

Charter Township of Kalamazoo

Township News

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<http://www.kalamazootownship.org>

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Spring Edition 2017

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You May Need to Know...

Election May 2

There are two proposals on the May 2, 2017 ballot that pertain to all residents of Kalamazoo Township.

- Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch (KCCD) Proposition for 911 system funding.
- Kalamazoo Regional Education Service Agency (KRESA) Regional Enhancement Millage Renewal Proposal.

The full text can be found at [Michigan Voter Information](http://www.kccda911.org/) website. Find more information on KCCD at www.kccda911.org/

Neighborhood Road Repair Information Meetings

Preparations are being made for the 2017 construction season. The list of roads to be repaired in 2017 is posted on the Township website. Click here or go to www.ktpw.org Community>Transportation and Roads

- Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 5 p.m. at the Westwood Fire Station Community Room, 1310 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49006
- Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 5 p.m. at the Eastwood Fire Station Community Room, 2703 East Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048
- Friday, April 28, 2017 at 5 p.m. at the Northwood Fire Station Community Room, 2617 North Burdick at Mosel Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Sidewalk Replacement/Repair

The Township offers a program to help residential property owners finance 50% of the cost of public sidewalk repair, with a maximum subsidy per parcel of \$500. Sidewalk squares will be considered in disrepair if 1) the potholes are one or more inches in depth, 2) the height difference between adjoining sections of sidewalk is two or more inches, or 3) an insufficient slope prohibits adequate water drainage from the surface. Download an application by clicking the blue "Community" tab at <http://ktpw.org>. For more information, contact the ordinance officer at spgallagher@ktpw.org or 381-8080.

Order Address signs

When seconds count, assist the emergency medical services, fire and police departments by making a house number easy to read in the dark or in adverse weather conditions by installing a reflective address plate. The plate is pre-drilled to allow for horizontal or vertical display on a mailbox or post by the road. The address plate is green with reflective white numbers. The cost for these address plates are \$10.00. Please contact either Fire Chief Obreiter (firechief@ktpw.org) or Fire Marshal Kowalski (tckowalski@ktpw.org) or by calling 381-8080 with any questions or to order your address signs.



Bulk Trash Pick-Up

The first Bulk Trash Pick-Up Starts on April 3. Know which day of the week you're slated for pick-up (Check the [map](#) on the [recycle page](#) or call the Township.)

- No black plastic bags, use boxes or heavy duty clear plastic bags for smaller items
- If you think you've been missed, call the Township, NOT Republic Services customer service.
- Be sure to have it out the night before; they start picking up between 6:00 and 7:00 a.m.
- Please keep items to 4ft - 8ft maximum size
- Items must be able to be picked up by 2 people
- No more than 3 bucket loads (loading bucket on the front of the truck)
- If you have more, please save it for the July pick up or contact a commercial garbage service for a large bin.
- It's a good idea to put recyclable metal where it can be easily found and picked up.
- Because of the July 4 Holiday the July pick-up was moved to the 2nd week, July 10 through 14.
- Look for more detailed information on what can be set out on the Township's website and be prepared to make other arrangements to take care of items that aren't picked up.

NO YARD WASTE, TIRES, PAINT/CHEMICALS, NEEDLES OR HAZARDOUS WASTE - Contact the County Household Hazardous Waste Center www.kalcounty.com/hhw or 373-5211 for disposal information

Leaf and Brush Pick Up

Leaf and Brush Pick-up is MAY 8-12 and November 13-17.

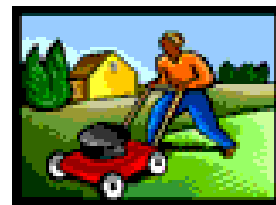
Check the curbside pick-up map on our website to make sure you're putting it out on the correct day of the week

- Leaves must be in **paper yard bags**.
- Brush and branches, not to exceed four feet in length and two inches in diameter, must be securely tied in bundles.
- **No plastic bags of any color, size or style.**
- The 12-container limit does not apply to the leaf and brush pick-ups.
- **No loose leaves in the street.**

If you miss the leaf and brush pick-up or would like an alternative to bagging your leaves [Click Here](#) to learn about backyard composting or contact Mulder's Landscaping about drop off.

Mowing Enforcement

In addition to harboring mosquitoes and weed seeds, tall grass in a lawn area can make it look like nobody's paying attention to the area and that can lead to more blight and crime in a neighborhood. If you have a complaint about grass and/or weeds 12 inches or taller you may contact the Township. We will check it and send a letter letting the homeowner know that they have 10 days to get it mowed. If the lawn hasn't been mowed by the time the ordinance officer comes out to check on it the township will hire someone to mow it and send the owner a bill plus a fine. For more details on tall grass please [Click Here](#) for frequently cited ordinances on our web site



Wind and Storm Debris

Downed limbs and trees seem to have become a common occurrence. Unfortunately, the Township can't respond to every storm with a special pick up unless residents would like to pay more taxes to cover it. Our leaf and brush pick up can only accommodate relatively small sticks not branches and trunks because the materials go to a compost facility and are not chipped first. If you have limbs or trees in your yard the ordinance officer is understanding of the fact that it may take a while to get them cleaned up. Our suggestion would be to gather up what you can into neat piles and set them out of the way until you're able to find a tree service that can pick them up and haul the wood. If you're cleaning up your yard and you know that your neighbor could use some help please consider lending a hand. You may find that you can get a discount if a group of neighbors hires the same tree service to come out and do a whole group at once.

Your Community

Westwood

- Saturday, April 22 is the Westwood Little League Parade starting at 8:00 a.m.
- The Westwood Neighborhood Garage sale is on Saturday, May 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information go to the [Westwood Neighborhood Association](#) Facebook page.

Eastwood

- Saturday, April 22 is the Eastwood Little League Parade
- The Eastwood Neighborhood Garage sale is on Saturday, June 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information contact Rosemary at (269) 234-3589, email rknox1427@gmail.com or check out the [Eastwood Neighborhood Association](#) on Facebook.

Lakewood

There are always things happening in the Lakewood Neighborhood home of the Kalamazoo County Expo Center and Fairgrounds. There are dog shows, horse shows, gem and mineral shows, craft sales and flea markets. A favorite for kids and maybe some adults you know is the Touch a Truck event on May 13 where you can get in some really big trucks. You can find a list of events www.kalcounty.com/parks/expo/index.htm

Other Events in and around the Township

April has been Proclaimed Child Abuse Prevention Month in Kalamazoo Township www.kalamazoocan.com/

April 22 Earth Day - Join some of the many planned activities or organize a trash pick-up in your neighborhood.

May 7 Borgess Run for the Health of It www.borgessrun.com

May 13-21 is Kalamazoo Bike Week www.kalamazoobikeweek.com/

June 18 Dump the Pump Day – Take the pledge and ride the Metro bus for free <https://goo.gl/PGBm1M>

Looking for Friends of the Kalamazoo Township Parks

"Friends of the Parks" help maintain a small flower bed, pick up litter, gather sticks from a lawn and more to help make our small, neighborhood parks attractive and welcoming. Contact Steve Leuty (345-6981) if you are interested in volunteering. For more information about our Township parks, visit www.ktwp.org. There is also an opportunity to help with tending a native planting along the creek behind the Township Hall. Contact Molly at molly@ktwp if you think you might be interested.

Recognition and Thanks

You Asked For It – The Township Ordinance Officer

In 2013 the Township surveyed its residents and one of the items that you considered most important was to have someone that would make sure that neighborhoods are kept to a standard that gives people a good impression of the area and keeps the property values up. That means someone who will tell people to fix up their house if it's falling apart, keep the junk cars out of the front yard, keep the weeds and bushes from covering the sidewalks, and, well you get the idea.

Many of us, from time to time, may be in a situation where we can't keep things up as well as we'd like or disagree with our neighbors on what's an eyesore. That's why, if our ordinance officer contacts you, he will almost always start with a warning. He is happy to explain what you may have done that may violate an ordinance and how you can make it right. If he's able he'll even direct you to resources that may be able to help you. If a resident does not comply with an ordinance the ordinance officer is authorized to issue a ticket and non-compliance could get you an appointment with a judge. As you can imagine, there are days that this is a thankless job.

Please remember that the Ordinance Officer is trying help you maintain the value of your home and make Kalamazoo Township a safe and pleasant place to live, as requested by the citizens of Kalamazoo Township. If you see him out and about in the Township give him a smile and a thank you when you can.

Annual Firefighter Recognition

At the March 27, 2017 Township of Kalamazoo Board Of Trustees regular meeting, the Township's Fire Department presented awards to the recipient of the 2016 Firefighter Of The Year as well as years of service awards. Receiving the Firefighter of the Year Award was Lieutenant George Tazelaar of the Northwood station. Kalamazoo Township is proud of the men and women who dedicate so much to protecting the members of this community. You can find the list of awards for years of service and more in the [2016 Annual Report](#) on the Township's website

Communications from the Office

Township of Excellence

A "Township of Excellence" is defined as a strong, vibrant community governed by a township board that adheres to best practices to deliver quality programs and services to accomplish community-driven goals. Kalamazoo Township will be accepting the Township of Excellence Award at the Michigan Township Association Annual Conference in April 2017; one of only four townships to date to receive the award.



Subscribe to the Newsletter

If you picked up a copy of this newsletter and aren't a subscriber yet, be sure to go to the homepage to subscribe so you can receive it quarterly in your email, www.ktwp.org or send 4 self-addressed stamped envelopes to Kalamazoo Township.

An advertisement for hazardous waste recycling. It features a cartoon house with a blue roof and a chimney. Text on the house says "RECYCLE NOT TRASH". The main headline is "Cleaning out your HOUSE?". Below this, it lists accepted items: "HOME & AUTO CLEANERS & CHEMICALS", "ELECTRONICS • BATTERIES", and "FLUORESCENT & LED BULBS". It also includes contact information: "373-5211 • kalcounty.com/hhw", "hhwcenter@kalcounty.com", and "1301 Lamont Ave. • Next to Fairgrounds". Hours are listed as: "Tues. & Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Wed. 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. • 2nd Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (closed Nov 4, Dec 25)". A small note says "BUSINESS WASTE for a FEE - NOT ACCEPTED LATEX PAINT. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE OR CALL HOTLINE FOR DETAILED LIST OF MATERIALS ACCEPTED."

Red Med Box

Properly disposing of unused and unwanted medications helps to protect the environment. It also helps to protect our community against prescription abuse, addiction and accidental or intentional overdose. Red Med Box is an easy and secure way to dispose of your unused or expired medication. There is a Red Med Box located in the entryway to the Police Department on the Mt Olivet side of the Kalamazoo Township Hall. It is available for you to drop off your expired and unused medications from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Meeting Dates and Times

Board of Trustees - 2nd & 4th Mondays of every month at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).

Planning Commission - first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals - third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are at the Township Administrative Offices located at 1720 Riverview Drive. Check the website for any schedule changes.

Watch Board Meetings from Home

Board meetings are broadcast live on Charter Communications channel 190 and AT&T U-verse channel 99: Check the PMN website for a schedule of repeats or other programs. Meetings may also be viewed online at <https://pmn.viebit.com/>

Upcoming Township Office Closures

Memorial Day, May 29, 2017 Independence Day, July 3 & 4, 2017 Labor Day, September 4, 2017

Office hours for part-time officials are available on the department web pages.