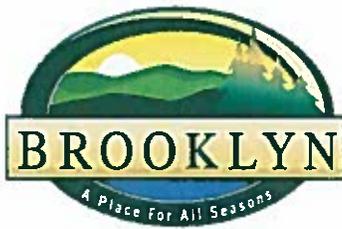


December 2015



Winter 2015—2016 Village Newsletter

BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Effective November 9, 2015, the Village of Brooklyn was approved by the State of Michigan to administer all construction permits and inspections (building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing). Permit applications may be obtained at the Village Office or at www.villageofbrooklyn.com. Inquiries about construction permits, such as when they are required, should be directed to the Village Office.

SIDEWALK SNOW & ICE REMOVAL

Having received the first snowfall of the season on November 21st, it would be timely to review the Village ordinances regarding snow and ice removal from the public sidewalks. The following bullets of information are taken from the ordinances. Recent amendments to the Code of Ordinances and rate schedule provide consistency with ordinances pertaining to grass, weeds, trees, junk, trash and rubbish. For the complete ordinances pertaining to snow and ice removal, please refer to Sections 50-21 through 50-25 in the Code of Ordinances.

For all residential districts:

- Entire width of the sidewalk must be cleared of snow and ice
- Sidewalks must be cleared the same day following cessation of snow or within the next eight hours of daylight.
- Accumulation of less than two inches must be cleared within 48 hours.
- Snow may not be deposited against a fire hydrant or on any sidewalk or street (State law).
- Sand or other abrasive material must be applied to ice if it cannot be removed.

For all commercial districts:

- Entire width of the sidewalk must be cleared of snow and ice; minimum of 42" in the downtown.
- Sidewalks must be cleared within four hours of cessation of snow or by the start of the next business day (Monday – Saturday, except Village holidays).
- Sidewalks must be cleared even if a business is closed or the building is vacant.
- Snow may not be deposited against a fire hydrant or on any sidewalk or street (State law).
- Sand or other abrasive material must be applied to ice if it cannot be removed.

Civil Violations (applies to all ordinance violations):

- 1st Violation: Written warning with no fine applied
- 2nd Violation within a 3 year time frame: \$50.00
- 3rd Violation within a 3 year time frame: \$125.00
- 4th Violation within a 3 year time frame: \$250.00

These fees are **in addition** to the actual cost to the Village to remedy the violation plus **15%** inspection fee if not corrected within the stated time frame. Unpaid fines and costs may result in a tax lien against the property.

Village of Brooklyn

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Or Current Resident

Looking forward to spring, residents are reminded that grass and weeds must be cut to 8" or less in height; trees and shrubs overhanging public sidewalks must be trimmed to a minimum of 84" and sidewalk edging and debris removal must clear the entire width of the sidewalk. Violations of these ordinances and those pertaining to removal of junk, trash and rubbish must be remedied within 10 calendar days of notification. Unpaid fines and costs may result in a tax lien against the property.

2016 Community Open Burn Program

The Brooklyn Village Council reminds residents that the 2016 Community Open Burn Program allows open burning to take place only the last Saturday during the months of January (1/30/16), February (2/27/16) and March (3/26/16). The following conditions apply to this program:

- Free permits to burn on the above listed dates **MUST** be obtained from the Columbia Township Fire Department at least one week prior to the preferred date.
- Burn permits will only be issued to property owners, not tenants.
- Hours for burning on the designated dates shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. No fires shall commence prior to or continue beyond the stated hours.
- **NO** burning shall occur within twenty (20) feet of any structure or within five (5) feet of a property line.
- **NO** burning shall occur on any public paved surface or on any public right-of-way.
- **NO** burning of household garbage, tires, plastic, or treated wood is allowed.
- All burning shall be done under the charge and constant supervision of a person of mature years and discretion.
- All burning shall be done where the maximum size of the fire can be controlled by one (1) person of mature years and discretion.
- Brooklyn Village Council and/or the Columbia Township Fire Chief, at their discretion, may rescind or reschedule any or all of the above dates due to unfavorable weather conditions and/or when local circumstances would make such fires hazardous to the community.
- Failure to comply with the above regulations may result in a response from the Columbia Township Fire Department and/or Police Department and assessment of fines and costs associated with extinguishing an unpermitted open fire.

The Village will resume weekly curbside pickup of grass clippings (Mondays) and brush (Tuesdays) beginning April 4, 2016. Approved yard waste bags are available to Village residents at the Village Office. The tree limb chipper will make rounds during the first week of May, August and October (and after significant storm damage) to chip limbs 5" in diameter or less and is not intended for chipping of entire trees.