



# Genoa Township News

Winter 2005

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## Elections *By Paulette A. Skolarus, Clerk*

Brighton, Howell, Pinckney, Hartland and L.E.S.A. School District Elections have now been transferred to your township clerk. As a result school elections will now be held at your regular polling place and residents will no longer be confused about where to vote in a specific election. You will always vote at the same place. Watch for a new voter identification card in your mailbox this month.

Your local schools had many choices in determining when school elections would be conducted. They had the option of using the November General Election or the August Primary for their ballot proposal, in which case there would be no charge to the schools for having their question and/or proposals on the ballot. The school districts in our community chose the first Tuesday in May in both odd and even years as their primary election date. This action was taken by formal resolution of the local school board.

This decision has added a permanent third election to our calendar year. The cost of the election will be reimbursed to local units of government by the local school board. This cost will include absent voter application and ballot mailings. Genoa Township traditionally sends applications to all persons over 60 years of age and those on record who are disabled. While there is no state law mandating this action, it has proven receptive to residents. We will continue to provide this convenient means of voting to all our residents. You may fill out the application (page 3) for an absent voter ballot if you will not be able to make it to the polls on Election Day. You may also use the application on our Internet site. Then mail the application to the township hall at 2911 Dorr Road, Brighton, MI 48116 or FAX to 810-227-3420.

*The makers of our Constitution fought long and hard for the freedom to vote. Please take the time to exercise your right. Remember the recent election in Iraq where men and women courageously cast their vote - even under the threat of death.*

## Steve Wildman, Genoa Township Trustee

We have a new member sitting on the Genoa Township Board as a result of our November General Election. I am pleased to introduce Trustee Steve Wildman. Steve has been a resident of Genoa Township for eight years and first became involved in local politics as a supporting member of G.U.A.R.D. (Genoa United Against Reckless Development). He said, "Supporting the current Genoa Township Master Plans as it relates to growth is important to me. The township has been under attack recently by bullying developers who have sought to force changes to our master plan. Our current township board has done an exemplary job and I am pleased to be a part of that team."

Steve is married to Laura and has two adult children. He lives on Lake Chemung and is the past president of the Lake Chemung Riparian Association. He works as a Lineman for Detroit Edison and helped implement and install a monitoring system in Edison trucks. He loves going to work and then coming home to his resort life in Genoa Township every day.

The Genoa Township Board welcomes Mr. Wildman to his position as Trustee and we wish him continued success.



2911 Dorr Road  
Brighton, MI 48116  
Phone: 810.227.5225  
Fax: 810.227.3420

Visit us online:  
[www.genoa.org](http://www.genoa.org)

## You're Moving/We're Moving

The polling place at Church of the Nazarene was way too crowded when we held the recent presidential election there. While the Church of the Nazarene remains committed to Genoa Township in holding elections, we have been forced to consider an alternative for two of our four precincts. Precincts 7 and 8 will be moving to Maltby Middle School. Precincts 4 and 6 will remain at Church of the Nazarene. New voter identification cards will be in the mail this month.

## Firewood - Don't Move it Stop the Spread of the Emerald Ash Borer

If you choose to move any kind of firewood out of the 20 quarantined counties in Michigan and you are caught, you will be guilty of a misdemeanor. You will also be fined and/or jailed.

The fine is

- Not less than \$25.00 per each piece of firewood
- Not more than \$100.00 per each piece of firewood
- Jailed up to 90 days

Quarantined Counties: Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Lenawee, Jackson, Ingham, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Hillsdale, Branch, Calhoun, Eaton, Clinton, Gratiot and Saginaw.

## Adopt a Hydrant

The Area Fire Departments are asking all residents to make sure that fire hydrants, near their home or business, are clear of snow or weeds. This small step will ensure hydrants are visible in an emergency. It normally takes 45 seconds to connect the hose to a fire hydrant. Hydrants that are buried in the snow or beneath weeds are harder to find and firefighters must spend precious moments clearing away snow or searching just to hook up the hose. This small service may save your home or more importantly prevent the loss of a life. Please do whatever you can to help.

## Our Water - Our Future - Ours to Protect

*By Paulette A. Skolarus*

Just where do you think your drinking water comes from? If you live in the Detroit area, it comes from Detroit River water. If you live in Genoa Township, it is ground or well water. So know and understand that what you put on the ground eventually ends up in that glass of drinking water from your sink.

Just because we (Michigan) have all the water we need, it doesn't mean that it can be wasted. Millions of people in Michigan depend on our lakes and streams for their drinking water and our water is gradually becoming more valuable than gold. Already we can see the demand for water generated by other western and southwestern states. We all need to work together to protect this vital natural resource from pollution and diversion.

Often, it is the little things that count and you can make a difference by changing your ways and instructing your children on how to preserve our natural resources.

1. Never dump oil, household cleaners, chemicals, pet waste, leaves or dirty water into the storm drain because the storm drain leads directly to our streams and lakes and then into our drinking water.
2. Use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer on your lawn. Excess fertilizer that gets into the storm drain pollutes our lakes by causing large algae blooms, using up oxygen fish need to survive, and ultimately ends up in our drinking water.
3. Clean up after your pet. Don't let fecal matter end up in our drinking water.
4. Wash your car on the grass or take it to a car wash for cleaning. Your dirty car water, running off your driveway, flows to the storm drain and will end up in our drinking water.
5. Water your lawn only when it needs it. Save yourself some money by turning off those automatic sprinklers that run even when it is raining. Your lawn does not need more than one inch of water a week.
6. Adjust those sprinkler heads and make sure that you are watering just the lawn and not the sidewalk or driveway.

Complete and return to:

### Application for Absent Voter's Ballot

PAULETTE SKOLARUS - CLERK  
GENOA TOWNSHIP  
2911 DORR ROAD  
BRIGHTON MI 48114

#### SCHOOL ELECTION: 05/03/2005

As a duly qualified and registered elector in the County of LIVINGSTON, Jurisdiction of GENOA TOWNSHIP, State of Michigan, I hereby make application for official ballot, to be voted by me at the above indicated election.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Check reason(s) why you are requesting ballot. If a reason is not checked for an election, an absentee ballot will not be issued for that election.

**WARNING:** A person who makes a false statement in this Declaration is guilty of a misdemeanor.

CHECK REASON FOR REQUESTING AV BALLOT HERE

- I am 60 years of age or older.
- I expect to be absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.
- I am physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.
- I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion.
- I have been appointed an election precinct inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where I reside.
- I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

I declare the foregoing statement(s) to be true

SIGN HERE



X

(SIGNATURE OF ABSENT VOTER)

(DATE)

NOTE: Michigan law requires that A.V. Ballots be sent to your registered address unless you are hospitalized, institutionalized, or at an address outside of your community. Complete the following ONLY if you want your ballot sent to an address outside of your community or to a hospital or other institution.

#### DO NOT COMPLETE UNLESS YOU WANT BALLOT SENT TO OTHER THAN YOUR REGISTERED ADDRESS

I will not be at my registered address, therefore send "Absent Voter Ballot" to me at:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (NO.) (STREET)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

#### (Clerk's Use Only)

Filed: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Mailed: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Returned: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Wd/Pct: \_\_\_\_\_ Ballot No: \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

WARD/  
PRECINCT



### Application to Vote - Poll List (Absent Voter)

05/03/2005



DATE OF  
ELECTION

I hereby certify that I am a registered and qualified elector in the ward and precinct above and hereby make application to vote at the above indicated election.

Ballot No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Voter No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Poll Book)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month-Day)

(PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME)

SIGN HERE



X

(SIGNATURE OF ABSENT VOTER)

Approved -

(REGISTERED HOME ADDRESS OF ABSENT VOTER)

(INSPECTOR OF ELECTIONS)

INSTRUCTIONS TO ELECTION INSPECTORS - Place this in binder with other Applications to Vote

## Livingston County Solid Waste

- **E-Waste Recycling**

**Did you know that it is not only illegal but also unethical to dump computers and televisions in our landfills?** Personal computer monitors and televisions can contain from three to eight pounds of lead. They may also contain other heavy metals such as beryllium, cadmium, mercury and other potentially toxic materials that can threaten our health and the environment if not disposed of properly. E-waste recycling is available to Genoa Township residents now. Genoa Township financially supports the cost of disposal for our residents. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, May 21, 2005** from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The drop off site is 170 Catrell St., Howell, MI (located North of Grand River, between National and Chilson, behind the Dollar General and Grundy Ace Hardware). Please take advantage of this Electronics recycling day.

- **Earth Machine Backyard Compost Bin**

To encourage composting for long-term waste reduction, the Livingston County Department is sponsoring a compost bin distribution event on Saturday, April 16, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Residents may purchase an Earth Machine Backyard compost bin for \$20.00 (retail \$80.00). Call (517) 546-9609 for additional information.

## Genoa Township Waste Recycling

- **Special Pickup**

Each year Genoa Township provides a special pickup for homeowners within the township for disposal of one large household item. The contract with Waste Management allows for a 50 – 50 sharing in the cost for curbside pickup and disposal of household appliances such as water heaters, stoves, washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners. The cost to you is just \$6.00 with the township paying \$6.00. Additional stickers are \$12.00 each. Stickers may be purchased at the township hall during normal business hours (9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday). **Appliances containing Freon must have the Freon removed by a certified technician prior to disposal.**

- **Spring Yard Cleanup**

Our Spring Yard Cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2005 and Saturday, May 21, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. until noon at the Genoa Township Hall. Mister Rubbish will have trucks on site and assist you in emptying your vehicle. Please recycle - bring us your small brush and other naturally recyclable yard waste for disposal. Please don't burn!



POSTAL PATRON

Genoa Township  
2911 Dorr Road, Brighton, MI 48116



### Genoa Township Board Members

**Supervisor**

Gary McCrie

**Clerk**

Paulette Skolarus

**Treasurer**

Robin Hunt

**Trustees**

Todd Smith

Jim Mortensen

Steve Wildman

Jean Ledford



photo by Victoria Moilanen