



The Clay Connection

Remember the 200/600 foot rule on the river

Aug 2019

Higher Water

We have higher water this year. We have broke a record seasonal high water level in May, June and likely to do the same in July. The Army Corps of Engineers project our water levels to be above or near the seasonal high water marks for at least 6 to 9 months, depending on rainfall. Also a west or southwest wind can raise our water 5 inches like it did last Saturday. Please keep an eye out for your neighbors, if they need help with the high water.

It is up to property owners to protect their property. The Township will provide free sandbags, and sand. In an attempt to get more law enforcement on the river, we have deputized many of our police officers so Clay PD can patrol the water to enforce the 200/600 ft wake laws. We have a zero tolerance policy of the wake laws, no warnings will be given by the Marine Patrol. Many tickets have been issued with a \$135 fine for first offense. We are prepared for the worst, praying for the best. Think warm sunny days with no rain.

Permanent Absentee Voting

Absent voter ballots are available to registered voters for all elections. They provide a convenient method for casting a ballot when the voter is unable to attend the polls on Election Day. Michigan now allows any voter to be placed on the **Permanent Absentee Voter List**. Once you're on the list, you will automatically receive an **Absentee Voter Application** before every election. You will need to sign and return the absentee ballot application to your local clerk before you will be mailed an actual absentee ballot. If you would like to automatically receive an application for the option to absentee vote please call or email the clerks office to add yourself to this list.

Electric Drowning

If you have electrical wires underwater, beware of electric drowning. Electric current in the water can cause anyone to drown. Turn off power to docks that are under water. The Fire Department can check to see if you have current in the water with a meter. Do not swim at marinas.

New Zoning Code Enforcement Officer

I'd like to introduce our new Code Enforcement Officer, Shannon Murray. He is fast becoming an asset to the community, already with noticeable results. Blight is one of our biggest problems and Shannon has been busy. He has many years of experience dealing with code enforcement in other communities such as Ira Township and Capac. To deal with any blighted property, there is a process that we have to follow and sometimes it takes time. We would much rather have compliance rather than tickets and going to court. But if we must, the Township will go to court to force the property to be cleaned up at the property owner's expense. You can reach Shannon directly at 810.794.9303 x 150 or email at smurray@claytownship.org You also can go to our website at www.claytownship.org and fill out a complaint form.

BE SAFE AND SMART ON THE WATER!

Sewer Infiltration problems

It is against the law to pump or drain water into the sewer system. Do not remove your sewer cleanout cap to let water drain into the sewer. By doing this, you are taxing our whole sewer system and waste water treatment plant. If we find illegal dumping, we will disconnect and cap your sewer feed and assess a \$500 fine. If this goes unchecked, the treatment plant will be looking at large fines from the DEQ. The DEQ could make us isolate the issue and turn whole streets off from sewer. Also, by doing this, you are not helping out your situation from the high water.

Water on Roads

Several roads are underwater and we are trying our best to keep them safe. Especially Anchor Bay Dr, Colony Rd & Aqua Isle Sub. The County Road has been working hard to drain them. Please drive slow where there is water (No Wake). There are large potholes under the water. Thank You for your patience and sorry for any inconveniences.