

## F. Economic Characteristics

Public employment is the single most important factor in the Township. Residents are employed in County, Township and Village government as well as with Bellaire Schools and the Medical Care Facility.

The resort industry as well as numerous small businesses in and around the Village of Bellaire also provides jobs. Light manufacturing provided employment within the Township. Many residents are also employed in construction. Agricultural and Forestry activities also account for some employment in the Township

## G. The Regional Setting

Kearney Township is located in the central part of Antrim County. The County lies along the east shore of Grand Traverse Bay and contains several major lakes. The most notable of which are Torch Lake and an “upper and lower” Chain of Lakes which is well known throughout the Midwest for its scenic beauty. Torch Lake is noted as the third most beautiful lake in the world by National Geographic Magazine.

Both U.S. 31 and U.S. 131 cross the County in a north-south directions; U.S 31 along the Lake Michigan coast and U.S. 131 further inland. The Township lies between the two highways and has the Chain of Lakes as its western boundary. Ski and golf course complexes are located within the Township and are accessed primarily from U.S. 131 via M-88.

Therefore, the western, central and southern portions of the Township experience residential and resort development pressures, while the balance of the Township is made of rugged hills and wetland valley with low density residential living, farms and forestry uses.

## **SECTION III- GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

### A. Planning Goals

The Kearney Township Planning Commission has selected the following goals as the basis of the Master Land Use Plan:

1. Protect the surface and ground water quality of the Township as the main ingredient of the quality of life.

2. Develop a Future Land Use Plan that will result in the conservation of public expenditures needed for public improvements, public services, recreational facilities and/or trails and Preservation of Township Public Accesses.
3. Develop a Future Land Use Plan that will provide guidance to direct development in areas most suitable to provide guidelines for good development practices.

## **SECTION IV - KEARNEY TOWNSHIP FUTURE LAND USE**

A review of the existing conditions of the Township, together with a study of the unique natural features including the soils and surface water, and in relation to the goals that the Township Planning Commission wish to achieve, leads to a future land use plan made up of the following planning districts:

- A. Commercial: Although commercial needs to the Township are limited in the future and most commercial growth will occur with the Village of Bellaire, it is recommended that an area along M-88 just south of the Village be designated for future commercial development.

The area already has some commercial activities even though the soils are not particularly suited to development. These activities are presently close to the Village wastewater treatment facility, which will eliminate onsite sewage disposal. Special care will be needed to insure that storm water run-off from commercial developments is retained on site and allowed to percolate slowly into the ground water to prevent sediments and pollution from entering Lake Bellaire.

- B. Manufacturing: An area for manufacturing development is located east of the Airport north to Eddy School Road. This district includes the existing industrial park. Care in the development of industrial sites will need to be taken for storm water run-off, sewage and handling of special wastes.

- C. Residential: The primary area designated for residential growth is north of Schuss Mountain and east of the Village. This area is close to the urban services available in Bellaire and also with reasonable distance to connect to