



The Village News

January — February 2020

The Heart of Wine Country

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From the Village President, Bob Getz

I hope everyone had a nice holiday season. It is hard to believe another year has come and gone by so quickly.

Last fall, the Village had some sewer testing done that was required by the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). As a result of this testing, it was discovered that there are several Village wide issues that we hope will be easily corrected with the support of Village residents and businesses. There is a FAQ sheet within this newsletter explaining the issue and what each resident can do to help resolve the issues.

Also included in this newsletter, are some of the most overlooked Village Ordinances. These are ordinances that we stay active in monitoring. Please take a moment to review them.

Wishing everyone a healthy and safe winter season!

Most Commonly Overlooked Village Ordinances

§ 6-3 Keeping of animals.

[Ord. No. 145, 2-5-2007]

(a)

The following acts are hereby declared unlawful and are prohibited in the Village:



(1)

Except for three months following the birth of kittens or puppies, a person may not keep or harbor more than a combined total of three dogs or cats.

(2)

Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, a person shall not keep or harbor wild or exotic animals, swine, cattle, fowl, farm animals or livestock.

(3)

Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, a person shall not raise, transport, keep or harbor bees, wasps, hornets or honey bees, unless such raising, transporting, keeping or harboring has continued without interruption since March 28, 1983.

(4)

Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, a person shall not keep, operate or maintain a dog kennel.

(5)

A person shall not own, keep or harbor a fierce or vicious dog, or a dog that has been bitten by any animal known to have been afflicted with rabies.

§ 12-33 Causes of blight or blighting factors.

[Ord. No. 183, 8-3-2015]

(a)

It is hereby determined that the following uses, structures and activities are causes of blight or blighting factors which, if allowed to exist, will tend to result in blighted and undesirable neighborhoods. On and after the effective date of this division, no person, firm or corporation of any kind shall maintain or permit to be maintained any of these causes of blight or blighting factors upon any property in the Village of Baroda owned, leased, rented or occupied by such person, firm or



(1)

Junk automobiles. The storage upon any property of junk automobiles, except in a completely enclosed building or shielded from public view by one or more of the following which has been approved by the Village Code Enforcement Officer: being plantings, natural vegetation, topography or a structure. For the purpose of this division, the term "junk automobiles" shall include any motor vehicle which is not licensed for use upon public roads and shall also include, whether licensed or not, any motor vehicle which is inoperative for a period of three months or longer.

(2)

Automobile parts, equipment and machinery. The storage upon any property of any automobile parts, equipment or machinery in disrepair, boats or trailers in disrepair, except to the extent such items are kept in a completely enclosed building or are shielded from public view by one or more of the following which has been approved by the Village Code Enforcement Officer: being plantings and/or landscaping, natural vegetation, topography or a structure approved by the Village.

(3)

Building materials. In any area of the Village of Baroda the storage upon any property of building materials unless there is in force a valid building permit issued for construction upon said property and said materials are intended for use in connection with such construction. Building materials shall include but not be limited to, lumber, bricks, concrete, cement, cinder blocks, plumbing and drainage materials, electrical wiring or heating ducts or equipment, roofing materials, builder's hardware, or any other materials made to be used in constructing any structure. Neatly piled building materials, however, may be stored on property on a temporary basis, if the Village Code Enforcement Officer determines in writing (1) that the materials, as stored, will not be unsightly or cause blight and (2) how long such materials can be stored at such property.

(4)

Junk, trash and rubbish. The storage or accumulation of junk, trash, rubbish or refuse of any kind, except in a completely enclosed building or completely shielded from view from adjoining properties or a public road by means of one or more of the following which has been approved by the Village Code Enforcement Officer: being plantings, natural vegetation, topography or a structure approved by the Village. The term "junk" shall include stoves, refrigerators or other appliances, remnants of wood except firewood neatly stacked and those materials approved by the Village Ordinance Enforcement Officer, metal or other cast off or scrap materials of any kind stored in the open, whether or not such materials could be put to any reasonable use.

(5)

Incomplete building. The existence of any partially completed structure unless such structure is in the course of construction or demolition in accordance with a valid existing building or demolition permit.

(6)

Damaged or unused buildings. The existence of any structure or part of structure which because of fire, wind, natural disaster, or physical deterioration, which in the judgment of the Village building inspector is an unusable structure as defined in the International Property Maintenance Code, and is no longer habitable as a dwelling or useful for any other purpose for which it may have been intended.

(7)

Dangerous building. The existence of any structure which has one or more of the following characteristics:

a.

The building is damaged such that the structural strength or stability is appreciably less than before damage and does not meet minimum requirements of the International Property Maintenance Code.

b.

Part of the building is likely to fall, become detached, dislodged or collapse and injure persons or damage property.

c.

Part of the building has settled to the extent that the walls have materially less resistance to wind than new construction.

d.

The building or part of the building is likely to collapse or fall.

e.

The building is manifestly unsafe for the purpose for which it is used.

f.

The building is damaged and deteriorated and it has become an attractive nuisance for children, vagrants, or a place for committing nuisance or unlawful activity.

g.

The building is in a condition that is unsanitary or unfit for human habitation and is in a condition that is likely to cause sickness or injure the safety, health or general welfare of people living or doing business in the structure.

h.

Any building which is defined as a "dangerous building" under the State Construction Code or the International Property Maintenance Code.

(8)

House trailers, mobile homes, campers, or recreational vehicles. House trailers, mobile homes, campers, or recreational vehicles in disrepair or not in normal use for a period of 60 days.

[Amended 12-5-2017 by Ord. No. 183]

§ 18-125 Duty to cut grass.

[Ord. No. 185, 8-3-2015; amended 7-5-2016]

The owner and/or occupants of land to which this division applies shall not allow tall grass or weeds to grow over six inches in height throughout the growing season, including grass and weeds in the right-of-way, and it shall be the duty of all owners and/or occupants of land located in the Village either to cut or otherwise destroy by lawful means all tall grass and weeds, as defined in this division, which are growing upon said property, before they reach a seed-bearing stage, and to prevent said weeds from perpetuating themselves and from becoming a detriment to public health. On an undeveloped lot in excess of two acres in area, tall grass and weeds must be cut back at a distance of at least 50 feet from the edge of street/road surface edge so as to allow a clear line of sight.





**Thank you to the
Baroda Village Council for Presenting:
CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE
A Special Thank You to Our Generous
Sponsors:**

*Honor Credit Union * Chemical Bank * United Federal Credit Union*
*Baroda Area Business Association * Round Barn Public House*
*St. John's Church * Lincoln Township Public Library*
*Baroda Fire Department * Baroda American Legion*

**Thank You To The Following For
Donating Cookies:**

*Flour Shop Bakery *Among the Vineyards Bed & Breakfast*
*Hardings of Bridgman Bakery * Martins of Stevensville*
Tina Martin Pattie Neal * Nevin Schaller * Brenda Troxell*

**Thank You To The Following People For
Donating Their Time At The Event:**

*Kelly Tomlinson * Pattie Neal * Cindy Schroeder * Don Turney*
*Steve Jasper * 2019 Miss Baroda Court & 2020 Contestants*
*Milt Sluder * Madison & Josh Tomlinson * Bob & Chris Getz*
*Brenda Troxell & Wyatt * Donnie Johnson * Ric & Jenni Hoffman*
*Gary Tomlinson * Jeff Tomlinson * Jerry Jakubs*



New Face in the Village

We would like to welcome
 DPW employee,
 Joshua Halsel,
 to the Village of Baroda!

BE COUNTED MICHIGAN 2020

THE 2020 CENSUS IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO BERRIEN COUNTY

Based on a statistical analysis of the 2010 census response rate, we anticipate



A decline in response rate to 2020 census, putting \$44M at risk in funding, annually



11,921

Households that will require follow-up

In Berrien County, we anticipate the following challenges



22.6% HOMES UNDERSERVED BY BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES



13.1% OF FAMILIES FALL BELOW POVERTY LEVEL

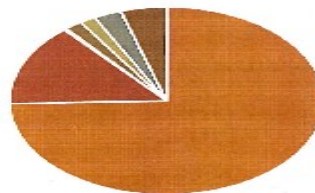
So, who's in Berrien County?



12.6% OF HOUSEHOLDS HAVE KIDS UNDER THE AGE OF 10



17.8% OF HOUSEHOLDS INCLUDE SENIORS 65+



- White
- Black
- American Indian
- Asian
- Some other race
- Two or more races
- Hispanic

Data Sources: US Census Bureau, 2012-2015 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; The George Washington University Institute of Policy's Counting for Dollars - Michigan; Data Analysis by Kurt Metzger; Connected Michigan: ConnectedNation.org/Michigan - https://connectedmichigan.org/michigan/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2018/07/MU_Availability_Underserved_L_073118.pdf



Wastewater FAQ's



What is wastewater and where does it come from?

Wastewater is produced after fresh water is used by people for domestic, commercial and industrial use. It comes from:

Homes – human and household wastes from toilets, sinks, baths, and drains.

Industry, Institutions, and Businesses – chemicals and other wastes from non-residential uses.

On average, each person in the U.S. contributes 50-100 gallons of wastewater daily.

How do treatment facilities protect our water?

A wastewater treatment facility:

Removes Solids - This includes everything from rags and sticks to sand and smaller particles found in wastewater.

Reduces Organic Matter and Pollutants - Helpful bacteria and other microorganisms are used to consume organic matter in wastewater. The bacteria and microorganisms are then separated from the water.

Restores Oxygen - Treatment facilities help ensure the water put back into our lakes or rivers has enough oxygen to support life.

Are there any special challenges in treating wastewater?

Nutrients - Phosphorus, nitrogen, and other chemical nutrients found in wastewater can damage lakes and rivers. These nutrients need to be converted into less harmful substances or removed before being released into the environment.

Toxic Chemicals - Sometimes wastewater contains hazardous chemicals from industry, pesticides, etc. Controlling these chemicals may require pretreatment of wastewater by industries and the use of advanced treatment methods at the wastewater treatment facility.

What is high strength wastewater?

High strength wastewater is wastewater with a higher pollutant level when compared to that of standard, residential wastewater. Technically, it is wastewater with higher concentrations of solid materials and organic water pollutants.

Does the Village of Baroda produce and treat high strength wastewater?

Yes. A recent study conducted by the Village's engineers determined that high strength wastewater is being discharged to the sanitary collection system throughout the community and is negatively impacting the capacity of the wastewater treatment lagoons.

What can I do to help?

Never pour grease down sinks, tubs, or toilets.

Pour grease and oil into a can and put it in the freezer when it's full. The hardened grease can then be disposed of with your household trash without making a mess.

Remove food scraps from pots, pans, and dishes. Dispose of them in the trash can.

Catch food scraps with baskets or strainers in your sink drain and then throw those scraps into the trash can. Limit the amount of food wastes going to in-sink garbage disposals.

Don't pour solvents, pesticides, paint thinners, engine oil, or household cleaning products with hazardous chemicals down the drain. Take them to a recycling center or hazardous waste collection site.

Baroda Happenings!

Snow Removal In The Village



Our Street Department does a great job of keeping the snow plowed during the winter months, but we need your help!

There is no parking on the Village Streets from 3:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. so that the plows can maneuver through the streets. They are often plowing by 4:00 a.m. The Village Ordinance states that your vehicle may be impounded and towed away if you do not have it moved out of the way.

Here are some additional reminders for you so we can continue to keep our streets clear and sidewalks walkable:

- Major Streets are plowed first, followed by secondary roads. Our DPW crew will do their best to get all roads cleared in a timely manner, but main roads take priority.
- Please do not park on the streets during winter weather to allow the plows to clear all roads.
- Property owners are responsible for maintaining sidewalks and keeping them free of snow and ice. Please help keep those using the sidewalks safe.
- When clearing driveways, please do not push snow into the roads or obstruct the views at any intersection.
- Remove trash/recycling receptacles during snow events to make way for plowing.
- As a courtesy to our local fire fighters, please shovel around fire hydrants.

2020 Baroda Events

April 1	Cemetery Clean Up
April 9	Large Trash Pick Up
May 24	Memorial Day Parade
June 28	Music in the Park
July 3	Baroda Fireworks
July 25	Party on the Pavers
July 26	Music in the Park
Aug. 23	Music in the Park
Oct. 8	Large Trash Pick Up
Oct. 15	Cemetery Clean Up
Dec. 6	Christmas in the Village

Be sure to check the Community Calendar on our website for updates of events at www.barodavillage.org.

Park Reservations

Reservations for the Village Park for 2020 may be made by calling the Village Office at 422-1779.

There is a \$25 rental fee for Village residents, and a \$50 fee for non Village residents. Groups of 50 or larger will be charged \$75. A refundable \$20 key deposit is also required. Keys must be picked up at the Village Office by Thursday prior to the date you have the park reserved and be returned or left in the drop box at the Municipal Building within three (3) days after reserved date.

