

Chippewa Township
Mecosta County, Michigan
WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Supervisor: George Griffis 231-867-3777

Clerk: Kristin Lytle 231-867-3777

Treasurer: Julie Austin 231-867-3777

Trustee: Duane Scott 231-867-3777

Trustee: Debbie Zielinski 231-867-3777

Assessor: Andrea Richards 989-232-8878

Township Hall 231-867-3777

Chippewa Lk. Sewer Dept. 231-867-3616

Community Bldg Rental: 231-867-3991

Emergency Service: 911

Animal Control: 911

Burn Permits: (866) 922-2876 or www.michigan.gov/burnpermit

Township Board meets 1st Wednesday of each month @ 6:30 pm, in the Fire Station

Fire Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm, in the Fire Station

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 9am TO 4pm UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – 2018 WINTER TAX INFORMATION

2018 Winter Tax Bills are due on or before 2/14/2019. POSTMARKS will **NOT** be accepted. On 2-15-2019 late penalties will apply. **DELINQUENT** 2018 Summer Taxes are **NOT** reflected on the 2018 winter tax bills. On March 1, 2019 **all unpaid** taxes are TURNED OVER DELINQUENT and become payable to the Mecosta County Treasurers Office at 400 Elm St. Big Rapids, MI 49307. (231) 592-0169 & are subject to additional penalties. **IF YOUR TAXES ARE ESCROWED, A COPY OF THE 2018 WINTER TAX BILL HAS BEEN SENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY. BY LAW, THE ORIGINAL BILL MUST BE SENT TO THE PROPERTY OWNER (MCL 221.11(1)).**

Mail your payments to: Chippewa Township Treasurer, P.O. Box 26, Chippewa Lake, MI 49320.

Make Remittance Payable to: Chippewa Township Treasurer. A secure mail drop box is located just to the right of the Chippewa Township Hall's main entrance. A self-addressed stamped envelope is requested for the return of your paid receipt. If making payment in 'cash' please have the exact amount. **The Township does NOT accept credit/debit card payments.**

TREASURER/CLERK OFFICE HOURS (UNLESS POSTED) Monday thru Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm. **The Treasurer's Office will be closed December 21st – December 25th and December 27th thru January 2nd.** Treasurer's email: julie@Chippewatwp.org

*******EXTREMELY IMPORTANT*******

Make sure you carefully check the enclosed Tax Statement(s). If you find an error you need to contact the Treasurer **immediately** to have the statement corrected at the December 11, 2018 Board of Review. Upon the adjournment of the 2018 December Board of Review, corrections cannot be made, to the 2018 Tax Roll, until the 2019 July Board of Review. The December Board of Review is for "Qualified Errors & Poverty Appeals ONLY. The 2018 taxes are assessed to a property as it existed on 12-31-2017 (MCL211.2). If a property is sold during the 2018 tax year, it is the responsibility of the buys & seller or their agents to prorate the whole tax year obligation. **ALL address changes need to be submitted in writing.** If ownership has changed, documentation supporting the change must be submitted. **Failure to receive the property tax notice does NOT prejudice the right to collect or enforce the payment and or penalties, of the payment of the property tax.**

DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION: Honorably discharge veterans with a 100% disabled veteran classification or their surviving unmarried spouse, may be eligible for exemption from real property tax, for property that is used & owned as their principle residence. Forms can be downloaded, on the Township's website (www.Chippewatwp.org), by clicking on the "Forms" tab or by contacting the Chippewa Township Hall @ 231-867-3777 or email Julie@chippewatwp.org. **You must file for the Veterans Exemption each year to qualify!**

DOG LICENSE: Chippewa Township is no longer selling Mecosta County Dog License. Mecosta County Dog License are available at the Mecosta County Treasurer's Office – 400 Elm Street, Big Rapids, Michigan or through your local veterinarian. (1) Year and (3) Year licenses are available depending on the expiration date of the rabies vaccination. **COST:** Male & Female – (1) year \$8 or (3) year \$20. Unsexed – (1) year \$4 or (3) year \$10. **You must have a current rabies vaccination certificate to obtain a dog license.** The certificate must include dogs name, age, breed, rabies vaccination tag number and the veterinarian or clinic that administered the vaccination. PetVet Vaccine Clinics now at Tractor Supply Store: 754 Perry St. Big Rapids, MI

Clinic times:

Sunday November 18, 2018 from 1:00pm until 2:30pm, Sunday December 02, 2018 from 1 – 2:30 p.m., Sunday December 16, 2018 from 1-2:30 p.m., Sunday January 13, 2019 from 1 – 2:30 p.m., and Sunday January 27, 2019 from 1-2:30 p.m.

You can find more information at <https://petvet.vippetcare.com/find-a-clinic/>.

CHIPPEWA LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY: If you or someone you know is experiencing a difficult time and are in need of food, there is help available through the food pantry at the Chippewa Lake Community Church. The pantry is open on 'on-call' status so please call Ric @ 231-250-3483 or Stosh & Deb at 231-467-7165 for assistance or for further information.

CHIPPEWA-MARTINY FIRE DEPT FOOD DRIVE: To help with the wonderful program mentioned above, the Chippewa-Martiny Fire Department is sponsoring a non-perishable "Food Drive", for the month of December. *All food donations will be distributed to the Chippewa Lake Community Church Food Pantry.* Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the Chippewa Township Hall during normal business hours or you can call 231-837-3777 and Julie or Kristin will gladly arrange to pick up your donation. Your donation will be greatly appreciated and will allow the Church to meet our area needs. *Please help us to help those in need and to make sure no one goes hungry!!*

CHIPPEWA-MARTINY FUNERAL DINNER COMMITTEE: As many of you know, our area is blessed with a committee of caring individuals that provide funeral luncheons, for local Chippewa Township and Martiny Township funerals. The Committee Director is Carol Lintemuth. At this time, we would like to extend our appreciation to Carol, all the Committee Members and all the individuals that are called upon (usually with very little notice) to pull together and provide this service to grieving families in our community. You are all true Blessings. Volunteers are always needed for both the "dishes" to pass and the help to serve at the luncheons. If you are willing to help this great committee, please contact Chippewa Township with your name, phone number, and address. This information will be given to Carol, for future funeral luncheons. Without continued volunteer support, it is unknown how much longer this service will be provided.



MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT
POLAR PLUNGE
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN

Chippewa Lake-Mecosta/Osceola Counties Polar Plunge

Saturday, February 23, 2019

Benefiting SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN INC

Location

East Bay General Store
19961 East Chippewa Lake Drive
Chippewa Lake, MI

Contact

Pat Rosales
231-527-5238
area05@somi.org

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for all children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Athletes are given continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness and athletic skill, demonstrate co...

The Chippewa Lake - Mecosta/Osceola County Polar Plunge takes place Feb. 23, 2019 at Chippewa Lake. Registration starts at 11:00 at the East Bay General Store, 19961 East Chippewa Lake Drive, Chippewa Lake. The parade of costumes and plunge will start at 12:30 p.m. at the Chippewa Lake Public Access on East Chippewa Drive between 20 mile road and 21 mile road. The After Splash Bash will take place immediately following at the Chippewa Township Community Building, 10467 19 Mile Road, Rodney MI 49342. Be sure to 'like' them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/PlungeMI/ for the latest updates.

By participating in a Polar Plunge you are helping to raise funds for over 27,000 athletes who participate in Special Olympics Michigan. Special Olympics Michigan is a year round program offering sports for those with intellectual disabilities. Although sports are the "vehicle," the ultimate goal of Special Olympics is to help persons with intellectual disabilities participate and receive respect as members of their communities.

SENIOR NEWS: If you haven't checked out "THE KEYHOLE", Mecosta County Monthly Senior Newsletter, you can do so, online at <http://www.co.mecosta.mi.us/seniorservices.html> or on Facebook: Mecostacountyseiorcenter.

The newsletter is a very informative booklet and includes a calendar of activities, for the Mecosta County Senior Center.

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The following are examples of programs the Senior Center offers:

- Nutritious Meals - Enhance Fitness™ Classes - Line Dancing - Computer Classes - Card Recycling
- Art Classes - Card Games - Harmonica Classes - A Matter of Balance - Health Clinics - Gift Shop
- Conference Rooms - Game Room/Wii Games - Dining Area - Picnic Area - Bingo - Library - Pasties (Take Out)
- Low Vision Support Group

Each weekday, a nutritious, home-cooked meal is served by experienced cooks at the Mecosta County Senior Center, offering the perfect opportunity for seniors to meet with friends, participate in activities and enjoy a delicious meal! Dine-in meals are available to the general public.

- Volunteer Opportunities *The following are areas where volunteers are needed:*
 - senior Center Host/Hostess - Educational Instructors - Craft Instructors - Gift Shop Helpers - Greeting Card Recyclers - Kitchen Crew - Grounds Maintenance - Decorating Crew - Theatrical, Musical - Medical Drivers Senior Newsletter - Tax Aides - Fund Raising - Insurance Counseling - Meals on Wheels Delivery - Special Committees - Board Members
- Volunteers' positions are not limited to the above list. The Center encourages your creativity. If you have something to offer, they are interested in hearing from you! For more information on Mecosta County on Aging or the Senior Center please call (231) 972-2884.

2019 CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP NON-HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP DAYS: Mark your calendars!

The Chippewa Township Annual Spring Clean-up day will be Saturday, June 15, 2019 8:00am-11:00am or until dumpsters are full. The location is the Chippewa Township Community Center. Please remember that all loose trash must be put into trash bags. Also large items must be cut down to manageable size. Please have help to unload. Do to past problems, each property owner is limited to (1) pickup and (1) trailer load. This service is provided, free of charge, to the property owners and residents of Chippewa Township only. Please help us keep our community a beautiful place to live, by cleaning up the trash! *****New for 2019 Building materials are limited to one pickup truck load******

RECYCLE OF MECOSTA COUNTY: RECYCLE OF Mecosta County located at 424 N. 4th Ave., Big Rapids. Monday 9am-5:30pm, Wednesday 9am-5:30pm, Friday 9am-5:30pm and Saturday 9am-1pm. For more information on recycling please contact Recycle of Mecosta County @ 231-796-9872 or visit their website at recyclemecosta.org

WHAT THEY COLLECT

Paper Newspaper (in paper bag or tied), White & Colored Office Paper, Magazines & Catalogs, Corrugated Cardboard, Fiberboard, Junk Mail, Books Plastics Plastic Bottles & Jugs (#1 & #2 only) (includes cloudy plastic milk containers), Styrofoam / Polystyrene Glass Jars & Bottles (colorless only) Metal Steel Tin Cans, Any Metal Pieces, Aluminum Other Techno Trash (CSs, videos, and more), Used Automobile Batteries, Used Motor Oil, Household batteries. NO TV'S.

2019 ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION AND MORE SERVICES: Saturday, October 13, 2019, 9am to Noon, @ Mecosta County Fair Ground, 540 West Ave, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Call the Mecosta County Conservation District at 231.796.0909 Ext. 3 or visit their website @ www.mecostacd.org for more information or to receive your *2018 Spring and Fall Tree Catalog*. *The Conservation District offers free site assessments for Forestry Assistance Program*. For forestry information please call Rick Lucas @ 231.832.2950 Ext. 104. *Invasive Species Management Program* offers information to identify, prevent, monitor and respond to invasive species. Contact Vicki Sawicki, North Country CISMA Coordinator @ 231.429.5072. *For information on Natural Resources Conservation Service* please contact Jennifer Taylor, Mecosta County District Conservationist @ 231.796.0909 Ext. 3. *Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program* offers assistance to help reduce risks and develop an action plan for your farming operation, forest, wetland or wildlife habitat. Please contact Tony Wernette, Mecosta MAEAP Tech @ 231.796.0909 Ext. 3.

TOWNSHIP ROAD PROJECTS:

2018 Projected Road Projects:

Fourth Street/Chippewa Drive Project – Project Completed
90th Avenue – Project Completed

23 Mile Road Repave Project – The first 1.5 miles of this multi-year project have been completed. Additional paving on 23 Mile Road will be done in 2019.

CHIPPEWA-MARTINY FIRE DEPARTMENT: The Chippewa-Martiny Firefighters would like to remind everyone that it is the time of year for every household to check and/or replace the batteries in their smoke detectors. If you would like to become a part of this great public service organization, you can obtain an application at either the Chippewa Township Hall or the Martiny Township Hall. You can also contact Chief, Brain David or Assistant Chief Carl Kerns, for more information.

The Chippewa Township Board along with the Chippewa-Martiny Fire Board would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our firefighters. Sometimes we may take for granted, that in times of need (not just in Chippewa or Martiny Township but all over our country) as we have seen recently in the California Wildfires, we have men and women, serving on first responder units, who are willing to give up their time, and often times their safety, to protect and help us. Seldom do we think of the physical and mental toll it may take on them. To all of you, **especially our local men and women** serving as firefighters, rescue, EMS and police, THANK YOU for all that you do and your sacrifice to help and protect us. You are greatly appreciated and there are no words that can express our gratitude adequately. If you see those flashing lights and hear the sirens; pause and say a little extra prayer.

The 2018 Halloween Open House was once again a HUGE success. A BIG “Thank You” to all of you volunteers that helped to make it a success. It was estimated that over 250 children and adults visited the Fire Station during this event.

CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE: During the winter holidays, many nursing home residents feel overlooked and forgotten. Many People think of the children during the holidays, but we would also like to reach out to the elderly people who don't have family, who don't have visitors, who don't get anything for Christmas. You and your family can help ease the sadness and bring some Christmas cheer. A Christmas Gift Drive is being organized for residents of local nursing homes. From lip balm, lotion, blankets, puzzles, games, arts and crafts, stationary, word search books, sleep pants, warm non-slip socks, or more, all gifts can help bring a smile to someone who could use it this Christmas. Please drop off your new, unwrapped donations to the Chippewa Township Hall or contact Kristin Lytle or Julie Austin at 231-867-3777, we would be happy to pick up your donations.

PICTURES WITH SANTA:

Cheryl Nellis is hosting a fun Christmas event for children of all ages. Come get pictures taken with Santa Claus from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, December 1st at the Chippewa Township Community Center located at 10467 19 Mile Road. Digital images will be available as well as different sizes of printed packages. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

FIREWORKS: A new Fireworks Committee has been formed, “The Chippewa Lake Community Fundraisers”. This new Committee is independent of Chippewa Township. The Committee has their own members, Federal ID Number and are working on obtaining a 501c Non-Profit. **Thank you** to Don Hesse and Marcia Leiter for all your hard work raising funds for the beautiful fireworks display that we all enjoy each year. **2019 Planned Events:** On Friday, February 22nd, the Chippewa Lake Fundraiser Committee will be hosting a **fundraising dinner** at the Chippewa Township Community Center from 3-8 p.m. A dinner of hot turkey, pork, or beef sandwiches with mashed potatoes and gravy, a vegetable and salad bar for Adults \$8.00, 65 and older \$7.00, and children 12 and under \$3.00. Home delivery will be available for senior citizens within 5 miles of Chippewa Lake, if the order is placed in advance. There will also be a **bake sale**. A friendly reminder of the **2nd Annual Community Yard Sale** on Saturday, May 25th at Millet Park, all money raised goes towards the Fireworks Display, donations for the yard sale are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding upcoming events, you may call Don Hesse @ 989-372-7630 or email www.Chippewafireworksfund.net.

LIBRARY NEWS: Stop in and see one of our friendly librarians. We have books, audio books, DVDs, computers and WIFI. We also fax and make copies! Remember our WIFI is always on even when the library is closed. Look for Barryton Library at Chippewa on your list of available networks when you are at or near the library. User Name – ALL (No Password needed). Librarians are on duty Tuesday 12 noon-5pm; Thursday 10am-5pm; Friday 11am-6pm; Saturday 9am-1pm. You will still be able to use the Library when the Township Offices are open on Monday and Wednesday.

Chippewa Branch Library – 19171 4th Street, Chippewa Lake, MI 49320

Barryton Public Library Main Branch - 198 Northern Ave Barryton, MI 49305 Phone: 989-382-5288

Santa Claus is coming! To the Barryton Branch library on Saturday, December 1st at 4 p.m. Have your picture taken with Santa and enjoy making a fun craft.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER: The Community Center has seen a lot of activity this first year. If you are interested in renting the Community Center for an event such as a birthday party, graduation open house, wedding, family holiday dinner, etc. please call Kristin @ 231-867-3991. She is happy to give you a tour of our beautiful new building. Dates are reserving quickly, so be sure to call early. If you would like to reserve Millet Park for any events, please also call Kristin.

TOWNSHIP WEBSITE: CHIPPEWATWP.ORG

CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP GRANTS: In 2018, Chippewa Township has been awarded multiple grants to better our community. A DNR 50/50 matching grant in the amount of \$3000.00 was awarded to purchase equipment for the Fire Department, A People's fund grant was awarded in the amount of \$750 for ice rescue equipment for the Fire Department, A Risk Reduction Grant was awarded in the amount of \$5,242.69 to purchase safe playground surfacing, A DTE Tree Grant was awarded in the amount of \$750.00 to purchase 4 trees for the Chippewa Township Community Center and 2 trees at Millet Park, and an ANR Pipeline grant was awarded in the amount of \$15,500.00 to purchase Fire Equipment. The Township also received a generous donation, in the amount of \$1000, from the Kelly Family, for the "Kids Don't Float" Program.

MECOSTA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT INFORMATION:

Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Saturday, October 12, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Collection Sites:

Lake County - Wenger Pavilion, Downtown Baldwin

Mecosta County - Fairgrounds, 540 West Ave., Big Rapids

Osceola County - Road Commission North Facility, 13353 20 Mile Rd., Tustin



**CALL TO RECEIVE A
FREE SPRING & FALL
2019 TREE CATALOG**

If your property is in Osceola County or the East Half of Lake County call the Osceola-Lake Conservation District at (231) 832-2950 Ext. 5. Visit our website: www.osceolalakecd.org

If your property is in Mecosta County call the Mecosta Conservation District at (231) 796-0909 Ext. 3. Visit our website: www.mecostacd.org

Native Plant Presentation & Sale - Friday, June 7, 2019
Call to be put on our mailing list.



CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFERS FREE SITE ASSESSMENTS

Forestry Assistance Program: Now that Chronic Wasting Disease regulations have arrived, it is more important than ever to take a closer look at programs that can assist you with the management of your property. They include: Forestry Assistance Program, Qualified Forest Program, Hunter Access Program, Forest Wetlands and Habitat Program and many others. Contact District Forester, Rick Lucas, for more information at 231-408-3567.

Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program Participate in our voluntary and confidential program to reduce environmental risk on your farming operation, forest, wetland, or wildlife habitat. Call Karen Ickes, Mecosta MAEAP Technician, at 231-796-0909 Ext. 3, or the Osceola-Lake MAEAP Technician, at 231-832-2950 Ext. 5.

Invasive Species Management Program For information to identify, prevent, monitor, manage and respond to invasive species, contact Vicki Sawicki, North Country CISMA Coordinator, at 231-429-5072 (covering Osceola, Lake, and Mecosta Counties).

Natural Resources Conservation Service For information regarding your natural resource concerns, improvements, protection and enhancement, contact Jennifer Taylor, Mecosta District Conservationist, at 231-796-2659, Ext. 3, or Greg White, Osceola-Lake District Conservationist at 231-465-8007. *The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer and Lender.*

As always, please feel free to stop and visit with the township officials at the office or call them if you have any questions, suggestions or comments.

We would like to end by wishing you all a blessed and happy Holiday Season.

The Chippewa Township Board