



August 3, 2015

Dear Residents,

The annual independent audit of the Village financial records was recently completed by Abraham & Gaffney, P.C. and once again the audit uncovered no major issues and the Village remains on solid financial ground. Being a small village, we do not have the financial means to staff a bookkeeper or CPA to handle our financial affairs. We are very fortunate to have such a competent Village Clerk that keeps everything in order and running smoothly. Thank you Sandy!

We are fortunate here in Westphalia to have had very few sewer issues over the years. Much of the credit for this goes to our DPW who inspect the system often to proactively address potential issues before they become problems. Unfortunately we did have a sewer backup incident on the north end of town recently. There are several things that can cause this to happen and we can control many of them ourselves by simply watching what we put into our drains and flush down our toilets. DO NOT flush of any paper products, other than regular toilet paper, down your toilet. Drier sheets/lint, paper towels, baby wipes, etc., have been found and do clog the system. Although many of these products may claim to be “flushable” they are NOT. Another major contributor to the problem is household cooking grease which can adhere to the pipes and restrict the flow through the sewer lines. DO NOT pour grease into your sink drains or flush it down your toilets.

The fall “Clean Community Event” will be held August 29<sup>th</sup> in DeWitt. The spring event, which was held in St. Johns, collected over 210 tons of waste materials. Since these events began back in 2004, over 2 million pounds of recyclable materials and 4 million pounds of junk have been disposed of properly. Items accepted include household hazardous waste, farm and landscaping chemicals, motor oil and antifreeze, electronic waste, bulky waste or junk items, scrap metal, appliances, tires, yard waste and clothing, textiles and reusable household items for donation. Most items are collected free of charge, however there are fees for certain items. Additional information is available on the County Web site. Go to [www.clinton-county.org](http://www.clinton-county.org) and look for the Department of Waste Management’s “Current Events” webpage. You must schedule an appointment to drop items off at least one week before the event. To schedule an appointment or for more information call 989-224-5186 or send an email to [recycle@clinton-county.org](mailto:recycle@clinton-county.org).

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President  
Village of Westphalia