

# Scio Township

## Fall 2018

### COMMUNITY REPORT

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#### SCIO TOWNSHIP OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 27,  
2018  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Scio Township Officials invite you to tour the brand new offices of the Township's Utility Department at 827 N. Zeeb Road. Visitors and guests will have the opportunity to tour the space, speak with staff, see the processes in place to manage Scio's water & sewer systems, and enjoy light refreshments. You will learn about the Department's new Oxygenation system, and various systems the Department uses to track and monitor the water and sewer flows throughout the system.

FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK BY JACK KNOWLES, SUPERVISOR

## Meet the Rock

I know the entire Township has been waiting anxiously to find out the results of the naming of the big hunk of granite outside the front door at Township Hall. There were a number of good entries which were noted in the last newsletter, and a few more have come in since that time. Originally, in true governmental fashion, I had thought this task was worthy of convening a select commission to review the entries, deliberate for hours on the choices, and arrive at a determination. However, the more I thought about it, that approach seemed like it may not be the best allocation of public resources. Instead, I decided to leave it up to the staff at Township Hall, and polled them. While I was a little disappointed in the number of responses from staff (seems as if they had more important things to attend to), there was one name that garnered far more votes than the others Carrie Granite.

Thus, as Supervisor of the Township of Scio, I officially decree that the aforementioned rock, that was unearthed during the excavation process for the building addition, and now sits adjacent to the front entrance of Scio Township Hall, shall from this day forward be affectionally known as Carrie Granite.

### Building Dedication and Open House

Speaking of the building, we are pleased to report that the construction of the new Utility Department addition to Township Hall is nearing completion, in fact the Township Clerk is already occupying a small portion of it, and the furniture for the remainder of the areas, is expected to be delivered next week. On the outside, the landscaping is in, the grass is growing and has been mowed twice, the sidewalk connector from the front door to the Zeeb Road

Path is installed, and the parking lot will soon be seal-coated. We should be receiving a certificate of occupancy from the County Building Department shortly, and then we will begin occupying the new offices.

The new addition expanded (what was previously the rear of the building) to the north and includes a new, separate (public) entrance for the Utility Department. The interior space connects directly to the existing building and includes a reception counter, expanded Utility Department offices and cubicles, lunchroom/kitchen, restrooms with showers, new space for the Township Clerk including an election training room, a secured area for election materials and voting machines (as required by law), a Deputy Clerk office, plan storage areas, a 4 bay garage for vehicles and maintenance equipment, maintenance work area, and small basement for long term storage space. The project included the remodeling of 2500 square feet of the existing Township Hall building, and adding approximately 4986 square feet of new, main floor area.

The project cost was \$1.8 million which included the building, expansion and improvement of the adjacent parking area, outside LED lighting upgrades, improved stormwater facilities, and landscape improvements. The project was funded primarily from sewer and water reserve accounts.

We are very proud of this new addition, and invite the public to join us for a

Building Dedication and Open House on Saturday, October 27, 2018, 1 to 4 pm.

Come see your new Township Hall Utility Department, meet your public officials and staff, and tour the facility.



## Fall in Scio Township means fun!

Fall is a great time to get outdoors. It's an opportunity to explore your community and the region.



### Fall is back and there are some mysteries that can never be explained.

Every fall of the year, as if a mystical aura has descended, our senses are bombarded with sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of the season. The burnt crimsons, the buttery yellows, and the ginger orange leaves blanketing the ground; the smells of burning leaf piles and wood fires; the giggles of children trick or treating, riding ponies and rushing through corn mazes; the taste of hot cider and cinnamon apple pies; and the crunch of fallen leaves underfoot trigger autumn memories of the past.

The growing season is coming to an end, nature is winding down, winter is soon upon us, and parts of nature begins its hibernation in preparation for a new spring beginning. Despite the cooler morning air, that daylight hours are waning, that frost might be on windshields and leaves blowing into doorways, many of us welcome Michigan's fall season. It's as if nature has released all of its warm weather energy into the atmosphere for all of us to take in.

Fall is a great time to get outdoors. Whether it's long walks, or longer bike rides or color tours in your car; it's an opportunity to explore your community and the region, and the perfect excuse to take some time to reflect on the past year and plan for the next. Here are a few of the area's seasonal and recreational activities:

- The Scio Township Fire Department 31st Annual Halloween Party, Sunday October 28, 2018, from 1-4 p.m.
- Friday Night High School Football Games
- Area Youth Weekend Soccer Games
- The Dexter Holiday Hustle – 1 mile and 5K on December 8, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.
- Walking and biking the N. Zeeb Non-motorized pathway
- Biking Huron River Drive to the Delhi Metropark and into the City of Dexter and then onto Hudson Mills Metropark, nearly 8 miles of beautiful Huron River vistas
- Trout fishing in Mill Creek and at the Spring Valley Trout Farm

### On Saturday Mornings you might:

- Get a bag or a box of baked delicacies at the Dexter Bakery
- Watch apple cider being pressed and fresh donuts being cooked, and maybe purchase the "Dexter Cider Mill Apple Cookbook", at the Dexter Cider Mill
- Get your Thanksgiving turkey, pick pumpkins, squash, apples and late season vegetables at any one of our area's farm to table produce farms and working livestock farms:

- The Wing Farm
- White Lotus Farms
- Jenny's Farm Stand and Cider Mill
- Zingerman's Cornman Farms
- The Slow Farm
- Shop the Ann Arbor Antiques Market at the Washtenaw County Fair Grounds on October 20th and 21st
- Get out and play at the Delhi Metro Park
- Kayak and canoe and picnic on and along the Huron River
- Walk downtown Dexter and visit the gift shops and restaurants and taverns
- Get lost in the Blast Corn Maze
- Play nine or eighteen holes at the Hudson Mills Metropark Golf Course
- Sail with the Michigan Sailing Club on Strawberry Lake



### And more!

- Tour Gordon Hall
- Visit the Dexter Area Museum
- Hike the trails at the Sloan Preserve
- Learn about the history of Scio at the Dexter Historical Museum
- Enjoy a performance at Dexter's Encore Musical Theatre Company
- Attend a performance at the Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea
- Visit Dexter Art Gardens and the Side Door Gallery
- Wine tasting at the De Angelis Cantina del Vino
- Enjoy craft beers and wine at the Beer Grotto
- The Session Room—find a unique selection of local and national craft beers, cocktails and food items
- Or make your own beer with supplies from Adventures in Homebrewing



# SCIO TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT'S

## 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

**Sunday, October 28, 2018**

**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 on  
1055 North Zeeb Road**

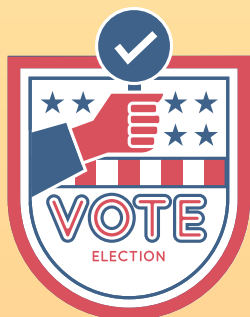


[www.sciotownship.org](http://www.sciotownship.org)



# General Election is November 6!

Don't  
forget to  
**VOTE**  
November 6.  
Polls open  
7am to 8pm.



November 6, 2018 is the Gubernatorial Election in the State of Michigan, and there will be several offices to fill. The positions to be voted are for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, US Senator, US Representatives, State Senators, State Representatives, County Commissioners, State Board of Education, UofM Regents, MSU Trustees, Wayne State Governors, Washtenaw Community College Trustees, Justices of the Supreme Court, District, Circuit, Probate and Court of Appeals Judges, School Board members for both Ann Arbor and Dexter, and Ann Arbor Library Board. There is one County Proposal a renewal for the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation millage, and there will be several State ballot initiatives. Sample ballots are available at the Township, or you can view your ballot online at **Michigan Voter Information Center**.

## Before You Stand in Line, Go On-line!

In January of 2017 we made changes to the Precinct Boundaries in Scio to reduce ballot waste and to better follow the school district boundaries. We apologize to those who are frustrated that suddenly they are being directed to a new polling place. If you haven't voted since November 2016, please check to be sure you know where your polling place is. To check your precinct polling place, make sure you are registered to vote, or to view a sample ballot for upcoming elections visit the **Michigan Voter Information Center** (MVIC) at <http://michigan.gov/vote>.

## Temporary Precinct Polling Place Change—Precinct 5

Scio Farms Community Clubhouse is under construction with an addition and renovation, leaving Precinct 5 without its usual polling place in November. Accelerate Church has

generously volunteered to serve as Precinct 5's location this fall. Accelerate Church is located at 6075 Jackson Road, just a little east of the Scio Farms community on the south side of Jackson Road. (See map and photo below)

## Absentee Voter Ballots

Absentee ballots will be mailed out the week of October 8th. If you wish to pick up a ballot in person, please be prepared to show your photo ID. During this busy time, we will have limited hours for this service: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., M – F.

## Scio August Primary Voter Turnout

What a fantastic turnout we had in Scio Township in August! Countywide the average turnout was 34.95% (38.98% in Scio). Below are the percentages for each of Scio's precincts:

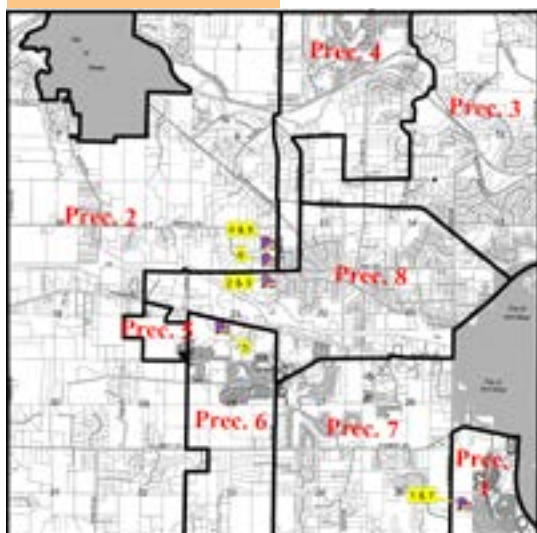
	Registered Voters	Voted	Percent
Scio Township, Precinct 1	1795	640	35.65%
Scio Township, Precinct 2	1582	692	43.74%
Scio Township, Precinct 3	1631	756	46.35%
Scio Township, Precinct 4	1450	671	46.28%
Scio Township, Precinct 5	1402	311	22.18%
Scio Township, Precinct 6	1326	447	33.71%
Scio Township, Precinct 7	2267	844	37.23%
Scio Township, Precinct 8	2015	942	46.75%

Thank you to all the hard working Election Inspectors who make our elections run smoothly for all voters.


## UOCAVA

What is UOCAVA? It stands for Uniform and Overseas Civilian Absentee Voting Act. This federal law was enacted by Congress in 1986. In 2009, a subtitle of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, titled the **Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act ("MOVE Act")**, amended UOCAVA to establish new voter registration and absentee ballot procedures which states must follow in all federal elections

If you have family or friends who are in the military or a civilian working or attending school overseas (or in Canada & Mexico) inform them of this Act. It involves submitting an **FPCA (Federal Post Card Application)**, easily found on-line, to their local clerk. MOVE ballots are sent 45 days before an election date in order to allow enough time for the ballot to be returned via post to the jurisdiction to be counted on Election Day.



## Scio Township Polling Places November 6, 2018 Election

 Polling Locations

PRECINCT NUMBER	LOCATION
1	1819 S. WADSWORTH RD. SCIO TOWNSHIP HALL 821 N. ZEEB RD.
2	SCIO TOWNSHIP HALL 821 N. ZEEB RD.
3	SCIO TOWNSHIP HALL 821 N. ZEEB RD.
4	SCIO COMMUNITY CHURCH 1260 N. ZEEB RD.
5	ACCELERATE CHURCH 1875 JACKSON RD.
6	SCIO FIRE HALL 1855 N. ZEEB RD.
7	1819 S. WADSWORTH RD.
8	SCIO COMMUNITY CHURCH 1260 N. ZEEB RD.



Photo by Jeremy Glick

Some property rights allow the property owner to “develop” the land in different ways.

## What the heck is a conservation easement?

### And how does it benefit Scio Township and a landowner?

**T**here are 25 land preservation projects completed with Scio Township’s dedicated land preservation millage. Eleven of these are either owned by the township or Washtenaw County Parks as preserves. The remaining 14 properties have “conservation easements” recorded as deed restrictions in the title work of the property. Nice couple of words but what exactly are conservation easements and how do they work?

When a person or entity owns property a number of property rights are included. Some property rights allow the property owner to “develop” the land in different ways. As long as local zoning requirements are met a property owner may choose to divide property into smaller parcels to sell, or to build and sell houses on those smaller parcels. The property owner may opt to clear the land or operate a business. These are collectively referred to as the “development rights.”

A landowner can pursue the permitted activities allowed by local zoning regulations or they can convey their development rights to another party such as Scio Township. To qualify for programs that purchase rights, and enjoy the federal income tax deductions for donating some or all of the value of development rights, the rights must be conveyed in perpetuity in a deed restriction called a “conservation easement.”

Conservation easements identify the property to be “conserved” with a legal description provided by a surveyor and the “conservation values” to be protected. Conservation values can include natural habitats, agricultural soils, scenic views, biological diversity, landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics, protection of rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats, etc. The “guts” of the easement are the sections that specify which rights are being retained by the landowner and named Permitted Uses and those that are being relinquished by the property owner, called Prohibited Actions.

As grantee or beneficiary of the conservation easement, it is Scio’s responsibility to ensure the agreement is upheld—forever. There is a section in the conservation easement language specifying the township’s right to enter the property after proper notice to the property owner, to document any changes, permitted or not, and to pursue “remedies” for the property to be returned to its previous condition if a use not permitted was undertaken. Township staff visit the property once a year to “monitor” its condition, which also builds awareness and understanding with the landowner and usually avoids any issues. In the event the property is in violation of the terms of the conservation easement the township as grantee could pursue a number of enforcement actions to require the property be restored, including taking the landowner to court.

Once the parties have agreed to easement terms, the owner/grantor and the township/grantee sign the document and it

is recorded in the county Register of Deeds. All current and future landowners must abide by the agreement. Amendments to the conservation easement are only permitted to clarify language, move a permitted use or structure to another location, forego a permitted use and respond to a change in agricultural technology.

While the township is “purchasing” development rights, we don’t “own” them and can’t use them. The legal term is that we “retire” the rights so they can no longer be used. The only way rights could be used is if they were reunited with the title to the property, that is, if the easement grantee was going to also take ownership. There is a section of the easement stating if that is ever to occur, the easement must be conveyed to another agency, such as Washtenaw County Parks, so the “merger” of easement and title doesn’t happen. The new grantee agency would then be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of the easement.

The value of development rights is determined by an independent real estate appraiser. The appraiser produces two reports, one for the property “as is” with its development potential intact and a second with the conservation easement in place. In both cases the “subject” property is compared to similar, nearby properties that have sold in the recent past. After adjustments are made for property size, location, type of road frontage, time since the sales occurred, etc., the appraiser provides a professional opinion of the values of the subject. The difference between the “before” and “after” appraisals is the value of development rights.

That difference is usually the price paid, although in many cases the landowner discounts the sale price or even donates the entire value. In such cases, the landowner is eligible to declare the discounted amount or the value of donated rights as a deduction on their federal income taxes. Federal income tax law allows for the deduction to be spread over as many as 16 years. For more information, please contact your accountant or Township office staff who can refer you to expert advisors.

Conservation easements have many benefits. They protect land from development. Since the property remains in private ownership, unlike properties purchased as preserves, the owner keeps paying taxes. Often, real estate taxes paid by the landowner decrease as the assessed value of the land without development rights is lower. Purchasing easements also costs less than buying land so our dedicated, but limited, millage funds go further. For properties in agricultural use, local jobs are supported. For these and many other reasons, conservation easements will continue to be a valuable tool for Scio Township’s land preservation program.

For further information, please contact the Township staff. We will happy to direct your questions to the appropriate expert.



## The Trash & Recycling Project in More Detail

The Township anticipates the new service will begin in March of 2019.

**T**he Township of Scio is actively working on a multi-year contract with a municipal solid waste and recyclables removal company to begin a mandatory Township-wide trash & recycling pickup service for all Township residential customers. In late fall of 2016 the Board of Trustees first indicated their desire to put a single municipal waste hauling vendor program in place. At the time the discussion centered on reducing damage to the Township's local roads due to the number of heavy trucks that drive them daily, trash & recycling bins on the side of the road most days of the week, and traffic safety.

Currently residential customers contract for their own trash & recycling pickup service. Today, no less than 7 firms provide some form of these services in our residential areas. A typical garbage truck weighs 18 tons empty. With the number of providers serving the Township some neighborhoods see up to twelve, 18 ton trucks, run up and down their streets every week, sometimes 4-6 times a day. If you live on a connector road this traffic may be much higher. And due to the various pickup schedules of the companies serving the Township, some streets may have garbage bins placed at the curb for pick up 3-4 days a week.

### So why does the township want to get into the trash & recycling business?

Management of municipal trash & recyclables is an important environmental service. Thousands of municipalities across the state and country regulate it as a utility. In these municipalities trash & recyclables management is similar to the manner in which publicly supplied water, sewer and power is regulated, monitored, managed and billed.

The truth of the matter is the Township isn't necessarily eager to jump into the trash & recycling service. However, there are several reasons why it is the right thing to do now:

- Reduce heavy truck traffic on the local roads in Scio Township
- Focus on efficiencies of the trash & recycling services
- Provide the highest standards of service, experience, & reliability at a competitive price
- Educate the customer in trash diversion, waste reduction and recycling practices
- Help residents decrease the amount of solid waste sent to landfills
- Reduce the number of days trash bins are set out on Township roads

Scio Township is not alone in this. Many communities use similar mandatory or preferred vendor services. Recognizing the need for a sustained approach to trash & recyclables management, the **2018 Washtenaw County Solid Waste**

**Plan** identifies several mid- and long-term goals and objectives for a regional collaboration for the management of solid waste and recycling. They include: 1. develop an aggressive plan to reduce the overall amount of municipal solid waste; 2. develop an aggressive plan to increase the diversion rate of municipal solid waste to recyclables; 3. develop, support, and monitor comprehensive education, outreach, and feedback programs; 4. ensure the safe, lawful, and efficient management of municipal solid waste; and 5. operate collaboratively within the County and regionally outside of the County for a comprehensive sustainable materials management strategy. Scio Township's goals and objectives share similar priorities with respect to solid waste conversion, consumer education, quality of service and economy of scale.

In April of 2018 the preparation of a Request for Bids (the RFB) began. After working through 5 drafts, and a legal review, the RFB was issued in February of 2018. The opening paragraph of the 30 page RFB summarized the Township's required vendor criteria;

"The Township of Scio, Washtenaw County, MI is soliciting bids to provide for the collection and disposal of residential solid waste and recycling services throughout the Township. Bids are being solicited only from responsible and established bidders known to be experienced and regularly engaged in the work of solid waste collection and recycling services. Bidders will be required to provide satisfactory evidence that they possess the necessary capital, equipment, personnel, and experience to do the work."

Four qualified responses were received at the end of March 2018 from the 6 firms that expressed an interest in bidding. Due to the size of the Township's contract two bidders chose not to bid. Over 1000 pages in total were submitted. The Township Manager asked two elected officials and three township residents to independently review the responses and score them. The scores of the two highest ranked responses were nearly identical. After a series of clarifications and responses to additional questions the Township Manager recommended the Board of Trustees enter into contract negotiations with GFL Environmental. At the time of the publication of this article the Board of Trustees will most likely be reviewing new trash & recycling ordinances for adoption and implementation, and the contract negotiations should be underway.

Despite the numerous discussions at the Board of Trustees meetings, newsletter articles, and the website, news of the project has not reached everyone in the larger community. We have heard from a number of residents that they were not aware of the trash & recycling project. Moving forward there will continue to be updates on the website, in the newsletter and at Board meetings about the status of the project. In addition there will be mailed notifications of



upcoming public comment forums. Two forums are planned. The first will address new Scio Township trash & recycling ordinances, the second will address details of the service for the residential customers. The company will be available to answer questions and clarifications at these forums.

**In closing please note these key points:**

- The Township will be your solid waste and recyclables pick up provider
- This is a mandatory program for residential properties including HOA's.
- The vendor will pick up yard waste, probably from April until as late as November, to be determined by the Township.
- Pricing will be competitive.
- The Township will bill you separately for this service, this will not be added to your tax bill

- New bins will be distributed – a 95 gallon trash bin and a 65 gallon recyclables bin on wheels, both with covers.
- This will not result in an increase in your taxes.

The Township anticipates the new service will begin in March of 2019. If you are under contract with a waste hauler, you will not be required to participate in the Township program until the end of your current contract term, up to no more than one year.



**TREASURER'S UPDATE BY DONNA PALMER, TREASURER**

## A Note from The Treasurer's Desk

**The 2018  
December  
billing will be in  
your hands the  
first week in  
December**

**M**any thanks to all of you that paid your summer billing earlier this year. When I am expecting payment for a little over 5,000 parcels, earlier payments help us a great deal.

The 2018 December billing will be in your hands the first week in December. They are due by February 14th, 2019. On February 15th a 3% delinquent fee is added to those still due. Anything not paid by March 1st, 2019 must be turned over to the Washtenaw County Treasurer for further collection. Try not to let that happen as additional interest

at 1% begins to accrue on the first of each month.

We still had too many returns. Last time we tried to find the correct address, but are not always able to do so. It is expensive to research and re-mail, and as costs increase, we may not be able to continue this. Please call our office to verify your records, especially if you have taxes paid from an escrow account.

I enjoy working with all of you and once again, many thanks.

Your treasurer, Donna E. Palmer

## Water Turn-Off Advisory

### Avoid a costly and preventable home repair

Let the Department know you are planning to turn off the water supply to your home.



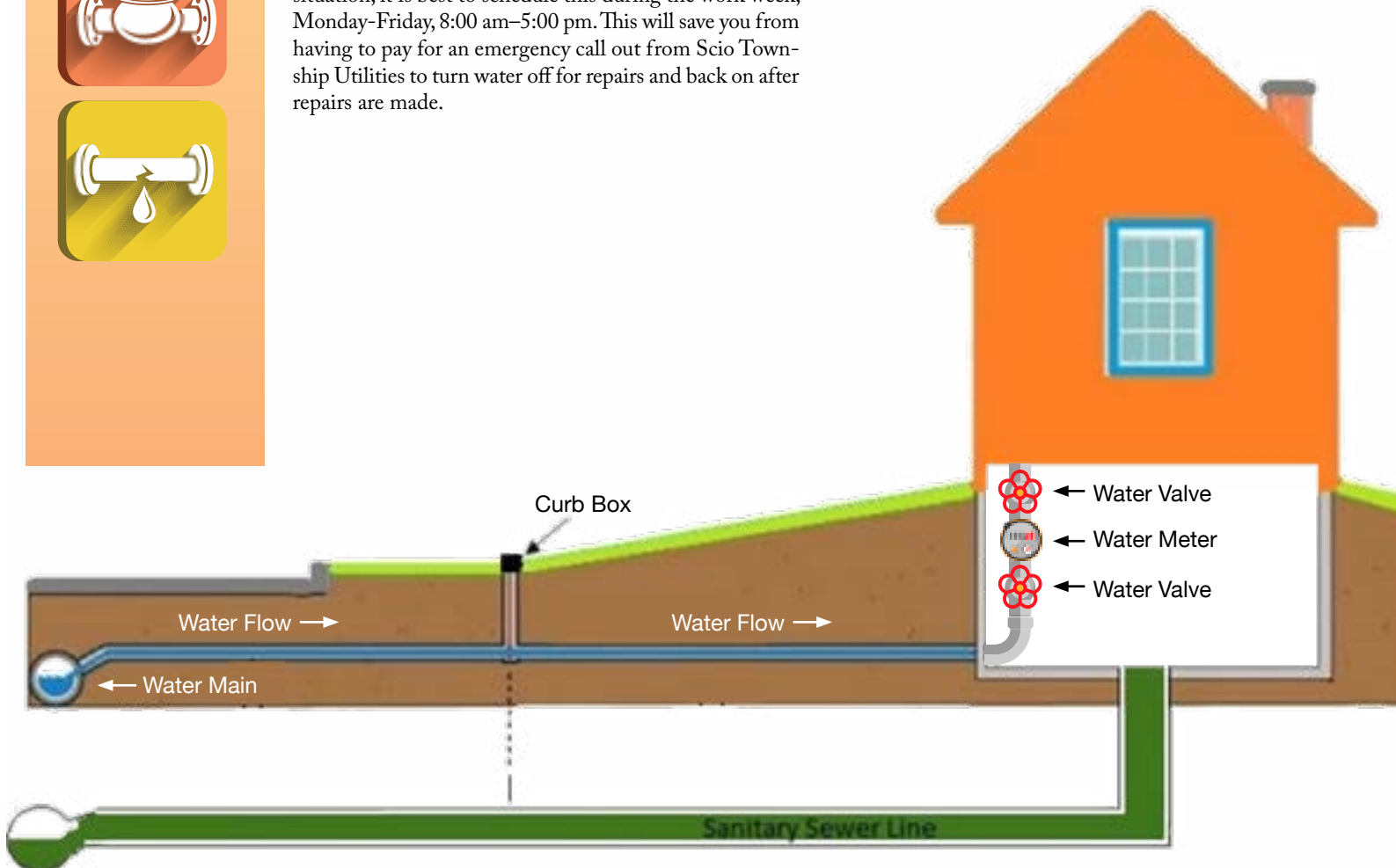
**W**hen turning your water service on or off, please be careful. The water service in your home and/or business will have a valve located in the water piping before your water meter and a second valve after the water meter. In addition there is an outside water shutoff, typically marked by a flat cover plate flush with the ground in your front yard. These valves are made of very soft brass. If the valves have not been exercised or turned for a number of years they can break if care is not taken. This makes a simple toilet leak repair or broken pipe repair much more expensive and messy. If you cannot find the outside water valve, the Scio Township Utilities Department should have record of the outside valve's location.

Before you have plumbing repairs done in your home or business that require turning off the water service, call Scio Township Utilities and request that the Township staff locate the outside turn off box. Staff will be able to determine if they can get the water valve "key" on the valve and turn the water service off. Unless it is an emergency situation, it is best to schedule this during the work week, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am–5:00 pm. This will save you from having to pay for an emergency call out from Scio Township Utilities to turn water off for repairs and back on after repairs are made.

#### Scio Township Water Ordinance: Section 6.

##### A. Water Service Connections # 4.

The curb stop, stop and all water service pipe from the property to the water meter shall be the responsibility of the owner of the premises. Stop boxes shall be kept free from dirt, stones or other substances that will prevent access to the curb stop (shut off valve) and if found in such condition shall immediately be cleaned out by the user. If after due notice the user fails to clean out such stop boxes, the Township will proceed with the work and bill the user for the cost thereof.





# MICHIGAN FATAL FIRE STATISTICS

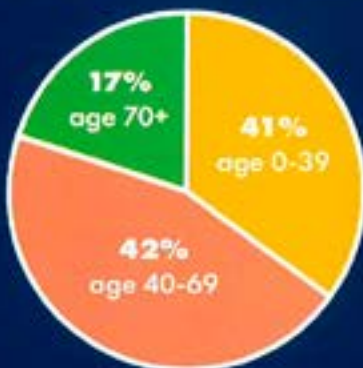
## JANUARY - AUGUST 2018



**82** FIRE DEATHS in **62** fires

**↑ 11%**   
increase from this point  
of the year in 2017

### FIRE DEATHS BY AGE



**SMOKING** is the leading known cause of fire fatalities in the State of Michigan.



### FIRE DEATHS BY TIME OF DAY

The overwhelming majority of fire deaths happen overnight.



**94%** In the first eight months of the year, Michigan's fire death total has reached 94% of the total fire deaths recorded during the year 2017.

**MONTHS WITH HIGHEST FIRE FATALITIES** JANUARY: 16 | MARCH: 19 | JULY: 12

**SMOKE ALARMS  
SAVE  
LIVES**



**10** years Change your smoke alarms every ten years



Test your smoke alarms every month

**6** months Change your batteries every six months

Have smoke detectors on EVERY LEVEL and in EVERY BEDROOM

[WWW.MFIS.ORG](http://WWW.MFIS.ORG)

## Top ten tips for property owners who have septic tanks

**It is easier and more cost efficient to maintain your septic system than to replace it later.**

**I**t's not easy to know what's going on internally in a septic system, but it isn't pretty when the system breaks down.

A septic system is the digestive system of a home, carrying away and treating waste. If you have a septic system at your home, you are responsible for maintaining it. Your septic system protects the value of your home, the health of your family, and your community's fresh water resources. Here are ten tips for maintaining your septic system:

- 1** Have your system inspected every three years by a qualified professional
- 2** Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years
- 3** Avoid pouring harsh products (e.g., oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain
- 4** Discard non-degradable products in the trash (e.g., floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them
- 5** Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drainfield and tank
- 6** Follow the system manufacturer's directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives
- 7** Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- 8** Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- 9** Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low- or phosphate-free
- 10** Prevent system freezing during cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (e.g., the inspection pipe and soil treatment area)

A malfunctioning system can contaminate groundwater that might be a source of drinking water. And if you sell your home, your septic system must be in good working order. It is easier and more cost efficient to maintain your septic system than to replace it later.

The Washtenaw County Department of Public Health's Environmental Health Division offers expertise and information on septic systems. Scio Township residents can contact Jackie Bates at [batesj@washtenaw.org](mailto:batesj@washtenaw.org) or (734) 222-3858 for your septic system questions.

This article was provided by the Huron River Watershed Council using information from the US EPA.



*This water on the lawn tells a tale: it's time to fix the septic system. The average cost of replacing a septic system is \$9,000-\$15,000. Regular inspections and maintenance will save money in the long run.*





# Get involved in your community

Photo by Nancy Hedberg

## Scio Township Information

Scio Township Hall  
827 North Zeeb Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
(734) 369-9400; [info@sciotownship.org](mailto:info@sciotownship.org)  
visit us at: [www.sciotownship.org](http://www.sciotownship.org)

## Township Office Hours

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## Utility Department Hours:

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Utilities Emergency . . . . . (734) 651-4770  
Utilities Administration . . . . . (734) 369-9350

## Township Board of Trustees

Jack Knowles, Supervisor – [jknowles@sciotownship.org](mailto:jknowles@sciotownship.org)  
Nancy Hedberg, Clerk – [nhedberg@sciotownship.org](mailto:nhedberg@sciotownship.org)  
Donna Palmer, Treasurer – [DEpalmer@sciotownship.org](mailto:DEpalmer@sciotownship.org)  
Christine Green, Trustee – [CGreen@sciotownship.org](mailto:CGreen@sciotownship.org)  
Kathleen P. Knol, Trustee – [kknol@sciotownship.org](mailto:kknol@sciotownship.org)  
Irwin G. Martin, Trustee – [Imartin@sciotownship.org](mailto:Imartin@sciotownship.org)  
David Read, Trustee – [DRead@sciotownship.org](mailto:DRead@sciotownship.org)

Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall. E-mail sent to [townshipboard@twp.scio.mi.us](mailto:townshipboard@twp.scio.mi.us) will be forwarded to all members of the township board.

## Scio Township Staff

Scott Martin – [smartin@sciotownship.org](mailto:smartin@sciotownship.org) –  
Utilities Director  
Bryce Kelley – [bkelly@sciotownship.org](mailto:bkelly@sciotownship.org) –  
Township Manager  
Sandy Egeler, CFO – [SEgeler@sciotownship.org](mailto:SEgeler@sciotownship.org)  
Kristy Aiken – [kaiken@sciotownship.org](mailto:kaiken@sciotownship.org) –  
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Treasurer  
Jack Knowles – [jknowles@sciotownship.org](mailto:jknowles@sciotownship.org) – Supervisor  
Nancy Hedberg – [nhedberg@sciotownship.org](mailto:nhedberg@sciotownship.org) – Clerk  
Doug Armstrong – [darmstrong@sciotownship.org](mailto:darmstrong@sciotownship.org) –  
Interim Fire Chief  
Jim Merte – [jmerte@sciotownship.org](mailto:jmerte@sciotownship.org) – Assessing/IT  
Fran Szuma – [fszuma@sciotownship.org](mailto:fszuma@sciotownship.org) –  
Administrative Clerk

## Other Phone Numbers

Emergencies . . . . . 911  
Fire Department Administration . . . . . (734) 665-6001  
Sheriff's Department,  
Zeeb Road Sub-Station . . . . . (734) 994-2911  
County Building Inspection Services . . . (734) 222-3900

## Washtenaw County Information:

### Water Resources Commissioner:

(734) 222-6860; [drains@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:drains@ewashtenaw.org)

### County Road Commission

(734) 761-1500; [wrc@wccroads.org](mailto:wrc@wccroads.org)

### County Commissioners:

District 1 – Kent Martinez-Kratz  
[Martinez-KratzK@ewashtenaw](mailto:Martinez-KratzK@ewashtenaw)

## State Information:

### State Representative

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

### State Senator:

District 22 - Joe Hune  
(517) 373-2420; [SenJHune@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenJHune@senate.michigan.gov)

### Governor:

Rick Snyder  
(517) 373-3400; [rick.snyder@michigan.gov](mailto:rick.snyder@michigan.gov)

## Federal Information:

### U.S. Representatives:

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; [www.peters.senate.gov/content/contact-gary](http://www.peters.senate.gov/content/contact-gary)

### President of the United States:

Donald J. Trump  
(202) 456-1111; [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

## The Scio Township Community Report

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All of the net  
profits from the  
ReStore  
are used to  
support  
Habitat for  
Humanity



BY MARTHA DAVIS, ReSTORE MANAGER

## Habitat for Humanity's ReStore

**H**abitat for Humanity ReStores are home improvement stores and donation centers that sell new and gently used furniture, appliances, home accessories, building materials and more to the public at a fraction of the retail price.

Habitat ReStores are independently owned reuse stores operated by local Habitat for Humanity organizations. Proceeds are used to help build strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter in local communities and around the world. When you shop at the ReStore, not only do you get great prices and service, but you also help to support Habitat for Humanity's mission to provide affordable homes to families and individuals in Washtenaw County. The dollars from your purchase help to fund the homes we build in Washtenaw County. Last year, as a result of sales in the ReStore, we were able to provide funds to build four of the 18 houses built by Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley. In short, When You Shop, We Build. These new homeowners help to support our community and build great neighborhoods and futures!

### Habitat for Humanity's ReStore is Moving!

Our new location is just 2.8 miles west of our current location and will still be within Scio Township. Our new address is 6241 Jackson Road (adjacent to Menards and directly behind Esquire Interiors). We are very excited about our new building and the amenities that it provides. We will now have a paved parking lot and radiant heat throughout the building. As always, we are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 6pm for shoppers and volunteers. Donations can be dropped off at the store Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5:30pm. To schedule a donation pickup, please call (734) 323-7028. Our main phone will remain the same at (734) 822-1530 as will our Sales Floor number at (734) 276-0599. All of the net profits from the ReStore are used to support Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley's mission to provide affordable homes for families and individuals of low income in Washtenaw County. Watch for updates on our Facebook page!