

Community water fluoridation is an important public health benefit that the Hartland Township Board of Trustees is considering taking away from you.

Please tell the trustees you support community water fluoridation and value its benefits!

- Fluoridation saves my family money by protecting teeth and making it less likely that I will need to pay to have cavities fixed. Please don't use budget-cutting as a way to damage my children's health and well-being.
- My dentist has always told me that fluoride protects teeth from decay, and it's not enough just to have fluoride in my toothpaste. Please continue community water fluoridation.
- As a resident of Hartland who has access to community water fluoridation, I greatly value this public health benefit. It's important to me and my family.

Please e-mail or call (632-7498) the following individuals before their December 6 meeting.

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Dr. Ken Speaks to Township Board on Fluoride

Our own, Dr. Ken, still on medical leave, was asked to speak at the recent Hartland Township public forum on fluoride. Speaking on behalf of all our patients (especially children), the Hartland and Livingston County dentists emphatically emphasized the needs and benefits of fluoride for all ages. Calling upon his experiences working in non-fluoridated areas (migrant workers in Traverse City, the poor in Selma, Alabama, while in the Air Force, a medical office in Pontiac and recently an orphanage in Guatemala) and with our families in Hartland, we compared, on an emphatic level, the differences between their health. The difference is marked and this often condemns the individual to a lifetime of crippled health. While fluoride has been proclaimed one of the top health discoveries of the 20th century, Dr Ken emphasized

that it is not only for decay but as all the health organizations study, oral health has a huge impact on the whole body. Diabetes, blood pressure, strokes, kidney disease, premature births and low baby weight are just some of the impacted areas.

A number of state health officials, Michigan Dental Association experts and parents also spoke. It was emphasized that a combination of early child development fluoride in the water, a fluoridated tooth paste, regular professional fluoride treatments and rinses can put every child (and adult) in the area of an ideal healthy state. The township board is in the process of debating a number of issues before deciding to upgrade the township water district system.

We encourage all our patients to call the township to express their opinion on this important health issue. If you would like more information on fluoride, what it does, how it works, its benefits, etc., please do not hesitate to give us a call or stop by and let's talk. The Hartland Smilemakers are always here for you.