

# NOTICE

## **BEGINNING OCTOBER 23, 2006, POKAGON BAND MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO PURCHASE TAX-EXEMPT GASOLINE AT THE MARATHON GAS STATION LOCATED AT 1691 M-139 IN BENTON HARBOR**

Under the Tax Agreement between the Pokagon Band and the State of Michigan, the Pokagon Band and Band members are eligible for an exemption from Michigan's Sales Tax and Motor Fuels Tax regarding gasoline and diesel fuel purchases. In order to make this tax exemption available, the Band needed to partner with a wholesale gasoline distributor and one or more retail gas stations.

Tribal Council approved an agreement with a wholesale gasoline distributor and a Marathon gas station located in Benton Harbor that will allow the station to sell tax-exempt gasoline and diesel fuel to Pokagon Band members. The Band has been working diligently over the last several months to implement the agreement and enable Band members to purchase tax-exempt gasoline. The tax exemptions available to Pokagon Band members represent a total savings of approximately 32 cents per gallon at the present gas prices.

With the addition of this Marathon station at 1691 M-139 in Benton Harbor, there are now four gas stations at which Band members may purchase tax-exempt gasoline. The other three stations are the Marathon Station located at 801 Spruce Street in Dowagiac, the Marathon Station also known as Lenny's Mini Mart, located at 2205 US 12 East in Niles, and the Citgo Station located at 332 West Main Street in Hartford, Michigan.

### **THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PURCHASING TAX-EXEMPT FUEL ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- The exemption is available only to Pokagon Band members who are 14 years of age or older.
- Eligible Band members will be limited to the purchase of 100 gallons of tax-exempt fuel per month. The Band reserves the right to adjust this allocation from month-to-month for all members in order to stay within the Band's quota of tax-exempt fuel under the Tax Agreement.
- Band members who have not done so already **MUST** obtain a new Pokagon Band identification card from the Tribal Enrollment Office. The new I.D. cards have the member's picture on the front of the card and a magnetic stripe on the back. You may make an appointment to obtain a new Pokagon Band I.D. card

by contacting the Enrollment Director, Judy Augusta, at toll-free (888) 782-1001.

**THE PROCEDURES TO BE USED WHEN PURCHASING TAX-EXEMPT FUEL ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Payment for all tax-exempt gas purchases must be made inside the gas station **AFTER** gas has been pumped. Band members **SHOULD NOT** pay for gas at the pump.
2. After pumping the desired amount of gas, proceed inside the station and inform the attendant on duty that you are a Pokagon Band member and are eligible for a tax exemption on your gasoline purchase.
3. Present your Pokagon Band Picture I.D. card to the attendant for verification.
4. The attendant shall verify that the person pictured on the Pokagon Band Picture I.D. card is the person attempting to purchase tax-exempt gas or is an elder or a minor that is present on site at the time of the purchase.
5. The attendant may ask for additional identification to verify the identity of the person attempting to purchase tax-exempt gas.
6. The attendant will swipe your Pokagon Band Picture I.D. card through the magnetic card reader and will input the type (gas or diesel) and the amount of fuel purchased.
7. After inputting all data on the card reader system, the attendant will complete the transaction and inform you of the total price of your tax-exempt purchase.
8. You may pay for the tax-exempt purchase with cash or any other form of payment the gas station accepts.

If for any reason the attendant will not provide you with the tax exemption, you should pay for the transaction, including taxes, and retain your receipt. All questions or complaints regarding the denial of a tax-exempt gas purchase should be directed to the Pokagon Band Department of Finance. You may contact the Department of Finance by calling, toll-free (800) 517-0777 or by stopping in to the Department of Finance, which is located at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan.