

■ Well & Septic Plan ■

Our task is not to fix the blame for the past, but to fix the course for the future.

-President John F. Kennedy

~~~~~

The ability for individual property in the Village to have an equal and fair chance to apply for, and be granted, permits from the local Health Department for on site well and septic systems is a top concern of the Village. At the time of the update there were five plats that had restrictions on the number of on-site septic systems that could be constructed in the plat. The Village has been in discussion regarding the matter with the Central Michigan District Health Department and also with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The Village has held several meetings with the CMDHD and the DEQ regarding this issue. At the time of the update the Village was in the process of compiling environmental information of the soils, hydrogeological, and water quality in the Airpark and Isabella South plats. It is the hope of the Village that by supplying clear evidence that the soils are suitable in these plats for additional on-site systems that the restrictions might be eased somewhat. The Village also is in the early stages of review the long term needs of areas for sewers. The likely end result will be mixture of systems, including on-site fields, which meet the needs of property owners in more of a neighbor sized manner.

The quality of the waters in the Village is of great concern to the Village. This includes both the groundwater and the surface waters. The governmental unit that is primary responsible for protecting both of these waters is the Central Michigan District Health Department. Some of the requirements that are put in place by the CMDHD could also be adopted in the Village's zoning code, such as the placement of the well and septic system and the distance between the two and any systems on adjacent properties. By adding language similar to that of the CMDHD's regulations into the zoning of the Village, the Village would have standing and a legitimate interest into the placement of systems.

Isabella County also operates a small water system that services the Forest II plat. This system has the ability to expand into the Isabella North plat and/or the Woods 1 plat. The County has in the past offered to give the Village the system and all funds currently in their possession from the system. At the time of the update no formal offer had recently been made regarding the system, however, the Village would be open to discussion with the County on this system.

### ► Goals

1. An examination of all possible sewer/septic systems, including individual on site systems, on long term sustainability and impact.
2. Continue discussions with the DEQ and CMDHD regarding the Building and Use restrictions and the possibility of amending them.
3. Compile soil data and water quality history in plats of the Village that have septic restrictions.
4. Update Zoning provisions regarding the placement of wells and septic systems.
5. Partner with the LIPOA to conduct a lake study either through CMU or Alma College.