

Lincoln Charter Township

History

Major Timothy Smith moved from Ohio, and in 1827 became one of the earliest settlers in what is now the present boundary of Lincoln Township. The fruit growing industry soon became the controlling economy of the area.

One of Lincoln Township's more famous residents was John Beers who began his career in Berrien County in 1869 as a horticultural agent. He invested heavily in growing peaches, but his career as a grower ended when a blight destroyed all his peach trees. Undaunted by this loss, he entered medical school and earned the right to the title Dr. John Beers. He and his wife, Jennie, were active in local politics and were strong supporters of the Lincoln Township area. Because of his involvement, the Township honored him when a major east/west road, John Beers Road, was named for him.

Also playing a significant role in the history of Lincoln Township was the recreational area now known as Grand Mere State Park. The beautiful area of Grand Mere contains three lakes: North, Middle and South, and is home to sand dunes that range from 3,000 to 10,000 years old. The original spelling for the name was "Grand Marais" which is defined in French as "large swamp or mire". Between 1900 and 1920, ice cutting was a major industry on Grand Marais Lakes. A large ice storage house was erected on the shore of North Lake where ice was stored for summer deliveries.

Since the 1960's, the Township has become a prized residential area as well as providing a welcoming environment to industry and a resort for tourists. Lincoln Township has benefited from a historically well organized planning commission and now enjoys a healthy mix of residents and commercial / industrial entrepreneurs.

Observations

Lincoln Township boasts the blue waters of Lake Michigan on its western side and the rolling hills of Berrien County on the east. The residents enjoy the services of three excellent school systems, a variety of churches, several parks and recreational areas, and a top fire department and police force. The Lincoln Township Library has much to offer not only residents but the many visitors who frequent the area. Over the past few decades, Lincoln Township has shown a consistent growth pattern and has been able to establish a strong residential base with many new housing units.

Despite its many strengths, Lincoln Township would like to attract more industrial and commercial entrepreneurs to broaden the job base and relieve the tax burden on the Township's residents. Lincoln Township is a truly pleasant place to live.

Community Vision

In the next two decades, the community would like to:

- Attract a broader price range of privately owned residential housing.
- Attract additional medical facilities.
- Attract light industrial and high tech businesses.
- Encourage economic development and increase the industrial and commercial tax base.

All Demographic Information is based upon the 2009 Census Estimate

Population

1980 Census	13,520	
1990 Census	13,604	0.62 % increase
2000 Census	13,952	0.25 % increase
2009 Census Estimate	14,370	3.00 % increase

Personal Income

Median Family	\$87,628
Average per Capita	\$33,527
Median Household	\$67,257

Labor Force

Total Work Force	7,689
Unemployment Rate	5.6 %

Principal Economic Base Employers

Bosch Braking Systems	223 employees
Lakeshore Public Schools	323 employees
Martins Super Market	181 employees
Standard Tool & Die	70 employees

Housing

Number of Dwellings	6,335
Owner Occupied	4,583
Renter Occupied	1,062
Median Rent	\$709
Median Home Value	\$174,700

Building Permits – 2010

	Number Issued	Dollar Amount
Residential	15	\$3,172,357.00
Commercial	27	\$12,734,960.00
Industrial	3	\$121,100.00
Other	286	\$2,460,950.00
Total	331	\$18,489,367.00



Government

Municipal Hall

Lincoln Charter Township Hall
P.O. Box 279
2055 West John Beers Road
Stevensville, MI 49127
Phone: (269) 429-1589
Fax: (269) 429-0880
Website: www.lctberrien.org

Council Meetings

Second Tuesday of Each Month
Start: 7:00 p.m.

County Commissioner

Debra Panozzo
(District 7)
1614 Barbara Ann Drive
Stevensville MI 49127
Phone: (269) 429-2131
debpanozzo@sbcglobal.net

State Governor

Rick Snyder (R)
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: (517) 373-3400
Fax: (517) 335-6863
Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov

State Senator

John Proos (R), District 21
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
Phone: (517) 373-6960
Fax: (517) 373-0897
SenJProos@senate.michigan.gov

State Representative

Al Pscholka (R), District 79
Michigan House of Representatives
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
Phone: (517) 373-1403
Fax: (517) 373-3652
AlPscholka@house.mi.gov

U.S. Representative

Fred Upton, 6th Congressional District
2183 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-3761
Fax: (202) 225-4986
tellupton@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senators

Debbie Stabenow (D)
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4822
stabenow.senate.gov/email.htm

Carl Levin (D)
269 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-6221
levin.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm Access via
website Contact Center

Public Services

Police

Chief of Police: Daniel Sullivan
Phone: (269) 429-2444
Sworn Officers: 10
Civilian Employees: 2
Number of Cars: 5

Fire

Fire Chief: Ron Burkett
Phone: (269) 428-2385
Number of Stations: 1
Professional Firemen/Part-Time/Volunteer: 20
Vehicles: 6
Insurance Rate Class: 8 – 9

Trash Collection

Contact: Michiana Recycling & Disposal
Phone: (800) 722-9710
Type: Independent
Pick Up Day: Thursday
Cost Per Month: 1.8913 mills taxed
Curbside Recycling Available

Recycling

Berrien County Community Development
Jill Adams, Environmental Specialist
(269) 983-7111 Ext. 8234
Program information available online at
www.berriencounty.org/recycle.
(800) 311-6424

Water

St. Joseph WFP
Phone: (269) 983-1240
Source: Lake Michigan
Capacity: 16,000,000 GPD

Sewer

Benton Harbor – St. Joseph Waste Water Plant
Phone: (269) 983-7719
System Type: Biological Trickling Filter / Liquid
Sludge
Capacity: 13,000,000 GPD

Telephone

A T & T
Residential Customers (800) 244-4444
Business Customers (800) 660-3000

Gas

Michigan Gas Utilities
1-800-778-3802

Electric

American Electric Power Company
(800) 311-6424

Education

Lincoln Charter Township is served by the following school districts:

Bridgman Public Schools
9964 Gast Road
Bridgman MI 49106
Phone: (269) 466-0271
Enrollment: 986



Lakeshore Public Schools
5771 Cleveland Avenue
Stevensville MI 49127
Phone: (269) 428-1400
Enrollment: 2,890



St. Joseph Public Schools
2214 S. State Street
St. Joseph MI 49085
Phone: (269) 982-4621
Enrollment: 2,860



Taxes

In March 1994, Michigan voters approved a new tax structure (Proposal A). The following table provides a simplistic look at the taxes currently levied within this community. Property tax is based now upon taxable value, not state equalized value.

General Taxes

General County	4.7723
Law Enforcement/ Public Safety	0.3500
Special Voted 911	0.2500
Senior Citizens	0.3000
LMC College	1.7854
Township	0.7862
Special Voted	4.1279
Subtotal	12.3718



School Taxes (Berrien RESA)

State Education Tax	6.0000
Non-Homestead (Business)	8.3760
Extra Voted Building & Site	0.5000
Debt Retirement	1.3000
Berrien RESA	0.1745
Special Education	2.1954

Bridgman

6.0000
18.0000
1.4971
3.2000
0.1745
2.1954

Lakeshore

6.0000
18.0000
0.9946
3.5500
0.1745
2.1954

St. Joseph

6.0000
18.0000
0.9946
3.5500
0.1745
2.1954

Subtotals

Homestead	10.1699
Non-Homestead (Business)	18.5459

13.0670

13.0670
31.0670

12.9145

12.9145
30.9145

Economic Development

Berrien County Community Development Department
 701 Main Street
 St. Joseph, Michigan 49085
 Contact: Daniel Fette, Director
 Phone: (269) 983-7111, Ext. 8617

Lakeshore Chamber
 P.O. Box 93
 Stevensville MI 49127
 Phone: (269) 429-1170
www.lakeshorechamber.org



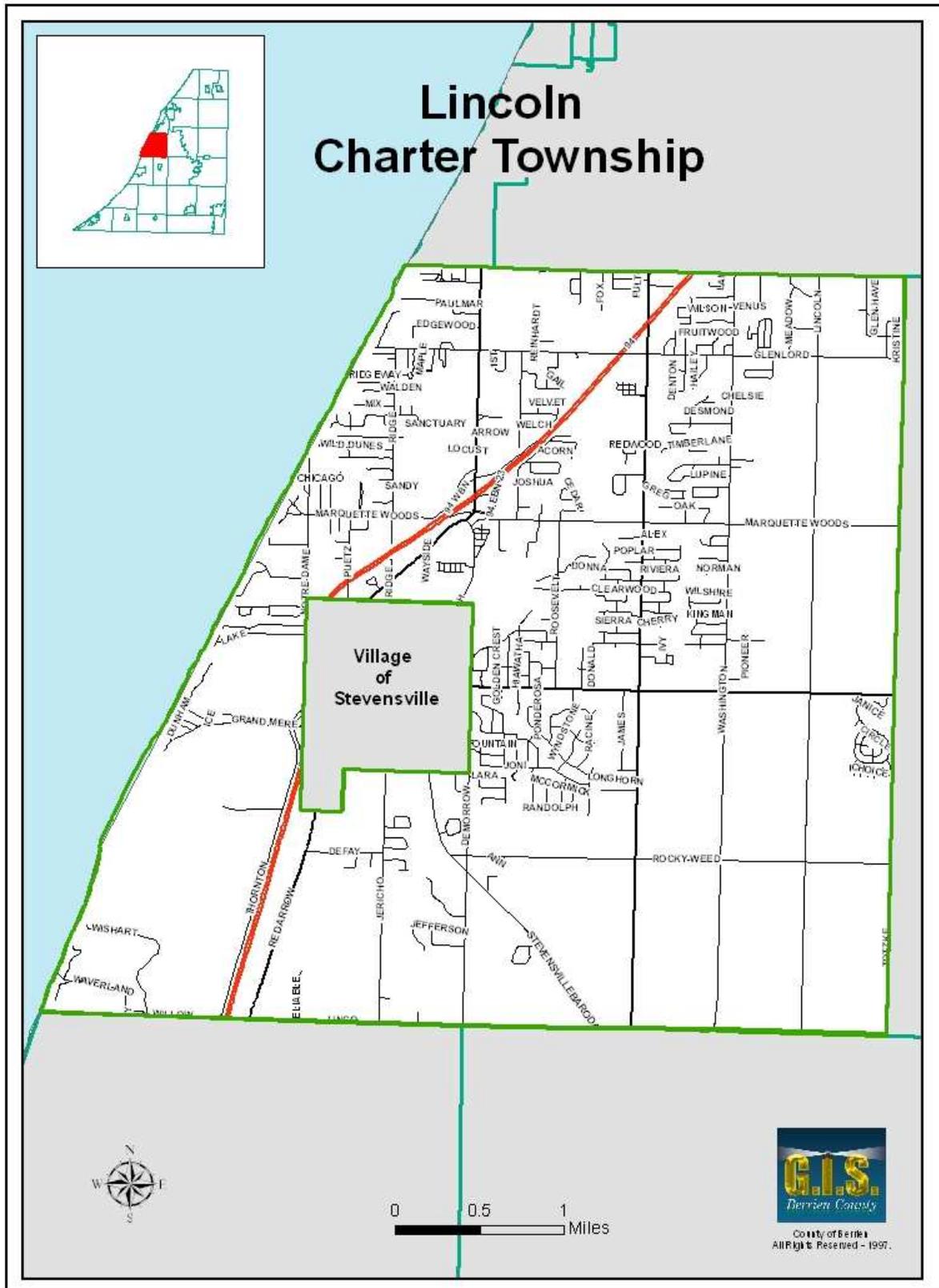
Barbott's Farm Corn Maze



Grand Mere State Park

Climate

	January	July
Average Maximum Temperature	32F / 0C	82F / 28C
Average Minimum Temperature	18F / -8C	61F / 16C
Days over 90F or 32C	11	
Days below 0F or 18C	4	
Days of Growing Season	162	
Average Annual Rainfall	37" / 94cm	
Average Annual Snowfall	70" / 178cm	



This Community Snapshot has been prepared by the Berrien County Community Development Department. For more detailed information on services available in Berrien County, please visit our website at www.berriencounty.org/CommunityDevelopment.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information. However, as data is constantly changing, Berrien County will be held harmless for any omissions or errors contained herein.