



Township News

1720 Riverview Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49004
Telephone: (269) 381-8080 / Fax: (269) 381-3550
<http://www.ktwp.org>

Spring Edition 2019

Officials

Donald D. Martin, Supervisor - Supervisor@ktwp.org
Mark E. Miller, Clerk - Clerk@ktwp.org
Sherine M. Miller, Treasurer - Treasurer@ktwp.org

Trustees

Jeremy L. Hathcock - hathcockjl@ktwp.org
Nicolette Leigh - leighn@ktwp.org



Editor

Molly K. Cole - Molly@ktwp.org

Steven C. Leuty - leutysc@ktwp.org
Jennifer A. Strebs - strebsja@ktwp.org

You May Need to Know...

Bulk Trash Pick-Up

The first Bulk Trash Pick-Up Starts on April 1. 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 3.5 cubic yards total per pick up. (A cubic yard is about the size of a box that a dishwasher or dryer would come in.)
- 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 is the 2nd week, July 8 through 12.
- 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-ups are May 6-10, November 18-22 and December 2-6. 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, and must be securely tied in bundles.
- **No plastic bags of any color, size or style.**
- **No loose leaves in the street.**

If you see leaves in the street the person may live in the city or they may have hired a service to pick them up or they don't know that they need to be in bags. If you would like an alternative to bagging your leaves [Click Here](#) to go to our website to learn about backyard composting. Don't forget that you also have the option of signing up for weekly yard waste pick up with Republic Service for a very reasonable price.



Comstock Public Schools Election May 7, 2019

Only the Township residents living in the Comstock school district will be voting on May 7. The voting will take place at the precinct 12 polling site at Sunnyside United Methodist Church on Gull Road. The site will be serving voters in the Comstock school district that live in precinct 10 as well.

Eight Inch Mowing Enforcement Rule

This is a reminder that last year the height for mowing enforcement was changed from 12 to 8 inches because the time between receiving a tall grass complaint and mowing can be almost 2 weeks. In that time the grass can be well over a foot and require a brush mower. Keeping yards maintained increases your property values and makes the Township a safer and more pleasant place for everyone to live.

Communications from the Office

Important Reminders from the Fire Department

- Burn barrels, the burning of leaves and brush, or garbage are not allowed in the Township, only recreational and cooking fires. Please refer to the [Open Burning Ordinance](#) on the Fire Department page of our website.
- Warning sirens are no longer being used for weather alerts in Kalamazoo Township. We are recommending that you download one of many weather alert apps for phones or purchase a weather alert radio. The Township has weather radios available for purchase at our cost, \$25, at the front counter.
- As it warms up and you start to think about firing up the grill please do a thorough check of your grill first. Make sure the gas line isn't cracked or clogged, and you are a safe distance from your home and combustibles. We recommend a minimum of 10 feet of clearance.

Garage Sale and Block Party Permits Online

Garage sales and block parties are great for bringing the community together. Make sure your planning includes turning in a permit to the Township. There is no charge for either permit and they can be found on the Township website under [Community>Neighborhood Association>Related Links](#).

Like Us on Facebook

If you want more information faster, "like" us on Facebook. We're posting press releases directly from the police department and the city water department as soon as they come out (except weekends, sorry). We'll try to keep the information useful and interesting and once in a while fun. Find us at Kalamazoo Charter Township.

Subscribe to the Newsletter

If you just happened across this newsletter online or picked one up at the township hall and aren't a subscriber yet be sure to go to www.ktwp.org to subscribe so you can receive it quarterly in your email.

Dispose of Drugs Safely

 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.



clean OUT... HOME & AUTO CLEANERS & CHEMICALS
ELECTRONICS • BATTERIES
FLUORESCENT & LED BULBS

household hazardous WASTE

373-5211 • kalcounty.com/hhw
hhwcenter@kalcounty.com
1301 Lamont Ave. • Next to Fairgrounds

HOURS: Tues. & Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Wed. 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. • 2nd Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (weather dependent)

Your Community

Eastwood Garage/Yard Sale

The Eastwood Neighborhood Association is having its annual neighborhood garage/yard sales on Saturday, June 22, 2019 from 9 am to 4 pm. This is an opportunity for Eastwood residents to clean out items from your home, garage, and sell those items. For more information or questions, contact Rosemary at (269) 345-3589 or email rknox1427@gmail.com or find us on Facebook - [Eastwood Community Association](#)

Westwood Neighborhood Association

The Westwood Neighborhood Association has a new web site: www.westwoodkzoo.com. Going there you will discover information that goes beyond our Facebook pages and Next Door postings. It also features links to township sites like information on garbage, trash, recycling and yard waste services. You'll find safety tips including programs being discussed plus it gives you an opportunity to comment back and have your voice heard, or sign-up for safety bulletins.

We hope that this information will help neighbors see what is happening in Westwood and join in when an activity interests them, such as: we will be working with Westwood Little League, later this year on a clean-up project followed by a ball game.

Keep Sidewalks Clear In All Seasons

Please edge your sidewalk, and trim back branches, so you and your neighbors on foot or in wheelchairs can use the full width of the sidewalk. Plus, it makes your property look great!

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://kalamazootownship.org>. For more information, contact the ordinance officer at spgallagher@ktwp.org or 381-8080.



Bike and Pedestrian Safety

More people are taking to the sidewalks and streets to get exercise, travel without pollution or paying for gas or just because it feels good. When you can't be on a sidewalk or trail and you're walking or biking on the street, walkers should walk on the left side of the street facing traffic so they can step to the side out of danger when necessary. Bicyclists should ride on the right side of the street with the flow of traffic so cars can slow down and follow them until it's safe to pass.



Walkers and bicyclists, please remember to make yourself visible, especially in the early morning and evening hours. Pedestrians and bicyclists should be wearing something bright and reflective. Check what you're wearing before you head out the door and ask yourself if you'll be visible. Walkers, a reflective vest or armband, even a kid's glow in the dark bracelet could be enough to alert a driver to your presence and save your life.

Drivers please remember to look both ways to check the street and sidewalk when you're pulling into or out of a driveway or intersection. Remember that bikes have a legal right to be on the roads and slow down if you need to in order to pass them safely.

There are traffic laws for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers. Everyone needs to do their part to be thoughtful of others and share the roads, and **DO NOT TEXT WHILE DRIVING, WALKING OR BIKING** on the road.

Rain Gardens

If you're having issues with water in your yard you may want to consider installing a rain garden. A rain garden is meant to mimic nature by allowing rain water to soak into the ground instead of pooling or running off. In addition to keeping your yard dryer and more attractive it can help prevent large amounts of runoff that go directly to storm sewers and into streams and rivers from contributing to pollution or flooding. You can find more information at the

<https://kalamazooriver.org/act/residents/rain-gardens/> or <https://www.kalcounty.com/drain/raingarden.htm>



Recognition and Thanks

Congratulations to Trustee Steven Leuty

Kalamazoo Township Trustee Steve Leuty has earned MTA's coveted intensive Township Governance Academy (TGA) credential and hopes to use his newfound knowledge to help the board develop branding efforts that increase citizen awareness and participation. "My completion of the TGA program recognizes a multi-year educational process that improves my ability to serve Kalamazoo Township and the larger community," Leuty said. "My experience gives me the confidence and skills to lead more effectively and appropriately to benefit the community."

TGA is a voluntary credentialing program intended to provide township board members and other local leaders with cutting-edge knowledge and expanded skills needed to assist in making more effective decisions for the benefit of their township. The Academy, which challenges candidates to tie together learning and practical experience, consists of 11 courses and includes a requirement for elective credits.

Created and administered by the MTA Knowledge Center, this program is designed to professionally challenge township officials by offering new ideas, sharing best practices and providing a hands-on approach to dealing more effectively with everyday issues that the board may face.

Leuty was elected trustee in 2012, his first office in local government. He began serving his township as a volunteer in 1991 to help the township with its newsletter and non-motorized transportation efforts. In 1997, Leuty was recognized for his commitment to community service with Western Michigan University's George James Award. He was also invited to participate in the White House Conference on Greening the Government in 2000. In 2002, the Michigan Recycling Coalition named him Michigan's Recycler of the Year.

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 at 1720 Riverview Drive. Check website for 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 replay days and times. Meetings are also online at [PMN ONDEMAND](#).

Upcoming Township Office Closures

Independence Day, July 4 & 5, 2019

Labor Day, September 2, 2019

Veterans' Day, November 11, 2019

Thanksgiving, November 28 & 29, 2019

The mission of Kalamazoo Township is to provide government services that promote a safe, healthy, accessible, and economically viable community to live, work, learn, and play.