

THE TOWNSHIP DIRECTOR

Code Enforcement - The Ugly Truth



Heard of it?

Carrollton Township has a department called Code Enforcement. This department operates just like a police department or a fire department. The department employs a code enforcement officer and the officer responds to complaints made by citizens of code violations on both structures and property. These violations are commonly referred to as **BLIGHT**. The code enforcement officer handles other ordinance violations, but the majority of the complaints made are because of **BLIGHT!**

Who pays for it?

You do! A portion of your annual property taxes goes towards the Township's General Fund. You might be thinking, "Well, that's not right! I don't want to pay for blight enforcement when my tax dollars could be better spent on other services to improve our community!" Here at the Township - **we agree** and that's why we are writing about the Fight the Blight campaign **AGAIN!**

The cost?

Last fiscal year which ended March 31, 2016, the Township spent \$33,349 trying to get citizens to clean up their property. This fiscal year ending March 31, 2017, we are projecting to spend in excess of \$40,874. Don't you think this money could be better spent on other township services and improvements? Are you a property owner that allows your home and yard to deteriorate? **It is you who causes this ridiculous expenditure!**

The fix?

The Township continues to take advantage of grant opportunities to demolish blighted properties that are in such disrepair, demolition is the only option. The cost of demolition is not part of the cost figures we cited above. **We need the community to take ownership of this problem!** If you own one of the properties that have received a code complaint letter, you need to do your part and clean it up! Seek the help of others if you are not physically able to do the work yourself. If money is too tight to make repairs, we will work with you as long as you are committed to improving your property...even if it's a little at a time. Eventually, you'll have a property to be proud of and we will have a better community for it!

We're asking you Carrollton - **FIGHT THE BLIGHT**
and help us work towards improving our community!! **THANK YOU!**

Winter Property Taxes Due February 14, 2017

Your winter property tax bill should be in your mailbox on or around **December 1, 2016**. If you do not receive one, please make sure to call the Township Office and we will send you a duplicate.

The Township can not be responsible for the U.S. Postal Service. To avoid penalty, you must pay your taxes by **Tuesday, February 14, 2017**. A 3% penalty will be applied to all unpaid tax bills on February 15. You may still pay the amount (with penalty) at the Township Office up until **Tuesday, February 28, 2017**. Beginning March 1, 2017 - all 2016 property taxes MUST be paid at the Saginaw County Treasurer's Office located at the Court House, 111 S. Michigan Ave. 48602.

Do you still owe your 2016 summer property taxes?? You may pay those at the Township Office up until February 28, 2017. Please be sure to call and get the payoff amount as interest has been applied each month since the summer tax due date of Sept. 14, 2016.

Partial payments are accepted for property taxes - however, penalties and interest will be applied to the remaining unpaid balance and all unpaid bills will be forwarded to the Saginaw County Treasurer's Office for collection on March 1, 2017.

All payments must be received in the Township Office by the due dates....postmarks are **NOT** accepted! You may also use our convenient drive-up drop box located in the front parking lot.

150th Anniversary

Commemorative T-Shirt

Close - Out Sale!

Youth Small - Large \$6.00

Adult Small - X-Large \$10.00

XX-Large \$11.00

XXX-Large \$12.00

Available for purchase at the Township Office while supplies last!




Office Holiday Closings

New Year's
Friday, December 30 &
Monday, January 2

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January 16

President's Day
Monday, February 20

Trash/Recycling Pickup will be on Thursdays as normal for the above holiday weeks