

Lake Township Newsletter

www.laketownship.net

Summer—June 2020

COVID 19 has really had an impact on all aspects of our lives and it doesn't look as though it will be returning to normal for some time. While the township offices have been closed to the public, township staff and officials are still working and available by telephone, email and appointments when necessary. Applications for permits such as land use, building, garage sales or camping are available on our website and can be faxed, emailed or dropped off in the drop box at the township hall in the front entryway. See the back page for contact information.

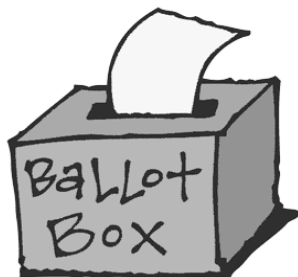
For the past three months, township board meetings have been held via tele-conference due to Executive Orders. As these restrictions are lifted, we will re-evaluate new EO's and our ability to accommodate any requirements. Changes will be posted to our website and at the township hall.

At least we are fortunate to be living in an area where we can get out and enjoy the outdoors while still practicing social distancing guidelines. Sleeper State Park was closed to camping until recently but the trails have been open for hiking and biking. The hiking trails at the Huron County Nature Center on Loosemore Road just east of Oak Beach Road have also been open and we are not too far from Port Crescent State Park with hiking trails along the dunes and river access for kayaking/canoeing.

We encourage everyone to stay safe this summer.

Elections

It is election season and we wanted to give a brief rundown of the absentee voter process. Due to Covid 19, we have seen a marked increase in applications and would like to quickly cover the process a ballot must pass before a vote is counted.



First, the application for a ballot is sent to the voter. These applications may also be obtained through the Secretary of State website. The application is filled out, signed and returned to us at the township clerk's office. The application is reviewed and the signature verified with the signature on record with the Secretary of State. Once the application is approved, it is recorded and filed. If the application is rejected, it is returned to the voter with a letter stating the reason for the rejection.

The next step is to mail the ballot to the voter. The ballot number is recorded by the Clerk prior to mailing the

ballot. This ballot is the same type used for in-person voting on Election Day. A voter must follow the instructions to prepare the ballot properly for return to our office. Once we receive the ballot, the signature is verified and the unopened ballot is locked in a fire proof cabinet for processing on Election Day.

On Election Day, the ballots will be processed by two election workers, one from each of the major political parties. They are processed through the same voting machine used by in-person voters. The ballot is then retained according to the schedule mandated by law. These ballots are not traceable back to the voter.

If for any reason the ballot does not pass the same controls as an in-person ballot, that ballot is recorded as spoiled and the vote not counted. The ballot is still retained for review by the Board of Canvassers. In order to prevent spoiled ballots, below are the most common mistakes made by voters when voting by absentee ballot:

- 1. Ballot envelope is not signed.** Please make sure to sign, date and seal your ballot envelope prior to returning.
- 2. Crossvoting in a primary election.** In the August 4th Primary Election you may not cross vote. This means that you cannot choose a senator from one party and a representative from another party. **You must make all selections within one party only.**
- 3. Overvoting.** Voting for more candidates than allowed. The ballot clearly states the limit on the number of people that can be voted for in each office. **Do not vote for more candidates than allowed.**
- 4. Improper or incomplete marking.** Make sure you mark your ballot completely and correctly.

We encourage you to take your time and read your ballot and instructions carefully to avoid crossover voting or over voting any office. If you have any questions, please contact our office. If you do spoil your ballot, you may contact us to request a new ballot.

Also in regard to the November 3rd General Election, the State of Michigan no longer allows ballots to be forwarded. If you will be away at a winter home or somewhere else, please check with our office to confirm we have your correct mailing address.

Lastly, remember to allow enough time for the Post Office to deliver your ballot. You may also wish to drop your ballot off in our secure drop box located in the front entryway of the Township Hall.

Lake Township

4988 W. Kinde Road

P O Box 429

Caseville MI 48725

Phone: 989.856.4867

Fax: 989.856.9710

Website: www.laketownship.net

The Township Offices are staffed Monday thru Friday between 10 AM to 2 PM. The offices are not currently open to the public. Appointments with officials may be scheduled upon request.

Township Officials & Staff:

Valerie McCallum, Supervisor
supervisor@laketownship.net
989.550.1046

Jim Deming, Clerk
clerk@laketownship.net

Maryanne Williams, Deputy Clerk
Nicole Collins, Treasurer
treasurer@laketownship.net

Sheri Stanton, Deputy Treasurer/Office Assistant
office@laketownship.net

Dale Hartsell, Trustee
Clay Kelterborn, Trustee

Lisa Clinton, Assessor
assessor@laketownship.net

Tory Geilhart, Building Inspector /
Zoning Administrator
building@laketownship.net
989.553.2129

The **Lake Township Board of Trustees** meets on the third Monday of the month. Winter meetings (December - March) begin at 6:30 P.M. April - November meetings at 7:30 P.M.

The **Lake Township Planning Commission** meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM . No meeting in November and December.

Special meetings may be scheduled at other times. Notices are posted on the Township website and sent out by email upon request..

Don't forget to check Lake Township's website for updates and current information as well as meeting changes due to COVID 19

If you are burning leaves, a permit is required. **Call 989.856.9198 for a burning permit** and follow recorded instructions. Burning of leaves is allowed as long as weather conditions are acceptable. The recorded message will announce if a burning ban is on. Burning of trash is not allowed pursuant to General Ordinance No: 2005-01. If you have a burn barrel in your yard, please use only for leaves or brush and keep our Fire Chief and your neighbors happy!

Tax Payment Info

Summer 2020 tax payments will be collected through September 14, 2020.

Payments by mail should be sent to:

Lake Township Treasurer
P O Box 429
Caseville MI 48725

NOTE:

1. Please include, with payment, the yellow tax bill in its entirety if you would like a receipt mailed back to you.
2. There will be a \$20.00 fee due to Lake Township on returned checks.

The Lake Township Hall offices will be closed until further notice to the public in observance of the Coronavirus guidelines. Staff will be available by phone, email or appointment. Updates will be posted on the Township website.

If paying with CASH please call for an appointment.

IF PAYING WITH CASH IN THE OFFICE PLEASE HAVE THE EXACT AMOUNT.

If paying by check you may drop off your payment in the secure drop box located in the entrance for tax payments by check, only. A receipt will be mailed to you, if requested.

Treasurer, Nicole Collins, is also available via e-mail at: **treasurer@laketownship.net**

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Attendant: Lee King

May thru October (Summer hours)

Wednesdays—2 PM - 6 PM

Saturdays—10 AM - 4 PM

Sundays—9 AM - 4 PM

November thru April (Winter hours)

Sundays—9 AM - 4 PM

Wednesdays—2 PM—5 PM

Located on Sand Road 1/4 mile east of

Champagne Road

Absolutely NO Paints or Lacquers and NO Building Materials

Leaves , grass and tree trimmings are accepted at the Transfer Station during regular hours at no charge.

Recycling is also accepted at no charge. Items should be clean and put in the dumpsters loose...i.e. do not throw garbage bags filled with recycling in the bin. If you bring your recycling in bags, please empty the bag and reuse it. And most importantly, please check our website or ask our attendant for a list of acceptable items. Too many items that are not listed as acceptable are being put into the bins. We want to keep this service viable and can only do so if we do not have non-recyclable items and/or dirty items mixed in with acceptable items.