



*For
Immediate
Release*

RESTRICTIONS LIFTED ON 2 PLATS AT LAKE ISABELLA

March 3, 2010. This afternoon documents were recorded which lifted the restriction of on-site well and septic systems allowed in 2 plats at Lake Isabella. Lake Isabella Airpark, originally platted in March of 1975; and Canterbury Estates, originally platted in May of 1978, had limits which resulted in only 30 of the 80 lots being able to obtain permits for on-site wells and septic systems.

Due in large part to access granted by individual lot owners; the Village, working with Rowe Professional Services, was able to conduct a series of soil and water tests in these plats. The tests, which began in 2008, involved documenting the soil composition, water table depth, and subterranean water flow to determine if the conditions were favorable for additional on-site systems.

The tests were done with the oversight and cooperation of the Central Michigan District Health Department and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The tests showed that the conditions in this area of the Village were acceptable for additional on-site systems.

With the restrictions lifted in these two plats, the Village is left with only 3 of the 17 plats having similar restrictions. Soil tests were conducted in those remaining plats at the same time as the tests for Lake Isabella Airpark and Canterbury Estates in 2008. The results of the tests in those plats showed areas where additional on-site systems may not be environmentally appropriate.

In light of the information obtained from those tests in 2008, the Village commissioned a study by Rowe Professional Services to examine ways to address the issue in each remaining plat. This past autumn Rowe presented their findings to the Village Council. Upon receipt of the study, the Village Council selected a firm to conduct a peer review of the report. This peer review was recently presented to the Council at their meeting in February. Copies of both reports can be found on the Village's website.

In an effort to increase the public's knowledge of not only the historical nature of the problem, but also provide transparency for the efforts being taken the Village created a separate page on its website to highlight this issue. The Village is planning to include a full update on this project in its upcoming spring newsletter.

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