

# The Business Page



Spring/Summer 2002

## Important Phone Numbers:

**General Township Government**  
453-3840

**Steve Mann, Supervisor**  
354-3201

**Marilyn Massengill, Clerk**  
354-3224

**Ron Edwards, Treasurer**  
354-3214

**Trustees:**  
**Kay Arnold**  
455-2683

**Charles Curmi**  
455-9658

**Ron Griffith**  
455-1083

**Abe Munfakh**  
459-7547

**Police, Fire, EMS Emergencies 911**  
**Police non-emergency**  
354-3249

**Building Dept.**  
354-3208

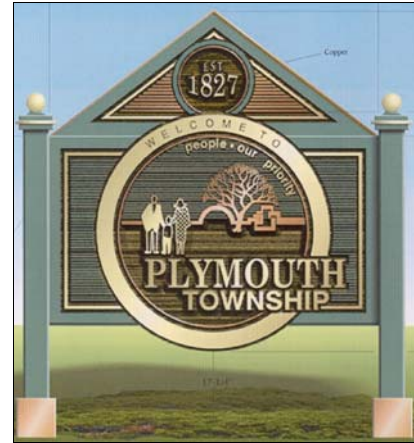
**Public Services**  
453-8131

## Plymouth Township to install new gateway markers

Business owners and residents of our community, as well as visitors, will soon be greeted by new gateway markers as they enter Plymouth Township. The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of eleven signs to be placed at the following locations:

- Haggerty and Five Mile
- Schoolcraft and Eckles
- Plymouth and Eckles
- Ann Arbor Road and I-275
- Joy and Haggerty
- Joy and Main St.
- Joy and Beck
- North Territorial and Napier
- Five Mile and Beck
- Five Mile and Sheldon
- Sheldon and M-14 exit

According to Supervisor Steve Mann, the signs are expected to be in place by the end of the year. "Once in place these signs will



Eleven new signs will soon be strategically placed at Township entranceways.

define the first impression people have when they visit or return home. They will help us demonstrate the pride we have in our hometown."

## Ann Arbor Road construction update

One of the main entranceways to Plymouth Township will be getting some attention from the Michigan Department of Transportation beginning in May. Ann Arbor Road east from Lilley and into Livonia at Newburgh Road will undergo reconstruction and utility upgrades. The work will also incorporate deck replacement on the Ann Arbor Road bridge over

I-275 and traffic signal upgrades. MDOT plans to complete the project in three segments, ending in November 2002.

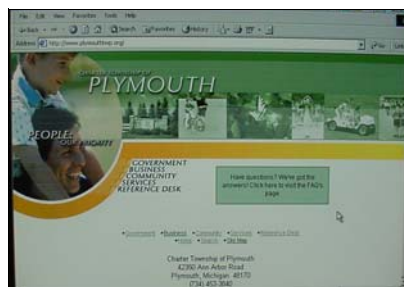
More information is available on the MDOT website, [www.mdot.state.mi.us](http://www.mdot.state.mi.us). Check out the section on major project websites, projects under construction, old M-14.

## Municipal website new & improved

Plymouth Township has a new website. Log onto [www.plymouthtwp.org](http://www.plymouthtwp.org) then navigate your way through the different areas like government, business, community, services and reference desk. Each Township department has a section with contact telephone numbers, FAQs and forms & permits. One of the many

improvements makes it possible for you to e-mail Township officials.

**Click on to the reference desk and sign up for the Plymouth Township mailing list** which is a service for anyone wishing to receive periodic e-mail updates on items related to Township services, government and events in the community.



# Is your business Rouge friendly?



Did you know that any business *could* become a Rouge Friendly Business? The Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project has guidebooks available to business and industry in the Rouge River Watershed

that gives tips and suggestions on how to keep your operations River Friendly.

From general business to specific operations, including construction industries and food service industries, these guides can help you obtain the information you need on best management practices that will keep your business from harming the environment.

View these guides online at [www.rouge.com](http://www.rouge.com) or call the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services at 453-8131 ext. 33 for more information.

**DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE!** For information on companies that offer environmentally friendly office products, please call the Solid Waste Department at 453-8131, ext. 33.



## Fire inspection program emphasizes safety

When they are not actively fighting fires, members of the Plymouth Community Fire Department direct their efforts to fire prevention. "Our primary goal is to keep the community as safe as possible," says Assistant Chief Mark Wendel. "The Department's annual inspection program helps us to accomplish that."

Fire Inspector Don McDurmon conducts the usually unannounced inspections, which are mandated by the State of Michigan Fire Code, covering nearly 1,550 businesses located in the Plymouth community. He looks for anything that affects the safety of people, including business owners, employees and customers. Some commonly found violations are:

- inoperable fire alarm systems
- exit lights out
- fire extinguishers not serviced properly
- excessive use of extension cords

If a code violation is found, the business is notified immediately. The Fire Department then works with the owner to help solve the problem and schedules a date for a return inspection. If the violation still exists, a citation could be issued at that time.

Inspections of large facilities are often performed by an entire platoon of Firefighters. In addition to looking for code compliance, personnel also do pre-fire planning. They familiarize themselves with the entire building layout in case they do have to respond to a fire emergency there in the future.

Two additional programs operated by the Fire Department are Fire Alarm Testing and the Emergency Access "Knox-Box". Inspector McDurmon oversees the testing of all business fire alarms in addition to fire code inspections. He will again arrive at a business unannounced

and notify the business owner and the Plymouth Community Communications Center (PCCC) that he will be conducting a fire alarm test.

The alarm is then tripped. Once the alarm company notifies the PCCC, the telecommunicator advises them that it was a test. The time of the alarm company's call is reported to Inspector McDurmon. This is an excellent way for the business owner as well as the Fire Department to see how quickly the alarm company responds to the alarm signal. Since the business owner chooses which company to use and pays for the service, this is good information to help them make a decision.

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*"Our primary goal is to keep the community as safe as possible."*

*Assistant Chief Mark Wendel*

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The "Knox-Box" Program is a way for the Fire Department to gain quick emergency access to a building when responding after hours. Basically it is a security box (like a mini safe) attached to the outside of a building at the main entranceway. Kept inside are keys to the entrance of the business. The Fire Department has a master key to the box. This prevents emergency forced entry by the Fire Department and gives them fast, easy access to the premises.

Questions about the Fire Department's programs can be directed to Inspector Don McDurmon, 354-3219, [dmcdurmon@plymouthtp.org](mailto:dmcdurmon@plymouthtp.org); or Assistant Chief Mark Wendel, 354-3220, [mwendel@plymouthtp.org](mailto:mwendel@plymouthtp.org).