

2009 Escanaba Township News



www.escanabatownship.org

Assessment Changes:

Your current enclosed assessment notice for 2009 shows a very small decrease (if any change) in assessed value of residential parcels in Escanaba Township. This is the result of a sales study done by the County of the last two years sales. The taxable value will be increasing (but can not exceed the assessed value) by 4.4% which is the Consumer Price Index established by the US Dept. of Labor.

Trash Vouchers:

The annual trash vouchers will be available for use on May 1st, 2009 by calling the treasurer or picking one up at the Township Hall on Wednesdays during summer tax season from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The vouchers are good for the free disposal of one load of trash up to 1000 lbs. at the Delta County Landfill. A limit of two vouchers will be given to multiple property owners. The landfill is located at 5701 19th Ave N, Escanaba (off Danforth Rd). Landfill hours are: 8 to 3 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday. Thursday 8 to 6 & Saturday 8 to noon. Vouchers may be used for tires (passenger is \$2.00 each) removal of freon from appliances (\$15.00 each) and TV sets (\$25.00 each) with a maximum of \$30.00 per voucher. Computers may be brought to landfill or Goodwill in Escanaba for no charge & scrap metal can be brought to Coplans Iron & Metal at 1610 7th Ave N Escanaba or Reliable Recycling in Gladstone. Household recyclables such as fluorescent bulbs & paint can be brought to the landfill free of charge at any time. Junk autos can be removed by calling Jake's Bone Yard at 428-4008. Please try to recycle whenever possible!

Planning Commission:

The planning commission completed and received Township Board approval for a new five year Recreation Plan and a new master Plan in 2008. We are blessed to have committed individuals involved with a vision for our communities future.

Clerks Corner:

New Residents may register to vote by calling 789-9050. The November election had a large turnout of voters across the country, with Escanaba Township being no exception at 73% of all registered voting. Precinct 1 votes at the Cameron School, which covers all voters east of the Escanaba River. Precinct 2 votes at the Township Hall and covers all voters west of County Road 426. Precinct 3 also votes at the Hall and covers all voters located between the River and County Road 426.

Fire Department News:

Business as usual in 2008, with about a dozen structure fires and several car roll over accidents throughout the winter. The volunteer fire fighters helped at the UP Tractor Pulls in Flat Rock in July, August, as well as two days fire prevention classes at the Cameron School in October. Citizens can view the fire fighting equipment each year during the annual 4th of July parade in Gladstone or the Christmas parade in Escanaba. The department had one new member attend firefighter training classes in 2008. The commitment that is required to become a firefighter and stay involved as a volunteer is tremendous and the Township Board (and hopefully all Township Citizens) appreciate their dedication as they serve our community. Current (new) officers of the Escanaba Volunteer Fire Department are Dave Vanderlinden (chief), Ken Brunette (asst chief), Phil Demay (treasurer), and Brian Hughes (secretary). The department urges all citizens to REPLACE the BATTERIES in their smoke, fire, and carbon dioxide alarms at least twice a year.

Get Involved!! In Township Government. Escanaba Township is taking applications for Board of Appeals (must be a Twp resident), Planning Commission, Board of Review, and Election Workers (must be a Delta County resident). Call supervisor Kevin Dubord for info.

Road Projects:

All roads in the Township are under the jurisdiction of the Delta County Road Commission. The road commission receives funding from the State and Federal sources through motor vehicle weight tax, gas tax and diesel fuel tax. Any funds paid by the Township come through the general fund from State Revenue Sharing, which we receive on a per capita basis each year and not from property tax. A complete list of roads improved with Township funds are listed on our web site. In 2008 several small projects were completed as well as 2,300 lineal ft asphalt paving (paid with \$84,000 Township funds) on 19.4 road in Lakes Bluff. In 2009 we hope to have a 3.2 mile section of 20th road removed, reconstructed, and repaved 26 feet wide. This project will be funded by a \$750,000 safety grant & a \$100,000 local match fund by the Township.

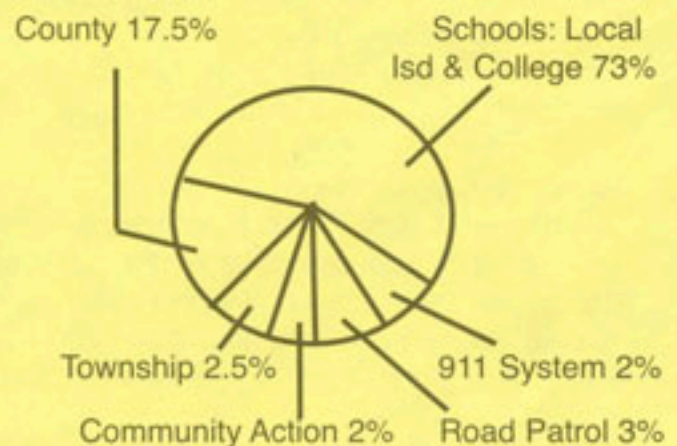


Support Local Recreation:

Two local organizations sponsor racing type events right here in Escanaba Township each year. The U.P. Lawn Tractor Pulls are held on 20th Road near the Township Hall in July and August. The lawn tractor drivers come from all over the UP as well as Wisconsin. The Township Fire Dept helps the tractor organization with gate admission and receives part of the fee, which is used to help offset the cost of equipment purchases in the fire department. Each winter the Great Lakes Ice Racers hold races on the Escanaba River near the west Gladstone bridge on Sunday afternoons. These races involve ATV's, motor cycles, and mini-sprint cars and reach speeds up to 65 miles per hour. A donation to park on the ice near the races is collected by the Scouts of Flat Rock Troop 473, of which 75% helps to pay the Ice Racers insurance and 25% which goes to the Scouts to help defray the cost of Scout Camp in the summer. Both of these events provide funds that greatly help with expenses in the Fire Department and the Scout Troop. Township citizens are urged to support these events.

Treasure Tidbits:

Treasurer Linda Trombley-Robitaille collects property taxes on Wednesday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. during the tax cycle at the Township Hall on 20th Road in Flat Rock. Checks may be sent to her for payment at 8579 County 416 J Road, Cornell, MI 49818 (please include the parcel number with payment). Summer tax deferrals are available to defer the summer tax bill until February 15th without penalty based on qualifications of the General Property Tax Act. Questions arise periodically as to where all of a person's property tax dollars go. Below is a pie chart which shows rough percentages of a typical homestead property tax bills for the whole year.



Township Website: Looking for information?
It can be found at:
www.escanabatownship.org