

Roads in Swiss Village East

This year is a time to celebrate in Swiss Village East. After 15 years, we have paid off the bond issue that paid for paving our roads. Your tax bill will be significantly lower next year. See your tax bill for the exact amount.

Back in 1999, the Association owned the roads. They were gravel and hard to keep in good shape. The Association also contracted for road plowing and maintenance. The Association Board under the leadership of George Johnson garnered the 51% support of owners needed to approve the bond issue. The Antrim County Road Commission agreed to take over ownership and maintenance of the roads once they were paved.

The paved roads have helped to make SVE a better place. Since the roads were paved, the number of homes has nearly tripled.

This past year, the Road Commission chipped and sealed the roads and they still look like new.



P.O. Box 793
 Bellaire, MI 49615
www.swissvillageeast.com

TalkingTrash

“Yo Momma.” “No. Yo Momma”. Ok. That’s not the kind of trash talk we were referring to. We often get asked about how to handle garbage. So here’s the dirt, so to speak.

If you live in Custer Township, garbage pickup is included in your taxes and is on Tuesdays.

If you want pick up of trash at your home in Kearney Township, there are a number of local firms that provide this service. Tony Marshall is a local hauler and has a roll of bags for \$35 available at the Marathon Station in Bellaire. Revolution Waste is also a local company with garbage bags, too. American Waste is out of Kalkaska and offers a variety of different trash pickup offers depending on your needs. Pickup days vary with the hauler.

Whether you live in Custer or Kearney, there is a free annual big item pickup day. Each township announces their pickup day in the Antrim Review and you can call the supervisors for the townships. Both Tony and Revolution and Central Lake Township will take large items for additional fees any time of the year.

Antrim County has two hazardous waste collection days each year. One is typically the first Saturday in May in Bellaire and the other is the 3rd Saturday in August in Elk Rapids. The first 30 lbs is free to Antrim County property owners with each successive pound being \$0.50. Contact Antrim Conservation District at 231-533-8363 or go to their website: antrimcd.com for more information.

Recyclables can be dropped off in Alba, Bellaire or Mancelona at the big red American Waste Bins.

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The Seasons in North West Michigan

If you follow Cedar River Drive east past the pavement onto the two track, you will cross over one of the most beautiful spots in the area: the twin tubes over the Cedar River. It's a great swimming hole if you are brave, 55 degrees at best, when it is really hot in the summer, a fabulous canoe launch site if you go up river and are willing to portage a couple of times, a great scenic vista any time of the year, and a place to unwind and reconnect with nature. Just west of the twin tubes is a magical trail maintained by Michigan Nature Association that is worth the hike every season. This fall the colors across the region have been breathtaking. Swiss Village East has a great array of colorful trees, and the Jordan River Valley – right out our back door, has been breathtaking this fall. "Cross country skiing, snow shoeing, sledding, and snowmobiling are some great winter favorites. Wildflower hikes and mushrooming are great fun in the spring. Living and vacationing in the Bellaire area offers so very much if you are into the out-of-doors

Other Outdoor Adventures

Glacial Hills – Hike and bike paths extraordinaire, west out of Bellaire on Bellaire Hwy. to Vandermark or Eckhardt Roads

Antrim Creek Natural Area – Hiking and access to Lake Michigan, north of Eastport off the Old Dixie Hwy.

Barnes Park – great camping and swimming right on Lake Michigan in Eastport

Grass River Natural Area – awesome hiking, skiing, and snow shoeing between SVE and Alden

Cedar River Natural Area-incredible trails to hike, ski or snowshoe, just east of Bellaire by Craven Park

Contact Antrim Conservation District or check out www.antrimcounty.org for more information about the wonders of this great county.

Check out the **Antrim Conservation District**: They offer seedling sales every spring: red and white pine; blue, white and Norway spruce; wildlife shrubs, hardwoods, and some special flowering natives great for landscaping or bringing in birds and butterflies into your yard: www.antrimcd.com or 231-533-8363.

Swiss Village East Swimming Pool

When Swiss Village East was established in 1972, the founder had a grand vision which included a community swimming pool. Today, that vision is a reality -- of sorts. Shanty Creek has made its swimming pools at the Summit and Schuss available to the community. There's nothing like jumping in to the nice hot outdoor pool at Schuss after a full day of skiing. The Jacuzzis at both facilities, and sauna and shower at Schuss are all available for your use with the purchase of a pool pass. The cost for an annual pool pass is \$75. Daily passes are also available. Passes may be purchased at the front desk at the Summit.



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Short's Brewery – Bellaire

Used to be when you thought about the Bellaire Community, the first thing people thought about were Shanty Creek Resorts. The next thing drawing many of us to this area was the Elk River Chain of Lakes.

But somewhere in the last 10 years the draw to Bellaire has become for many, Short's Brewery, which was established in 2004 by Joe Short.

The brew pub and its commitment and contributions to Bellaire are a real success story for Bellaire. This past April Short's celebrated its 10 year anniversary, closed down the streets downtown, featured 99 different brews on tap and had an incredible lineup of musicians. The party was fabulous, and the support that Short's got from the local business was pretty neat. Joe helped them out and they were willing to close their businesses for the gala event. If you haven't been to Short's you need to. The beer is great, the food is even better, and the camaraderie is over the top. Some of us locals get a little put out with the hordes of people enjoying our neighborhood pub, but Joe is expanding into the old Bellaire Pharmacy space (they are now across the street from Short's) to make room for us all. Many nights the pub features some pretty fabulous music. There is an honor cover for the bands/artists, and if you can find a seat, it is so worth it.

The Village of Bellaire has some wonderful other eateries and shops. Make sure in your next visit you check out all the great things Bellaire has to offer. Check out the Bellaire Chamber of Commerce for the calendar of events for the area: www.bellairechamber.com. Lots of fun happenings for the whole family year round.



Light up the holidays in Bellaire, Alden, and Elk Rapids. Remember when you are doing your holiday shopping to check out the great shops in the Antrim County Area. Our businesses will thank you!

SVE's annual meeting will be January 10, 2015 at the Koppe's at 1071 Alm Court at 10:00 am. Come join us and meet your neighbors. Swiss Village East is a great place to live and vacation. Knowing your neighbors is just an added bonus.

Check out our website for additional information and when our next quarterly meetings will be. We try to do the meetings on the 2nd Saturday of the quarter.

SVE would like to welcome its new owners: Brad and Gail Whalley, Steven Deckrow, Tracy Dzeb, Susan Garcia, Dennis Penrod, Kurt Weiss, Guy and Michelle Bocci, Darrel and Constance Templeton, Amanda Crambell, Brad and Gail Kusian, Mark and Aleta Berghof, and Kyle McLeod.



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