

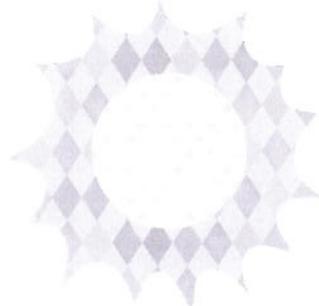
# Life & Times of Ford Township

## Township Get-Together set for August 8<sup>th</sup>

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ford Township Get-together is scheduled for Saturday, August 8 at 12 noon at the Town Hall. This is one event that is truly looked forward to by our community. It is a great opportunity to catch up with neighbors and also to reconnect with or meet some of the people who have recreational

property in the Town. The meal is potluck – and the tables are loaded every year with more and more delectable goodies! Beverages, plates and utensils are furnished so bring a dish to share and come for an afternoon of great food, fun and conversation. Remember the invitation is open to all current and past

residents and land-owners (and maybe even some of those who wish they lived in Ford!) so spread the word! See you on August 8<sup>th</sup>.



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## 911 Signage

The 911 signs are still not up in Ford Township as of the time of the writing of this newsletter but the word is that they are ready and posts will be installed soon. Our Township has been

a strong advocate of this program believing in the signs' value to assist emergency workers (fire, ambulance and First Responders) in finding the correct address in the minimum amount of time. Unfortunately, this proved to

be true during a recent home fire when the fire trucks could not immediately locate the site. Watch for those wonderful blue and white signs coming soon!



## Annual Meeting in a Snowstorm!

Mother Nature tried her hardest to put a damper on the Annual Meeting set for March 10, but regardless of wind and snow, Ford Township residents came out for their meeting. Co-captains of the Isle Fire Department, David Miller and Tim Schug, were on hand to discuss the department's budget and to answer questions. By motion the citizens directed the Board to proceed with the

vacation of the old road orders on roads either never built or unused for many years. Several people volunteered to help with installation of the 911 signs as soon as they are ready and the ground thaws! As to setting the levy, the citizens set the 2010 levy at \$94,000 or 5% more than the 2009 levy feeling it was more prudent to take out a loan if needed rather than increasing

the levy to the amount recommended by the Town Board. Donations were recommended for the Kanabec County First Responders, Kanabec County Sheriff's Reserve and the Kanabec County Agricultural Society. It was a good meeting and while those in attendance had to make some tough decisions, they still left as friends and neighbors – and that is what township government is all about!

## Update on DNR Walking Trails in Ford

While the bids were to be opened for the new parking facility on Olympic and 340<sup>th</sup> on June 18, there has been no word on whether or not a contract was awarded due to limited funding. The parking facility on 360<sup>th</sup> and Olympic has definitely been postponed at

this time. DNR will be placing signs along the Hunter Walking Trails this summer which will alert the public to the fact that motorized traffic will no longer be allowed.



## 2009 and 2010 Road Work Plans

### 2009

Road work this year will include replacement of a culvert on 340<sup>th</sup> as well as Class 5 gravel delivered and spread on 330<sup>th</sup> (Line Road shared with Peace Township;), 340<sup>th</sup> and 360<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

### 2010

Plans are still to upgrade 340<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Section 28 and 33 and part of Sections 27 and 34 in 2010. This road work will consist of raising the road bed through low lying areas, spreading Class 5 gravel and installing culverts.

### Ordinance Adopted!

With the adoption of a Zoning, Land Use and Subdivision Ordinance on October 14, 2008, the Town of Ford removed many of the restrictions pursuant to the Interim Moratorium placed in effect in March of that year. These Ordinances are available on-line at the Township website, [www.fordtownship.org](http://www.fordtownship.org), at the Mora Public Library and the

County Law office. Copies are also available for a fee from the Township. The Planning Commission continues to work on the remaining chapters of the Ordinance and is in the process of holding public hearings on some of these issues. Public Hearings are published in the local paper, the Kanabec County Times, at least 10 days prior to each hearing, are

posted at the Town Hall and on the website.



### *The Vision*

**The vision of the Town of Ford is to proactively preserve, develop and maintain a safe, thriving, and respectful community that sustains its historic integrity, rural character and natural and recreational amenities.**

From the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Ford – adopted March 18, 2008

### What's New???

Yes, things will be different in Ford Township. The new Ordinance will provide controls for some of the problematic areas that were identified in the workings of the Comprehensive Plan. For instance, a site permit is now required for a new dwelling or a garage or

other structure, a permit is needed for a new driveway and culvert, and procedures will need to be followed for a subdivision, variance or conditional use permit to name a few. The Zoning Administrator, Frank Kriz, is available to help you with any questions

you might have. You can reach him at 320-515-0205. Yes, some things will be different but one thing has not changed – and that is that this is still neighbors working with neighbors to find the best solution for all concerned.

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If you have a change of address or if you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, please send an email to [fordtwp.clerk@northlc.com](mailto:fordtwp.clerk@northlc.com) or mail a copy of your mailing label (with corrections if appropriate) to Sarah Berry, P.O. Box 75, Mora, MN. 55051

## Weed Tour held July 10

Tall Buttercup, Canadian Thistles and other noxious weeds continue to be a problem for Township governments to deal with. With the State of Minnesota and Kanabec County not doing any weed control in their Right of Ways due to budget constraints, it is even more important that our residents take action as they can. Last year's cold spring seemed

to have an impact on the Tall Buttercup, but this year that plant as well as many others, seem to be flourishing at levels not seen before. Thanks to all who have been working to eradicate these weeds on their property and we hope that others will see the benefits and take action themselves. Early mowing before the plant sets seeds is perhaps the easiest

and best control measure. Remember also that it is illegal by State law to move from one field to another without thoroughly washing hay equipment. This practice will decrease the possibility of spreading seeds throughout the Township.

## Ford Township Website

Have you visited the Ford Township website, [www.fordtownship.org](http://www.fordtownship.org). The Ordinance page has all the new ordinances listed there as well as the appropriate applications. Meetings contains the regular schedule plus any changes that need to be

made. We hope that this is a resource that you will use regularly. We could use some new photographs – particularly some showcasing the beef cattle, horses or goats within our borders. How about a photo of your vegetable garden, your flowers or ca-

noeing on the Snake River?

Contact Edna Cole with ideas for new features, photographs or other contact of interest to you.

## Burn Permits

This will be the second year of the new permit rules and regulations for Ford Township. You can still obtain a burn permit from the local fire wardens: Bob & Alice Aanestad, 3556 Olympic Street and Jim and Edna Cole, 2016 Highway 27. It is also possible to obtain a permit from the DNR offices in Mora, Sandstone, McGrath and the Kanabec County Court

House in Mora although these offices are normally only open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. These permits allow burning for no more than 3 days but can be written for a future date. What is new about these in-person permits is that they must be activated with a telephone call each time you burn. Another method to acquire a burn per-

mit is on-line at <http://www.dnr.mn.us/burningpermits>. This permit is good for the rest of the calendar year, there is a \$5.00 fee, and while the permit still needs to be activated with a telephone call, that can occur as often as burning conditions allow. Be safe not sorry! Get your burn permit before you burn!

**Ford Township Contact Information****Chair:**

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Town Hall Supervisor

**Vice Chair:**

Kim Johnson

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Fire Contract Liaison

**Clerk:**

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**Zoning Administrator:**

Frank Kriz

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**Ford Township Want List:**

- A small microwave
- A laptop computer
- A compatible printer for the laptop
- A fireproof file cabinet
- Folding chairs
- Office chairs
- Office Supplies – copy paper, hanging file folders, manila file folders, labels, etc.
- Paper products including: large plates, cups (hot and cold), napkins & plastic silverware
- Large metal or heavy plastic serving spoons
- A 30 cup coffee maker
- A large spigot cooler

If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact any of the Town Board members for more information.

### Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Meetings!!

August 4<sup>th</sup>—Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

August 8<sup>th</sup>—Ford Township Get Together 12:00 noon

August 11<sup>th</sup>—Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.

September 1<sup>st</sup>—Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

September 8<sup>th</sup>—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

October 6<sup>th</sup>—Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

October 5<sup>th</sup>—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

November 10<sup>th</sup>—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

December 1<sup>st</sup>—Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

December 8<sup>th</sup>—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

January 5<sup>th</sup>—Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Ford Township

P.O. Box 75

Mora MN 55051

*Save the Date!*

*5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ford Township Get-Together*

The Ford Township Get-Together is scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2009, at 12 noon at the Town Hall. Please bring a dish to share. Remember that all current residents, past residents and landowners are welcome and invited to share in the food, fun and conversation. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

