



Township News

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<http://www.ktwp.org>

Officials

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Summer Edition 2018

Editor

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You May Need to Know...

New Recreational Burn Ordinance

After careful consideration, the Charter Township of Kalamazoo Board of Trustees has approved a change to the outdoor burning ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance change is to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Kalamazoo Township. The only outdoor fires allowed in the township after July 15, 2018 will be recreational and cooking fires.

- Recreational Fires are defined as the non-commercial burning of materials, other than rubbish, brush and leaves for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, or similar purposes in which the fuel burned is contained in a fire pit or commercial outdoor fire place with an area that does not exceed 3' in diameter and 2' in height.
- Cooking fires are defined as the non-commercial burning of materials, other than rubbish, brush and leaves, in which the fuel burned is contained in an outdoor fireplace, a barbecue grill, or a barbecue pit not exceeding 3' in diameter and 2' in height, for the purpose of preparing food.
- Recreational and cooking fires are allowed on parcels with 1 and 2 family dwellings only. The fires shall not be kindled within 25 feet of any structure and shall not cause or create a foul or offensive odor. All recreational and cooking fires shall be continuously attended by a competent person and have a garden hose connected to a reliable water source.

Pick up a copy of the new outdoor burn ordinance at your district fire station or at www.ktwp.org. Contact Fire Chief David Obreiter at 269-888-2170 or Fire Marshal Todd Kowalski at 269-888-2171 with any questions you may have.

Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Bulk Trash Pick-Up Starts on July 9. Because of the July 4 holiday the pick-up is scheduled a week later than usual.

- 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. Please use boxes or heavy duty clear plastic bags
- 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, about 3.5 cubic yards total)
- If you have more, save it for October, haul it to Republic Services, contact them to schedule a 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.
- 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.

No Need to Burn, Third Leaf and Bush Pick-up Added

If you were in the habit of burning yard waste you now have several inexpensive alternatives. We've added a third leaf and brush pickup in November, you can get weekly yard waste service from Republic Services at reasonable cost, or you can compost or use a mulching blade when you mow. This year the third pick-up will be on the week after Thanksgiving. If you think it should be even later, let us know and we'll see what we can do for next year.

Deferment of Summer Property Taxes

Deferment of your summer property taxes for eligible homeowners (those with total household income of \$40,000 or less and who are either 62 years of age or a qualified person as defined in Chapter 9 of the Income Tax Act of 1967) can provide a delay in the due date of your tax bill, without added penalty, until February 14th. The deferment form needs to be filed with the Township Treasurer's Office by September 14th. If you have any questions, please call 381-8080.

Fireworks

Everyone is looking forward to celebrating Independence Day. Please be considerate of our veterans and to neighborhood pets who may be particularly disturbed by fireworks. Ordinance # 570 only allows igniting, discharging or use of consumer fireworks on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after a national holiday and not at all during the hours from 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. See [Michigan Legal Fireworks](#) on the Township Fire Department page quick links.



Help is at Your Fingertips but Who Should You Call?

- If you're in immediate danger from a crime, fire, illness or accident, call 911. (Sign up for Smart 9-1-1 at www.smart911.com to create a free Safety Profile for your household that includes information you want 9-1-1 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency.)
- If you want to report an incident or share information regarding a crime that needs a timely but not immediate response call the non-emergency dispatch number 343-0551,
- If you're in crisis and need someone to talk to call Gryphon place at 381-HELP (4357),
- If you need help with disaster recovery, paying your utility bills, mediation, or finding a host of other referrals and resources dial 211

All of the above contacts are staffed 24/7.

For questions specific to the Township you may find the answers or the form that you need on our website, www.ktwp.org or you can call the Township office at 381-8080, email us through our website or private message us through Facebook but please be aware that we can only respond during business hours. For Building Permits and inspections contact KABA at (269) 216-9511 or www.kaba-mi.org

New Tall Grass Ordinance

Don't forget that the new limit for tall grass and weeds is 8 inches. If we wait until the grass is 12 inches and then wait 10 days from when a tall grass notice is sent to send someone out to mow it, the grass is too long to use a lawn mower.

Your Community

Non-Motorized News

About 60 areas of sidewalk will be repaired in Eastwood and Westwood this summer, along with finishing the northern end of the sidewalk on Nazareth Rd., near Gull Road. The Township is still working on identifying ways to make it easier for all residents to connect to the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail.

If you're a frequent walker or bicyclist consider wearing a Road ID bracelet or other form of identification with emergency contact information. Walking and bicycling are great ways to stay fit and live longer but if you do experience an accident or illness while you're out the information on that bracelet can be a big help for our first responders.

[Westwood](#)

The Westwood Neighborhood Association meetings are each month at 7 p.m. the on the third Wednesday of the month at the Westwood Fire Station, 1320 Nichols Rd. The group is made up of residents from both the City and the Township. On Wednesday, August 8 their annual “Picnic in the Park” will be held on the lawn of Westwood Christian Reformed Church on Northampton, due to the work being done in Frays Park. Like them on [Facebook](#) or e-mail ronhuster@aol.com

The Westwood Firefighters Association’s 77th annual ice cream social is from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on July 27 at the Westwood Fire Station on Nichols Rd. Tickets, available at the door, are good for ice cream, cupcake and door prize raffle. There are games and prizes for the whole family. Call Westwood Fire station at 343-1811 for more information.

[Northwood](#)

The Northwood Neighborhood Association’s goals include bringing our community closer, keeping everyone updated on current and upcoming events and local resources. Find us on Facebook to stay connected and see what else we have in store! [Facebook.com/groups/northwoodkzoo](https://www.facebook.com/groups/northwoodkzoo) Northwoodkzoo@yahoo.com

[Lakewood](#)

The Kalamazoo County Youth Fair is August 7 -11. It’s a great event for families with children. There are animals, games, activities and entertainment. Look for themes and discounts for different days. Go to www.kalcounty.com/parks for a schedule of all the Expo Center Events, such as the NSRA Annual Street Rod Nationals North September 7-9.

If anyone is interested in restarting a Lakewood Neighborhood Association you can find resources to help you get started on our website under Community>Neighborhoods or call Molly at 381-8085.

[Eastwood](#)

The Eastwood Neighborhood Association is taking a break for the summer but if you’re looking for something to do you can go for a walk at the Bow in the Clouds Preserve on Nazareth <http://swmlc.org/project/bow-in-the-clouds-preserve> or check out the Eastwood branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library. Go to www.kpl.gov/eastwood/ for a list of activities and their hours.

[Recognition and Thanks](#)

Thank you to the many organizations and people that helped with the Lakewood flood rescue and recovery. Organizations, businesses and individuals all contributed to cleaning up houses, replacing furnaces, donating money or furnishings and more.



[Communications from the Office](#)

[Help for New or Expanding Small Businesses](#)

Have you been thinking of starting your own business in your home or do you have a place in mind that would be just right but you’re not sure how to get it started? Are you intimidated by the legal hoops you have to jump through? There is help. Check out the Small Business Development Center housed at WMU. They have a website with excellent tools to help you lay out your plan and great people that will work with you. Start by visiting their website at <https://sbdcMichigan.org/get-started/> then contact them. Watch for more information in future newsletters and on our website and Facebook page.

[Election Information from Clerk Miller](#)

If you are not a registered voter at your current address, the last day to register if you would like to vote in the August 7, 2018 Primary Election is July 9. You can find an application at www.ktwp.org under Clerk Quick Links. The August Primary ballot will have a new look this year; the Libertarian Party joins the Republican and Democratic Parties on the Primary ballot. As always, you may vote in only one party’s primary. This will be the second election after this May in which we are using new tabulators and Voter Assist Terminals. The new machines are easier to use than the previous ones. Anyone may use the accessible Voter Assist Terminals.

Parking Rules Reminder from the Ordinance Officer

- RVs, boats, ATVs, and trailers may not be located within the public right of way.
- No repairing, redesigning, modifying or dismantling work is allowed on the public right-of-way or other property not zoned for such purposes.
- The above vehicles cannot be located within front, side, or rear yard setback areas, which are generally 25 feet (front), five feet (side), and two feet (rear) from the respective property lines. An exception is allowed for periods of cleaning, loading and unloading, provided it does not last more than 48 hours in a seven day period.
- A camper can be used on your property for a maximum of 14 days per year provided running water and bathroom facilities are available within the home for guest use.



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.

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.

An advertisement for household hazardous waste disposal. It features a collage of various household chemicals and products like Prestone, Fram, and various cleaning agents. The text includes "clean OUT...", "HOME & AUTO CLEANERS & CHEMICALS", "ELECTRONICS • BATTERIES", "FLUORESCENT & LED BULBS", "BUSINESS WASTE for a FEE", "NOT ACCEPTED LATEX PAINT", "PLEASE SEE WEBSITE OR CALL HOTLINE FOR DETAILED LIST OF MATERIALS ACCEPTED", "household hazardous WASTE", "373-5211 • kalcounty.com/hhw", "TO SEE IF YOUR AREA QUALIFIES FOR FREE RECYCLING", "hhwcenter@kalcounty.com", "1301 Lamont Ave. • Next to Fairgrounds", and "HOURS: Tues & Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Wed. 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. • 2nd Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (closed Aug 2, Sept 10, Oct 7)".

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: Replays are on Mon. 8 a.m., Thur. 1 a.m. and Fri. 3:00 p.m. Meetings are also online at <http://pmn.viebit.com/> Also, check out "Kalamazoo Township Roundtable" on channel 190: Sun. at 2:30 p.m., Wed. at 7:00 a.m., and Thurs. at Midnight.

Upcoming Township Office Closures

Independence Day, July 4, 2018

Labor Day, September 3, 2018

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.