

Calendar

- **Town Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall located in Big Lake Community Lions Park, 21960 Co. Rd. 5, Big Lake, MN.**
- **Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Fridays 8:00 a.m. to noon**

Town of Big Lake News

September 2009
On the Web at
bltwp@izoom.net

United States Census 2010

Why is the Census Important to Minnesota?

The Census affects funding in our community

Census data directly affects how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period. Spending just a few minutes to fill out your census form will help ensure our community gets its fair share of federal and state funding.

The Census affects our voice in Congress

As mandated by the U.S. Constitution (Article 1, Section 2), the census is used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. Minnesota currently has eight representatives in the U.S. Congress; however, this number could be reduced if not all Minnesotans are counted.

Minnesota's Estimated Population in 2008: 5,220,393

The Census affects our representation in state and local government

Census data is used to define legislative districts, school district assignment areas and other important functional areas of government.

The Census informs our community's decisions

The census is like a snapshot that helps define who we are as a nation. Data about changes in your community are crucial to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools, or where to locate job training centers.

2010 Census Timeline:

Fall 2008: Recruitment begins for local census jobs.

Spring 2009: Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide.

Fall 2009: Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2010.

February - March 2010:

Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

April 1, 2010: Census Day.

April - July 2010: Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.

December 2010: By law, the Census Bureau delivers the population counts to the President for apportionment.

March 2011: By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

Census Statistics:

People per sq. mile in Minnesota: 62

Average Travel Time to Work: 22 Min.

Average age in Minnesota: 37

Information from 2000 Census Report.

IN THE NEWS...

H1N1 Novel Influenza:

If you have questions or concerns about the H1N1 Novel

Influenza virus you can contact the Sherburne County Public Health Office at 763-241-2750 or the Minnesota Department of Health at **651-201-5414** Metro Area, **1-877-676-5414** Statewide or **651-201-3509** TTY.

Public Health reminds people to observe the following routine public health practices for preventing the spread of the flu.

- Stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- Wash your hands often to protect yourself from germs. Especially after contact with known germ spreading items and surfaces and periodically throughout the day.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches

something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

- Practice other good health habits. Keep yourself strong – and more resistant to disease – by getting plenty of sleep, staying physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids and eating nutritious food.

H1N1 Novel Influenza symptoms are similar to the seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills and fatigue and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting.



The Township is working with its website designer, Lynne Dahl-Fleming of Design for Print and Web to redesign and update the Township website.

You can visit the Town of Big Lake online at

www.biglaketownship.com

Look for the "new look" and added information in addition to the existing meeting minutes, meeting dates, ordinances, building & grounds and Township services.

BURN PERMITS AVAILABLE

Burning permits are available from the Clerk's Office during regular business hours. There is no fee for the 3-day

permit. Burning of piled, vegetative material can be done between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. Please remember that spring restrictions and possible burning bans are an annual event. All residents are urged to do the majority of their **burning when we have snow cover if possible.**



Big Lake Township Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) – (Taken from Annual Town Meeting Minutes, March 10, 2009)

The public was invited to share any opinions or comments on the Township's SWPPP; and, were advised, the plan is a state mandate and the SWPPP follows a format provided by the MPCA. The Township was required to develop, implement and enforce a storm water pollution prevention program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to protect water quality and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. A storm water pollution prevention plan was drafted and submitted to the MPCA on November 14, 2007. The Township submitted its first annual report for calendar year 2007 due in June 2008. During the April 2008 annual town road tour, the road committee took an inventory of Township storm drainage facilities. The road committee identified 12 culverts, greater than 18" in size, located under Township roads. The outlets have since been mapped and will be inspected annually during the Town road tour. The Township's SWPPP plan is on file at the Clerk's Office and is available for public review anytime during business hours. Since the March 10th, 2009 meeting, the spring road tour has been

conducted and the culverts and outlets identified have again been inspected according to the Township's SWPPP. If you have any concerns or comments regarding Township's SWPPP or a report regarding the discharge pipes, please contact the Clerk's Office at 763-263-8111.



Big Lake Lion's Park News

Walking Trail

The Township has completed a walking trail at Big Lake Lion's Community Park. The marked trail consists of a loop on the high ground and a path along the river. The trail begins at the Southeast corner of the park with a posted map. The walking trail is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. No motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail without permission from the Clerk's Office.

Ballfield

Two local Boy Scouts, working toward their Eagle Scout badges, will be finishing the new ballfield located at Lion's Community Park. The projects involve removing weeds, final grade & seeding of the field, setting of bases for baseball, installation of a backstop and player benches. Upon completion, the field will be suitable for soccer, football, or baseball.



Town Hall Rental

Looking for a place to have a family reunion, picnic, graduation or just get together?

Reservations are available for the rental of the Town Hall meeting room, kitchen & indoor restroom facilities. Rental fees are \$200. or \$300. depending on the size of the room requested. A damage deposit of \$100. or \$200. (depending upon the size of the room rental) is also required. The damage deposit is returned if the rented area is cleaned and there are no damages. No alcohol is allowed anywhere in the park. The building is a smoke-free facility. In an effort to have the facility available for monthly youth and non-profit organization meetings, rental reservations are taken no more than 90 days in advance. To rent the Town Hall, contact the Clerk's Office at 763-263-8111.



Area Schools will be starting
Tuesday, Sept. 8th



Please be aware of children walking and riding bikes to school and an increase in traffic as buses begin their routes.

Thank you

Bailey Station Cemetery

In 1992, with the help of Nick Anderson, a local boy scout in search of becoming an Eagle Scout, the Town of Big Lake

began the process of maintaining and developing this historic cemetery (first burial was in 1872) and preparing it to be used again. In July 1995, a volunteer cemetery board was appointed to present the Town Board with recommendations for by-laws, rules, prices for cemetery lots, and projected capital improvements for the cemetery. At the Re-convened Annual Town Meeting in August 1995, the citizens approved the plan for capital improvements and voted to levy for the necessary funding to assure that work on the cemetery would be done. On Memorial Day 1996, the cemetery board began offering burial lots for sale.

The cemetery board remains active today with ongoing maintenance and improvements to the cemetery. In 2008 an above ground cremation niche was purchased and installed in the cemetery. The cemetery board began selling spaces in this above-ground niche or "columbarium" that same year.

If you are interested in purchasing a lot(s) in the cemetery or in the new columbarium, please contact Jacque Nadeau, Bailey Cemetery Actuary, at 763-263-3762.



BIG LAKE TOWNSHIP & CITY DOG VACCINATION AND LICENSING CLINIC

The 4th Annual Big Lake Dog Vaccination Clinic will be

Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

at Lions Community Park, 21960 County Road 5 (garage).

**ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH!
ONLY HEALTHY DOGS WILL BE VACCINATED.**

A Dog License is required to be eligible for the discounted vaccinations.

The \$10.00 license fee is valid for the lifetime of the dog.

City and Township residents will be able to purchase a dog license on site on Saturday 12th.

Barrington Oaks Veterinary Hospital, Elk River, will provide vaccination services at this event.

**CASH PAYMENT REQUIRED -
NO CHECKS, DEBIT OR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED FOR VACCINATIONS.**

One year Rabies Vaccination: \$ 8.00

Canine DHPP* Vaccination: \$ 10.00

Canine Lymes Vaccination: \$ 20.00

(*Note: DHPP includes Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvo, Parainfluenza.)

Note: These prices are good ONLY at the Sept. 12, 2009 Dog Vaccination Clinic for Big Lake Twp.

For information contact Big Lake Township at 763-263-8111

