

# BENZONIA TOWNSHIP

## 2015 WINTER NEWS LETTER

231-882-4411

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

General office hours Mon – Thurs 9:00 – 4:00

**Supervisor** – Jim Sheets  
**Assessor** – Christy Brow  
Eric Ferneilus

**Clerk** – Diana Heller  
**Zoning Administrator** – Dave Neiger  
**Treasurer** – Karen Burns  
**Cemetery Sexton** –

### Winter property taxes –

Office hours during winter tax collection (Dec 1 thru Feb 29) are Monday thru Thursday 9-3 (closed on Friday). There is a drop box available by the entry door – please feel free to use it. If you would like a receipt, please enclose a self addressed and stamped envelope, ask for a receipt if paying in person or click on the link to BS&A on our webpage and print your receipt from that site. Sorry, but we do not accept credit cards.

**Dump Day** – Our next scheduled township dump date is May 21, 2016 from 7-12. Same location, next to Magna on US-31 south of Benzonia. Please stop at the township hall to get a ticket and a list of items not accepted (that list will also be in the local paper). Tickets are available a month prior to the dump date.

**Cemetery** – Our cemetery sexton is Eric Ferneilus. His contact number is 231-642-7720. Benzonia Township has a cemetery ordinance. Stop by the office, or print a copy from the web page. The well at the cemetery is failing. The Township has entered into an agreement with the Village of Benzonia to get village water rather than putting in a well. It's now fully functional and we saved \$\$\$\$.

**Recycle** – Bring in your dead batteries, cell phones, printer cartridges and compact fluorescent bulbs to the township hall. Visit - [http://www.benzieco.net/dept\\_recycling.htm](http://www.benzieco.net/dept_recycling.htm)

**Election – 2016** will see the Presidential Election. Township officials will also be running for election.

Primary Election will be August 2, 2015 and the General Election will be November 8, 2016.

**Memorial Park** – Our park continues to grow. The schedule for 2016 is already filling in. We have a form at the township office for groups over 25. We are discussing the addition of a second pavilion at the park.

**CENTRAL BARK IS HERE!!** The new dog park is in and seeing lots of activity. It's located at the southeast corner of the park, behind Honor Bank on Grace Road. Please take a look at the park when you're there next time, it's a real asset to the area. The formal dedication will be held in the spring. Watch for notices in the local paper.

**DISC GOLFERS** – We have a great nine hole disc golf course located at Memorial Park. It's located at the south end of the park on Grace Road. Please visit it often!

*Donations are always appreciated for the increased maintenance to the park.*

**Fire Department** – Our volunteer department averages 18 members. Eight of our fire fighters are Medical First Responders, and all are State Certified. We average 200 medicals calls and 70 fire calls every year. We have a contract with our neighbors to the south (Joyfield Township) to provide fire protection.

We pride ourselves in the ability to budget our money and pay cash for all of the equipment purchases we make.

**Fireworks ordinance-** Benzonia Township has been approached by several township citizens who are concerned about the fireworks that are being shot off in the township. The Township Board is working on an ordinance and the enforcement of the ordinance

**Roads** – Please visit [www.benziecrc.org](http://www.benziecrc.org) to see what road projects are scheduled for 2016.

**Assessor** – Regarding Personal Property Taxes. If you have under \$80,000.00 in taxable equipment you can fill out the exemption form each year to be exempt from paying these taxes.

## RECYCLE NEWS:

Benzie County's 24/7 residential recycling program offers Single Stream Recycling to help households save money by throwing away less and recycling more!

Here's a list of the simple rules we all must follow in the recycling program:

- All recyclables must be clean and empty (no food or liquids)
- All cardboard boxes must be flattened
- All plastic must have a recycling logo with a # inside it (All numbers of plastic may be recycled from #1 - #7). This includes plastic bags – look for the number
- Recyclable plastics and tin & aluminum containers may be placed together in one bin with paper & flat cardboard
- Juice boxes, milk cartons, etc. may go in the bin with tin, plastic & paper. This is called Aseptic packaging and is now acceptable in the program.
- Polystyrene packaging with a #6 on it may go in the bin with tin, plastic & paper (clean, take-out packaging, produce trays, cups, etc.)
- Shredded paper and mixed paper can be placed in the bin inside a paper bag.
- Other than shredded paper, all other recyclables must be loose
- Plastic bags must be emptied of its contents and placed loosely in the bin. Tear open your bag and let items drop into the window of the bin.
- Glass is not acceptable in the single stream bin. Glass is processed at a different location than other recyclables. Plus, it is a safety hazard to workers sorting at the processing facility. Don't put glass in with tin, plastic & paper.
- Glass bottles and jars must be placed in the GLASS ONLY dumpster. No window glass or ceramics allowed; only bottles and jars are accepted.
- Always fill one bin up first before opening another bin. This helps the program run efficiently. We must have a full bin when we transport it to the processing facility. Do not open an empty bin until the other one is full.
- Never leave anything on the ground at a recycling site. That is illegal dumping. Violators will be prosecuted.
- Never put trash or construction material in a recycling bin. That is also illegal dumping. Violators will be prosecuted.
- 24/7 Recycling sites are for Benzie County residential use only. Businesses and events must obtain a permit before using a residential recycling site.

Use a school cardboard recycling trailer whenever you have a quantity of cardboard to deliver. Schools benefit from all cardboard recycled at these trailers.

If we follow the simple rules listed above we will continue to have an efficient and cost effective program.

Household Hazardous Waste Collections are planned for June 25 and July 23, 2016. Appointments are required. No charge to residents for HHW. Electronics will be collected at these events, but there is a charge of \$.30 per pound for televisions and monitors. More information listing event locations and times will be available soon on the website. Call the Recycling Coordinator with any questions at 882-0554 or visit the website at [www.benzieco.net](http://www.benzieco.net) click on departments, then on Solid Waste/Recycling.

Household Hazardous Waste / Electronics Collections in 2016:

**Saturday, June 25, 2016** - 9 am until 1:00 pm 404 Parkview Lane, Frankfort, MI

**Saturday, July 23, 2016** - 9 am until 1:00 pm Road Commission, Honor, MI. (Road Commission location not yet confirmed at the time of this printing)

Appointments are required for these collections. There is no charge for residents to dispose of household hazardous waste. Unfortunately, there will be a charge of \$.30 per pound for televisions and monitors due to changes in Michigan's e-waste policy. Call 882-0554 for an appointment at the collection most convenient for you.

Earth Day Clean Out Your Files Event

Confidential paper shredding provided FREE on **Wednesday, April 20, 2016**, 9 am – noon at the Benzie Resource Center on M115. Limit of 3 bags or boxes please.

Earth Day Latex Paint Recycling Event

Latex Paint can be brought to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Honor, on **Saturday, April 23, 2016**, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. No appointment necessary. There is a charge of \$1.00 per can to recycle latex paint.

More collections will be planned for 2016. Information is not available at this time.