

*Chippewa Township  
Mecosta County, Michigan  
2026 Summer Tax Newsletter*

**Supervisor:** Shirley Hazen

**Trustee:** Annette Walters

Township Offices: 231-867-3777

**Treasurer:** Julie Austin

**Trustee:** Deb Zielinski

Chippewa Lk. Sewer Dept.: 231-867-3616

**Clerk:** Kristin Lytle

**Assessor:** Andrea Roberts

Emergency Service: 911

Animal Control: 911

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

The Township Board meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 6:30 pm, in the Chippewa Township Community Bldg.

Fire Board meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month @ 6:30 pm, in the Chippewa Township Community Bldg.

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday 9am to 1pm (unless posted)**

As many new people are moving to our area, we say **'Welcome!'** We hope you enjoy it here, as much as we do. You can find a variety of important information on our Township website: [www.chippewatwp.org](http://www.chippewatwp.org). The information on this website is up to date and informative; social media is not always accurate.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – 2026 SUMMER TAX INFORMATION**

**IF YOUR TAXES ARE ESCROWED A COPY OF THE 2026 SUMMER TAX BILL HAS BEEN SENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY. BY LAW THE ORIGINAL BILL MUST BE SENT TO THE PROPERTY OWNER (MCL 211.44(1)).** If a mortgage company has requested a copy of your bill; a mortgage code will be listed in the 'tax detail' box of your bill.

**2026 Summer Tax Bills are due on or before 9-14-2026. POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS DATE RECEIVED. ALL SUMMER PAYMENTS MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE BY 4 PM, SEPTEMBER 14 TO BE CONSIDERED ON TIME**

The Township allows for partial payments after July 1st for summer and after December 1st for winter when tax bills are released. Appropriate interest/penalties, for 2026, will apply to the unpaid balance after September 14<sup>th</sup> for summer and February 15<sup>th</sup> for winter.

**Mail your payment(s) to** Chippewa Township Treasurer, PO Box 26 Chippewa Lake, MI 49320-0026. Make payments **Payable to** Chippewa Township. **A secure mail drop 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 OFFICE HOURS: (UNLESS POSTED)** Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You may also call (231)867-3777 to make an appointment.

**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 @ the July 21, 2026, Board of Review. After the July Board of Review, tax bills will not be able to be corrected until the December 2026 Board of Review meeting. The 2026 taxes are assessed to a property as it existed on 12/31/2025 (MCL 211.2). **If a property is sold during the 2026 tax year it is the responsibility of the buyer & seller or their agents to prorate the whole tax year obligation. All address changes need to be submitted in writing.** If the ownership has changed, documentation supporting the change must be submitted. The Township Treasurer's Office is not responsible for payment on wrong parcels. **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.**

**Deferred Payment for 2026 Summer Tax Bills:**

Senior Citizens (age 62 and over), veterans and persons with total and permanent disabilities may qualify for deferment of 2026 summer taxes if your household resources (taxable and non-taxable income) are \$40,000 or less. Qualified agricultural property also qualifies for deferment. The deferment application form must be filled out every year and filed with the Township Treasurer's office before September 14, 2026. If you qualify, payment of your summer 2026 taxes may be deferred until February 14, 2027, without any penalty added. Please keep in mind that if you are granted the deferment the summer tax amount will not be reflected on the winter tax bill. You may print the deferment application at [www.chippewatwp.org](http://www.chippewatwp.org) (Under documents) or call the Chippewa Township Treasurer for the required form and/or information regarding the deferment process. You may also email [julie@chippewatwp.org](mailto:julie@chippewatwp.org)

**DISABLED VETERANS' EXEMPTION:** Governor Snyder signed law P.A. 161 of 2013 into law November 2013. Honorably discharged veterans who the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs have determined 100% disabled and unemployable, as a result of wartime service or their surviving unmarried spouse **may** be eligible for exemption from real property tax, for a property that is used and owned as their principal residence. Forms can be obtained by contacting the Chippewa Township Hall @ 231.867.3777 or you may print the form at [www.chippewatwp.org](http://www.chippewatwp.org) (Under Veterans). You may also email [julie@chippewatwp.org](mailto:julie@chippewatwp.org) **this exemption application and documentation must be filled out and filed each year, to be eligible.**

**ELECTIONS:** You have multiple different options to vote. The Primary Election will be held on August 6, 2024. You may vote at the Chippewa Township Community Bldg. on August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. You can also take advantage of the 9 days of early voting and vote at the Chippewa Township Community Bldg. from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. from Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voters can also vote via an Absentee ballot. Voters must submit an absentee ballot application to their local clerk before an absentee ballot can be sent and the signature on the application must match the signature that is on the voter's driver's license. Please contact the Chippewa Township Clerk if you have any election questions or concerns.

**CHIPPEWA LAKE FIREWORKS:** *Thank you to Marcia Leiter, for the many years of dedication and hard work that you put in to ensure that we were able to enjoy fireworks over Chippewa Lake. You are greatly appreciated!*

A new Chippewa Lake Fireworks Committee has been formed. There is a dedicated committee working hard to make future fireworks shows possible. Along with planning future fireworks displays, they are also fundraising, organizing events, and securing support. The new committee members are: Chair – Chris Bailey, Co-Chair – Brandy Buhmann, Treasurer – Dee Sosebee, Secretary - LuAnn VanHaren, Event Coordinators – Rich Ruell, Kelli Johansen, Katelyn LaTendresae, and Gil Johnson. The Fireworks Committee is now accepting electronic donations through Venmo. ***Please like and follow the Chippewa Lake Fireworks Facebook page for more information. The Chippewa Lake Fireworks Committee is a separate entity from the Township, and all donations need to be made directly to the Fireworks Committee.***

**POKER RUN:** There will be a Poker Run on Chippewa Lake, Saturday July 4, 2026! Please come out and support the Big Rapids Eagles and the Chippewa Lake Fireworks Committee, have fun while raising funds for two wonderful organizations. There will also be a boat parade on Chippewa Lake on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. Please see the East Bay General Store Facebook page for more information regarding the boat parade.

**BE NICE TO YOUR NEIGHBORS:**

Whether you are a full-time resident or a weekend visitor, please be courteous to the people around you. Your neighbors **do not** want to hear your music or have your pets visit their property. Chippewa Township is both a rural agricultural and recreational community, which we all love. Please be respectful.

**PLEASE** be mindful where you are parking. Emergency vehicles must be able to come down your street in order to provide services. **NO** road should ever be blocked by vehicles, overhanging trees, or structures.

Secure your belongings on and along a lake. Dock sections, large timbers with spikes, tires and a lot of other debris have been found floating in lakes and washing up on other properties. Not only is this a hazard for watercraft but also anyone using a lake. If you have items in the water that could come loose, remove them before they become a boating hazard and potentially a financial liability for you.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION:** The Annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection day is August 6, 2026, from 2 P.M. to 6 P.M. at the Mecosta County Fairgrounds, 540 West Ave, Big Rapids. Residents can drop off chemicals, oil-based paints, pesticides, and cleaners, with a suggested \$20 donation. More information is available on the Township website: [www.chippewatwp.org](http://www.chippewatwp.org)

***As always, please feel free to stop & visit the Township officials at the office or call 231.867.3777 if you have any questions, suggestions, or comments. We can't help if you don't ask. Have a Safe and Wonderful Summer!***