—SNOW PLOWING REMINDER

With snow season approaching, it is never too early to remind our township residents of a couple items regarding our snow removal policy. When there is two or more inches of snow, the township will plow and sand the roads. We normally start at 3:00 a.m. with the main arteries and school bus routes, followed by the residential streets, and cul-de-sacs last. Our goal is to have a four-inch snowfall plowed within 12 to 18 hours—barring any breakdowns or equipment failures. Please also keep in mind that snowfall over four inches, such as the 15" snowfall we had a couple years ago, may take longer than 12 to 18 hours to remove so please be patient. In addition, the post office has expectations that residents will clear snow in front of their mailboxes.

Township residents are reminded that it is unlawful under Minnesota Statute 160.2715 (A) (1) to plow snow from driveways onto or across township roads. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Piles of snow increase the chance of drifting snow onto the roadway. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner. Piles of frozen snow have the potential to damage the plow which in turn costs the township extra expense. There were a number of areas that were particularly troublesome last year, so residents please remind your plowing contractor of this law.



Also, to help our snow plow operators know where the pavement ends, please place reflective plastic markers at your curb. This is especially helpful if you live on a curve.

If you have questions regarding the township snow plowing policy, it can be viewed at our website (<http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com/>). Thank you for doing your part in keeping our roads safe and taxes low.

Thank You.
Dave Schultz
Road Supervisor

SANTA IS VISITING WEST LAKELAND— TREATS WILL BE SERVED!

Bring the whole family to this memorable event!!!

WHEN: Monday, December 14, 2015

WHERE: Oak-Land Jr. High School—Cafeteria

SANTA'S HOURS: 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

As we have done in the past, we are collecting non-perishable food items that will be delivered by your Town Board to the Valley Outreach Food Shelf program located in Stillwater.

Valley Outreach Food Shelf is also in need of cash. For every \$1 donated, they are able to purchase \$10 worth of food through their buying partners. Checks may be made payable to: Valley Outreach .



SWITCH YOUR BULBS FOR BRIGHTNESS AND ENERGY SAVINGS

During these shorter daylight hours of Fall and Winter, our lights are on longer. According to the EPA, lighting accounts for close to 20% of the average home's electric bill. Incandescent bulbs are being phased out under the Energy Independence Security Act of 2007. Use one of the following energy-efficient light bulb options to save energy and money!

LED, or light-emitting diode bulbs, remain cool and give off less heat which is not only more energy efficient, but safer. LEDs do not contain any hazardous material and can be placed in the garbage when they no longer work. They now come in more sizes to fit most lamps and fixtures, also dimmable options. These bulbs use 25% of the energy and last up to 25 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs. That is up to 50,000 hours of light! The prices of LED have dropped dramatically and are now affordable and a good value.



CFL, or Compact Fluorescent bulbs are another good choice. They use up to 75% less energy and last up to ten times longer than incandescent bulbs. Because they contain a small amount of mercury, they can't be placed in the garbage or recycling bin, but they can be recycled at many locations including county household hazardous waste drop-off sites and retail store "take back" programs. The mercury will only escape if the bulb is broken, so store and transport them carefully.

Not sure which option best fits your home and usage?

Compare your options at www.greenamerica.org/livinggreen/CFLs.cfm

RECYCLE EVERYWHERE IN YOUR HOME

West Lakeland residents have an amazing recycling program in place through Tennis Sanitation. Because you are now able to recycle many more items, you might just want to place recycling containers or bags in your bathroom(s) laundry room, and garage. Making recycling convenient is the key to always making the choice to recycle, rather than tossing the item into the trash. Please be sure that if you use plastic bags, you must first empty the contents into the Recycling Cart and then recycle the bag separately. You can recycle your plastic bags by consolidating them into one bag, sealing the bag, then placing it into your recycling cart, or taking them to your local retailer.



For more information on what you can recycle, reference your West Lakeland Recycling Magnet or Quick Reference Card or online at <https://www.tennissanitation.com/?Page=Recycling>



P.O. Box 447, Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042

www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com

Inside This Issue

- ◆ Chairman's Corner
- ◆ Longtime Town Clerk Retires
- ◆ Tis the Season, Snowplowing
- ◆ Santa is Visiting West Lakeland
- ◆ Energy Efficient Light Bulbs
- ◆ Recycle Everywhere in Your Home



TOWNSHIP INFORMATION

Office Hours—8:00 a.m. to Noon

Phone—651-436-4773

NEW

Mailing Address—

P.O. Box 447

Lake Elmo, MN 55042

www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com

Town Board meetings are held the second Monday of each month in the Oak-Land Jr. High School Cafeteria, 820 Manning Avenue.

Changes to this schedule can be viewed on the Township website calendar or posting board located at 10th Street and Stagecoach Trail.

West Lakeland contracts with Tennis Sanitation for recycling services every other Monday. Call Town Office 651-436-4773 with questions.

Town Board

Dan Kyllo, Chairman	651-436-1134
Dave Schultz, Supervisor	651-436-6816
Steve Ebner, Supervisor	651-436-6482
Carrie Seifert, Town Clerk	651-436-4773
Mary Rinkenberger, Deputy Clerk	651-436-1537
Marsha Olson, Treasurer	651-998-9178

Building Official(building permits & inspections)

Duane Stensland— 651-436-7669

Animal Control

Kathi Pelnar— 715-386-7789