**PLEASE READ UPON RECIEPT, CONTAINS DATED INFORMATION**



**2021 Summer Newsletter**

**CLAM LAKE TOWNSHIP HALL RENTALS RESUME** - As of July 1, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will lift the indoor mask mandate and capacity limits. The Clam Lake Township Hall will resume taking reservations from Clam Lake Township residents for hall rental use.  Please contact the Clerk's office at 775-5401 if you would like to make a reservation and receive a lease agreement.  You may also download a lease agreement on the website [clamlaketownship.org](http://clamlaketownship.org).

**STATE PUBLIC ACT 634 OF 2018 REDUCES THE DAYS IN WHICH CONSUMER FIREWORKS CAN BE USED TO JUST 12 DAYS A YEAR:**

* December 31 - 11 a.m. until 1 a.m. January 1
* The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day 11 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. on both days.
* June 29 to July 4 – 11 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. those listed days.
* July 5. If that date is a Friday or Saturday 11 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.
* The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day 11 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. each day

On a side note – please keep your pets indoors during any fireworks in your area. Firework noise can scare your pets and they may run away; not to mention if left outside they may bark incessantly and further disturb your neighbors.

**CLAM LAKE TOWNSHIP CLEANUP DAY EXPECTED TO RESUME IN 2022** – The Clam Lake Township Board is planning on resuming its Annual Cleanup Day next year, which is typically held during the first or second week in May. An announcement will be posted in the Township website [www.clamlaketownship.org](http://www.clamlaketownship.org) no later than April confirming the date and time. Questions may be directed to the Township Supervisor at 231-884-3685

**ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE –** The Clam Lake Township Planning Commission is currently gathering information and would like your input. New parking/storage of recreational vehicles restrictions in the Clam Lake Township residential zoning districts are being considered as this issue has been identified as a perceived problem. Recreational vehicles include motor homes, travel trailers, campers, sports utility trailers, open and closed utility trailers, boat/trailer, personal watercraft/trailer, snowmobiles/trailer, and ATV/trailer.

 Suggested restrictions include:

* The recreational vehicles must be owned by the resident and cannot be stored in the front yard. The recreational vehicle may be stored in the rear or side yard with a minimum ten (10) foot setback from the rear and side property lines.
* Temporary parking of a recreational vehicle on a paved driveway in the front yard will be allowed for up seven (7) days for the purpose of loading/unloading or otherwise prepping and cleaning the recreational vehicle. Visiting guests are permitted for up to fourteen (14) consecutive days not to exceed 28 days in a calendar year. A recreational vehicle shall not be used for living quarters, except for visitor parking as described above.
* Recreational vehicle parking shall not cause loss of ground cover or erosion. Weed growth over 10” high is prohibited around/under recreational vehicles.

 Comments may be directed to the Zoning Administrator, Cindy Warda by email **zoningadmin@clamlaketownship.org** or via mail to Zoning Administrator at 8809 E. M-115, Cadillac, MI 49601

**ZONING CHANGES ALSO PROPOSED AS TO FRONT YARD FENCING REQUIREMENTS –** Proposed changes include only partial, non-contiguous decorative fencing as part of the landscape design be permitted in the front yard in the residentially zoned properties and cannot exceed three (3) feet in height. Fencing is permitted in the back yard but shall not go beyond three (3) feet from the rear corner of the house into the side yard. The Planning Commission invites your input. Comments may be directed to the Zoning Administrator, Cindy Warda by email **zoningadmin@clamlaketownship.org** or via mail to Zoning Administrator at 8809 E. M-115, Cadillac, MI 49601

**DO I NEED A ZONING PERMIT?** Before you can apply for a Building Permit through the Wexford County Building Department, you must obtain a Zoning Permit from the Clam Lake Township Zoning Department. For the Zoning Permit, a sketch of what you are proposing with the property line setbacks is required. The fee for a Zoning Permit is $50.00. Although Agricultural Buildings are exempt from obtaining a building permit through the State Construction Code, a Zoning Permit is still required. Fences and sheds under 200 s.f. do not require a building permit, but a Zoning Permit is required. You may call Zoning Administrator Warda with any questions at 231-775-5401 x 6 or email **zoningadmin@clamlaketownship.org**

**BEFORE YOU BUY A PROPERTY OR THINK ABOUT CHANGING USE –** Please perform your due diligence on a property before purchasing such as checking the zoning classification to see if the zoning allows what you have envisioned for the property. Also check the zoning classification setbacks to see if there are any issues for proposed decks, sheds, garages, and additions.

 The property class on the assessment notice/tax bill is not the zoning for the property. The property class is the classification for taxation purposes. For example, a property class may be 201 Commercial, but the zoning may be Residential and a non-conforming use of the property. If you have future plans for commercial expansion or commercial change of use (requires zoning approval) and the property is zoned residential; you may not be permitted to fulfill your vision. Please contact the Clam Lake Zoning Administrator at 231-775-5401 x 6 or by email **zoningadmin@clamlaketownship.org**to check your zoning options.