

# Scio Township

## Fall 2019

### COMMUNITY REPORT

#### In this issue:

Update - What's with the Trash? . . . . .	1
From The Supervisor's Desk . . . . .	2
Election Update . . . . .	3
Township Master Plan under Review . . . . .	3
Land Preservation Projects . . . . .	4
New Parks . . . . .	4
From the Treasurer's Desk . . . . .	6
Fire Services Past, Present, and Future . . . . .	6
Halloween Party . . . . .	7
Update on Dioxane Contamination . . . . .	8
Microplastic Pollution . . . . .	8
Non-Profits Resources . . . . .	9
Wrapping up Construction Season . . . . .	10
Contacts . . . . .	11
2020 Census . . . . .	12



**Our residents have spoken out and they have been heard.**

By JACK KNOWLES, SUPERVISOR, AND CHRISTINE GREEN, TRUSTEE

## Update - What's with the Trash?

For the past 18 months, the Township has been working on implementing a community-wide residential solid waste and recycling program utilizing a single vendor. The goals of this initiative have been stated in past newsletters and other forums, but bear repeating:

1. Reduce the amount of heavy truck traffic on local roads and in neighborhoods
2. Focus on efficiencies of the trash and recycling service
3. Provide the highest standard of service, experience, and reliability at a competitive price
4. Help residents decrease the amount of trash sent to landfills
5. Reduce the number of days that trash bins are set out on roads in the Township

The process of implementing this program has taken substantially longer than anyone expected, and admittedly we (the Township Board) have made our share of missteps along the way. **We apologize to everyone, particularly the many people in favor of the new trash program, for having to wait so long for this service to begin.** The process continues, and we are trying to address many of the concerns that have been expressed by residents. This process, even if successful, will take even more time, most likely a number of months. Please bear with us.

### So, what's been going on?

We have tried to involve the public at every step of this process. Since 2017 nearly every newsletter (published quarterly) has had an article about the program. In addition, we mailed a postcard to every residential address advertising four public meetings that were held to present the program as it had been developed up to that date. Further, we have regular public Township Board meetings twice a month with two public comment sessions each. Some people have taken that opportunity to voice their opinions, both for and against. In August we sent a letter via first-class mail to every Township resident to assist those who were affected by the Waste Management decision to curtail service in the Township. In addition, we try to respond to every email sent to the Board by residents about the trash service (we have missed a few) and we welcome and take into consideration all the suggestions that have come our way. Our residents have spoken out

and they have been heard. Going forward, we will try to update the website more frequently to communicate the program status.

The process of selecting Green for Life (GFL) was consistent with Township law and the competitive bidding process. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was formulated by a seven-person body that included the manager, two board members, three Scio residents, and one non-resident. All interested vendors attended a mandatory pre-bid meeting where the RFP was reviewed and questions were fielded. In the end, four vendors submitted proposals, and group members independently reviewed and rated/scored each vendor. The top two vendors were then interviewed and GFL was recommended to the Board for contract negotiations.

At the four public informational meetings held earlier this summer, and at the public hearing for the Solid Waste ordinance amendments, the public raised a number of issues that the Board felt warranted further review and consideration. A subcommittee of three Board members was appointed to work with the Township Attorney to look into these potential revisions to the trash ordinance, and that effort continues. **The ordinance is being crafted so as to address as many citizen concerns and objections as possible.** Two of the more significant matters being looked into include consideration of the mandatory requirement and the question of who administers the program, the township or the vendor. Negotiating the contract with GFL under these revised terms, even if we are successful, has extended the timeframe of program implementation.

In mid-July, based on our earlier (incorrect) projection of the program starting in August, Waste Management (WM) cancelled their contracts with 1000+ Scio residents. This was as much a surprise to the Township as it was to Scio's WM customers, and Township Hall was flooded with angry and upset emails and telephone calls. In an effort to meet the sudden needs of these future, hoped-for customers, the "soft-landing program" was created. As we are yet to enter into a contract with GFL, these new customers are seeing a higher monthly fee than had been previously discussed. That fee may be reduced when

*Update - What's with the Trash? continued on page 2*

**Board of  
Trustee  
Meetings  
are held every  
second and  
fourth Tuesday  
of the month at  
7 pm in the  
Township  
Hall**

*Update - What's with the Trash? continued from page 1*

a contract is signed and the number of households being serviced is determined.

While WM made the decision to terminate residential service to Scio, the other solid waste haulers that service the Township have cooperated with us and our residents, and have not curtailed their service. Those of you who have not yet signed up for the "soft-landing" program with GFL may continue with your current vendor until the program is fully implemented.

### **Where do things stand now?**

**The Board of Trustees believes the new trash and recycling program will contribute significantly to the quality of life in our township**, both now and in the future. We appreciate all the residents who have taken the time to come to the public meetings--those for, those against, and those with constructive criticism. The ordinance that governs our relationship with GFL will be better because of the public input we have received. As we move forward,

the Board remains committed to communicating effectively and often with township residents on this and other township matters. Thanks to all Scio residents for your patience and understanding.

## **Upcoming Scio Recycle Saturdays**

**October 19, 2019**

**November 16, 2019**

**December 21, 2019**



**FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK BY JACK KNOWLES, SUPERVISOR**

## **Changes at Township Hall**



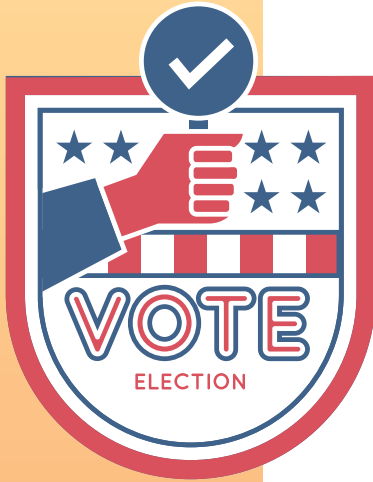
*Photo by Robert Read*

**O**ur Township Manager, Bryce Kelley, has announced that he will "hang up his hat," and transition into full-time retirement mode at the end of this year. His knowledge of governmental operations and "can do" attitude will be missed. Bryce joined the Township in the summer of 2016, having left the City of Southgate as their manager. I have known Bryce for over 20 years, and interfaced with him in a number of municipal positions he held during that time. He brought to the position of Township Manager a broad depth of knowledge and experience in governmental operations and management. We in Scio have all benefited from this. In many ways,

because Bryce was handling the everyday business of running the Township, he was the "face" of the Township to many residents. Many residents who dropped by Township Hall to ask a question or discuss an issue were ushered into Bryce's office and given his undivided attention until the matter was resolved. His open-door policy and willingness to sit down and talk with anyone about any issue made him an invaluable resource for us all. Every one of us around Township Hall will miss his uplifting personality and positive spirit. I know that I speak for everyone here at the Township in wishing him the best of whatever retirement has in store.

## Elections Update

Public  
Accuracy Test  
Township Hall  
October 22,  
10 am



**W**hen you vote in Scio, you are one of about 14,000 registered voters in the township. But if you think you might be out of town, are balancing a busy work-life schedule, or just don't know that you can get to your local polling station on Election Day, you may want to opt in to the Clerk's Permanent Absent Voters List. When you do, you will receive notice of every election and an application for an absent voter ballot. **Request to be added to the Permanent Absent Voters list by sending your name and address to [clerk@sciotownship.org](mailto:clerk@sciotownship.org).** If you decide after all that you want to vote in person, simply discard (recycle!) your application and show up at the polls as usual.

**November 5 is the next opportunity to vote in the Township.** Issues on the ballot include a special assessment to support Scio Township fire services and (for voters in the Ann Arbor school district) an increase in the millage to improve to Ann Arbor Public Schools buildings and facilities. For more information on the Scio issue, see "Fire Services Past, Present, and Future" in this newsletter. As was done for the August election, the Clerk's office will be combining precinct locations in order to lower costs. This will only affect voters in Precinct 6, whose polling location has been moved to the Clubhouse at Scio Farms, located at 6655 Jackson Road. As always, we will have plenty of signs out to help voters find their way to the polls on Election Day.

Scio is chock-full of active voters—more than 75 percent of registered voters in some of our precincts participated in the midterm election in 2018. But for an interested electorate, there's always more you can do. Did you know that there's a Public Accuracy Test before every election? The next one will be held at Township Hall on October

22 at 10 a.m.—the "public" part, that could be you! And if you really want to get into the nitty-gritty of local elections, you can sign up for training as an election worker—any US citizen over the age of 16 is eligible to apply and you get paid for it too! Stop in at the front desk in Township Hall for an application.

Here at the Clerk's office we are devoted to managing the township voter rolls in a respectful and lawful manner. We are also interested in increasing voter turnout wherever we can, whatever your obstacles are. If you are hospitalized, jailed, or unexpectedly out of town right before an election—contact us. We will try to figure out a way to get a ballot to you. We in Scio are fortunate in our polling places, which open their buildings to Scio voters without charge. And our friendly, knowledgeable Election Inspectors help ensure the privacy and integrity of your vote is maintained at all times. For more information about your voter registration status or polling locations, visit [mivic.sos.state.mi.us](http://mivic.sos.state.mi.us). Or call the Clerk's office at (734) 369-7400 Monday-Friday 8 am to 5 pm. We are here to get Scio voted!

### Vote November 5

Polling Locations for this election only are:

#### Precincts 1 and 7:

Washtenaw Intermediate School District,  
1819 S. Wagner Rd.

#### Precincts 2 and 3:

Scio Township Hall, 827 N. Zeeb Rd.

#### Precincts 4 and 8:

Scio Community Church, 1293 N. Zeeb Rd.

#### Precincts 5 and 6:

Scio Farms Clubhouse, 6655 Jackson Rd.

BY DAVID READ, TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

## Township Master Plan under Review

As part of the  
review process,  
there will be  
multiple  
opportunities for  
Scio residents to  
provide input to  
the Plan

**S**cio Township first developed a Master Land Use Plan in May, 2009. As provided for by State Law: "A master plan shall address land use and infrastructure issues... and shall show the Planning Commission's recommendations for the physical development of the planning jurisdiction." Further, Michigan Constitutional Law states that the master plan shall be reviewed and amended as necessary at least every 5 years. As the last review was completed in February 2015, it is time to review the Master Plan again.

At the request of the Township Planning Commission, the Township Board passed a resolution on September 10, 2019 enabling this process to begin. This review process, guided by our planning consultant, Carlisle/Wortman Associates,

is expected to cost \$34,438, an expenditure budgeted for, and authorized by, the Board of Trustees.

As part of the review process, there will be multiple opportunities for Scio residents to provide input to the Plan. We propose to have two visioning sessions, a public online survey tool accessible from the Township's website, and public input at Commission meetings that will give citizens the opportunity to express their values and priorities as the Township plans for the next five years.

The current master land use plan (dated 2009) is available in its entirety on the township website.



The Scio Land Preservation Commission is hard at work turning your tax dollars into natural and farmland preserves and easements to safeguard the habitat, health, and beauty of our unique township

Our goal is to respect and appreciate the natural assets of the properties and to provide safe, enjoyable and accessible public environments

BY BARRY LONIK, CONSULTANT TO THE SCIO LAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

## Land Preservation Projects

In 2004 and 2012, the voters of Scio Township approved a one-half mill tax to provide funds for acquiring land and land rights in order to permanently preserve farmland, open space, wildlife habitat, and scenic views; to protect drinking water sources and water quality; and to provide new parks, recreational opportunities, and trails. The goal of land preservation is primarily pursued in two ways: through land acquisition and through conservation easements.

### Land Preservation through Acquisition: Aprill farm

For many years, the 160-acre Aprill farm at the northwest corner of Zeeb and Scio Church roads had been targeted for preservation by the Township. Unlike other properties Scio has purchased in fee simple, the Aprill property is entirely agricultural and not suitable as a nature preserve. Our goal is to protect the property from development with a conservation easement—supported with funds from local, state and federal sources—and then sell the protected property to a new owner at a relatively affordable price (with most of the value associated with the easement), thereby recouping the vast majority of the purchase price so funds will be available for future land preservation projects.

The chance to protect a prominent, long-held family property was not one to be passed up. Scio residents and everyone who drives by the Aprill property—with its outstanding long-range scenic views, historic farmhouse and huge grey barn—can rest assured that it won't change. We're all thankful to the Aprill family for their willingness to work with the Township, and to our citizens who ensured the funds to protect it were available through the dedicated land preservation millage.

### Land Preservation through Conservation Easements

Over the last year, Scio Township's Land Preservation Program has completed conservation easement projects on three properties, each of about ten acres. Though small, each plays a unique and important role in conserving our area's habitat and natural resources.

- Donated by Scio township trustee Irwin Martin, the Equestrian Holdings Farm (item 23 on the map) protects scenic views to the U-M Saginaw Forest on Liberty near Wagner Rd.
- Purchased from Bill and Villabeth Taylor, the Taylor Natural Area (item 22 on the map) protects the longest stretch of (formerly) developable land on the Huron River in our county, its woods, steep slopes, and scenic views. Funding support provided by the Washtenaw County Natural Area Preservation Program.
- Purchased from Sheldon Smith, the Smith Conservation Easement (item 24 on the map) forms part of an area of western Scio (and extending into neighboring Lima Township) that now has over 520 acres of contiguous protected land (easements and preserves), assembled over the course of 20 years.

The Scio Land Preservation Commission is hard at work turning your tax dollars into natural and farmland preserves and easements to safeguard the habitat, health, and beauty of our unique township. For more information or to get involved, look us up on the township website under the tab "Boards and Commissions."

BY WILL HATHAWAY, SCIO PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

## New Parks to Open in Scio

Scio Township is committed to being a good and responsible steward of our public lands. To that end, the Parks Advisory Board is working to create a system of parks, preserves, and public open spaces for the use and enjoyment of our residents and visitors. These parks and nature preserves are located primarily on land purchased through the voter-approved Farmland and Open Space Land Preservation Millage enacted in 2004 and renewed in 2012. The goal of purchasing this lands is to protect the natural resources and rural character of our township.

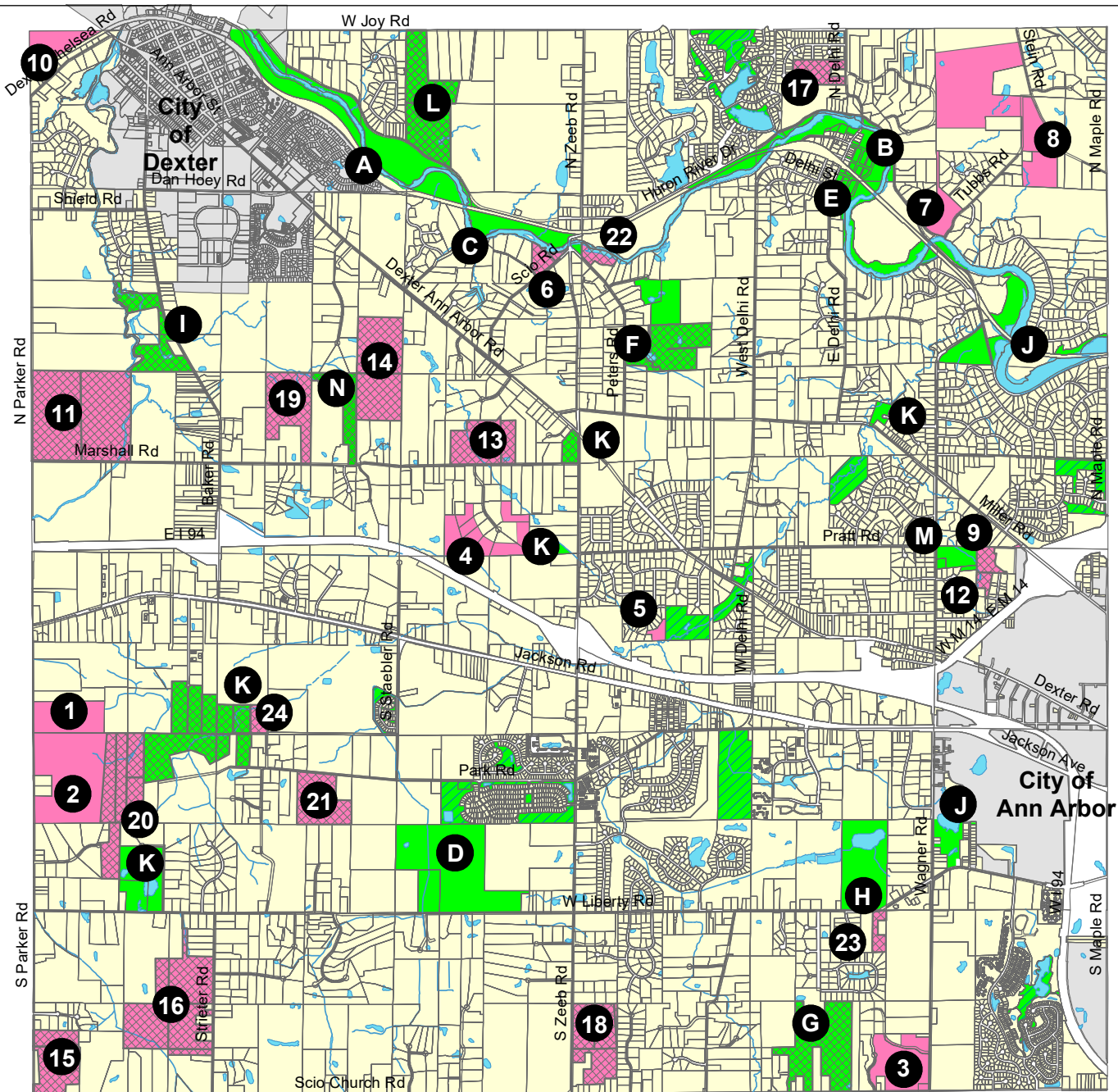
### These three properties are slated to open within the next year:

- Township Hall Park (behind Scio Township Hall on Zeeb Road)
- West Scio Preserves (off Jackson Road between Dino Drive and Musolf Lane)

- Marshall Park (at Marshall Road and Zeeb Road)

Once the Township has posted boundary markers and added signage and parking, these areas will be ready for public use, though we will continue to improve access by creating nature paths and other features.

Our goal is to respect and appreciate the natural assets of the properties and to provide safe, enjoyable and accessible public environments. The Parks Advisory Board members are all volunteers and we want to make sure these public open spaces meet the expressed needs of Scio residents. We hope that we can count on input from the residents of Scio now and in the future. Please email [parks@sciotownship.org](mailto:parks@sciotownship.org) to contact Board chair Will Hathaway with comments or to attend a meeting.



#### Public Parks & Preserves

- A. Dexter - Huron Metropark
- B. Delhi Metropark
- C. Burns-Stokes County Preserve
- D. DeVine County Preserve
- E. Osborne Mill County Park
- F. Fox County Preserve\*
- G. Scio Church Woods County Preserve\*
- H. U of M Saginaw Forest
- I. Sloan Preserve\*
- J. City of Ann Arbor
- K. Township Properties\*
- L. Van Curler Preserve\*
- M. Botsford County Preserve
- N. Mersereau Preserve\*

#### Private Park/Open Space

#### Lakes & Rivers

#### Streams & Drains

#### Funded in part with Scio Millage Proceeds\*

#### Conservation Easement

- 1. Manny Farm
- 2. Parker Farm
- 3. Thomas-Lobato Farm & Natural Area
- 4. Merlin Way Natural Area
- 5. Solent Natural Area
- 6. Gatward Natural Area
- 7. Heydon Natural Area
- 8. Heydon Farm
- 9. Botsford Natural Area\*
- 10. Gordon Hall Historical Easement
- 11. Davenport Farm\*
- 12. Hathaway Natural Area\*
- 13. Green Natural Area\*
- 14. Scherdt Farm\*
- 15. Schneider Farm\*
- 16. Helmer Farm\*
- 17. Moore Farm\*
- 18. White Farm\*
- 19. Levine-Kempton Farm\*
- 20. Frey Farm & Natural Area\*
- 21. Dam Tsig Foundation Farm\*
- 22. Taylor Natural Area\*
- 23. Equestrian Holdings Farm\*
- 24. Smith Conservation Easement\*

## PROTECTED PROPERTIES

Scio Township  
Washtenaw County



0 0.5 1 Miles

Carlisle/Wortman Associates

6-28-19



## Your tax dollars

Just  
\$1.7826  
per \$1,000  
taxable value  
stays in the  
Township

**F**irst of all, many thanks to all of our citizens who paid their taxes by the due date. We had a phenomenal 94 percent pay on time!

### Have you ever wondered where all your dollars go?

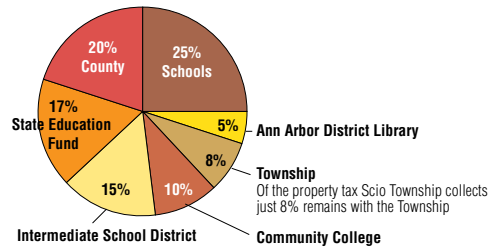
Though you pay to Scio Township, just 7-8% of your payments stay with the Township.

Additionally, any special assessments or County drain assessments appear on your December tax bill.

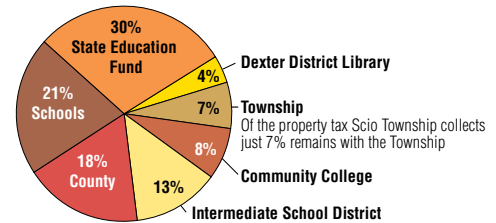
### Now you know where your money goes!

Just \$1.7826 per \$1,000 taxable value stays in the Township.

#### For residents within the Ann Arbor School District



#### For residents within the Dexter School District



BY BRYCE KELLEY, TOWNSHIP MANAGER

## Fire Services Past, Present, and Future

The STFD  
strives to  
provide the  
high-quality  
fire protection  
services our  
residents expect  
and deserve

**T**he Scio Township Fire Department (STFD) has served our community for more than 30 years. Over the decades, as commercial and residential developments sprang up throughout the Township, the STFD has striven to continue to provide the high-quality fire protection services our residents expect and deserve. In 2008, Scio voters approved a 0.9 mil Fire Protection Special Assessment District, for the purpose of defraying the cost of providing fire protection services in the Township. This November, voters will be asked to consider increasing this levy to 1.35 mills. This request arises from a professional estimation of future resources necessary to respond to increased calls for service and compliance with operational standards. In other words, as the Township has grown, so have demands on the Fire Department.

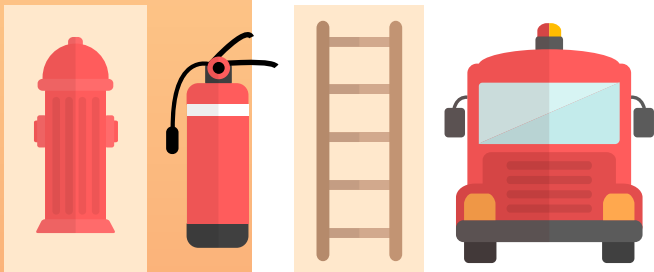
A 2017 evaluation of staffing needs and risk assessment has led to recent improvements in the administration of the STFD, including expanded training and education for all firefighting staff, and a clearer chain of command, with each level having assigned duties and responsibilities. These near-term changes have shown results. More is being accomplished, routine duties are now established, and ownership of

the job is evident in the performance of the firefighters. In addition, an executive search for a full-time fire chief is underway, several candidates have been identified and interviews will take place in October.

An increase in the Department's operating budget will allow the STFD to budget into the future for identified needs, such as:

- A reserve to fund planned vehicle purchases
- A building-improvement reserve fund. Identified necessary improvements include a new roof, a decontamination room, female quarters and locker room, structural repairs, a remodeled kitchen, men's locker room update, and replacement of obsolete electrical panels.
- A reserve to fund pension and retirement expenses
- Annual wage increases of roughly 3 percent per year for the next 3 years

The November ballot proposal is as follows: "Shall the Township of Scio, Washtenaw County, Michigan increase the fire protection special assessment levy from 0.9 mills to 1.35 mills on the taxable value of all real property in the Special Assessment District under the provisions of Michigan Public Act 33 of 1951, for the purpose of providing funds for fire protection vehicles, buildings, equipment, wages and services in Scio Township?"





# SCIO TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

## ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

**Sunday, October 27, 2019**

**Come meet the firefighters!**

**From 1:00 to 4:00 pm**

**This is a costume party, with a bounce house, colors the clown, candy, refreshments, and games.**

**Fire Station  
1055 North Zeeb Road**



## Update on Dioxane Contamination in Scio

There are currently no wells in Scio Township with 1,4 Dioxane above the safe drinking water levels

Testing conducted in March of 2019 showed no Dioxane contamination in the City of Ann Arbor drinking water or in Barton Pond

### Background and status of proceedings

Most of you are aware that between 1966 and 1986 Gelman Sciences released an industrial solvent, 1,4 Dioxane, into the soil, ground water and surface water at its facility on Wagner Rd. Over the years the “plume” of 1,4 Dioxane contaminated groundwater has spread and is now approximately three miles long and one mile wide, extending further west towards Honey Creek and further east into the ground water beneath the City of Ann Arbor.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality oversaw cleanup efforts and monitored the spread of the plume under a series of Consent Judgments issued by the Circuit Court in Washtenaw County. In 2016, the former MDEQ (now the department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, or EGLE) and the Michigan Attorney General imposed lower cleanup criteria and sought to amend the Consent Judgment. **Scio Township, along with the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and the Huron River Watershed Council intervened in that action.**

The parties and the Intervenor have been in settlement negotiations with Gelman and its corporate successors since 2017. The Circuit Court has ordered that the parties keep all matters pertaining to negotiations strictly confidential. Consequently, the Township cannot reveal information about the progress of negotiations regarding the amendment of the Consent Judgment. The Intervenor met in a joint closed session with their respective Counsel

on June 12, 2019, and again on September 12, 2019. The Intervenor scheduled another joint closed session for December 12, 2019, to review the status of negotiations.

### Scio's water is currently safe to drink

**Monitoring wells have been installed in the source area on Wagner Rd. and in other locations throughout the Township and Ann Arbor.** EGLE provides quarterly reports on the readings from these wells, along with other information on the Gelman plume, to Scio and others. Although 1,4 Dioxane has been found in small amounts in several residential drinking wells, there are currently no wells in Scio Township with 1,4 Dioxane above the safe drinking water levels.

Scio residents within the water district obtain their water from the City of Ann Arbor. The water from the city of Ann Arbor is also currently free of contamination. Although trace amounts of 1,4 Dioxane were found in Ann Arbor's drinking water in February of 2019, follow-up testing in March of 2019 showed no contamination in the drinking water or in Barton Pond.

**The 1,4 Dioxane contamination and the State proceedings remain one of the highest priorities for Township action.** For further information, search the Township website using the term “Dioxane.” In addition, the city of Ann Arbor's website, [a2gov.org/a2h20](http://a2gov.org/a2h20), provides a number of links that contain detailed information about the 1,4 Dioxane plume.

BY ANITA DALEY, HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

## Microplastic Pollution in the Huron River and Great Lakes

Did you know...?

Use or sale of coal-tar based sealants is prohibited in Scio Township.

For more information, go to the Township website under the link “Learn about Ordinances”

When most people think of plastic pollution, they think of huge floating islands of plastic waste in oceans. And they are correct. Our oceans host vast amounts of plastic waste that breaks down in water and harms aquatic life. It also breaks down in our rivers and lakes, polluting our home waters far from any ocean. Unfortunately, there is plastic pollution in the Huron River. Some of it is in pieces big enough to see and the rest is so small that you need a microscope to see it.

In 2015 the US Geological Survey (USGS) studied 29 tributaries of the Great Lakes, including the Huron River. The researchers found that the most common source of plastic pollution, at 70 percent, comes from microplastic fibers. When we wash our synthetic fabrics such as fleece and polyester, the fibers enter the water treatment system but are too small to be filtered out. They are then sent into the environment.

The good news is that we know the biggest source so we can be strategic about how to address the pollution. We can use laundry devices in our washing machines to catch some of the fibers before they wash out in the wastewater. We can buy more natural fibers and contact clothing manufacturers expressing our concern.

HRWC created 3 one-minute animated videos to get the word out about this issue. Check them out, share with your friends and family, and learn more about the health of our local waterways at [hrwc.org/microplastics](http://hrwc.org/microplastics).





## Local Non-Profit Resources



### Ann Arbor Habitat for Humanity ReStore

6241 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
Store hours Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm  
h4h.org/restore  
(734) 822-1530

The ReStore sells new and gently used items such as furniture, appliances, and home goods that are donated from local businesses and individuals. All of our proceeds go directly into our home-building efforts right here in our community. When you shop, we build!



### Peace Neighborhood Center

1111 N. Maple Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
(734) 662-3564  
peaceneighborhoodcenter.org

Peace Neighborhood Center provides programs and services for children, families and individuals that promote self-sufficiency and positive community involvement such as after school programs, summer day camps, and family enrichment workshops.

WASHTENAW  
ALANO  
CLUB

### Washtenaw Alano Club

995 North Maple, Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
washtenawalano.club  
(734) 668-8138

A place for alcoholics and addicts, their friends, and family to find help, hope, and community.



### Food Gatherers

1 Carrot Way, Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
foodgatherers.org  
(734) 761-2796

Did you know 1 in 7 of your neighbors is hungry? Food Gatherers is the food bank and food rescue program serving Washtenaw County. To learn more about how you can help or how you can get food, visit foodgatherers.org.

## GRATITUDES

*"I love how everyone is so friendly! This is my family's first time living in a not-so-dense neighborhood, but the distance hasn't deterred our neighbors from being friendly and getting to know us."*

*Ariel W., Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd*

*If there's something about living in Scio Township that you're feeling grateful for, share it with us at [newsletter@sciotownship.org](mailto:newsletter@sciotownship.org)*

## Wrapping up Construction Season 2019

The WCRC engineering team is busy preparing for the 2020 construction season, including three projects in Scio Township

This summer has proven to be a very productive construction season for the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC). By September, we had already completed our major 2019 road projects planned in Scio Township, including the resurfacing of Joy Road, which was paid for by the roads and non-motorized paths millage of 2016.

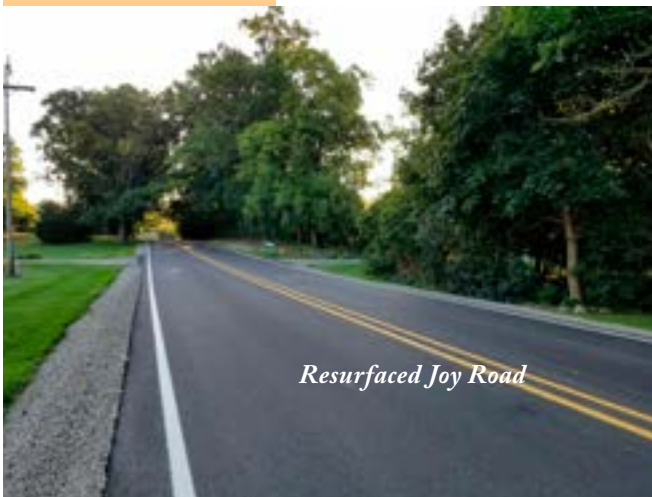
Our engineering team is busy preparing for the 2020 construction season, including three projects in Scio Township. We plan to build a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of Miller and Wagner roads next year. The roundabout should help to alleviate congestion during peak hours while minimizing impacts to surrounding properties. We will also replace the aging bridge on Miller Road over Honey Creek. While Miller Road is closed for these projects, we will resurface the road between the bridge and the roundabout. These projects will require some trees to be removed along Miller and Wagner

roads but we are working with our consultant to minimize tree removals wherever possible.

As you may know, 2019 also marks an important milestone for WCRC, it's our 100th anniversary. In celebration, the Washtenaw County Historical Society is hosting an exhibit this winter in our honor. The exhibit opens to the public on November 10. Visit [wccroads.org/100th-anniversary](http://wccroads.org/100th-anniversary) to learn more.

Lastly, as winter approaches, our operations team is busy getting ready. You may see our big orange snowplows driving around your neighborhood in the coming weeks. This is part of our annual "dry run," a chance for our snowplow drivers to check out their routes and fine-tune everything on their trucks.

As you can see, it's been a busy year so far and next year is looking like another great one. If you have any questions, please contact us (734) 761-1500, or visit [wccroads.org](http://wccroads.org).



*Resurfaced Joy Road*



## GRATITUDES

*"I'm an Ann Arbor resident who has recently discovered the co-housing communities nestled within Scio Township. What a treasure! There are only around 160 co-housing developments in the United States and three of them are in Scio! I'm grateful to learn more about intentional communities and meeting some of the wonderful people who live there."*

*Susie E., Ann Arbor*

*If there's something about living in Scio Township that you're feeling grateful for, share it with us at [newsletter@sciotownship.org](mailto:newsletter@sciotownship.org)*



# Useful Contact Info

*Photo by Nancy Hedberg*

## Township Hall and Clerk's Office

827 North Zeeb Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
(734) 369-9400  
[info@sciotownship.org](mailto:info@sciotownship.org)  
[clerk@sciotownship.org](mailto:clerk@sciotownship.org)  
website: [sciotownship.org](http://sciotownship.org)  
Hours: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## Officers and Trustees

Jack Knowles, Supervisor – [jknowles@sciotownship.org](mailto:jknowles@sciotownship.org)  
Jessica Flintoft, Clerk – [jflintoft@sciotownship.org](mailto:jflintoft@sciotownship.org)  
Donna Palmer, Treasurer – [DEpalmer@sciotownship.org](mailto:DEpalmer@sciotownship.org)  
Christine Green, Trustee – [CGreen@sciotownship.org](mailto:CGreen@sciotownship.org)  
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David Read, Trustee – [DRead@sciotownship.org](mailto:DRead@sciotownship.org)  
[TownshipBoard@sciotownship.org](mailto:TownshipBoard@sciotownship.org)

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Director  
Jim Merte – [jmerte@sciotownship.org](mailto:jmerte@sciotownship.org) – Assessor

## The Scio Township Community Report

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Editor  
Mary Gillis

Graphic Design  
Julie Tanguay

## Utilities

### In Scio:

Regular business hours: . . . . . (734) 369-9350

After-hours emergencies: . . . . . (734) 651-4770

**In Dexter:** . . . . . (734) 426-4572  
(with after-hours automated triage)

**In Loch Alpine:** . . . . . (734) 426-4545  
(with after-hours pager number on answering machine)

## Washtenaw County

**Water Resources Commissioner.** . . . . (734) 222-6860  
[drains@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:drains@ewashtenaw.org)

**County Road Commission** . . . . . (734) 761-1500  
[wcr@wccroads.org](mailto:wcr@wccroads.org)

**County Commissioner**  
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[maciejewskij@washtenaw.org](mailto:maciejewskij@washtenaw.org)

## State of Michigan

**State Representative**  
District 52 - Donna Lasinski . . . . . (855) 627-5052  
[DonnaLasinski@house.mi.gov](mailto:DonnaLasinski@house.mi.gov)

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District 7 – Tim Walberg . . . . . (202) 225-6276  
[www.walberg.house.gov](http://www.walberg.house.gov)

District 12 – Debbie Dingell . . . . . 202) 225-4071  
[www.debbiedingell.house.gov/contact/email](http://www.debbiedingell.house.gov/contact/email)

**U.S. Senators**  
Debbie Stabenow . . . . . (202) 224-4822  
[senator@stabenow.senate.gov](mailto:senator@stabenow.senate.gov)  
Gary Peters. . . . . (202) 224-6221  
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**President of the United States**  
Donald J. Trump. . . . . (202) 456-1111  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)





Scio Township Hall  
827 North Zeeb Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Postmaster: leave with current resident

To Scio Neighbor:

An accurate census helps the federal government allocate more than \$400 billion annually

## Scio and the 2020 Census

An accurate census count is important to local governments for many reasons. An accurate count helps the federal government annually allocate more than \$400 billion across 26 federal agencies for tribal, state, and local government programs and services. In Washtenaw county, census counts affect Community Development Block Grants, the HOME Investment Partnership, homelessness prevention and support programs, Public Health programming, and more. For townships, a full census response is crucial to accurately reflect the vibrancy of an area. If a township does not respond fully, their area could be seen as stagnant,

or worse, shrinking, and less funds may be allocated to them, impacting roads, schools, hospitals and other local needs. The League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area is doing a series of presentations about the census for local organizations and community groups. Contact Margaret Leary, [mleary@umich.edu](mailto:mleary@umich.edu), for more information.

United States  
Census  
2020

## GRATITUDES

*"After living in Scio Township for the past four years, I can hands-down say the proximity to the natural world is what I am most grateful for. From roly poly bugs to a twelve-point buck and everything in between, we have had many awe-inspiring moments on our property and the surrounding areas."*

*Beth F., Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd.*

*If there's something about living in Scio Township that you're feeling grateful for, share it with us at [newsletter@sciotownship.org](mailto:newsletter@sciotownship.org)*