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Brooklyn Spring/Summer 2015 Newsletter

Noxious Weeds

No owners or occupants of any property shall permit or maintain weeds, grass or other rank vegetation to an average height of twelve (12) inches or greater.

If these requirements are not satisfied, the code enforcement officer and/or building inspector shall notify the occupant and/or property owner

that compliance is required within five (5) days after receipt of such violation notice. The first violation in three (3) years will not result in a fine but all future notices will require payment of escalating fees. Additionally, if this violation notice is not complied within five (5) , the Village shall have such weeds, grass

and other vegetation removed/destroyed and the actual cost of such action, plus ten (10) percent, shall be collected as a special assessment against such premises.



Cross Connection Inspections

A cross connection is an arrangement of piping which could allow undesirable water, sewage, or chemical solutions to enter your drinking (potable) water system as a result of backflow.

What is backflow and how can it occur?

Backflow is the reversal of normal flow in a system due to backsiphonage or backpressure.

Backsiphonage backflow occurs when a vacuum is induced on a piping system, just like drinking from a glass with a drinking straw. A garden hose or a hose connected to a laundry tub can act as a “drinking straw” allowing undesirable liquids to be drawn through it by backsiphonage.

What is the law?

Cross connections with potable piping systems are prohibited by State plumbing codes. Additionally, Michigan water departments are required to have a cross connection control inspection program of their water customers to eliminate and prevent cross connections.

What hazards threaten the homeowner?

Many common household uses for water pose a public threat to the potable water supply system whether the home is supplied by municipal water or by a private well. Principal areas of water use in the home that pose a threat due to cross connections are:

- A hose connection to a chemical solution aspirator to feed lawn/shrub herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers
- Lawn irrigation systems — Chemically treated heating systems — Water softeners — Sump pumps
- Hose connections to a water outlet or laundry tub — Swimming pools — Solar heating systems

This list of potential cross connection hazards is by no means complete. A private residence that has one or two of these situation is

Curbside Brush Pick-up Policy

April through October

1. On **Monday's** the DPW personnel will pick-up grass clippings **ONLY**.
2. On **Tuesday's** the DPW personnel will pick-up all other yard waste (**NO GRASS CLIPPINGS**) including bundled braches.
3. All grass clippings and yard waste should be placed out at curbside or the street edge by 8:00 am, **BUT NO SOONER THAN 48 HOURS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED PICK-UP**.
4. All grass clippings and yard waste should be placed in paper bags or trash containers (**NO PLASTIC BAGS or EASY CARTS WILL BE PICKED-UP**)
5. Maximum total weight of bags, bundles, or containers should not exceed 40 pounds. Brush or branches will be picked-up in trash containers provided they do not exceed the 40-pound weight limit.
6. Maximum size of bundled (tied) branches should be no longer than 4 feet in length and 12 inches in diameter. Tie brush bundles with rope or twine, no wire please.
7. Large quantities of brush/branches that do not meet these restrictions **WILL NOT BE COLLECTED**. Private haulers are available to assist residents with such removal.
8. Approved yard waste bags will be available from the Village Office during normal business hours at no cost to the residents.
9. The Village tree limb chipper will be out for the **first FULL week of May, August and October** to give the residents a chance to have fallen or trimmed tree limbs chipped by Village employees. Tree limbs should not be put out for pick-up any sooner than **ONE WEEK PRIOR** to the chipper being out. It will also come out for the period of four weeks in the event of a severe storm that has caused extensive damage.
10. All limbs must be stacked neatly with cut ends towards the street. Limbs are not to exceed 5 inches in diameter. No messy piles, logs, root clusters, or vines will be chipped or hauled by the Village.

Construction Permits



The Village would like to remind all residents and business owners that prior to any construction work please contact the Village offices. Several projects like roof repair, garage construction, shed placement, etc. all require permits. The Village is responsible for issuing Building and Electrical permits. State Inspectors handle Mechanical and Plumbing permits. After mid-July the Village intends to take over from the state. Contact the village office before submitting a permit request.

If a major construction occurs the Village will issue the Certificate of Occupancy only after all inspections have been obtained certifying everything was done according to state code. For additional information please visit the Village's website at:

www.villageofbrooklyn.com/processes.html

Here are 3 ways to reduce expenses & conserve water:

Fix Leaks. A running toilet can cost \$400 or more in 3 months! Add vegetable dye to the tank to see if it leaks into the bowl. A faucet leak of just one drop per second wastes 2,400 gallons/year. Periodically check for leaks from hot water heaters, refrigerators, outside faucets, or sprinklers.

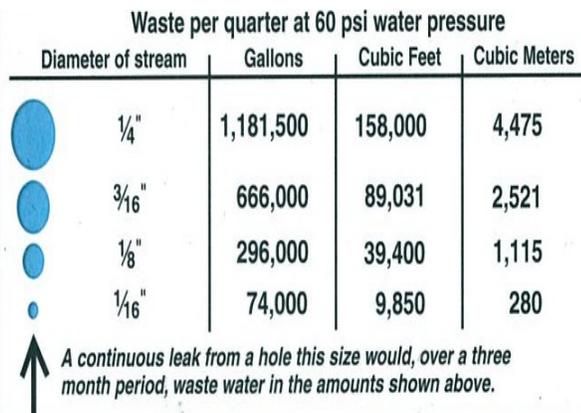
Make water conservation a habit. Don't leave the tap running while brushing teeth or shaving. Be aware of shower time durations. Purchase low-flow toilets. Install aerators on faucets and showers to provide the feel of a full blast of water at a fraction of the flow.

Be aware of seasonal water use. Compare your water bills through the seasons to discover ways to conserve. Filling pools, watering landscapes, washing cars, and operating water cooled air-conditioners potentially consume large amount of water

Water costs money... don't waste it!

A dripping faucet or fixture can waste 3 gallons a day...a total of 1095 gallons a year.

	U.S. Equivalent	Metric Equivalent
Fluid oz.	8 fl. drams (1.804 cu. inches)	29.573 milliliters
Pint	16 fl. oz. (28.875 cu. inches)	0.473 liter
Quart	2 pints (57.75 cu. inches)	0.946 liter
Gallon	4 quarts (231 cu. inches)	3.785 liters



Automatic Payment

Deduction is Available!!

Did you know that you can auto pay your water/sewer bill each month through a Automated Clearing House (ACH) transaction? No extra fees for this service. If interested please come to the Village office or complete the form online.

Questions please call Mick at 592-2591 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mon - Fri. (closed daily for lunch 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.)

Point and Pay is here. This will allow you to pay your taxes and water/sewer bills online. A 3% fee is assessed when paying your taxes and a \$3.00 per \$50 on Water/Sewer payments. forthcoming.



Sewer Lateral Cleaning

From time to time you may experience a blockage in the sewer lateral, the pipe that connects your home to the Village Sewer system. We ask you to please contact the Village Department of Works (DPW) prior to cleaning your lateral. We ask this so Public Works

employees can be onsite when the cleaning takes place to ensure no blockage is passed on to neighboring homes. The DPW can be reached at 592-5873.



Village Ordinances

All the laws that govern the Village of Brooklyn can be found online at:

www.villageofbrooklyn.com/municipalcode.html

Regular Brooklyn Meetings

- **Village Council** meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the Month at 7 p.m.
- **Village Planning Commission** meets on the 4th Wednesday of the Month at 7 p.m.
- **Village Downtown Development Authority** meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 5:30 p.m.

Village of Brooklyn

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Upcoming Events - 2015

- **Wood Chipper Week May 6—10**
Village Wide
8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.
- **Memorial Day Parade May 25**
10 a.m. Downtown Brooklyn
Village Offices Closed
- **Art's in the Park June 5**
Swain's Memorial Park
5:30 p.m.— 8:30 p.m.
- **Ladies Night Out June 11**
Downtown Brooklyn - 5:30 p.m.— 8:30 p.m.
- **NASCAR Alliance Truck Parts 200 June 16**
Michigan International Speedway (M.I.S.)
- **Quicken Loans 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup**
M.I.S **June 17**
- **Arts in the Park June 22 & 29**
Swain's Memorial Park - 7:00 p.m.
- **4th of July Parade & Fireworks July 4**
180th Anniversary of the Village
Downtown Brooklyn
Parade 10:00 a.m. Fireworks at Dusk
Village Offices Closed
- **Arts in the Park July 6, 20, & 27**
Swain's Memorial Park - 7:00 p.m.

- **Thrills in the Irish Hills July 12-14**
Irish Hills & Jackson County Fairgrounds
- **Bring Your Chair to the Square July 13**
Downtown Brooklyn - 5:30 p.m.- midnight
Music, food & movie "Wild Hogs"
- **Arts in the Park August 3, 24, & 31**
Swain's Memorial Park - 7:00 p.m.
- **Dog Days of Summer August 4**
Downtown Brooklyn 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- **Bring Your Chair to the Square August 10**
Downtown Brooklyn - 5:30 p.m.- midnight
Music, food & a movie (TBD)
- **NASCAR Camping World Truck Series 200**
M.I.S **August 18**
- **Pure Mich 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series**
M.I.S **August 19**
- **Spirit of America Blood Drive Sept. 11**
Michigan International Speedway
- **Pumpkin Quest Festival October 13**
10 a.m.— 2:30 p.m. Downtown Brooklyn

See Village website for more information.

www.villageofbrooklyn.com