

VISIT US AT:
WWW.BREITUNGTWP.ORG

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30am-4:00pm

Fax:
906-779-2077

Treasurer:
906-779-2065

Clerk:
906-779-2050

Utility Clerk:
906-779-2052

Assessor:
906-779-2060

DPW:
906-779-2064

Code Enforcement:
906-779-2053

Superintendent:
906-779-2055

Other Useful
Phone Numbers:

Dickinson County
Road Commission:
906-774-1588

Great American
Disposal:
906-774-9006

Dickinson County
Construction Code
906-774-4885

Dickinson County
Sheriff's Dept.
Non-Emergency
906-774-6262

Breitung Township

OFFICE: 3851 MENOMINEE ST.
P.O. BOX 160
QUINNESEC, MI 49876

DECEMBER 2019

Celebrating 20+ Years with Breitung Township in 2020!

Guy Forstrom—42 years
Bill Bailey—31 years
Samantha Neuens—23 years

CONGRATULATIONS to DPW Crew
Member Mary Ann Hansen on her
retirement after her 28+ years of
service to Breitung Township! We
wish her all the best!

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES:

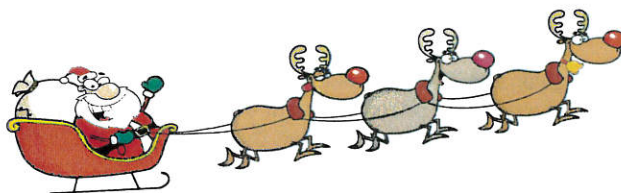
Thursday, November 28, 2019—CLOSED
Friday, November 29, 2019—CLOSED
Tuesday, December 24, 2019—CLOSED
Wednesday, December 25, 2019—CLOSED
Tuesday, December 31, 2019—CLOSING @ 11:30am
Wednesday, January 1, 2020—CLOSED



LETTERS TO SANTA

Now that the cold weather is here, are the children in your family just itching to write their letters to Santa? Well, good news! The Township has been deemed **an official drop-off site for letters to Santa**, by the Big Guy in Red himself for the **second year in a row!** Children are welcome to bring their letters to Santa down to the Township Hall and put them in the red mailbox attached to the light pole near the front door **starting December 2, 2019 until December 16, 2019** so we can ensure timely delivery to the North Pole! If the child would like a response from Santa and his elves, please make sure he/she includes their return address on the envelope.

HO, HO, HO!



REMINDER:

The tire disposal grant given to Breitung Township runs from June 1, 2019 to December 1, 2019. If you have tires laying around that you're not sure what to do with, bring them to GAD's baler facility behind Thomas Theater! You will need proof of which municipality you live within so they can keep track of what was collected for each municipality. Tire collection is free to residents. For more information on the grant, check out our website at www.breitungtwp.org, or call Township Superintendent Steve Mulka at 906-779-2055.

DOG LICENSES SOLD HERE!

Available now and continuing through the end of February, you can stop by the Treasurer's office to purchase a dog license. In order to purchase the license for your furry friend, please bring their current rabies vaccination paperwork and the \$10 fee. Licenses are good for the 2020 calendar year. Feel free to bring Fido in when you stop for the license. We have treats!



The Clerk's Corner with Clerk Samantha Neuens

2020 Election Dates

March 10, 2020 – Presidential Primary

August 4, 2020 – Primary

November 3, 2020 – General Election

In November 2018 Michigan Voters passed Proposal 18-3.

Before the passage of this Proposal, it was required that a voter had to provide a particular reason for needing an Absent Voter Ballot; now you can receive an Absent Voter Ballot with no reason given.

Another element to this Proposal is any voter can now request to be placed on the Permanent Absent Voter List regardless of their age. Prior to this Proposal only voters that were 60 or older could request to be placed on this list. If you would like to be added to this list, all you have to do is call either myself or my Deputy Clerk Karie Taff to make that request!



Polling Location Change

In the recent past, voters that previously voted at the East Kingsford Fire Hall or at the Quinnesec Fire Hall received a new Voter ID Card in the mail. The reason for this mailing was to inform you that your new polling location is now at the Department of Public Works building which is located right across the street from the Township Office building in Quinnesec.

As always, if you have any questions, please call me at 906-779-2050. You can also check out the Township's website at www.breitungtwp.org for more information. Thanks, Samantha



UTILITY AND TAX PAYMENT OPTIONS

When paying your utility or tax bill, we have a few different options for you to take advantage of:

1. In-person. Our office is open 7:30am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday. We accept cash, checks and debit/credit cards in the office.
2. 24-hour drop box. Can't make it in during normal business hours? We have a secure drop box located next to our front door that you can drop your payment into anytime.
3. Online. BS&A, our billing software company, provides our residents with the ability to pay their tax and utility bills online. You can find that option by going to our website, www.breitungtwp.org, and clicking on the "Payment and Parcel Information" link on the main page. Once on that page, please choose "BS&A Payment/Information Site". You will have to create a login if you haven't already and the website will walk you through the process from there.
4. Over the phone. If you're wanting to pay with your debit or credit card, you can call the Utility Clerk or our Treasurer and we can take payments over the phone.
5. Mail. You can mail in your payment to:
Breitung Township
P.O. Box 160
Quinnesec, MI 49876
6. ACH withdrawal. We offer FREE automatic withdrawal from either your checking or savings account on the day your bill is due. If you're interested in ACH withdrawal for your taxes, please contact the Treasurer. If you're interested in ACH withdrawal for your utility bills, please contact the Utility Clerk.

**When paying with a debit or credit card, please keep in mind the 3%, minimum of \$2, convenience fee that our third-party provider, who processes our payments, charges.*

REMINDER: Whether mailing or dropping off a bill payment, it MUST be received in our office by the due date in order to avoid the late penalty.

Breitung Township DOES NOT accept postmarks for any payments, whether utility or tax.



A note from Superintendent Steve Mulka...

The Township has had a busy year. After 14 years with the Township I was appointed Superintendent, replacing John Gaudette who retired in May. Road paving projects have been completed on Barton, Boyle and Maple Streets. An innovative materials project funded by MDEQ, Michigan Tech, Dickinson County Road Commission and Dickinson Trail Network for paving part of County Road 607 was completed, and we are hoping to see more of this type of project in the future. 2020 proposed paving projects include Swanson Road, Collins Road and Frei Drive. We installed a 60' flag pole at the Breitung Township Cemetery and have received a number of compliments on it, as well as the excellent job the Department of Public Works is doing on maintenance of all the Townships Parks and facilities. The five year recreation plan has been completed; one of the future projects being a splash pad for young children. We welcome public input on park projects, and where they should be located. Some issues with our Code Enforcement Ordinances have needed amendments to move forward; these are being addressed, as well as adoption of a tall grass ordinance that applies to platted areas of the Township. We are also working towards contracting with the Sheriff's Department for a Deputy to enforce the Township Ordinances, and provide supplemental Police Patrol. The Water Department has increased testing for Lead and Copper in response to the State Requirements of replacing water lines. All tests have shown that the water is safe and far below any levels that would require line replacement. We are hopeful that the State will consider the Federal EPA rules that require replacement only when testing shows it is needed. One thing we are also promoting here at the Township are the new fire number signs. They are larger, highly reflective, and are installed like a flag, visible on both sides. This helps identify your property for emergency services, or anyone trying to find your address, especially after dark. It is \$40 for the sign, and \$12 for the post. The Township will install at no charge if you request. For more information on anything mentioned, you can contact the office or go to our website at www.breitungtwp.org.

Respectfully,
Steve Mulka, Superintendent

Septic System Upkeep Information

Septic tank systems are very much like people. They need periodic check-ups and proper care to remain healthy and functioning properly. Also like humans, they must have a proper diet and cannot be overindulged without the homeowner suffering dire consequences such as repair or replacement bills.

Often overlooked or neglected is the fact that a septic tank system should have a regular check-up to prevent problems. The septic tank traps the solids in the wastewater and should be checked to determine whether or not it is time for it to be pumped out. The inspection port should be opened and the baffles (internal slabs or tees) should be checked to ensure that they have not been damaged since the last check-up. The absorption field should be checked for sogginess and flooding, which indicates improper drainage, a clogged system, or excessive water use. The entire area containing the system should be checked for damp or soggy areas or odors, indicating a leak in the system. A properly designed septic tank system will have a septic tank with sufficient space to accumulate solids for several years. When the level of solids fills too much space in the tank, the wastewater has less time to settle properly and too many solid particles flow into the absorption field. If the tank is not periodically pumped out, this will eventually clog to the point where a new field will be needed.

Please keep in mind that Breitung Township does not do septic tank care, so if you're in need of your septic tank to be pumped, repaired or replaced, you will need to hire a licensed contractor to do so. If you're looking for more basic information in regard to the upkeep of your septic tank system, call Adrienne (Utility Clerk) at 906-779-2052 and she can mail you out a pamphlet of information.

PROTECTING GROUNDWATER IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS!

SHOUT-OUT! KUDOS! CONGRATULATIONS!

Next time you're casually scrolling through your Facebook feed, make sure to check out the Breitung Township Fire Department's Facebook page! Tara Marshall, wife of Assistant Chief Scott Marshall, puts forth great effort and time to keep the page updated and informative for all members of our community. She's been highlighting fire safety, local community events, and posting pictures that help to keep our residents in the loop on the trainings our Fire Fighters are participating in. Next time you're on the page, feel free to post a shout-out to Tara telling her just how great of a job she's doing! You can reach the Fire Department's Facebook page by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/BreitungTwpFireDept/>

Thank you Tara! Your work is very appreciated!

MAKE A GOOD MARK ON YOUR PARK!

Members of three Dickinson County Girl Scout Troops participated in a GOOD MARK ON YOUR PARK community service project at Lake Antoine Park on August 3, 2019. The girls painted trash cans that will be used in the park and campground areas. The Scout leaders were thankful for the donations of paint and supplies from the members of Lake Antoine Park Partners and from the community, especially Hometowne Lumber's generous contribution of bright paint colors and brushes to make the barrels memorable.



Pictured left to right are:

Lexi DalSanto of Troop 5312

Christina Fraker of Troop 5190

Calliope Donnelly of Troop 5010

Persephone Donnelly of Troop 5190

Athena Donnelly Troop 5190

NEW MEMORIAL BENCH IN QUINNESEC PARK

The Quinnesec School's last group of students to attend kindergarten through eighth grade (8th grade class of 1965, Kingsford High School class of 1969) recently celebrated their 50th high school reunion. They decided to honor their time at the Quinnesec School by donating a memorial bench to be placed on the property where their school once sat, which is now the Quinnesec Recreation Complex. The bench was installed in August by the Department of Public works and has gotten great use so far! Breitung Township would like to graciously thank the 1965 class, as well as Kay Steinbrecher for their donations. The granite plaque with inscription below the bench reads, "Quinnesec School's Final 8th Grade Class (1965). Dedicated to Fond Memories". Take a trip down to the Quinnesec Park and have a seat!



Do you have a story about good deeds being done in our community?

Please send information and picture (if possible) to Administrative Assistant Adrienne Savord to have the story included in Breitung Township's Winter Newsletter! You can reach Adrienne via email at: asavord@breitungtwp.org.