

# THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE IN BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP

The families in Bear Lake Township have an impact in agriculture business generated in Manistee County. With the township located near Lake Michigan, numerous sites are ideal for growing cherries, peaches and apples.

There are a number of families involved in cow-calf operations. The cow-calf operations provide an income and food source for the family. Farmers in cow-calf operations are growing their own cattle feed including: hay, corn, oats and rye for cover crop. A number of farmers are turning to planting of asparagus. It is possible that asparagus acreage will increase in time.

A very important facet of the agriculture industry is the location of fruit and vegetable crops. Agriculture will continue to be an important facet of Bear Lake Township as well as small business, forestry and service-related industries.

# PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT

Permit flexibility in the regulation of land development; encourage innovation in land use and variety in design, layout and type of structures constructed. The need of the community will be better served by a private plan which combines multiple structures or uses on a single area.

The eligibility for a planned unit development by an application as defined in the Bear lake Township Ordinance under Article 95.

# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES

## AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING

### ***Veterinary Services:***

Bear Lake Animal Clinic, 5787 Cody St. - Bear Lake

### ***Ornamental Shrub & Lawn Services:***

Thompson's Tree & Stump Removal, 7872 Locust - Bear Lake

Bowling Enterprises/Hydroseeding, 6705 Spruce Ridge - Bear Lake

Allen's Lawn Service, 12098 Lynn St. - Bear Lake

### ***Forestry Services:***

Neil Nystrom Tree Planting, 10096 Maidens Rd - Bear Lake

William VanVoorst, 10398 - 8 Mile Rd - Bear Lake

## MINING

### ***Oil and Gas Exploration Services:***

Ward Lake Energy

Shell Western E&P Inc.

Key Energy Services

Federated Oil & Gas

Michcon

Correct Compression

Savoy Oil

## CONSTRUCTION

### ***Residential Builders:***

JR's Construction, 6518 South Shore Rd - Bear Lake

John Judge Custom Carpentry & Construction, 12907 Pleasanton Hwy - Bear Lake

King Construction, Johnson Court - Bear Lake

Brian Groenwald, 12859 Allen Rd - Bear Lake

### ***Commercial Iron Workers:***

LAMCO Inc., 7836 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake

### ***Plumbing, heating and Air Conditioning:***

Cook Mechanical, 11590 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake

### ***Excavation & Foundation Work:***

McBride Septic Systems & Excavating, 6959 Clinton - Bear Lake

DeVere Randall & Son Excavating, Inc., 9061 - 13 Mile Rd - Bear lake

# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## MANUFACTURING

### ***Metal Fabrication:***

Bowling Enterprises, 6705 Spruce - Bear Lake  
Chris Crawford, 6706 Potter Rd - Bear Lake

### ***Window & Door Fabrication:***

Northwest Window & Door, 9178 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake

### ***Commercial Printing:***

Pioneer Press Printing, 12326 Virginia - Bear Lake

## TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES

### ***Bus Service Facility:***

Bear Lake School, Cody Street - Bear Lake

### ***Trucking Motor Freight:***

L.C. Townsend, Inc., 11690 U.S. 31 - Bear Lake

### ***Towing Automotive:***

Van's AAA Towing, Linderman Rd - Bear Lake

### ***Telephone Communication:***

Century Telephone Co. - Bear Lake

### ***Water Supply:***

Bear Lake Village - Bear Lake

### ***Electrical Services:***

Consumers Energy  
Cherryland Reo

### ***Cable Television:***

Charter Communications

## WHOLESALE TRADE

### ***Petroleum Bulk Station and Terminals:***

Blarney Castle Oil Co., U.S. 31 - Bear Lake  
Ziehm LP Gas, U.S. 31 - Bear Lake



# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## RETAIL TRADE

### **Hardware Store:**

Bear Lake Ace Hardware/Lumber & Supply, 11950 US 31 - Bear Lake

### **Grocery Stores:**

Bear Lake IGA, US 31 - Bear lake

Saddle Up Gas & Grocery, US 31 - Bear Lake

### **T-Shirts (Wholesale & Mfg):**

Northern Exposure Design, 9061 - 13 Mile Rd - Bear Lake

### **Farm Equipment:**

Eipperle Sales, 7220 Chief Rd - Kaleva

McLeod Sales & Service, 6383 - 8 Mile Rd - Bear Lake

### **Auto Body Repair:**

Coach Craft, US 31 - Bear Lake

### **Auto & Truck Repair and Auto Supplies:**

Northstar Automotive, 12130 7th St - Bear Lake

McLeod's Sales & Service, 6383 - 8 Mile Rd - Bear Lake

A&A Service Co., 7737 Lake St - Bear Lake

### **Marine Service:**

Bear Lake Marine, 7760 Lake St - Bear Lake

### **Welding:**

Ron Nelson Welding, 6284 South Shore Dr. - Bear Lake

### **Gasoline Stations:**

Blarney Castle #2, 12348 US 31 - Bear Lake

Saddle Up Gas & Grocery, US 31 - Bear Lake

Ziehm Citgo, US 31 South - Bear Lake

### **Restaurants:**

Danny's Restaurant, 7789 Lake St - Bear Lake

Lakeside Restaurant, 7833 Lake St - Bear Lake

Sweet Papa Bears, 12951 Pleasanton Hwy - Bear Lake

### **Tavern & Restaurants:**

Bear Lake Bar & Restaurant, US 31 - Bear Lake

Rosie's Place, 9567 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake

### **Pharmacy:**

Richmond Drug, 7717 Lake St - Bear Lake

# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## ***Sporting Goods:***

Bear Lake Ace Hardware/Lumber & Supply, 11950 US 31 - Bear Lake  
Bear Lake Marine, 7760 Lake St - Bear Lake

## ***Gift, Novelty & Souvenir Shops:***

Antiques, 8532 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake  
Big Bear Trading Post, 7760 Lake - Bear Lake  
Old School Marell Porcelain - US 31 - Bear Lake  
Quality Crafts, 7836 Chippewa Hwy - Onekama  
Richmond Drug, 7717 Lake - Bear Lake  
Village Flower & Gift Shop, 12391 Lynn - Bear Lake  
Thomas Kincade Gallery, Lake St - Bear Lake

## ***Fuel Oil, L.P. and Natural Gas Dealers:***

Blarney Castle Oil Co., US 31 - Bear Lake  
Ziehm L.P. Gas Sales & Service, US 31 - Bear Lake  
Superior Energy (natural gas supplier to the Bear Lake area) - Kaleva

## ***Florists:***

Village Flower & Gift Shop, 12391 Lynn St - Bear Lake  
Lentz, 8754 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake (Seasonal)

## ***Financial Institutions:***

Honor State Bank, US 31 - Bear Lake  
Huntington Bank, 7685 Lake - Bear Lake

## ***Insurance Agents, Brokers & Service:***

The Mathieu Agency, 12141 US 31 - Bear Lake

## ***Real Estate Agencies:***

Greenridge Real Estate, US 31 - Bear Lake  
Magnetic North, Lake Street - Bear Lake  
Ringel Real Estate and Auction, Linderman Rd - Bear Lake (also 318 Parkdale - Manistee)

## ***Telephone Answering Service:***

Telephone Answering Service, 9114 Linderman Rd - Bear Lake

## ***Paving & Sealing:***

Griswold Northwest Sealing & Paving, 8591 Johnson Rd - Kaleva

## **SERVICES**

### ***Cemeteries:***

Bear Lake Township, Maidens Rd - Bear Lake  
Fairview Cemetery, Potter Rd - Bear Lake



# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## ***Motels, Resorts and Bed & Breakfasts:***

Budget Inn (Alpine), US 31 - Bear lake  
Bella Vista Inn, 12273 Lake - Bear lake  
The Barn Haus Bed & Breakfast, 8331 Highland Dr - Bear Lake  
Hilltop Bed & Breakfast, Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake  
Honey Bear Resort, 12475 Hopkins Forest Dr - Bear lake  
Reed's Resort, 8421 Lake - Bear Lake  
WindSunPines, 12385 Hopkins Forest Dr - Bear Lake

## ***Sporting & Recreation Camp/Services:***

Rockin R Riding Stable, 8799 - 13 Mile Rd - Bear Lake  
Bear Lake Village, Hopkins Park - Bear Lake  
Bear Lake School Complex, Cody St - Bear Lake

## ***Public Golf Courses:***

County Highlands Golf Course, US 31 - Bear Lake

## ***Beauty & Barber Shops:***

Powder Puff Beauty Shop, 112136 - 2nd St - Bear Lake  
Highland Hair, 11544 Linderman Rd - Bear Lake  
Theresa's Hair Care, 8 Mile Rd - Bear Lake  
Hair By Joy - Chief Lake  
Town & Country Hair Salon - Bear Lake  
Bear Lake Barber Shop, 7734 Lake St - Bear Lake

## ***Funeral Service:***

Oak Grove Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 12353 Lynn - Bear Lake

## ***Appliance Service:***

Ware's Appliance Repair, 10534 Anderson Rd - Bear Lake

## ***Septic Cleaning Service:***

McBride Septic Systems & Excavating, 6959 Clinton - Bear Lake

## ***Cold Storage:***

Bear Lake Self Storage, LLC, US 31 - Bear Lake

## **HEALTH SERVICES:**

### ***Dentist:***

Dr. Norman Olson, DDS, 12521 Russell - Bear Lake

### ***Physicians:***

Crystal Lake Clinic, Dr. Geoffrey K. Turner, MD / Ellen Herring FNP, 7659 Lake - Bear Lake

# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## ***Mental Health:***

Manistee-Benzie Community Mental Health, 11634 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake  
AA - Lions Den, Lake Street - Bear Lake

## **ATTORNEYS**

### ***Attorney - Estate Planning & Administration:***

Hillary Potter Eriksen, 7702 Lake - Bear Lake

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

### ***Elementary, Secondary & Adult Education Schools:***

Bear Lake School, Cody Street - Bear lake

### ***Libraries:***

Manistee County Branch Library: Keddie-Norconk Bear Lake/Pleasanton Branch Library  
12325 Virginia Street - Bear Lake

## **ADULT & CHILD CARE**

### ***Adult Foster Care:***

AFC Home, 11780 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake  
Wildwood, 12481 Milarch Rd - Bear Lake

### ***Child Care Services:***

Sherry Groenwald  
Terry Dansby  
Diane Ware  
Bear Lake School - Great Beginnings

## **MEMBERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONS**

### ***Labor Organizations:***

Letter Carriers of America, US Post Office - Bear Lake  
Michigan Education Assoc., Bear Lake School - Bear Lake

### ***Political Organizations:***

Manistee Co. Chapter of Michigan Twp. Assoc.

### ***Religious Organizations:***

United Methodist Church, 7861 Main - Bear Lake  
First Baptist Church, 7738 Main - Bear Lake



# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSES CON'T

## ***Civil & Social Associations:***

Bear Lake Promoters  
Bear Lake Property Owners Assoc.  
Bear Lake Lioness Club  
Bear Lake Lions Club  
Bear Lake Women's Club  
Triginta Club  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Masonic Lodge  
Bear Lake Boy Scouts  
Bear Lake Girl Scouts  
Bear Lake Athletic Boosters  
Bear Lake Parent-Teachers Student Assoc (PATS)

## **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

### ***Executive & Legislative Combined:***

Bear Lake Township Board - Bear Lake  
Bea Lake Village Council - Bear Lake

### ***Local Government:***

Bear Lake Township Board - Bear Lake  
Bear Lake Village - Bear Lake

### ***U.S. Government:***

Soil Conservation District, 8840 Chippewa Hwy - Bear Lake  
MSU County Extension, 8 Mile Rd - Bear Lake

### ***U.S. Post Office:***

Bear Lake Post Office, 7777 Main - Bear Lake

### ***Finance, Taxation & Monetary Policy:***

Bear Lake Tax Assessor  
Bear Lake Township Treasurer

### ***Environmental Quality & Housing:***

Urban & Community Development  
Bear Lake Twp. Planning Commission - Bear Lake  
Administration of human Resources & Economic Programs

### ***Administration of Education Programs:***

Bear Lake School Board of Education - Bear Lake

### ***Regulation, Administration of Transportation:***

Bear Lake Village Streets Administration - Bear Lake

### ***Regulation, Miscellaneous, Commercial:***

Bear lake Twp. Planning and Zoning Commission - Bear Lake

# PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

Bear Lake Village has the only public water system. There are three wells with a capacity of 150 gallons per minute. Water storage is by elevated tank with a capacity of 75,000 gallons.

District Waterlines are 2" to 10" in size. Bear lake Township property owners each have their own water system.

All property owners in the township have their own septic systems.

There is one septic pumping company in the township, McBride Septic Systems and Excavating.

The Village of Onekama owns 146.65 acres it uses for sewage treatment ponds in Section 19 of Bear Lake Township.

Additional lines have been extended east of the Village limits (Russell Street) to accommodate two residences outside Village limit and extended west 200 feet along South Shore from the Village limits to accommodate an additional fire hydrant.

There is no projected plans by the Village of Bear Lake to extend water lines at this time.





# MANISTEE COUNTY DISTRICT DIVISIONS

The Manistee County Board of Commissioners opened 1993 with two less members and new district boundaries, both brought about by reapportionment and population shifts.

In some cases townships are split because of the new district lines and one district, the seventh, meanders in a zigzag line from one end of the city of Manistee to the other and from Manistee Lake on the east to Lake Michigan on the west.

The commission itself has been reduced from nine to seven members.

Redistricting was necessary to comply with laws mandating that each commissioner represent virtually the same number of persons. Each new Manistee County district represents just over 3,000 people.

**DISTRICT 1** - includes all of Arcadia and Onekama Townships; part of Pleasanton Township lying south of Norconk Road and west of U.S. 31, and that part of Bear Lake Township north of Nine Mile Road. *Population: 3,035 residents.*

**DISTRICT 2** - has all of Cleon, Marilla, Maple Grove and Springdale Townships and that part of Pleasanton Township lying north of Norconk Road and east of U.S. 31. *Population: 3,028 residents.*

**DISTRICT 3** - includes all of Brown, Norman and Dickson Townships: part of Bear Lake Township south of Nine Mile Road and a little chunk of Stronach Township. *Population: 3,064 residents.*

**DISTRICT 4** - has all of Filer Township, most of Stronach Township and a portion of the south end of the city of Manistee. *Population: 3,042 residents.*

**DISTRICT 5** - includes all of Manistee Township and a section of the northern city limits. *Population: 3,025 residents.*

**DISTRICT 6** - stretches roughly from Hughes Street to the south city limits and from Maple Street to Lake Michigan. *Population: 3,024 residents.*

**DISTRICT 7** - generally includes that portion of the city east of Maple Street from the north city limits to the south city limits and a triangle bounded generally by Hughes Street and the Lake Michigan shoreline. *Population: 3,047 residents.*

# MANISTEE COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

*2000 Census*

**FIRST DISTRICT**

Arcadia Township	621
Bear Lake Township	1,587
Pleasanton Township	817
Portion of Onekama Township	<u>570</u>
	<b>3,595</b>

**SECOND DISTRICT**

Springdale Township	730
Cleon Township	932
Maple Grove Township	1,285
Marilla Township	<u>362</u>
	<b>3,309</b>

**THIRD DISTRICT**

Norman Township	1,676
Dickson Township	929
Brown Township	<u>712</u>
	<b>3,317</b>

**FOURTH DISTRICT**

Stronach Township	804
Filer Township	2,208
Village of Eastlake	<u>441</u>
	<b>3,453</b>

**FIFTH DISTRICT**

Onekama Village	647
Portion of Onekama Township	297
Manistee Township, Excluding Village of Eastlake	<u>2,614</u>
	<b>3,558</b>

**SIXTH DISTRICT**

City, West of Maple Street	1,664
City, North of Manistee River	<u>1,548</u>
	<b>3,212</b>

**SEVENTH DISTRICT**

City, East of Maple Street and South of Manistee River	<u>3,374</u>
	<b>3,374</b>

**Grand Total for Redistricting                    23, 818**

**FIRST DISTRICT**

*All of Arcadia, Bear Lake and Pleasanton Townships, and that portion of Onekama Township North of Eight Mile Road and Portage Lake, except the Village of Onekama*

**SECOND DISTRICT**

*All of Springdale, Cleon, Maple Grove and Marilla Townships.*

**THIRD DISTRICT**

*All of Norman, Dickson and Brown Townships.*

**FOURTH DISTRICT**

*All of Stronach Township, Filer Township and the Village of Eastlake.*

**FIFTH DISTRICT**

*Part of Onekama Township, being the Village of Onekama and all of Onekama Township lying South of Eight Mile Road and Portage Lake and all of Manistee Township, except the Village of Eastlake.*

**SIXTH DISTRICT**

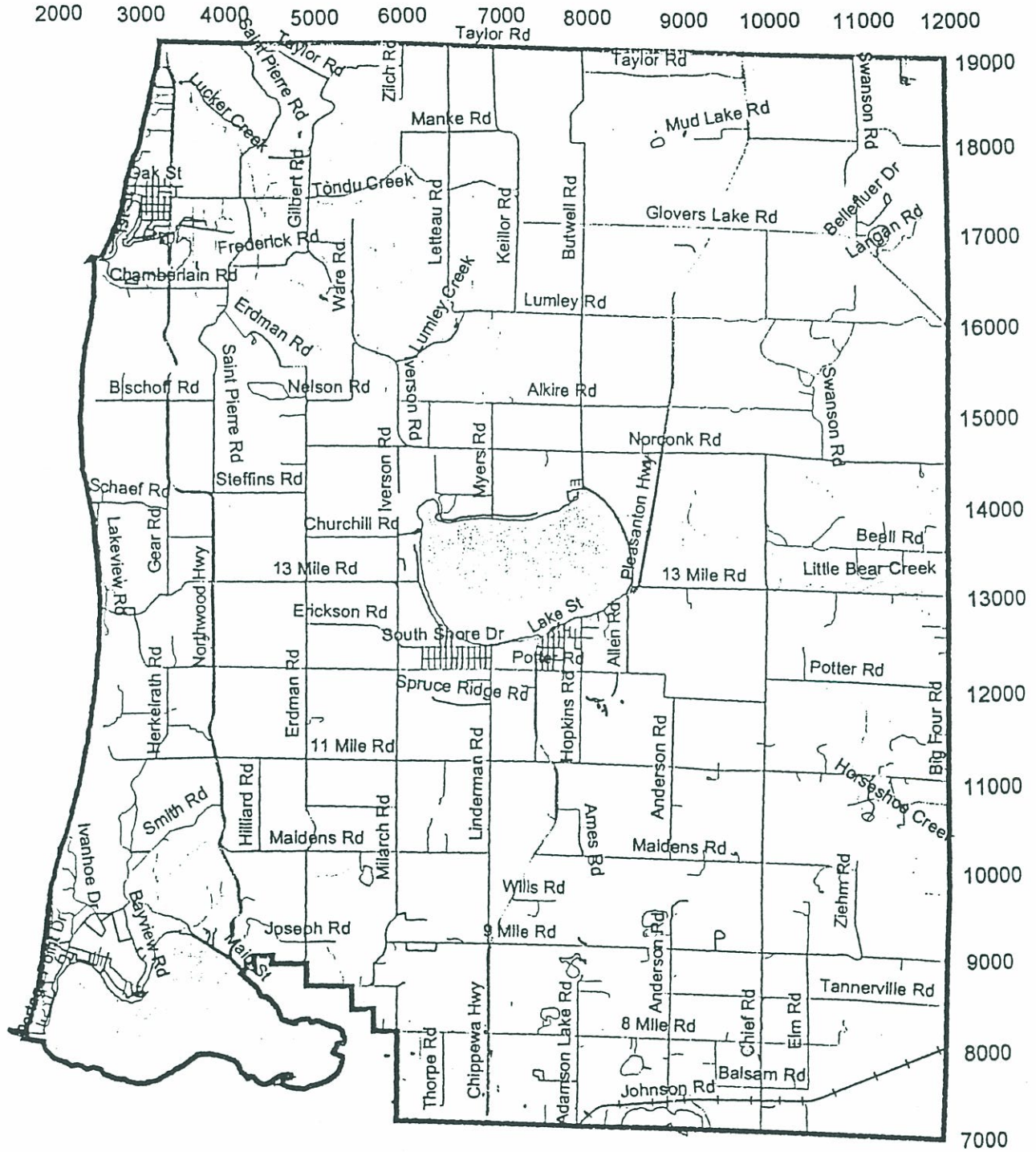
*That portion of the City of Manistee lying West of Maple Street and all of the City North of the Manistee River.*

**SEVENTH DISTRICT**

*That portion of the City of Manistee lying east of Maple Street and South fo the Manistee River.*



# COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 1 ROAD MAP



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Municipal Building is in the Village of Bear Lake on U.S. 31 at 7771 Lake Street. Meetings held here are for: The Bear Lake Township Board, Township Planning and Zoning Commission, Fire Department, Board of Review and Zoning Board of Appeals. Elections are held here as well.

The following services are available through the Township Board:

- 1. Appoint members to the Administrative Board or Agencies in accordance with applicable Statutory Provisions (Election Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Review and others).*
- 2. Establishing and collecting taxes according to statutory regulations and limitations.*
- 3. Establish Zoning through a Planning and Zoning Commission and enforcing the Zoning through the Zoning Administrator, who is designated as the authorized local official to issue municipal civil infraction citations.*
- 4. Provide Fire and Rescue Protection.*
- 5. The Board may act upon petitions calling for such things as Fire Protection and the sale of beer, wine and liquor by the glass.*
- 6. Many other matters which may be properly brought before the Township Board.*

The present Municipal building was purchased July 1965 and an additional lot on Virginia and Main Street was purchased January 1992 for further development.

## BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD 2002

*Supervisor: Leslie Smith  
Clerk: Deanna Pattison  
Treasurer: Donald Shreve  
Trustee: Hugh Bowling  
Trustee: Dane Krueger  
Assessor: David Meister  
Fire Chief: Steve Hejl  
Zoning Administrator: Vern Bowling*

## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION 2002

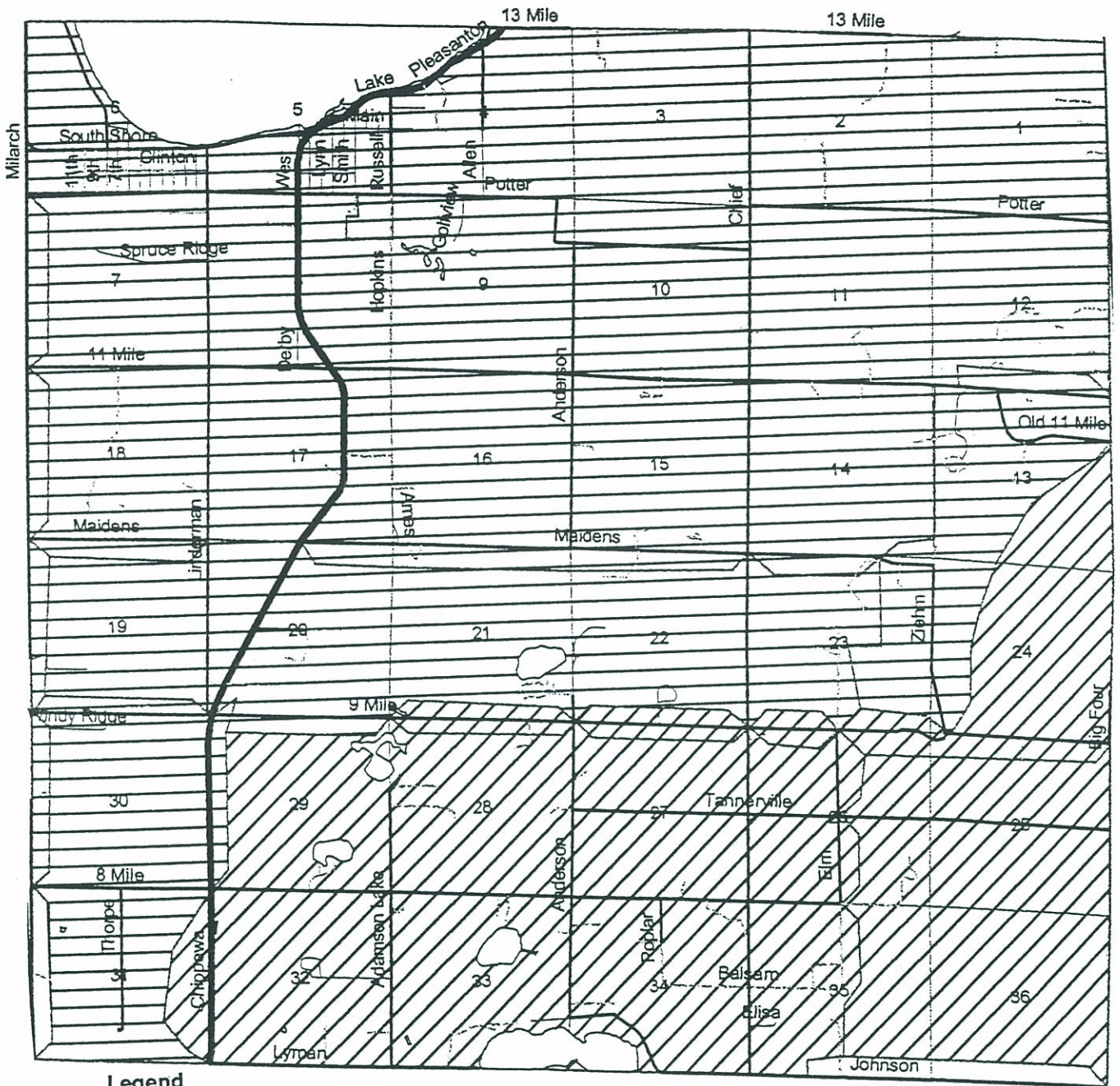
*Chairman: Thomas Amor Sr.  
Vice Chairman: William Ringel  
Secretary: Kristie Harless  
Pauline Jaquish  
Dane Krueger  
Marilyn McCarthy  
Duane E. McLeod*

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

*Chairman: Thomas Amor Sr.  
Secretary:  
Hugh Bowling  
Dan Dansby  
Neil Nystrom*



# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP POST OFFICE MAP



**Legend**

- Roads
- Two Tracks
- == Highways
- Minor Roads
- County Roads
- Lakes
- Sections
- Post Office
- Bear Lake





# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP ELECTRIC UTILITIES MAP



## Legend

### Roads

- Two Tracks
- Highways
- Minor Roads
- County Roads

- Lakes
- Sections

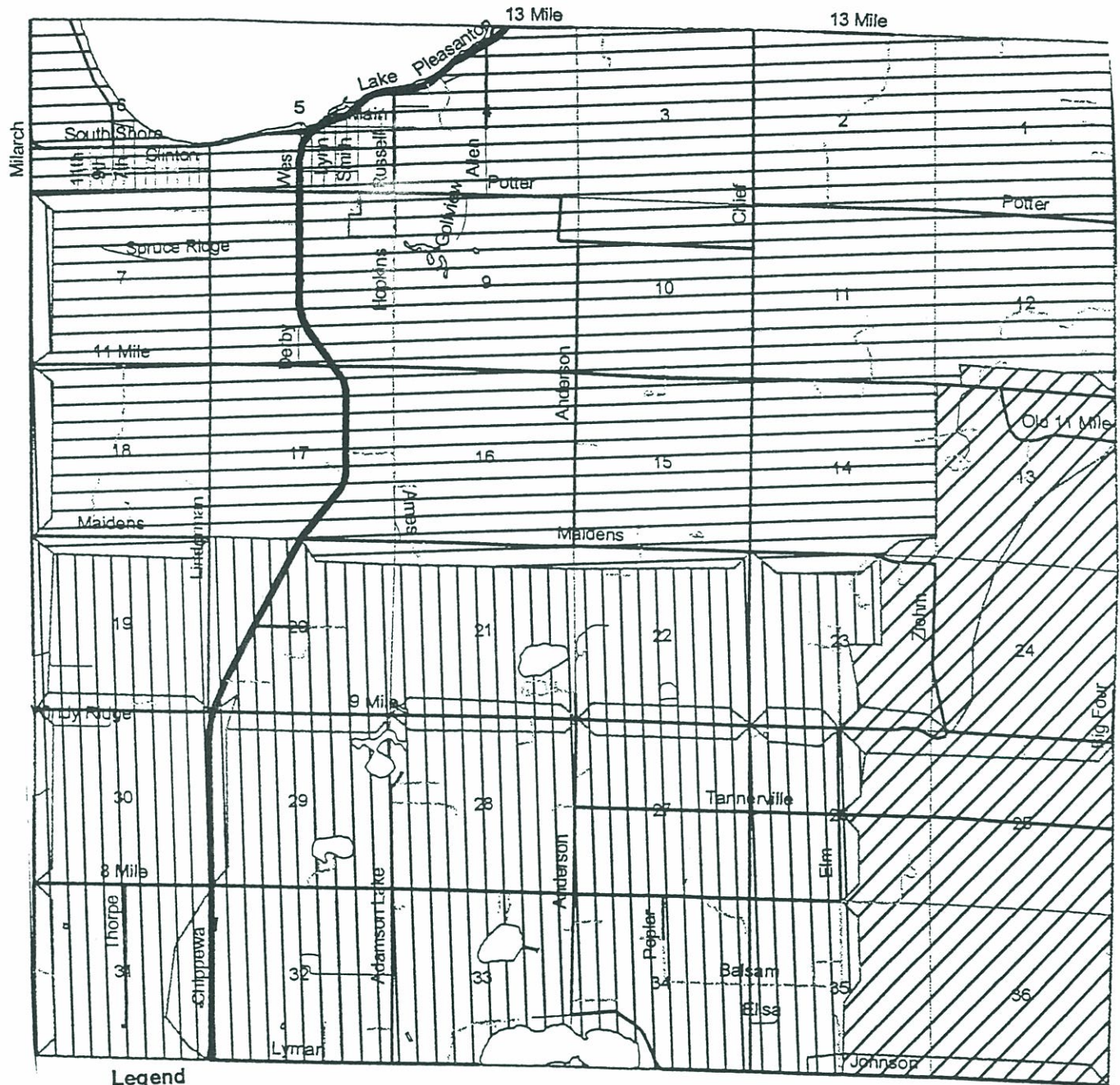
### ELECTRIC

- ▨ Cherryland REA
- ▨ Consumers Power





# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP PHONE COMPANIES MAP

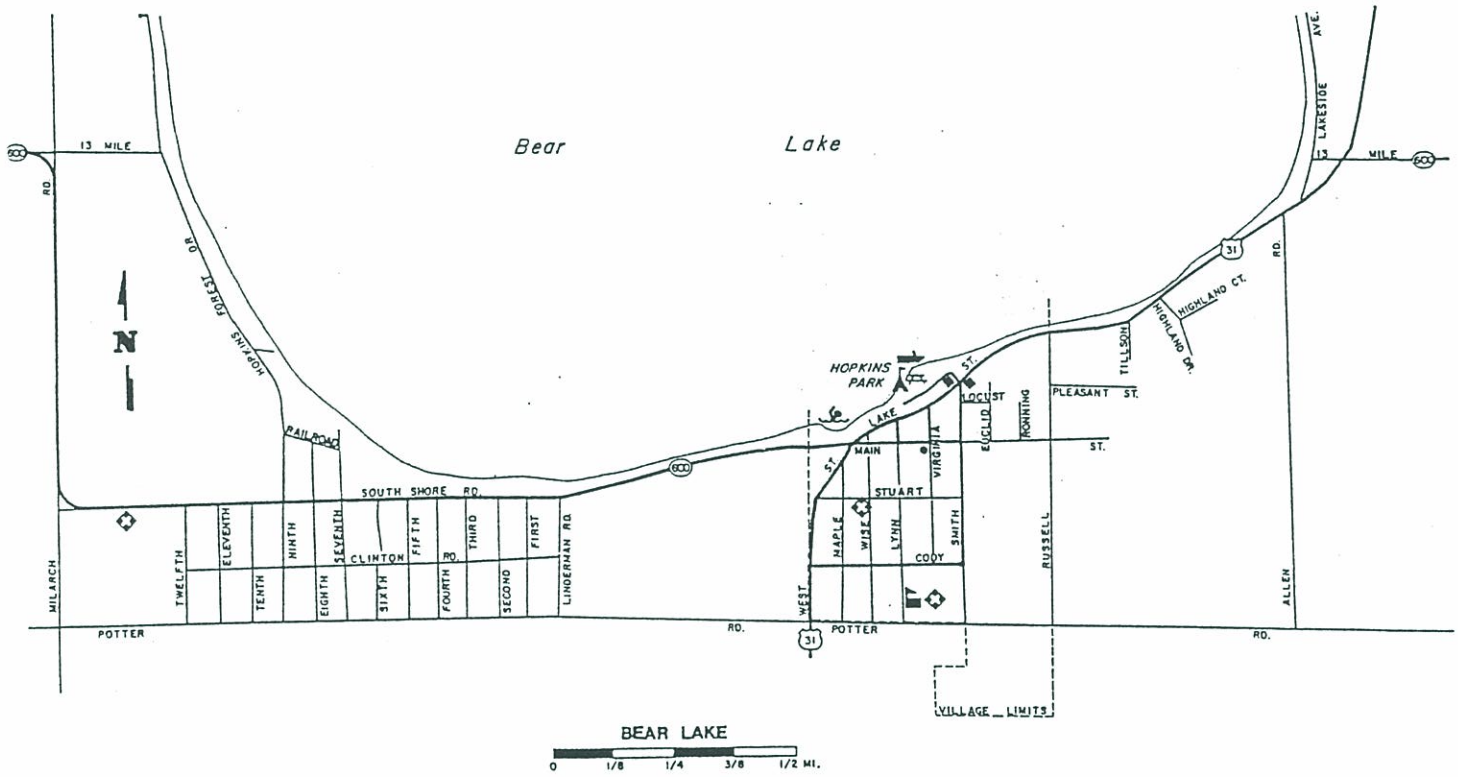


### Legend

- Roads**
- Two Tracks
- Highways
- Minor Roads
- County Roads
- Lakes
- Sections
- Phone Companies**
- ▨ Kaleva
- ▨ Bear Lake
- ▨ Onekama



# CABLE TV SERVICE AREA





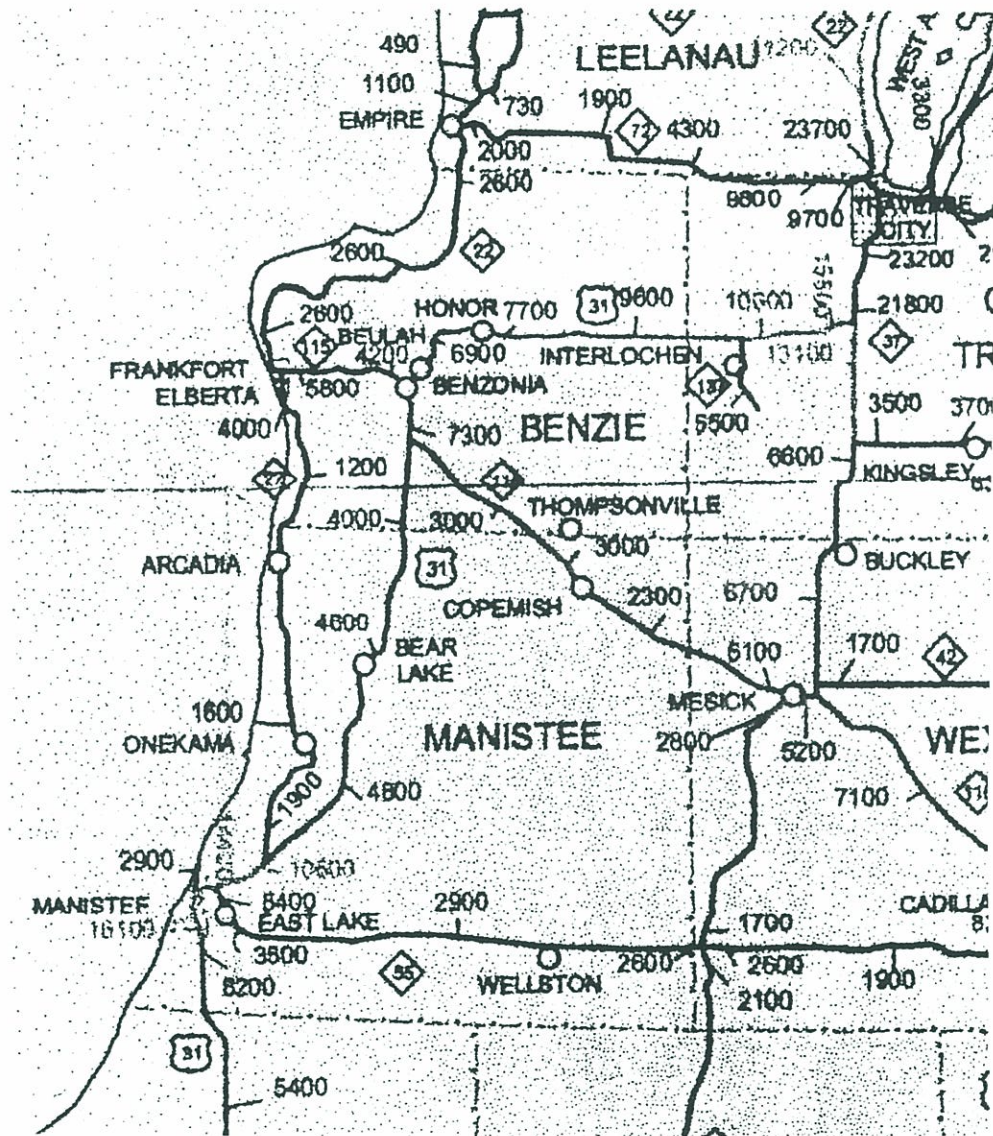
# MANISTEE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

## TRAFFIC SURVEY 1994

<u>ROAD</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u> <u>DAILY</u> <u>TRAFFIC</u>	<u>PEAK</u> <u>DAY/</u> <u>COUNT</u>	<u>HOUR</u>	<u>PEAK</u> <u>DAY/</u> <u>COUNT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Chief Rd	N of Nine Mile	291	Tue 530	9:00 a.m.	Thu 55	Mon-Thu.	8/22-8/25
Chief Rd	N of Coates Hwy	168	Fri 182	3:00 p.m.	Sun 24	7 Days	7/07-7/14
Coates Hwy	W of Milarch	586	Fri 701	6:00 p.m.	Fri 62	7 Days	7/15-7/22
Coates Hwy	E of Chief Rd	1369	Fri 1605	4:00 p.m.	Fri 135	7 Days	7/07-7/14
Coates Hwy	W of Chief Rd	864	Fri 1004	4:00 p.m.	Fri 91	7 Days	7/07-7/14
Coates Hwy	W of Dilling Rd	1393	Sun 1781	2:00 p.m.	Sun 156	7 Days	6/30-7/07
Coates Hwy	E of Dilling Rd	1117	Sat 1448	1:00 p.m.	Sun 140	7 Days	6/30-7/07
Coates Hwy	E of Marilla Rd	313	Sun 364	2:00 p.m.	Thu 44	7 Days	6/23-6/30
Coates Hwy	W of Marilla Rd	817	Tue 943	12:00 p.m.	Tue 95	7 Days	6/23-6/30
Coates Hwy	Manistee River	778	Sun 963	5:00 p.m.	Sun 105	7 Days	6/23-6/30
Coates Hwy	W of Warfield Rd	854	Sun 1055	2:00 p.m.	Sun 149	7 Days	6/16-6/23
Coates Hwy	N of Arguilla Crk	588	Fri 684	2:00 p.m.	Sun 71	7 Days	6/16-6/23
County Line Rd	W of Maple Rd	1096	Thu 2447	2:00 p.m.	Wed 188	7 Days	5/09-5/16
East Lake Rd	N of R & R Tracks	169	Sun 250	8:00 a.m.	Sun 31	7 Days	9/08-9/13
Fox Farm Rd	W of Maple Rd	74	Thu 97	9:00 p.m.	Mon 22	7 Days	5/31-6/07
Fox Farm Rd	E of Maple Rd	393	Fri 451	3:00 p.m.	Thu 43	7 Days	5/09-5/16
Kerry Rd	E of US 31	140	Tue 174	9:00 a.m.	Thu 22	7 Days	6/07-6/14
Kerry Rd	W of US 31	163	Fri 199	3:00 p.m.	Sat 30	7 Days	6/07-6/14
Maple Rd	N of County Line Rd	3309	Wed 3624	7:00 p.m.	Wed 329	7 Days	5/31-6/07
Maple Rd	N of Merkey Rd	4183	Fri 4959	11:00 a.m.	Sat 440	7 Days	5/24-5/31
Marilla Rd	N of Coates Hwy	333	Sat 365	3:00 p.m.	Sat 44	7 Days	6/23-6/30
Merkey Rd	E of Maple Rd	1602	Thu 2256	11:00 a.m.	Fri 184	7 Days	5/24-5/31
Merkey Rd	W of Maple Rd	1793	Fri 2113	5:00 p.m.	Mon 213	7 Days	5/31-6/07
Milarch Rd	S of Kerry Rd	610	Thu 638	5:00 p.m.	Thu 77	7 Days	6/07-6/14
Milarch Rd	N of Kerry Rd	1336	Sat 1468	5:00 p.m.	Thu 165	7 Days	6/07-6/14
Milarch Rd	S of US 31	739	Fri 933	5:00 p.m.	Fri 95	7 Days	7/15-7/22
Nine Mile Rd	E of Chief Rd	1232	Thu 2346	4:00 p.m.	Thu 213	5 Days	8/22-8/26
Nine Mile Rd	E of Yates	1265	Thu 1580	3:00 p.m.	Tue 129	7 Days	9/08-9/13
Red Apple Rd	W of Wildwood	1260	Fri 1750	1:00 p.m.	Sat 161	7 Days	5/24-5/31
Warfield Rd	N of Hinton Creek Rd	625	Fri 847	2:00 p.m.	Sun 81	7 Days	6/16-6/23

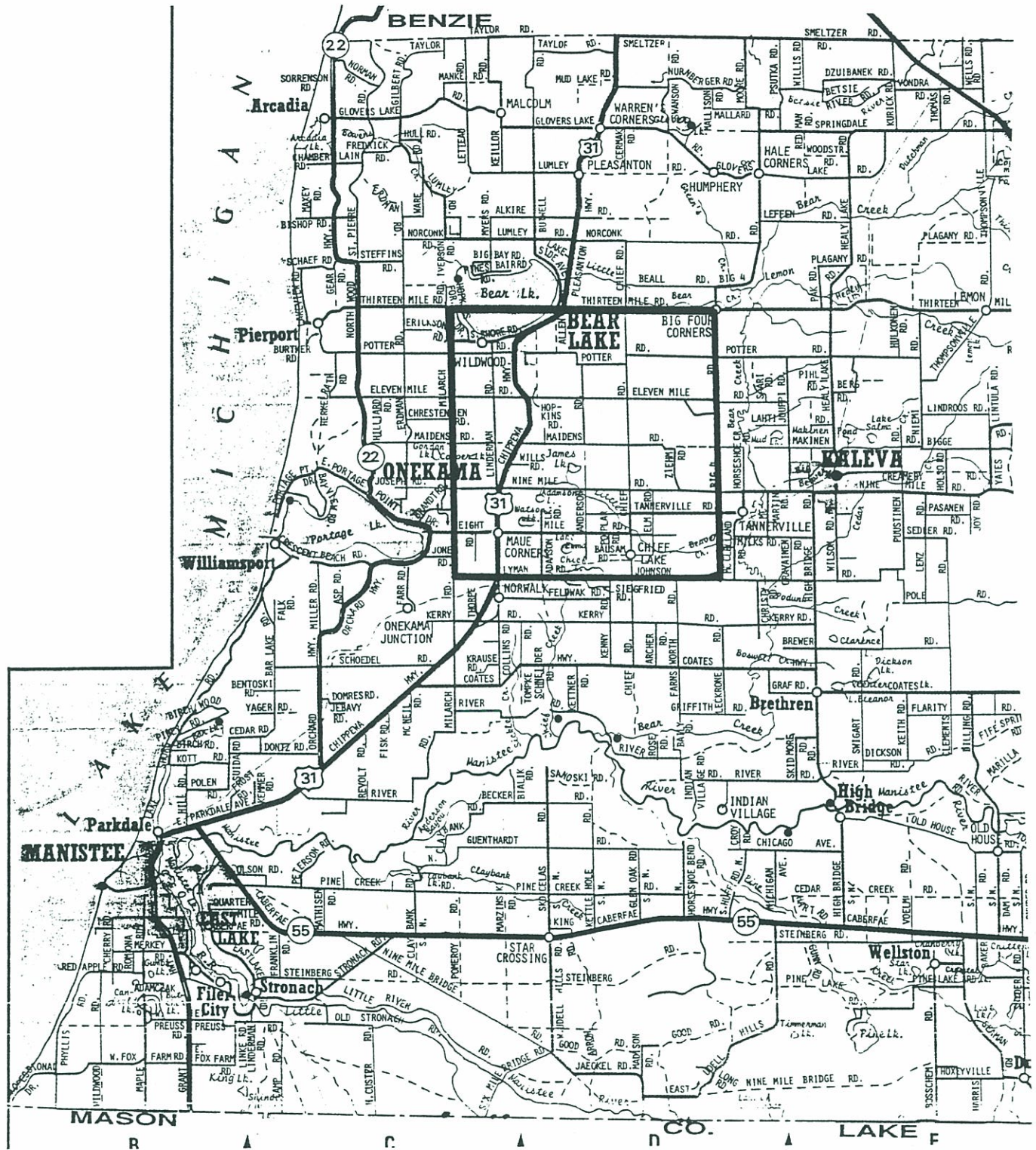


# TRAFFIC FLOW MAP





# BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP VICINITY MAP





# GENERAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**GOAL:**

To have the use of the land in Bear Lake Township well balanced providing for the complimentary and compatible arrangement of land uses and activities. Encourage the orderly consumption of it's surface and subsurface resources and provide the maximum flexibility for future citizens to adapt to conditions which cannot be foreseen.

**OBJECTIVE:**

To encourage an atmosphere of trust between citizens, their neighbors, their government and provide for the greatest degree of personal liberty possible.

**STRATEGY:**

Based upon the belief that most people hold dear their obligation as caretakers of the land and will respect their neighbors rights as they would expect the same in return. Provide protective guidelines where zoning is concerned, without trying to manage details that are better decided upon by the land owner themselves.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Recognize the need and desires of people for quality living conditions.

**STRATEGY:**

Organize and establish areas in the township to provide compatible uses and allow for various residential zones, commercial services and agricultural activities.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Provide our lakes with guidelines for year round and seasonal residential use offering protection for lake water quality and property values.

**STRATEGY:**

Establish minimum set backs, square footage and other parameters which, while safe guarding the neighbor will allow the most flexibility to the property owner, resulting in decisions based upon logical placement v/s arbitrary restrictions.

**OBJECTIVE:**

To promote strong neighborhood structure by providing residential areas that are close to necessary service zones.

**STRATEGY:**

Establish reasonable set backs, square footage and other parameters which encourage good quality construction and logical placement of structures on a lot.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Provide areas for commercial activities which will offer easy access for our residents and the traveler and give the entrepreneur the best chance for success.

# GENERAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**STRATEGY:**

Establish variable degrees of commercial use availability along US 31 and near the Chief residential area.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Provide large land tract owners choices and flexibility managing their property. Structure a protective strategy to surface and subsurface natural resources recognizing land owner rights and adjacent land owner interests.

**STRATEGY:**

Provide reasonable acreage requirements for building sites. Provide reasonable setback distances from property lines, streams, lakes and other water areas. Provide reasonable use provisions.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Have all township guidelines easily understandable, clear, and avoiding redundancy with other government agency regulations.

**STRATEGY:**

Do not try to over regulate or legislate beyond the townships realm of responsibility.

**OTHER OBJECTIVES:**

Locate and develop a parcel of land to provide a recreation area for our residents and tourists.  
Providing water and land activities.

Buy additional property for the Township Cemetery (as much as feasible wherever possible)  
on Maidens Road.

For more efficient maintenance, discourage monuments and huge statues and encourage  
flat grave markers in the future.

The care of the cemetery should continue to be the Township's responsibility. Guidelines will be  
set by the Board and the Board members will check the cemetery several times during the year.

No parcel of land should be allowed to be landlocked.

All lakes should be zoned with the greatest protection.

Township Board should keep lobbying to return lost revenue to the Township  
through the Michigan Township Association.

Zoning Administrator should be contacted if there are signs of pollution of oil and gas well sites  
in Bear Lake Township (air, water, etc.) He will in turn contact the D.N.R.

Resort trade should be encouraged in Bear Lake Township.

Support the importance of agriculture in Bear Lake Township.



# SUMMARY

The Bear Lake Township Comprehensive Plan was put together to provide information from which to base planning and zoning decisions upon. The purpose of township planning is to provide a guideline for future growth and development. It must take into account the inherent right of the individual and balance it with their rights as neighbors.

The entire community of the township and its neighbors are affected by the way the land is used and maintained. As caretakers of the land we do have the obligation to protect it for our future generations.

In this era of excessive regulation, this Planning Board has chosen to believe in the personal intelligence and integrity of the individual. In zoning it has given as much freedom as possible to the individual property owner with respect to property rights. This freedom does place certain obligations upon each property owner to respect the rights of his neighbor with the expectation that they will do the same in return.

The zoning ordinance which was written concurrently with this comprehensive plan reflects this philosophy. The ordinance takes into account the various terrains, lakes, thoroughfares and the existing communities make-up and personality. It was written with the belief that when a regulation exists which supercedes the township authority, it should not be redundantly duplicated, making this ordinance thicker and harder to understand. It was written with a realistic view of the present and the future in mind.

Submitted for the Good of Bear Lake Township  
by the 2002 Bear Lake Township Planning Commission  
*Thomas E. Amor, Chairman*



