Duluth Township Newsletter

Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

January 2016

What’s Coming Up?

Stormwater Ordinance information (see insert)
Youth seeking jobs (see list on pg 2)
CERT, free emergency training (see article, p3)
Plan to VOTE March 8, (2nd Tues) Town election,
Polls open 7am-8pm
Plan to ATTEND March 8, Annual Town meeting, 8:15pm
Filing deadline for Board Supervisor is 5pm, Jan. 12th.
The March Newsletter will contain budget information and
statements by those running for Town Supervisor.

“The Homesteaders”
Rose Vastila

January 6th, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, Potluck and bingo.

February 3rd, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall,
Sandwiches and coffee. Program to be announced.

March 2nd, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, Potluck, bingo and Homesteaders birthday cake!

Everyone is welcome.
For information call Rose Vastila at 834-5281.

“Volunteering is the price for living in a good Township.”
Ken Hendrickson

Town Hall Community Room

The plan is to have the Town Hall Community Room open and supervised as much as possible each day. It has an area with a sink, coffee maker, potentially a refrigerator, library, free internet connection, and an ADA bathroom. It is a beautiful area to meet friends, browse the library, use the wifi computer area, etc. Small groups could meet and share the area.

See the new notice board on the porch for open hours.
So far Community Room hours are:

- Monday — (closed)
- Tuesday — 7am—noon and 2pm-6pm
- Wednesday — 9am—noon
- Thursday — 2pm-6pm
- Friday — 9am—11am
- Saturday — 8am—noon
- Sunday — (closed)

There is a sign-up list for volunteers who are willing to keep the Community Room open for more hours.

We’d like to keep it open full days on Tuesday and Thursday. Please contact the Town Hall office if you can help out (messages 525-5705).

So far, you need to bring your own makings for coffee and snacks in the Community Room! Donations welcomed!

Thanks to Roger Beck for donating a microwave and coffee maker for the Community Room.

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue
Valerie Brady, Ann Cox, Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Kate Edblom, Bob Engelson, Helen Hendrickson, Hoober Huhta, Kathy Johnson, BJ Kohlstedt, Sue Lawson, Carolyn Marino, Janet McTavish, Beth Mullan, Shawn Padden, Sherry Rovig, John Schifsky, Don Sitter, Carol Surine, Jo Thompson, Rose Vastila, and Kathleen Zweber
Clifton Volunteer Fire Department
Bob Engelson, Fire Chief

Emergency Medical Responders completed their re-certification, a process that included many hours of classes and testing. This is another way these volunteers serve and care about our Township.

Note that the old “first responder” name is now replaced officially by EMR: “Emergency Medical Responder”.

We have two new members, Jared Massie and Elizabeth Strohmayer, who will be taking Fire Fighter 1 and 2 training in 2016. Thanks for volunteering!

Fire Department 2016 calendars have been delivered to homes in our Township. Please support businesses who sponsored this year's calendar. A few extras are at the Town Hall if you didn’t receive one.

Be sure your fire number sign is visible by your driveway. Thanks to our community for your support.

To volunteer as a fire fighter or emergency medical responder, call Chief Bob Engelson, 525-6819. Training and turnout gear are provided.

Police Events
Shawn Padden, Chief

Police Events. There were 175 police events in October and November. This included 12 traffic violation warnings or citations, 60 resident requested vacation home/business checks, 10 animal complaints, 8 health and welfare checks, 7 medical emergencies, 7 public assists, 7 extra patrol requests, 6 property damage accidents, and 6 attempts to locate careless drivers. There was one November burglary. See our web site for a full listing of events.

If you have information about any criminal activity in our community, please contact the Duluth Township Police Department at: 218-525-5705 or our mobile phone: 393-8407, or email: DuluthTwpPolice@duluthtownship.org.

For medical or police emergencies call 911.
Go to the Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org to sign up for email police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications.

JOBS WANTED
For our Township Youth
An effort to match up residents who have work suitable for our youth with youth in the Township who may want a job.

Seeking Jobs
• Mason Stolp, age 13 years, looking for work (mowing, shoveling, yard work, cleaning, general labor). Call Mason at 525-0576.
• Mature, hard working, experienced 14 year old looking for work (yard work, cleaning, mowing, pretty much any chores). Just call Bridger at 525-0090.
• Cameron Nelson, age 13, lawn mowing, snow shoveling, general yard work, general labor. Call Cameron at 525-0208.
• Ryan, age 15, is looking for work. He is interested in yard work, lawn mowing and babysitting. Call 525-9065.
• Young man, age 11 looking for work, including lawn mowing and general yard work. Experienced. If interested, please call Konrad, at 830-9514.

Advertise for free: For Township youth who are seeking work and Township residents who need help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn, garden, maintenance, snow shoveling, house cleaning, etc.). Leave your ad & contact information at the Town Hall (messages: 525-5705). Deadline for the next (March) Newsletter is February 23rd.

Give the Gift of Early Learning
Kathy Johnson

NSCS Play and Learn has openings starting in January 2016. Children ages 3, 4, and 5 may attend 1, 2 or 3 days a week on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Both morning (9:15-11:30) and afternoon (12:15-2:30) sessions are offered. A monthly tuition fee is charged. Please contact Kathy Johnson at: 834-5429 or 525-0663 Ext 106.

Barnes & Noble Benefit for NSCS Library
Kate Edblom, NSCS Librarian

There will be a Barnes & Noble Book Fair, It will be January 23rd, 12-6, so do share. Bring your gift cards to spend, Create a poem with a friend, Enjoy a fancy coffee at Starbucks since you’re there. Come for the Poetry Slam 12-4 and build a poem with a friend of all ages. Entries will be judged by category at 5pm. You could win a B&N gift card. Present a voucher or tell the cashier at checkout to credit NSCS library. Thanks you for supporting NSCS Library.

Sandy’s Play Care Center (New! Now Open)
Licensed Family Day Care located near French River
On bus line to NSCS and Two Harbors Schools
525-2602 or Shagglu57@centurylink.net

Paid Advertisement
Paid advertisement
FREE Community Emergency Response Training (Duluth Township residents are welcome)

When a tornado or wildfire hits, we expect emergency responders to be there to help us out. But with only 1% of our population serving as responders, there aren’t enough of them to help everyone when a disaster hits everyone. In fact, 95% of initial disaster response is done by neighbors – people just like you. That’s why Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) is so important. Just like CPR and fire drills, it works best if we all practice it.

Lake County, Cook County and Grand Portage Tribal Community are offering CERT training in February. The course is 20 hours, for ages 12 and up (<16 accompanied by an adult), and will be offered at both Lake and Cook County sites. Classes are casual and hands-on, and no experience is necessary. There is NO COST for this training.

Topics include family disaster preparedness, basic fire suppression, hazardous materials safety, basic medical triage and first aid, light search and rescue, and response organization. After completion, you can apply to join a County CERT team to help with evacuations, shelters, family assistance centers, event traffic control, coordinating volunteers and donations, or supporting other emergency operations. It’s a great way to get involved.

Lake County CERT course dates:
- Saturday & Sunday, February 6-7, 9am – 5pm, Two Harbors Fire Hall
- Saturday, Feb. 20, 10am – 4pm, Two Harbors Fire Hall

(Contact Emergency Management for Cook County CERT dates.)

Learn more about CERT at www.citizencorps.gov/cert.
For questions or to register for the class, contact BJ Kohlsledt, Lake County Emergency Manager, at bj.kohlsledt@co.lake.mn.us or 218-226-4444.

Trained CERT volunteers make a difference every day in their homes, workplaces and communities. So can you. Join us for this CERT training.

NOTE: Duluth Township residents are invited to attend these sessions.

From the Chair
Supervisor Don Sitter, Board Chair

It’s been a busy year for the Township. Here’s a short recap of some of the events:

- New Town Hall Addition dedicated (see the news clip on the Channel 6 website). The long-planned addition included offices, kitchen update, storage, community room, library, emergency backup, etc. It is all paid for without levy, bonding or loans.
- Our Town Hall Community room is available for use (library, coffee maker, microwave, facilities). Wendy is coordinating volunteers for open hours.
- Township historical contributions for the Town Hall are being coordinated by Jo Thompson.
- Fiber-optic internet is installed and free wifi is available in the Town Hall Community Room.
- Water is again available for residents who need it, outside the Town Hall.
- Approval of our first Planned Use Development (PUD) is for Kiviranta, an 8-unit condominium at the old Nokomis site on the shore.
- The Township trails proposal resulting from a year of meetings is to be reviewed by the Town Board in January. One aim is for safer roads.
- Potting area proposal at NSCS was approved and paid for by the Township.
- Hockey boards repaired and a new youth hockey rink built with volunteers and Township money.
- The ABC Inc proposal for a basketball court on the concrete slab at NSCS was supported by a community survey. Final plans are developing in anticipation of Township support.
- A required stormwater ordinance was developed and approved (see insert) and updates were approved in our Zoning Ordinance.
- Plans for a future bay for our Clifton Volunteer Fire Department Hall 1 are being drafted. Progress depends upon saving up funds.
- The December Town Board meeting ended in its traditional pot luck honoring all Township volunteers and staff. It was a well attended event.

Wishing everyone in the Township a happy new year!

Township Roads
Supervisor Dave Edbloom

I am pleased to report that we finished the year significantly under budget for roads! Three large (36") cross-road culverts were installed, two on Shilhon and one on Greenwood roads. All Township roads were graded twice, once in spring and once in fall. Chloride was applied in June. The Shilhon road ditch was brushed and all Township ditches were mowed. Our thanks to Bob Rodda who has done great road work for the Township.
**Summary of Town Board Meetings**

(Official minutes by Town Clerk Ann Cox are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org)

**October 8th regular meeting.** Attending: Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Wendy Gustofson, Don Sitter and Travis Stolp.

Main Actions: Funding for the ice rink update proposal was unanimously approved for up to $9,000, subject to review and approval by ABC Inc. and the NSCS Board. Reports: Treasurer: deposits $1,687.10, expenses $164,086.44, frozen $300,000, reserve $200,000, spendable balance $304,809.70. CC fund after $62,000 allocated funds: $242,809.70. Legal: waiting on State Auditor’s office on use of CC funds. JUC: Wendy’s motion to immediately transfer $30,000 to ABC Inc. for security failed. Concerns included question of legality, lack of a proposal and data to base a decision upon.

**November 12th regular meeting.** Attending: Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Don Sitter and Travis Stolp.

An Emergency Management presentation (by Pat Halversdon and Sue Lawson) discussed how a pandemic flu emergency could be addressed in the Township, guided by its newly adopted Emergency Plan. Note that residents may attend a free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) held in Lake County (see the notice on page 3)

Main Actions: Two motions were made and unanimously passed in response to requests by ABC’s Phil Strom. One made to approve up to $3,500 for the NSCS potting area and unfreeze $3,500 from the CC fund (for 2 benches at $600 each and a $2,000 bench; $18,000 had initially been earmarked pending a specific proposal). An annual feedback on their use was requested. The second motion was made to cover a $384.75 bill from AKDA architects for a basketball court design for the concrete slab at NSCS. Reports: Treasurer: deposits $2,243.01, expenses $115,543.88, Township reserve $200,000, and frozen CC fund $300,000 for a spendable balance of $47,575.87. The approved $9,000 hockey board project funds were unfrozen. Remaining CC funds after $62,000 in approved projects, is $240,933.29. Cindy Smith was approved to act as Vice Treasurer during Treasurer Janet Johanson’s vacation. She was also approved to sign checks. Planning: the KiviRanta PUD (at former Nokomas) was approved. The Trails planning document will be brought to the Board in January. Legal: Attorney Tim Strom reported that discussions are ongoing in the Auditor’s Office regarding transfer of funds and he recommends continuing on our current policy. NSCS charter school is school district #4084. Roads: Berggrens will sign a waiver that the county will not be liable for any damage in exchange for use of their driveway as a turnaround (rather than widening the road turnaround).

**Town Hall:** The addition open house is Nov 14th at 1pm. Written invitations were sent and it was widely advertised. The County Assessor’s office sent a reminder that Supervisors need proof of compliance for training for the Board of Appeal and Equalization (which hears local property tax issues).

The next regular Town Board meetings:
(2nd Thurs, 7pm in the Town Hall) are Jan. 14th & Feb. 11th.
Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

**Summary of Planning Commission Meetings**

(Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township web site www.duluthtownship.org)

**October 22nd regular meeting.** Commissioners Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry Hauge, Brigid Pajunen, John Schifsky, Jo Thompson, Paul Voge and Larry Zanko attended plus Planning Director Sue Lawson, Secretary Beth Mullan & Board Liaison Don Sitter.

Main Action: Approved variance and final plans for KiviRanta PUD at the former Nokomis site, subject to a permanent open space PUD agreement.

Discussion: Ray Sundberg design hearing for commercial property addition at McQuade and Lismore Roads was discussed. No action is required. A variance hearing for exterior and road setbacks for the Kiviranta PUD was discussed. The variance requested was deemed reasonable, an improvement to the property and arising from problems not created by the owners. The final plan was discussed and found to meet Ordinance requirements conditional on an open space agreement.

**November 19th final meeting.** The Seering’s on Wildwood Road requested their Interim Use Short Term Rental be converted into a Conditional Use. The hearing will be scheduled for January 28th and neighbors in the former notification area will be notified.

James Gittemeir presented a working draft of the Township Trails Plan. The formal plan will be presented to the Planning Commission in January and recommendations will be forwarded to the Town Board. Results from the survey and highlights of the plan were discussed.

The next Planning Commission meetings:
(4th Thurs, 7pm in the Town Hall) are Jan. 28th & Feb. 25th.
Special hearings are posted at the Town Hall.
Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

**French River Readers Book Club**

Carol Surine

The book for next month is March, by Geraldine Brooks. The next meeting is Thursday, Jan. 21st at 7:30pm in the Fireside Room at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road. Peggy Dahlberg will be host.

For information call Carol Surine, 525-4426 or email: CarolSurine@gmail.com, or www.duluthtownship.org/bookclub.
THE BARN
Hoobert Huhta

(Editor’s Note: Hoobert Huhta was raised in Duluth Township and now resides in Florida. His article was provided by Helen Hendrickson. The barn, visible on the north side of the expressway, is now the site of the blacksmith/artist who produces wind vanes and other metallic artwork. This story has been lightly edited for length.)

This tale is about the red barn built on the south side of Rt.3 (Old North Shore Road), a quarter mile west of the Homestead road. (An old road sign, lying in the tall weeds at the corner of that road and Rt.3 called it the Holmstead road). The time was the early 1920’s and Rt.3 was a quality, well graded, gravel road running all the way from Duluth to Two Harbors and beyond. Later when a paved highway was built south of the DMR tracks, hugging the shoreline, it was known as the North Shore Drive, US 61. When the latest divided lane highway was built, it took the US 61 title away from the Shore Drive, split the farm in half and just about took the barn.

Writing is not my strong suit. I have a degree in engineering. My college grade point average suffered because I had to take 3 years of English. My writing experience is limited to computer programming and some specification writing. The story suffers from my rapidly failing recall, and is intermixed with hearsay, conjecture and speculation. My tendency is to drift off subject. Just read it as if it were a bad historical novel, without a plot.

I feel prepared to write this in three parts:

I  BMT; Before My Time (How the barn was born)
II  DMT; During My Time (How the barn grew)
III  AMT; After My Time (How time changed the barn)

THE BARN – BMT

This part covers roughly the time from the early 1920’s to the early 1930’s. It is a time from before I was, until I could just sort of remember. Obviously this part will be all hearsay, conjecture or speculation but told as if I know it all. I think a lot of historians lack personal knowledge about what they write. My father had worked as a lumberjack most of the time that he had been in the United States until a side interest in women caused him to get married. Marriage and lumber camps do not fit together at all well; so he got steady work digging sewer and waterline ditches for Winamaki Contractors. That line of work did not look like a path to the American Dream so he decided to go into business for himself. He managed to get a loan from a local attorney and buy a piece of land to start a dairy farm literally from the ground up. He bought the forty (it is only 35 acres because the DMR railroad clips off 5 acres from the southwest corner) along the railroad tracks just east and north of the Palmers Depot (e.g. railroad at Homestead Road). That was a great spot since in his time off he could take the train from Duluth, get off at the Palmers Depot and walk to the new farm (except the time he fell asleep before getting to Palmers and woke up in Ely). It later proved to be very convenient to send cream to the creamery via the railroad.

Now all that he needed was a house, a barn, a privy, a well, some cows, a couple of horses, farm implements, tools, a Model T Ford and of course (being a Finn) a sauna. Land had be cleared, plowed, seeded etc. to provide a pasture and hay for the cows. There may have been some cleared land. This all had to be done on a tight budget with a lot, real lot, of “sweat equity”.

Now, about the Barn. A good place for it seemed to be just near the edge of the 40 foot deep gully which had been gouged by the Little Sucker River. The river could provide water for the cows most of the summer. The slight down hill at the brow of the gulley would help keep the barn yard dry. There is a rumor that the original barn was a log building with a thatched roof. It certainly was not a nice log building like Abe Lincoln’s home. The book “Roots of the Past-Seeds of the Future” has several pictures from the early 1900’s of buildings in the Duluth area made with walls of small logs stacked horizontally. An early picture in the Duluth News Tribune shows logs which appear to be rough sawn on all four sides to a sort of uniform size. The logs had rounded edges with bark exposed. I would expect tar paper on the outside to keep the wind from blowing in through the cracks.

A concrete slab floor and a foundation of rocks and concrete were made. It was really easy to find rocks when you plowed the fields. The slab is poured with an aisle down the middle for main access to the barn; to carry in hay, perform chores and for cows to go in or out. Symmetrically on each side is a manure gutter), then an aisle wide enough for cows to stand facing away from the center and finally along each outer wall, an aisle for space for hay and feed plus room to carry the feed water and hay to each cow. As I recall the space where cows stand (and sleep in the winter) was covered with tight spaced logs to be more comfortable than concrete.

Just at the outer edge of each gutter were two round vertical posts, on each side, placed so as to divide the distance between the end walls into three equal spaces. The posts support two magnificent hand hewn beams. Nice enough to use in Dick Cheney’s hunting lodge. They are of the order of 14 to 16 inches square: corners slightly rounded; spliced (continued)
with a locking joint over each post. Such big beams were chosen to support the weight of the hay when a haymow is added. I have no idea where they came from. There are no large trees in the area (only a few stumps). Lumbering and fires had taken all the large trees years earlier.

There is a rumor that the barn was built with a thatched roof. I suppose that could be. In the Minnesota climate a barn needs a haymow. But the lack of money, the lack of time and the need to get cows to produce income as soon as possible were a problem. Even if you don’t have a hay mow you certainly must have a roof. The least expensive temporary roof would be the way to go. It would not be a good real straw roof. (In Denmark where straw roofs are very highly regarded they are rare because of their high labor cost.) I suppose my father could have gotten some straw from a neighbor or maybe even used some hay, and made some sort of “straw” roof. If not straw; a roof covered with the lowest price roll roofing might have been used.

Lacking a hay mow, the winter store of hay was a large hay stack near the front of the barn. Hence the front barn door was made wide, with double doors to make it easier to carry in pitch fork loads of hay. The back door, used only for people, cows, or a wheel barrow, was an ordinary single door.

There are three ‘blocks’ of space along each side of the center aisle; defined as the space between a wall and a post or between two posts. The block nearest the double doors will be referred to as the first block. There is space for three cows in each block.

The cows were lined up, facing toward the wall, side by side, between the gutter and the feed aisle i.e., tail end toward the gutter. The first block on the North side was used to carry hay, feed and water to the cows. Since hay is carried in through the front door it is best to take the shortest way to the feed aisle. It was also the storage area for tools and feed. Feed must be in metal barrels as rats will chew through the burlap bags and spill feed all over the floor. Two barrels are needed, one for bran, one for middling’s.

The first block on the south side was divided into pens for the calves. If you want cows to give milk, you need to have calves; whether you want them or not. Since the milk was separated and only the cream was sold there was an over supply of skim milk. Feeding it to calves beats dumping it. As female calves grow to be heifers the pens can be rearranged to make space for them. They can then increase the herd or be sold.

The third block on the South side is used for the two horses. Remember that we needed a team of horses. Winters are too cold to keep horses outside but they do go out in weather not fit for cows. It is best that they are near the door. Since a block has room for three animals, the third space in that block was used as the passageway to the feeding aisle on the south side. That violates the “shortest way” rule but it uses a space not convenient for a cow. That space was always a passageway as long as I was on the farm. That leaves three blocks; nine spaces for cows. If the money was available we would like to fill them all. I would not expect them to all be filled early-on.

(to be continued)
Duluth Township
Information 2016
Duluth Town Hall, 6092
Homestead Road, Duluth,
MN 55804
Phone (218) 525-5705
(voice message).

Email: See note below on using our Township web site.
www.duluthtownship.org

Town Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9am-noon
Thurs 2-6pm, Fri 9-11am
Planning Office Hours: No posted hours
Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

Supervisors:

Mary Anne Daniel, (2013-2016) 260-9123
Primary contact for Fire, Cemetery, Emergency
Planning, Police, 50% Joint Use Committee.

Dave Edblom (2014-2017) Vice Chair 525-1276
Primary contact for Township Hall, 50% Joint Use
Committee; Assisting: Roads, Personnel, Business
Management.

Wendy Gustofson (2016-2018) 573-821-0785
Primary contact for Communications, D/NSSD and
Materials Mgmt, Intergovernmental Relations.

Don Sitter (2013-2016) Chair 525-4138
Primary contact for Business Mgmt, Personnel,
Planning and Zoning; Assisting: Town Hall
for Town Hall, Recreation, Personnel.

Travis Stolp (2016-2018) 525-0576
Primary contact for Roads, Recreation/Rental

Town Clerk: Ann K. Cox 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Treasurer: Janet Johansen 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Attorney: Tim Strom 722-4766 (office)
Cemetery Sexton: Molly Tillotson 218-525-6933

Planning Director: Sue Lawson messages: 525-5705
Planning and Zoning Secretary: Beth Mullan
Planning and Zoning Commission: Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry
Hauge (Mar2015), Brigid Fajunen (Mar2016), John
Schifsky (Mar2016), Jo Thompson, (Mar2016) vice
chair, Paul Voge, chair (Mar2014), Larry Zanko (2016)

Peace Officers: Chief Shawn Padden
Officer Steve Peterson

Emergencies 9-1-1, Messages 525-5705 or 393-8407

Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department:
Chief Bob Engelson, Assistant Chief Rob Peldo,
President Jason Bruckelmyer

Burning Permits are available online at mndnr.gov/permits or
the Town Hall (office hours), or from Fire Wardens:
Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431), Jay Zink 525-5589
or DNR in Two Harbors, 1568 Hwy 2, 834-1418.

Community Center Rental Coordinator: Jim Salls 600-9015
Town Hall rentals: contact the Town Clerk, 525-5705.
Website manager: Janet Johansen 525-5705 (Town Hall)

To Email Township Officials and Departments
Our Township web site, www.duluthtownship.org/contacts,
has a dropdown list of personnel and departments you can
use to send emails. Note that a copy of all emails
automatically goes to the Town Hall for Township records.

Note: If the person does not have email access, your
communication is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.
Many Departments have a web page. See our web site).

Township Recycling Center
At the Town Hall, on Homestead Road
Staffed by Carolyn Marino, Roger Beck and Volunteers

Nov.-March: Tues. 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thurs. 2
-6pm & Sat. 8-noon.
April-Oct: Tuesday 7-11am & 3-7pm, Thurs. 3-7pm, Saturday 8-12.
(Recycle drop off only during recycling hours
and no household garbage, please.)

Aluminum cans should be recycled with plastics/metal cans.
Curb recycling pickup service is available south of the freeway.
Surveillance cameras have been installed around the Town Hall
because of vandalism and dumping household garbage.

SEE RECYCLING INFORMATION ON PAGE 6

Township Calendar
See calendar updates on www.duluthtownship.org.
Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

JANUARY 2016
5, Tue, 7pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business
meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
6, Wed, 12:30pm Homesteader’s, Town Hall
12, Tue, 5pm Filing deadline for Board candidates
(Town Hall office only open 1-5 today)
14, Thu, 7pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall.
19, Tue, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District
meeting, French River Lutheran Church
19, Tue, 7pm Volunteer Fire Dept training Hall #1
23, Sat, NSCS Book Fair Benefit at Barnes and Noble
28, Thu, 7pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

FEBRUARY 2015
2, Tue, 7pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business meeting,
Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
3, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s meet, Town Hall
6-7 SatSu CERT emergency training (see page 3)
11, Thu, 7pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
16, Tue, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District
meeting, French River Lutheran Church
16, Tue, 7pm Volunteer nFire Dept: training, Hall #1
20, Sat, CERT emergency training (see page 3)
23, Tue, Deadline for the March Newsletter
25, Thu, 7pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

MARCH 2015
1, Tue, 7pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business meeting,
Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
2, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s, Town Hall
8, Tue, VOTE—Town Hall, polls open 7am—8pm
8, Tue, 8:15pm ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
10, Thu, 7pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
15, Tue, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District
meeting, French River Lutheran Church
15, Tue, 7pm Volunteer Fire Dept training, Hall #1
24, Thu, 7pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

The MN State Demographer estimated 2014 Duluth Town-
ship population at 1,982 people in 767 households.
Inside This Issue

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Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

For Newsletter in color, see the Newsletter online at www.duluthtownship.org

If your name or address are in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter Editor at the Town Hall (email: editor@duluthtownship.org). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

1023 Newsletters are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to the volunteer Newsletter editor, Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or use the Newsletter Box on the Town Hall porch. Our Newsletter is printed locally by Bob Sundstrom, BB&K Printing, and mailed for us by the folks at UDAC.

Community Youth Groups

Clifton 4-H Club: call Kate Edbloom, 525-1276
Cub Scouts: call David Hooey, 525-6617
Boy Scouts: call Chris Roningen, 525-5308
Girl Scouts: call Tracy Mandelin, 525-4148

(Note: If other community service groups should be listed, please contact the Town Hall.)

LOCAL SNOW PLOWING

Larry Nesgoda — call: 525-1305 or 393-2863

LOCAL PRODUCE

Farm Fresh Eggs — call: 525-7415

Other listings? No charge to list local seasonal items such as these. Next Newsletter is March (deadline Feb. 23rd). Send your listing to: Editor@duluthtownship.org, or leave a message at the Town Hall, 525-5705.

LOOKING FOR A HOME TO RENT?
or
LOOKING FOR A RENTER FOR YOUR NICE HOME?

Call Apartment & Home Advisors – we can help!
We specialize in properties of distinction and we help “take the stress out of moving”.
Call Susie Lannon at 218-720-3987

Country Kids Day Care, 525-1073
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Accepting Full and Part Time
Stormwater Erosion and Sediment Control FAQ Sheet
Sue Lawson, John Schifsky and Jo Thompson

What is the purpose of this ordinance?
To protect health, safety and general welfare, property and the environment, and the Township is supportive of protecting our water resources.

The Stormwater Erosion and Sediment Control ordinance is in response to the MN Pollution Control Agency and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Duluth Township is required to have this ordinance because the MN Pollution Control Agency permits the Town to discharge stormwater.

The complete ordinance can be found on the Duluth Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

What does this mean for residents of Duluth Township?
All land disturbing activities that may cause run-off into public waters of the State are subject to the conditions of the Stormwater Ordinance, except for:

a) Nursery, home gardening, and agricultural operations that are confined to private property
b) Forest management activities
c) Any emergency activity that is immediately necessary for the protection of life, property, or natural resources.
d) Road maintenance on gravel surfaced roads and driveways. (The Planning Director or designee has the authority to add requirements.)
e) Federal, State, or County projects where the Town does not have regulatory authority
f) Small utilities working in the right-of-way of Town roads

What is a land disturbing activity?
Any removal of vegetation, excavating, grading, clearing, filling, stockpiling, hauling, or other earth change related to or associated with construction or reconstruction, which may result in movement of soil particles of earth.

When do I need to get a MPCA Permit?
On all construction activity with a land disturbance creating bare soil greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale. These activities may include but are not limited to driveway or structure construction, excavating or filling. MPCA’s web site is: www.mpca.gov.

When do I need to submit a Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan to the Town?
Post Construction Stormwater Management plans are required for new development and redevelopment projects within the Town of Duluth with a land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development.

When do I need to get a Land Disturbance (LDP) permit?
Note: If you are constructing buildings/structures on land you are disturbing, you also need to apply for a Land Use Permit. Contact Planning Director (www.duluthtownship.org) for further information.

1. Land disturbance activities disturbing greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet and less than one acre or fill and excavation greater than one hundred (100) cubic yards that may cause run-off into public waters of the State require a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) from the Township.

2. Land disturbance activities less than 5,000 square feet are not required to obtain a LDP from the Township unless the Planning Director or designee determines the disturbance is in an area of erosive soils, steep slopes or is proximate to public waters.

An acre = 43,560 square feet
An area 5000 square feet could be about:
Dimensions of an acre may be about: 60’ x 84’
209’ x 209’ 30’ x 167’
300’ x 150’ 71’ x 71’
15’ x 2904’
20’ x 2178’

If you are constructing a new home, land disturbance might include:
- A new driveway (width is that which is disturbed resulting in movement of soil particles)
- Area that is cleared and/or disturbed for a septic system
- Area that is cleared and/or disturbed for a house site
- Area that is cleared and/or disturbed for a garage site
- Area that is cleared and/or disturbed for accessory structures

(continued)
Other land alterations might include:

- Excavating
- Filling
- Piles of stored dirt/sand/gravel/rock

When I apply for a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) from the Township on projects that disturb 5,000 square feet of land to one acre, what will be the requirements I have to meet on my property?

**Note:** Maintenance of roads and driveways are exempt from this requirement but the Planning Director or designee has the authority to add requirements.

1. Minimize the area of bare soil exposed at any one time.
2. Protect property and roads adjacent to the site from sediment deposition. This can be accomplished by preserving a well-vegetated buffer strip around the lower perimeter of the land disturbance, by installing perimeter controls such as sediment barriers, filters, dikes, or sediment basins, by stockpiling soil in appropriate locations or by a combination of such measures.

**Note:** the two items above are not a complete list of the requirements. Refer to the Ordinance for a complete list.

Please keep in mind: For any land disturbance of 1 acre or more you must get a permit from the MPCA and meet their requirements. Doing so:

- May require contracting with a professional who will assist in developing plans for the permit. Always try to minimize the amount of land that is disturbed.
- Will entail the submission of a Plan to the Township for the construction and maintenance of Post Construction Stormwater Protection facilities.

**What is the fee for a Land Disturbance Permit?**
For land disturbances less than 1 acre and greater than 5,000 square feet, the Town charges $50.

**What is the fee for a Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan submitted to the Township?**
For land disturbances of an acre or more, the Town charges $150.

**How do I get a Land Disturbance permit?**

- The Ordinance is available on the Town web site or at the Town Hall during office hours.
- Permit Applications are available on the Town web site or at the Town Hall during office hours

  Fill out the application and submit it with the required fee to the Town at its mailing address, Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804.

  If there are questions regarding the application contact the Town at 218-525-5705 or or contact the Planning Director at www.duluthtownship.org.

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**Tips for Recycling**

*Caroline Marino*

- Flatten as many of your containers and boxes as possible to save space and make transporting recyclables more efficient.
- Rinse containers and remove all caps from glass bottles.
- Plastic bags don’t belong in recycling bins! Use paper bags to collect recyclables since the bag can be recycled with your mixed paper.
- Be a smart shopper—buy reusable, returnable and recyclable items.

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**Donation Possibilities!**

A newer dish washer and microwave are needed to complete our new Town Hall kitchen and a newer, serviceable refrigerator for the new addition. If you can help out, contact the office.

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*2015 Giant pumpkin moving at Tanner Gardens!*