

## Permitting Within Crawford County & Lovells Township

Gary Neumann, Lovells Township Supervisor

A question that I frequently get asked at the Township Hall is "What kind of permit do I need to build a .....?" Unfortunately, there is often no simple or singular answer to this question. However, the following should take some of the mystery out of this topic while providing you with a basic understanding of the permitting process.

Lovells Township exercises zoning authority within the township. This function is the responsibility of our Zoning Administrator, Dale Gauthier Jr. (989-348-7301 or [lovellszoning@gmail.com](mailto:lovellszoning@gmail.com)). In accomplishing his duties Dale Jr. follows the Lovells Township Zoning Ordinance (LTZO). Generally speaking, Dale Jr. is the place to start, regardless of the project you have in mind or the location of that project. At times it gets complicated because regulations differ based upon the zoning (Greenbelt, Residential, Commercial, etc.) of the parcel where the project is to be accomplished. Dale Jr. often meets with the parcel owner at the parcel, and once he is satisfied that the project meets the requirements of the LTZO he will issue the parcel owner a zoning permit. The current fee for a zoning permit is \$20. It is an important permit because the county will not issue a building permit for work in Lovells Township unless Dale Jr. has issued a zoning permit for that work.

Crawford County exercises control of building/construction throughout the county. Joe Duran (989-344-3233 or [jduran@crawfordco.org](mailto:jduran@ crawfordco.org)) is the county official responsible for this function and his office is in the basement of the county building in Grayling (202 W. Michigan Ave.). Joe is the individual who issues building permits, soil and erosion control permits, and he is the building and mechanical inspector for the county. He arranges for the required inspection of all electrical and plumbing work done in the county. Joe keeps a very organized office and he has forms and instructions for essentially any project you might think of. Crawford County permit fees are generally determined by the size of the project, and they will be significantly higher than a Lovells Township zoning permit.



District Health Department 10 (DHD10) exercises control over wells, septic systems and outhouses (yup, they are still legal – more on them later) within Crawford County.

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DHD10 is located (501 Norway St.) in Grayling and their phone is 989-348-7800. Arriving at DHD10 with a building permit from Joe at Crawford County will, after paying the required fee, will get you a permit for a well, a septic system, or both. Again, expect the permit fee to be significantly higher than a Lovells zoning permit. DHD10 personnel will do both a pre-construction site visit for a septic system to perform the required soil boring, and a post-construction but prior to back fill inspection to make sure the system was properly installed. Their main concern with wells is the isolation distance of the well from things like a septic tank or drain field, a dry well, or a sewer line. As promised, a few words on out houses. You must also obtain a permit from DHD10 to install one. However, a simple "hole in the ground" with an out house over it is not acceptable because the affluent can not come in direct contact with the earth. There must be a capability to pump out the affluent, so most modern out houses are installed over a buried septic tank. And, if you went to all that work, maybe the addition of a drain field wouldn't be a bad idea?

In closing, feel free to call or email Lovells Township if you have questions that are not answered above. We will do our best to point you in the right direction. We are also always happy to provide sections of the LTZO should you desire, for example, to become more familiar with the restrictions in a specific zoning category, such as the Greenbelt Zone.

### Lovells Media and Reading Room News!!

#### Volunteers Needed!!!

**Our long time Volunteer Judy Jewel** has decided it's time to retire from the Lovells Media and Reading Room. So, first, we need to thank her for volunteering her service over these last few years. Our little "library" wouldn't have happened without her dedication and commitment to making it work when we were faced with the possibility of it going away for good! So hat's off to our friend Judy...may your retirement be long and memorable!

#### So what does that mean going forward?

It means we need your help! If you'd like to volunteer to help out during the hours of operation, please let your Township Clerk, Cindy, know. (989 348-9215) The hours are the same as those for the Township Hall (Tues-Thurs 9am-3pm) so it's unlikely you'll ever be there alone. There's some clerical work involved in cataloging in new books and media, and keeping track of the books and media that's been loaned out...and occasionally helping out with phones in the township when a business meeting is taking place. Can you help one day, all three days or a few days a month? Anything would help. This is a volunteer job but the rewards are great in that you are helping to keep our "library" alive, current and staffed!

### The Lovells Township Historical Society has BIG plans for 2017.

Submitted by Glen Eberly-Member

Our **2017 Fly Fishing Exhibit** will focus on and honor **Art Neumann**: fly fisherman, conservationist, a founder of Trout Unlimited, and the first TU Executive Director.

The Neumann exhibit work will be complimented by the support of Art's TU Chapter (William B. Mershon Chapter) which has given us the rights to use artifacts, machinery, equipment and furniture to recreate a portion of Neumanns Wanigas Fly Shop which he ran in Saginaw. This exhibit opens Saturday April 29, 2017 at our annual Trout Opener.

The now famous **Beaver Beer and Banjo** Annual Dinner will again be held at Riverside Tavern on July 15th, with free beaver barley stew and great music by Barry VanGilder and family.

Donations support our Annual Anna Biernat Scholarship Program. And, our popular **Historic Lodge Tour** will be held in mid September. Watch for the selected lodge and date on our web site or facebook page. Plans to update the exhibits on Lovells families, clubs and organizations are in the works for our **Lone Pine Schoolhouse** Museum as well.

### Hot Stove Night Returns!

Join the **Lovells Twp. Historical Society** this year as we present motivating speakers talking about some attention-grabbing topics. If you didn't join us last year, mark your calendars to attend this year. It's a chance to get out of the house and mingle with your neighbors, maybe meet some new folks in town during the coldest months of the year.

**This year we move to a different location...**you'll find us nestled in at the **Warblers Hideaway Clubhouse** every other Wednesday evening starting Jan 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Hope to see you there!



Jan 11<sup>th</sup> **Brad Jensen** from Huron Pines will talk to us about how social trends shape the future of conservations.

Jan 25<sup>th</sup> **Tim Riley** (DNR Wildlife Technician) will entertain us again... Upland Bird Hunting and Forestry

Feb 8<sup>th</sup> **Steve Sendek** (Northpoint Fisheries and Retired DNR Fisheries Biologist) – North Branch Restoration Projects

Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> - **Tom Baird** (Anglers of the AuSable) History and an Update on Fish Hatchery

March 8<sup>th</sup> - **Steve Johnson**— Photo Log of 2016 Trip to Ireland  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>—**Craig Porter**- (AusableTrout.com) AuSable Trout Video Programs

April 5<sup>th</sup> - **Chris Radke**—Art Neumann and Trout Unlimited

Watch our Facebook page for more details as the dates approach. As in the past, we will provide coffee, tea and some snacks. Lastly, a big shout-out to the Warblers Hideaway Association for providing a place for us to gather this season!

# Inside Lovells Township

## Lovells Township

8405 Twin Bridge Rd  
Lovells, MI 49738

Phone: (989) 348-9215  
Fax: (989) 348-6437  
Office Hours:

Tues-Thurs 9am-3pm

**Email:** Lovellstownship@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.lovellstownship.com

### Township Board Meetings

Held at the Township Hall Every Second Tuesday  
of Each Month at 10 AM  
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**Lovells Township Reading and Media Room**  
Hours Tue-Thur 9am-3pm

### **25th Annual Bridge Walk A Huge Success!**

In spite of threatening rainstorms, several hundred people showed up for our annual Bridge Walk!

Our Fire/EMS Department served 172 people at their Pancake Breakfast followed by the Parade and Bridge Walk. dead Bear Brewing Company, owned by residents John & Joan Petroff, sponsored the community luncheon. In addition, we held a silent auction in the Fire Barn and 50/50 drawings. All in all, \$7,681.00 was raised to support our volunteer Fire/EMS Department!

We sincerely thank all of our tireless volunteers and generous donors for their support in making this event such a huge success! Looking forward to the Bridge Walk next year August 19th! The Petroff's have generously offered to sponsor next year's lunch.

Hundreds of pictures have been posted on the website at [lovellstownship.com](http://lovellstownship.com)

If you are interested in helping with our 26th Bridge Walk, please contact us at the township hall.

Thank you,  
Cynthia Infante & Denny Inman  
Bridge Walk Co-Chairs



### Lovells Twp. Planning Commission Update

Following a very busy 2015 your Lovells Township Planning Commission has been fairly issue free through October of 2016. Things are about to change...

The Township Board has requested the Planning Commission review section 8.03.F of the Lovells Township Zoning Ordinance seeking clarity in the language used in this particular section. In response to that the Planning Commission held a special meeting to discuss this topic seeking clarity in the term "fully enclosed storage" facilities. This term opened the door for a variety of thoughts among the Commission members. The Planning Commission will meet again to hopefully add the clarity that the board is looking for.

And, as a final point, I have received inquiries from concerned citizens of Lovells Township regarding the recently purchased lot at the corner of Lovells Road and CR 612; this property is zoned Commercial and Business (C&B). Our Zoning Administrator has received a Special Use Permit Application and when all necessary paper work has been submitted, he will then send it to the Planning Commission for our review. A Public Hearing will be held prior to any decision regarding this matter. At this hearing, citizens with questions or concerns can be heard. The public hearing notice will be posted in the Crawford County Avalanche, the township website and on the township hall doors, as well as, notices will be mailed directly to neighboring properties.

### **Serving Lovells Township!**

Denny Inman—  
LTPC Chair Person

### **HELP WANTED!!!**

The historical society may need help next season. If you are interested in part time work as a Docent in the Trout Fishing and School-House Museums, and can also help by providing administrative support for the Historical Society, we would like to talk with you. Retired Librarian, Teacher, or related background would be advantageous and desirable. Please send your resume to LTHS P.O. Box 2505, Grayling, MI 49738.

### Township Board:

Supervisor: Gary Neumann  
Clerk: Cynthia Infante  
Treasurer: Ann Duby  
Trustee: Cheryl Hopp  
Trustee: Heather Lovell

Assessor: Jamie Houserman  
lovells.assessor@yahoo.com  
Zoning Administrator: Dale Gauthier Jr. (989) 348-7301  
lovellszoning@gmail.com  
Zoning Enforcement: Dave Lovell (231) 329-0061  
Liquor Inspector: Ben Duby (989) 348-3501  
Fire Chief: Gary Lewicki 989 348-1621

**FOR EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911 FIRST!!!**

### Planning Commission

Chair: Dennis Inmann  
Vice Chair: Melanie Cragg  
Secretary: Sally Brand  
Member: Tamara Kengel  
Ex-Officio: Cynthia Infante

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Richard Perry (Chair)  
Sally Brand  
Darby Kuenzel (Alternate)  
Steve Johnson (Alternate)  
Secretary & Ex-Officio: Gary Neumann

### Board of Review

Dale Gauthier Jr.  
Tamara Kengel  
Denise Long  
Gary Neumann (Secretary)  
Vacant (Alternate)