Running with John…

Thankfully Mother Nature provided us a very nice summer and a way better than average fall. We are all blessed to live in this beautiful area. We love all the water – Spring Lake, Lake Michigan and the Grand River — which are all very special but each provide some challenges.

Houses seem to be going up everywhere in SLT. Know that Township officials are monitoring all the housing development plans before they are approved and then carefully inspecting them as they are developed. It seems like the word is out that Spring Lake Township is a great place. We have exceptional natural resources, great schools, and generous, caring residents.

All the Village expansion has been exciting to watch. The road and bridge construction work, on the other hand, has been something we have to tolerate if we want progress and good, safe roads and bridges. Please be considerate of the workers and other drivers through all this construction. We are all on the same side.

Unfortunately, we haven’t beaten the pandemic yet. Thanks to all who have done their part by getting vaccinated. Our health care workers and officials continue to amaze us with their dedication and sincere efforts under so much pressure to help us all.

Things are going very well in the Township. Some of the faces have changed but we still have very dedicated staff, exceptional elected officials and quality volunteers who are working hard to make SLT the best it can possibly be. It is amazing how many high-quality people it takes to keep the Township running so smoothly. Their efforts are so much appreciated and very necessary.

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**Property Transfer Affidavits**

According to the Township Code, snow may not be deposited from a driveway onto a sidewalk, path or public street. If you use a plow service, make sure the driver knows the rules because the homeowner will receive the citation. Note that the Township will plow the bike paths. Although drivers will do their best to avoid leaving snow in driveways, it is inevitable that some snow may be left in a driveway.

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**Assessing News**

Property Transfer Affidavits are documents that have to be filed within 45 days of a transfer of ownership. Please visit our website for the form, or contact us, if you recently purchased your property and need to file the form.

IMPORTANT!! You can NOT have two PREs unless you qualify AND fill out the correct paperwork. The additional form is called a Conditional Rescind Form and is available for those who have purchased a new residence to live in and are still trying to sell their previous residence. Contact us for a full explanation if this applies to you.

Visit our website and you may find the answers to your questions or a form that you may need among the links.

Our website:
www.springlaketwp.org/departments/assessing-department

Please contact our office with any address changes to ensure that you receive your bills and assessment change notices.

Phone calls and e-mails are our preferred methods of contact.
Our direct department number is (616) 844-2108. Our e-mail addresses are as follows:
dnorth@springlaketwp.org
hsingleton@springlaketwp.org
Fire Department Update

Your Spring Lake Fire Department is ready to serve you. During an emergency, time is critical. Staffed by full time and part paid personnel, we respond from the station and from our homes.

You can aid our response by practicing the following steps:

- Make sure your address is visible from the street.
- During non-fire emergencies, turn on outside lights at night to help personnel identify your home.
- Keep hydrants clear of such things as vehicles, vegetation and snow.
- Sign up at Smart911.com and provide our dispatchers with critical information about your family and home.
- If there is a fire,
  * Get out and stay out.
  * If you can do so safely, shut doors on the way out. This will slow the spread of fire.

Waste Hauler Information

Spring Lake Township has contracts with each of the waste hauling companies licensed to service SLT customers—Arrowaste Inc, Lake Effect Disposal, Republic Services, and RMS Recycling and Disposal. Each year Township officials hold one meeting with all the waste hauling companies to discuss any issues and the rates for the coming year. These meetings happen mid to late January. A not-to-exceed monthly rate for the weekly pick-up of 90 gallon containers and bi-weekly pick-up of recycling containers is established for all companies and all residential customers. For 2021, that rate was $62.00 per quarter. There is no established rate for yard waste pick-up because the various haulers have different procedures.

In 2005, Township officials met with the major area waste haulers and worked out a plan which both the waste haulers and the Township officials considered to be the best plan. The purpose of the plan was to reduce garbage truck traffic on our local roads, which would increase safety and reduce wear on the roads by having one company make most of the pick-ups in one area. Since RMS already had the majority of the residential customers north of M104 in the Township, and Republic already had the majority of the customers south of M104 in the Township, they are the main waste haulers for their areas. Arrowaste and Lake Effect Disposal service areas throughout the Township. Over the years, this policy has proven to be very effective. There have been changes — for example the addition of recycling pick-up and yard waste pick-up; different pick-up schedules; the dramatic increases in recycling rates nationally and worldwide; and the recent elimination of bag pick-ups by all haulers. All these changes have been discussed at the annual waste hauler meetings before any changes have been instituted. I sincerely believe the waste haulers and the Township officials are dedicated to providing our residents the best reasonable service and price structure possible.

Remember the majority of garbage pick-ups in the fall, winter and spring happen early in the morning when it is often dark and children are getting ready to go to school. Be careful and watch for the trucks. The following procedures are very helpful for efficient waste pick-up:

- When putting your waste containers out, be sure they are facing the correct direction and that there is at least a 4-foot separation between containers — which is also true between yard waste bags. This makes it much easier for the truck drivers to get their mechanical arms around the containers to lift them up.
- If your pick-up day falls on a national holiday, waste pick-up will be delayed one day. If you have questions, contact your waste hauling company.
- Put your garbage in heavy duty plastic bags before you put it into the garbage container. The reason for this is very simple, and even more practical. On windy days garbage containers can blow over. If garbage is put in plastic bags before it is put in the container, it avoids the possibility of garbage blowing all over your neighborhood.

Please be considerate of our waste haulers and their service. Their service is fundamental to us all.

CAKENDAR

Meetings at Barber School, 102 W. Exchange

**Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees**
Second Monday at 7pm

**Spring Lake Township Planning Commission**
Third Wednesday at 7pm

**Spring Lake Township Zoning Board of Appeals**
Fourth Thursday at 7pm

**Holiday Office Closings**

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 23 and 24, 2021</td>
<td>April 15, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
<td>May 30, 2022</td>
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