

Bois Blanc Township News



December 2022

Township Board

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Keri Viers

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Monday – Thursday

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

New Website

Thanks to great work by Tom Bach, the Township has a new website! It has a clean design, works well on mobile devices, is well organized and, best of all, has a “Notifications” feature to sign up for updates when new content is added to the site. Thanks, Tom!

www.boisblanctownship.org

From the Fire Department

While we navigate into the winter season, we thank you for your continued help in avoiding unnecessary fire risks to this beautiful community. As a reminder, the BBI Fire Department has an active ban on all open burning (this includes “trash burning” and “campfires”) without a verbal permit from the fire department. This ban is not a suggestion, it is an enforceable ordinance. If you or anyone you know wishes to burn any open fire, please follow the proper procedure **and obtain a free, verbal permit, by calling (231) 634-7085.**



Likewise, for the purpose of official communications and fire/medical/emergency response operations, **it's imperative that every property owner know their physical address on the island** (this is the address listed on your tax documents). While P.O. Boxes and HC (Highway Contract) number assignments will get your mail/packages delivered to you, they do not help fire/rescue crews get to you in an emergency. Memorize your address. Better yet, write it down. One day, you'll be glad you did!

Meet Keri Viers: New Township Trustee

I've been coming to the island since 1987, and it has been my most special place for all those 35 years. My husband, Chris, is fourth “island” generation (through the Turner/Viers family line) and my first trip with him was when we were engaged. He and I, along with our daughters, Laura and Emily, purchased our own property on the west end in 1998 where we enjoyed time in the summer. Chris and I decided to move to the island full-time in 2021. I work as a financial manager for a non-profit and am excited to serve the island community as a Township Trustee! - **Keri Viers**



FEMA/NFIP Floodplain

In an effort to maintain affordable insurance premiums and continued disaster relief eligibility for BBI property owners, the Township Board has voted to join the National Flood Insurance Program. Once enacted, Bois Blanc Island Township will be complying with all Federal and State regulations which govern building permits/allowances, on properties containing flood-zones listed in the FEMA/NFIP Floodplain Map.

The FEMA/NFIP map for BBI is currently “pending,” as processing and data entry are finalized. **Property owners with land that is listed in Base Flood Elevation controlled areas, will be sent notifications individually, explaining the process and changes these Federal and State regulations bring to BBI’s zoning/building policy.**

- *Damien Nelson, BBI Zoning Administrator*



Parks and Recreation Committee

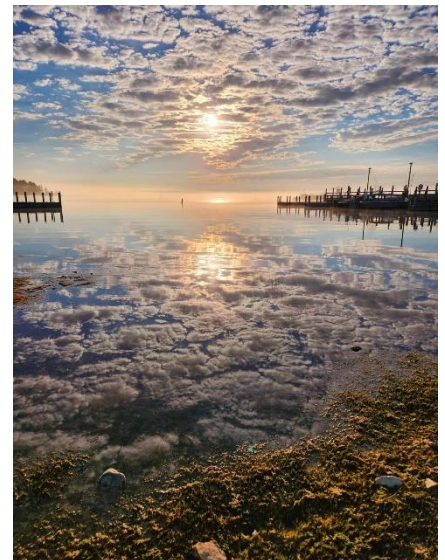
The Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation Committee has been very busy this year with four major projects!

Bright Water Park: Our new park on the west end of the island will be getting a driveway, parking lot, and dock. We have received all our required permits, bids and awarded the contract. This phase of the project is expected to be completed by December 2022. Phase II plans and development will continue into 2023.

Lake Mary: The Liedel family has generously donated property on Lake Mary by the boat ramp. With this property, we will be creating a parking lot for vehicles with trailers. This area will be referred to from now on as Liedel’s Landing.

North Shore: The long-awaited vault toilets are coming to the North Shore with the help of the DNR, Community Foundation and the Association. Permits have been pulled and we will be starting the bidding process for spring 2023 installation.

Nichols Point: The DNR recently completed a land review on Bois Blanc Island and offered the township the opportunity to purchase 27 acres of property for a new community park. The land is located at Nichols Point with Lake Huron waterfront on the southeast part of the island. The DNR has offered this land to the township for \$63,000.00. We are currently raising funds to purchase this land and are working to obtain more to make this space/area available to the public with nature trails, a picnic area, driveway and parking, restrooms and a drinking fountain. We plan to purchase this land at the end of December 2022. Thank you to everyone who has been generous in support of this project! **If you or someone you know would like to make a donation, there’s still time! Contact Ginger Canup at 248.770.5126.**



Winning photo by Michelle Reynolds

We also held a **logo contest** (winner: Emma Kaminski), a **photo contest** with 72 entries (winner: Michelle Reynolds), Farmer’s Market silent auctions, and a **tie dye shirt event** hosted by Morgan and Evelyn Pickering – all generating support for our Parks and Recreation projects! Look for a **2023-2024 calendar** which will be on sale this summer!

In 2023, we will be starting a **Commemorative Gift Program** which will be a meaningful way to pay tribute to a deceased loved one, to honor someone, say thanks, or to commemorate life events. We are making items available to purchase, such as park benches, picnic tables, picnic shelters, or even monetary donations. You will even be able to select the park where you want the gift placed. More information coming soon!

We currently have **two positions open on our committee**. If you are a fun outdoor enthusiast who would like organizing events for our community, we need you! Please contact Ginger Canup at 248.770.5126

- *BBI Parks & Recreation Committee: Jay Beugly, Ginger Canup, Diane Akright (board liaison)*