

We are on the Web
www.ght.org

Supervisor Joanne A. Marcetti
Treasurer William A. Kieft III
Clerk Sue Buitenhuis
Trustee Steve Karzell
Trustee Laurie Larsen
Trustee Thomas Jenkins
Trustee Matthew Horst

GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
13300 168TH AVENUE
GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND HAVEN, MI
PERMIT #241

DATES

FALL YARD WASTE COLLECTION

A leaf collection program will be held from Saturday, October 21st until Monday, November 20th. Hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Saturdays; and, 12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m. on Sundays.

TRICK OR TREAT HOURS

Trick or treating will be held on Tuesday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTIONS

The November gubernatorial elections will be held on Tuesday, November 7th from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

DDA STORM SEWER PROJECT

Although GHT does not have a traditional downtown, it does have a commercial area with retail and industrial businesses ranging from "big box" retailers to small family owned businesses.

This section of the Township was organized into a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to allow the capture of tax revenues for the purposes of installing the infrastructure necessary to support a growing commercial and industrial base and to correct some poor planning decisions made decades prior.

One of the largest projects will soon be completed and

includes the installation of storm drains and the widening of 172nd Avenue from two to three lanes with curb and gutter.

This project included the installation of 120-inch storm drains, which are the largest pipes ever installed in the Tri-Cities area. Each 8-foot segment of this large elliptical pipe weighs as much as seven cars and only three of these massive pipes could be transported by a semi-tractor trailer.

The storm water portion of the project included a number of measures that will limit or mitigate pollution from entering area waterways. These include hydrocarbon absorption booms to trap petroleum based pollutants and over 900 feet of vegetative shelving downstream that will trap sediment and allow for pollutants to be removed by the vegetation.



A worker stands in a 16-foot by 14-foot storm sewer structure. This is the largest storm water structure constructed in the Tri-Cities area.

GRAND HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

OCTOBER ■ 2006

842-5988 TELEPHONE ■ 842-9419 FAX

<http://www.ght.org> ■ info@ght.org

POLICE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Police services in Grand Haven Charter Township (GHT) are provided by the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department. To supplement this base level of service, since 1997 GHT has contracted for additional deputies from the Sheriff's Department.

The Board considers these additional officers to be necessary to ensure the health and safety of Township residents since the population for the Township is at about 15,000 and there is an increasing number of calls for emergency assistance. (Thus far in 2006, calls for police service are 5% above 2005.)

Unfortunately, the cost to the Township's General Fund for these additional police services cannot be maintained. The Township has an operating millage rate of less than one mill, which is not sufficient to fund police services and provide the other basic services expected by the

residents (e.g., road maintenance work, parks and recreation, etc.).

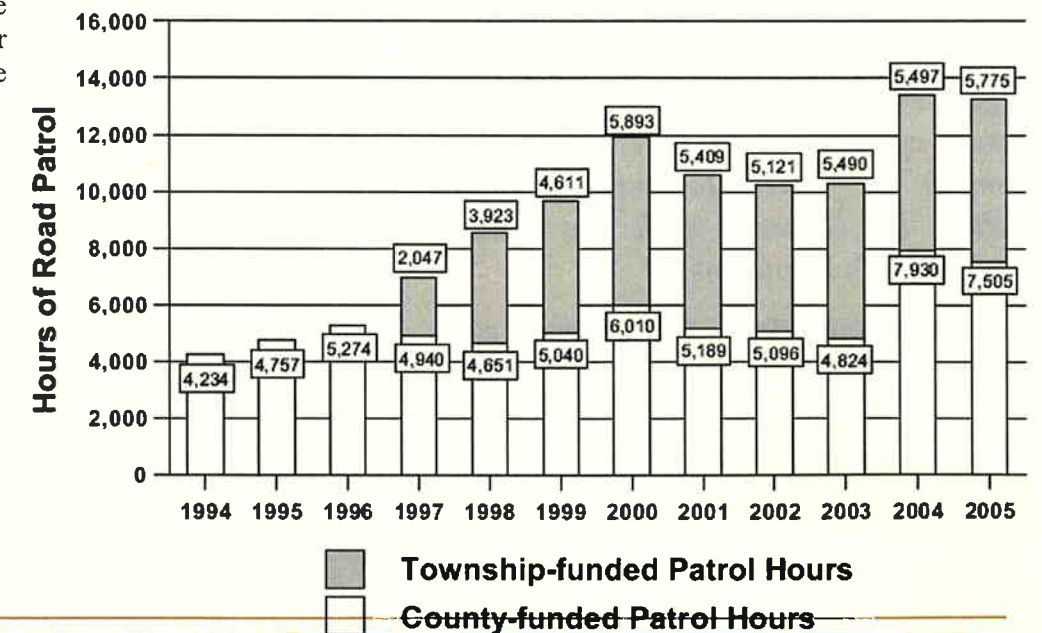
This situation has been exacerbated by significant reductions in state revenue sharing implemented by the Legislature. (GHT received over \$310,000 less in state revenue sharing in 2005 when compared to 2001, the year prior to when the Legislature began a series of cuts to revenue sharing.)

These cuts in state revenue sharing have led to a loss of about 1,500 police officers throughout the state since 2001.

To address this revenue short-fall, the GHT Board recommended that a Township-wide police services

(Continued on page 2)

Sheriff Hours in Grand Haven Township



Inside this Issue:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Police Services SAD | 1 |
| Pollution Prevention | 3 |
| Mid-Decade Census | 3 |
| ZBA Vacancy | 3 |
| Dates to Remember | 4 |
| DDA Storm Sewers | 4 |

NEWSLETTER