

# CASCADE CONNECTIONS

A NEWSLETTER FROM CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP



## Fall Clean Up Day

Cascade Township is offering a fall clean up day this year in conjunction with Ada Township. The fall clean up day will be held on Saturday, October 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Kent County Road Commission building at the end of Fase Street in Ada Township. You must be in line no later than 2:30 to drop items off.

Any resident of Cascade Township (you must show your driver's license) is welcome to bring trash, household items or yard waste. Appliances are welcome, however, the Freon must be removed prior to dropping the appliance off or you may be charged. No household hazardous waste products or tires will be accepted. For household hazardous waste and tire disposal, please contact the Kent County Department of Public Works at 336-2570.

In The Image will have a truck available at Leonard Field for the collection of household goods and Shred It will have a truck available for document shredding.

If you have any questions regarding fall clean up, feel free to contact Sandra Otey at 949-1500 or by email at [sotey@cascaadetwp.com](mailto:sotey@cascaadetwp.com).

## Yard Waste Pick Up Program FALL 2010

Purchase Yard Waste Tags at the reception desk of the Township Offices from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Tags are \$1.00 each
- Pick up will be every Monday
- From October 18th through November 22nd.

Please have your yard waste near the curb by 6:00 a.m. to assure pick up. Place a tag on each bag of leaves or bundle of branches. (No grass clippings, dirt, sod, cement, sand or rocks please). Please use 30 gal. plastic bags or paper yard waste bags. Sticks should be no longer than 4 feet in length and branches, logs and stumps are not to exceed 1 inch in diameter. Residents 62 years of age and older and residents with disabilities will receive 20 tags FREE per calendar year! This service is only available in the restricted burn area.

**The yard waste dumpsters will be available behind the Thornhills Fire Station on November 5-7 and November 20-28.**

**For more information, please call 949-1500.**

Note: If you have tags left over from last spring or fall and you intend to use them, please contact the Township Office so your address can be added to the pickup list.



You are invited  
to Cascade's  
Holiday Events

## Cascade Fire Department Halloween Party

Bring your ghosts! Bring your goblins! Cascade Township Fire Department invites you to the annual Halloween party on Saturday, October 30th at Cascade Township Fire Station #1 located at 2865 Thornhills Avenue S.E. The Halloween party at the Fire Department will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. Activities will include clowns, a costume contest with prizes, and a bag of goodies for all the children. Complimentary cider, hot chocolate, coffee and doughnuts will be served. Come early or late, but if you choose to have your costume judged, please be here at 7:30 p.m. for the group judging.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact the Cascade Township Fire Department at 949-1320.

**Join us for a safe night of Halloween fun at the Fire Station!**

## The Outdoor Tree Lighting at the Historical Museum and Garden

Sunday, November 28, 2010, 5:00 p.m. at the Museum located at Thornapple River Drive and Cascade Road.

Santa Claus has put this on his calendar and will be with us on the 28th. Refreshments will be served at the Museum.

This event is sponsored by the Cascade Historical Society and funded by the Cascade Community Foundation. Special thanks to the Buildings and Grounds Department for their help.

Donations of vintage Christmas ornaments for display on the tree inside the museum will gladly be accepted at the Cascade Township Office starting October 1st.

**Office Hours:**

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Department Phone Numbers:**
**Manager:**

Bill Cousins; 949-1500  
[bcousins@cascadetwp.com](mailto:bcousins@cascadetwp.com)

**Assessing:**

Roger McCarty; 949-6176  
[rmccarty@cascadetwp.com](mailto:rmccarty@cascadetwp.com)

**Building / Grounds:**

Amy Waugh; 682-4836  
[awaugh@cascadetwp.com](mailto:awaugh@cascadetwp.com)

**Building Inspections:**

Butch Visser; 949-3765  
[bvisser@cascadetwp.com](mailto:bvisser@cascadetwp.com)

**Clerk:**

Ron Goodyke; 949-1508  
[rgoodyke@cascadetwp.com](mailto:rgoodyke@cascadetwp.com)

**Fire:**

John Sigg; 949-1320  
[jsigg@cascadetwp.com](mailto:jsigg@cascadetwp.com)

**Planning:**

Steve Peterson; 949-0224  
[speterson@cascadetwp.com](mailto:speterson@cascadetwp.com)

**Treasurer:**

Ken Peirce; 949-6944  
[kpeirce@cascadetwp.com](mailto:kpeirce@cascadetwp.com)

**Sheriff / Non-Emergency:**

632-6100

**East Precinct Office:**

632-6394

**From the Supervisor...**


As the daylight hours grow shorter and shorter in anticipation of the upcoming fall, it's a good time to reflect on the wonderful summer we had in Cascade. Starting with the annual Memorial Day ceremony honoring our veterans, the 4th of July festivities celebrating Independence Day, August concerts and events in Tassell Park, music and games at the Wisner Center, the Senior picnic, and all the day to day use and enjoyment of Cascade's beautiful pathways, parks and recreational facilities helped make this a memorable summer.

Cascade Township's Building & Grounds Department, Fire Department, and Administration staff did a wonderful job in helping to manage these great events and maintain our wonderful facilities.

We also need to remember that some of these events would not have even occurred if not for the sponsorship and help of individuals, organizations, and businesses in our community. The Cascade Community Foundation for the last few years has sponsored and organized the summer concerts in Tassell Park that have been enjoyed by many. The Cascade Business Association also helped put on the Barks and Brew event at the library grounds this August, and the many individual residents who volunteered their time to help with the day's activities for the 4th of July.

It's my privilege to publicly thank all who give of their talents, time, donations of goods and financial support to help Cascade continue to be a great place to live, work, and play.

**Please join us for the dedication of Cascade Peace Park...**


**Where:** 8900 Grand River Avenue

**When:** Saturday, September 11, 2010

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

## Parks Update

### Burton Park and Cascade Peace Park are open for your enjoyment!

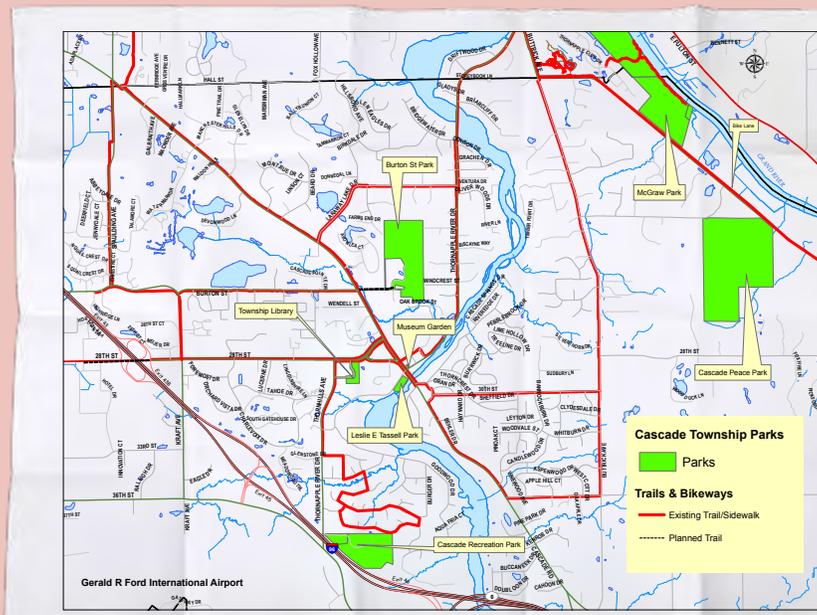
Burton Park is located at 6805 Burton St and has access from both Burton St and Windcrest St. The access point at Burton St is located at the east end of the street. There is 6-car parking lot off from this entrance once you enter the property. Please do not drive past the parking lot. The parking at the Windcrest St is located at the end of the road. There are 3 regular parking spaces and one handicapped space.

You will also notice that work is continuing at the park with the construction of a pathway on the north side of Burton St. After much debate about the type of pathway, the Township Board approved an asphalt path (other ideas were woodchips or porous pavement) to provide a connection from the path on Cascade Rd to the park. Please remember that no bikes are allowed beyond the parking areas. The bathrooms are also being constructed right now. There will be two bathrooms located on the north end of the large metal storage building. These bathrooms will be open year round for winter activities at the park. We are also working on the marking and clearing of the interior trails in the park. You can view a detailed plan of the park at our website at <http://www.cascadetwp.com/Community/Parks/CascadeBurtonPark.htm>.

Peace Park is located at 8900 Grand River Dr and has access from both Grand River Dr and Bolt Dr. Both access points have gravel parking for about 15 cars. The access point on Bolt Dr is considered the handicapped accessible parking lot and has a compacted gravel trail for access into the park.

Work is also continuing at Peace Park with the marking and clearing of trails. We are also marking the boundary of the park. One of the unique aspects of Peace Park is the fact that hunting is allowed. Only Bow hunting for deer is permitted with a cap on the total number of hunters at 15. Hunting will be permitted for a three week season from November 1 to November 21. All the permits are taken for 2010. For any other information about Peace Park including a detailed map you can view it at our website <http://www.cascadetwp.com/Community/Parks/CascadePeacePark.htm>.

Below is a map showing all of our parks and how they are connected to our pathway system. If you have any questions feel free to call the Township Planning Department at 949-0224.



**The Cascade Business Association kicks off their 2010-2011 membership with Mike Jandernoa as their guest speaker at the September meeting on Tuesday, September 14 at 7:30am. Mike Jandernoa is the former CEO of Perrigo, founder of Jandernoa Entrepreneurial Mentoring (JEM).**

The growing cities in today's U.S. economy have a common thread of strong, locally based, diverse businesses. JEM's goal is to help the leaders of these businesses grow their companies stronger and faster. Mike's desire to help entrepreneurs grow their companies faster and stronger led him to found JEM. He wants to help entrepreneurs understand the markets they are in and know where the risks lie.

**The breakfast meeting is open to the public at Centennial Country Club, 3361 Charlevoix Drive SE. Reservations can be made at [www.cascadebiz.com](http://www.cascadebiz.com) or by calling 616-481-5274. CBA members attend for free; \$25.00 for future members.** The Cascade Business Association is one of Kent County's oldest business groups; founded in 1956. We are dedicated to improving the Cascade business experience by meeting the dynamic needs of the community. The CBA's 16 month membership is \$150 for profit businesses and \$75 for non-profit, religious or community service organizations. Monthly meeting specifics can be found on the website or on their Facebook fan page.

## Property Taxes

Summer 2010 property taxes are due by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, September 14th, 2010. Our office hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The office will be closed Monday, September 6th, Labor Day. Information is available on the Cascade Charter Township web site to help you verify the amount of summer property tax paid or the balance due.

Instructions for searching our web site are at: [cascadetwp.com](http://cascadetwp.com)

### Departments

#### Treasurer's Office

#### Assessing, Building and Tax Information

Click on the link to BS & A in the first paragraph "please click here"

Current Tax Search (left side of screen)

Search selections, parcel number, name, or address

Click "Search" (bottom of page)

Then click on the parcel number (in blue) for the history of that property

Click on (+) sign for detail of history.

If you have not received your 2010 summer property taxes, please check the web site or call the Treasurer's office at (616) 949-6944. We look forward to assisting you.

## Election News

### Vote November 2nd

The next date for an election is November 2nd. The ballot contains selections in the races for offices of United States and Michigan Congress, Michigan Senate, Kent County Commission (unopposed), Cascade Township Treasurer (unopposed). Also on the ballot will be two proposals by the State of Michigan regarding a Constitutional Convention and a Senate Joint Resolution banning certain felons from holding elective offices.

### Voter Registration

The last day to register to vote in the November 2 General Election is **October 4; you may do this at our Cascade Township Office which is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.**

The National Voter Registration Act also allows voter registration at any of the following locations:

- Secretary of State Branch Office
- Secretary of State "Renewal by Mail" when you renew your driver license
- **Cascade Township Office** or the Kent County Office
- State or federal mail-in registration form
- Michigan Department of Social Services, which administer benefits for ADFC, Medicaid, and Food Stamp programs. Also county health department offices, which administer benefits for the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC)
- Armed Forces Recruitment offices
- Federal Post Card Application procedure. (FPCA)
- Direct delivery of registration applications by persons associated with voter registration drives. Usually they use the state and federal registration forms developed to implement the Mail Registration Program

**Please be sure you are a registered voter and can participate on November 4.**

### I.D. Requirement

Please remember that beginning in 2008 the requirement for picture identification must be enforced by precinct workers. If you do not present a piece of current I.D. with your picture, you will be required to fill out an affidavit, which we will provide at the precinct, attesting to your identity before you can vote.

### August Primary Election

**Thank you Poll Workers, Voters and Facility Providers.** The Primary Election held on August 3rd brought a good turnout from Cascade Residents.

To the faithful poll workers, we again send our hearty thanks for a job well done. The poll workers performed exceptionally well. Thank you all for keeping your good humor during a long 15-hour day!

To the Cascade churches and our Cascade Library who donate their space to the community for the two-day period from set-up on Monday through closing late on Tuesday, we also say thank you. The polling places who generously host voters are: **Thornapple Evangelical Covenant Church**, Precinct 2; **Cascade Christian Church**, Precinct 6; **Thornapple Community Reformed Church**, Precinct 5; **Cascade Fellowship CRC Church**, Precincts 1 and 7; and the **Wisner Center at the Cascade Library**, Precincts 3 and 4. We know it is an imposition with the traffic and disruption we create and we really appreciate the friendly manner in which you welcome us.

As usual with every election there are a lot of township employees who put in extra effort, so thanks also to Denise Biegalle, Deputy Clerk, Evelyn Kwekel, Election Specialist, and the Building and Grounds crew for setting up the precincts.

### Poll Workers Needed

If you are interested in working at the polls on election day, please contact the Clerk's Office to get more information. Ron Goodyke, Clerk or Denise Biegalle, Deputy Clerk will give you the information needed to apply. Call 949-1508.





## SHERIFF DEPARTMENT UPDATE

### Bicycling Safety

Cascade Township and the Kent County Sheriff Department are working together to address the issue of bicycle safety and helmet usage when participating in recreational activities.

Cascade Township has an ordinance that states that ALL children 14 years and younger must wear a helmet while operating a bicycle. This includes public roadway, sidewalk, and public bicycle paths. Failure to do this could lead children and parents to incur up to \$50 in fines.

*Cascade Township's purpose in making this ordinance is as follows:*

- A. Injuries sustained in bicycling accidents are a threat to the public health and safety of the citizens of Cascade Township, and the prevention of such injuries is a goal of our community; and...
- B. Head injuries can result from bicycling accidents: and...
- C. The risk of head injury from bicycling accidents is significantly reduced for bicyclists who wear proper protective bicycle helmets.

*A few key things to remember when riding your bicycle.*

- **Protect your head**—Always wear a helmet. Although the ordinance only covers children 14 and under we encourage helmet use at all ages.
- **See and be seen**—Wear clothes that make you more visible, like light colors or reflective materials.
- **Avoid riding at night**—If you have to ride after dark, wear reflective clothing so you are more visible. Bike lights can also be helpful when mounted on both the front and the back of the bicycle.
- **Ride with traffic**—Always be aware of the traffic around you and be prepared to stop.
- **Ride single file in a straight line when riding on the road.**
- **Always obey traffic signals**—Learn the rules of the road and obey traffic laws.
- **Stay alert; avoid road hazards**—Watch for potholes, cracks, railroad tracks, drainage grates, or obstacles in your path.
- **Check your bike**—Make sure brakes work and tires are properly inflated.

Please remember that we will be out in the township encouraging helmet usage. Please make it a rule for your children to wear their helmet, not an option. A reminder again that we have “free ice cream” coupons that we hand out to children when they are riding their bikes with their helmets on. The community policing officers will hand out these coupons as much as possible to encourage helmet use.

### Home Heating Safety

Heating equipment, especially portable space heaters, requires careful use and proper maintenance. Cascade Inspection Services offers the following tips to help families prevent fire and burn-related injuries during the winter months.

Make sure your heater has been tested for safety. Look on the bottom for a label such as **ETL**, **UL** or **CSA**.



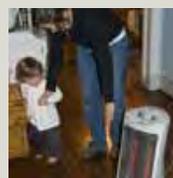
Space heaters need to have plenty of space around them.



Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn - including furniture, people, pets and curtains.



There should always be an adult in the room when a space heater is on. Turn off space heaters before leaving a room or going to sleep.



Supervise children and pets at all times when a portable space heater is in use.

Never use space heaters to dry clothing or blankets.

If you have any questions regarding heating safety, feel free to give our office a call at 949-3765.

*Cascade Inspection Services*

## July 4, 2010

This year's event was held on Saturday July 3. It was a beautiful day with plenty of sunshine and warm temperatures. As in past years, the day's activities started off with the Friends of the Library book sale. With warm weather and plenty of books this was another success for all of those that attended the sale.

The parade started with the annual bike parade which started at Cascade Fellowship Church. With help from members of the church in organizing and starting this event there were plenty of young people peddling the parade route. After all were done on their bikes the parade started with our Grand Marshals Jack Buys and Alice Zoodsma. There were Boy Scout troops, National Guard vehicles and personnel as well as our local veterans in the parade. There were many floats, cars, fire trucks and other participants that made this parade another success.

After the parade was completed all attention was turned to the celebration area on the grounds by the township library. As in years past there were many games, rides and other items for kids and adults to enjoy. There were food vendors from local churches and businesses as well as music for all to enjoy.

This event could not be held without so much help from so many people. It starts with countless hours of planning prior to the event. Then as it gets closer to the event making sure all of the items are picked up and set up the day prior to the event and then clean up after the event. It is a big Thank You we send to the Township for all of the funding they contribute to this event as well as the businesses and people that contribute money so this event can continue to be offered to residents and others each year. All of the township staff and church members that helped set up tables and chairs the night before. Fire personnel, Building and grounds, township board members and township staff that worked from start to finish on set up, grounds clean up and after event cleaning.

If you should have any comments, questions or concerns please call 949-1500 or 949-1320. You can also send an e-mail to [jsigg@cascadetwp.com](mailto:jsigg@cascadetwp.com). I would like to thank again all members who helped with the event, all businesses that donated money and Funny Business for the rides and events for this year's celebration.

## Thank you to the 2010 July 4 Sponsors

Huizenga Group	Met Life Home Loans	Cascade Treasurer
Janet Kruger/Bruce Goodman	D & W Fresh Market	Powell Relocation Group
The Douglas and Maria DeVos Foundation	Michigan Office Solutions	Costco
John A. Meyer Appraisal Company	Betten Imports	Quality Air
United Bank	Mika, Meyer, Beckett & Jones	Country Fresh
Kingsland Hardware	Brann's Steakhouse and Grill	Sentinel Pointe
Tom and Joyce Wisner	Noah's Pet Cemetery	Dick & Diane Wendt
Lake Michigan Credit Union	Cascade Business Association	Stifel Nicolaus
LET, Inc.	Noto's Old World Italian Dining	Discover Chiropractic Center PC
Macatawa Bank	Cascade Community Foundation	Subway
West Side Beer Distributing	Nye Uniform	esmile
Meekhof Lumber	Chemical Bank	Superior Asphalt
Cascade Hospital for Animals	PNC Bank	Falcon Printing
Meijer	Chlystek & White Services, Inc	Sysco Foods
Family Fare Supermarkets	Pepsi Bottling Group	
	Committee to Elect Ken Peirce,	

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Family Friends Veterinary  
Hospital

The Goddard School

Founders Bank and Trust

The Hair Company

Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr &  
Huber

The KMW Group

Funny Business Agency

Thornapple Lawn Care

Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols &  
Carter

Verburg's Automotive

Impact Vehicle Damage Erasure

Watermark Country Club

Independent Bank

Western American Mailers

Yvonne Dodgson



## “Green” Lawn and Garden Tips

Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Avoid scorching your lawn from over-fertilization. Use slow-release fertilizers only 2-3 times per year. Non-phosphorus types are best for the environment.
2. Plant native plants in your garden. Natives naturally need less water, fertilizers, and pesticides saving you time and money.
3. Pick up your pet waste and dispose of it properly; otherwise, it could end up in your storm drain, the Grand River, and eventually your favorite Lake Michigan beach.



Be Stormwater Savvy  
[www.lowergrandriver.org](http://www.lowergrandriver.org)



## “Green” Car Care Tips

Many vehicle fluids can be hazardous. Even small quantities can contaminate drinking water supplies and harm wildlife. Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Recycle used oil and automotive fluids. Just one gallon of used motor oil dumped down a catch basin can contaminate one MILLION gallons of your drinking water.
2. Wash your car at a commercial car wash or on your lawn. Otherwise, dirty, oily water on your driveway will flow to your storm drain, the Grand River, and eventually Lake Michigan.



Be Stormwater Savvy  
[www.lowergrandriver.org](http://www.lowergrandriver.org)



## “Green” Home Tips

Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Protect your family's health. Dispose of unwanted paints, solvents, and cleaners at your county's household hazardous waste collection center.
2. Lower your water bill. Install a rain barrel to capture and reuse your storm water.
3. If you have a septic system, have it pumped out every 3 to 5 years to avoid a costly septic system failure. Failing septic systems can leak bacteria into your local stream, the Grand River, and eventually Lake Michigan, causing beach closures.



Be Stormwater Savvy  
[www.lowergrandriver.org](http://www.lowergrandriver.org)





## Cascade Charter Township

2865 Thornhills Ave SE.  
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www.cascadetwp.com

## Township Board

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Clerk Ron Goodyke  
[rgoodyke@cascadetwp.com](mailto:rgoodyke@cascadetwp.com)  
Treasurer Ken Peirce  
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Trustee Cindy Fox  
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Trustee Fred Goldberg  
[fgoldberg@cascadetwp.com](mailto:fgoldberg@cascadetwp.com)

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## Pathway News

The last days of summer are upon us. We are now about to enter a new fall season in Michigan. The trails we enjoy are looking good. To those of you that have taken the time to enjoy our vast and wonderful pedestrian paths please be mindful of any trash you may see on or around the path and don't hesitate to pick it up.

We have new families moving into our area all the time. To those of you new to the area welcome and please enjoy every amenity afforded you as a result of living in Cascade Township. We invite you to join us in our continuous efforts to keep this community clear of trash everywhere you find it and especially on and around our beautiful paths. We have been advised by the grounds and maintenance division of Cascade Township to put any full bags of trash beside the trash bins you find along the pathway system. Loose pieces of trash picked up in your daily walk or ride deposited in the trash bins are no problem however. Thanks again for all your efforts and remember Keep Cascade Beautiful.

*Kris Taylor*  
*Pathways Coordinator*

