

Chippewa Township
Mecosta County, Michigan
2019 WINTER NEWSLETTER
www.chippewatwp.org

Supervisor: Bryan Roels

Clerk: Kristin Lytle

Treasurer: Julie Austin

Trustee: Duane Scott

Trustee: Debbie Zielinski

Assessor: Andrea Roberts: 231-867-3777

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 Chippewa Township Community Building

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

****Closed on Holidays****

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – 2019 WINTER TAX INFORMATION

2019 Winter Tax Bills are due on or before 2/14/2020. POSTMARKS will NOT be accepted. On 2-15-2020 late penalties will apply. DELINQUENT 2019 Summer Taxes are NOT reflected on the 2019 winter tax bills. On March 2, 2020 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 2019 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 23rd - December 26th, Open on December 30th, and closed December 31st - 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 10, 2019 Board of Review. Upon the adjournment of the 2019 December Board of Review, corrections **cannot** be made, to the 2019 Tax Roll, until the 2020 July Board of Review. The December Board of Review is for "Qualified Errors & Poverty Appeals ONLY. The 2019 taxes are assessed to a property as it existed on 12-31-2018 (MCL211.2). If a property is sold during the 2019 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 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!

2020 Census: April 1, 2020, is the ten-year census day. When being elected to office, one becomes more aware of how important the census is. The census is not something new; it has been done for over 220 years in the United States. The census has always been relied on for representation in Congress, but this is only one of the benefits of knowing just how many people live in the community. A lot of federal and state money is

appropriated using this information. The township receives revenue sharing money from the state based on per the Census Count. The more people living here, the more money is received. It is also important to the schools and county. Many grants that can be applied for, are based on the population, and the statistics often determine the services that a community needs to offer.

For the 2020 census; there are three ways to fill out the census form. It can be done online, by telephone, or by paper forms. The census bureau locates all the addresses. If that address has not responded by mid-March; by phone or online, a paper form will then be mailed out. If this is not received back, personal contacts will be made. People should not fear giving out information; **all** information turned in is confidential. It is estimated that Michigan has lost 9.7 million dollars a year in federal money, for the past 10 years, because of bad census counts. **How can you help? Make sure you are counted! Make sure your family, friends, and acquaintances know the importance of being counted.** Encourage people to fill out the information completely. It is only 9 questions and is done once every 10 years. In the last census a lot of young children were missed. Snowbirds are also often misses. If you are here more than 6 months a year, you should use this as your address. College students that are here during the week may go home for the weekends. They require services while they are here and should be counted here. Everyone needs to work together to ensure there is a complete count for Chippewa Township and our community. Let's do our part to ensure that our tax money is kept here in our Township. For more information; please visit <https://2020census.gov/>.

ROAD PROJECTS: 23 Mile Road between 105th to 90th – Chippewa Township along with the MCRC has committed to pave and pulve the 1.5 mile project for 2020. That portion of the road had a large culvert replaced in the Fall of 2019; which pushed back the paving to 2020. Depending on funding, other projects will be considered as they are presented.

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! He's making a stop at the Barryton Branch library on Saturday, December 7th at 4 p.m. Have your picture taken with Santa and enjoy making a fun craft.

CHIPPEWA-MARTINY FIRE DEPT: The 2019 Halloween Open House was once again a HUGH success. It was estimated that 220 children and adults visited the Fire Station!!

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 for more information. As always, The Chippewa Township Board would like to say, **“Thank You”**, to all of our firefighters. You risk your lives, to help others when needed without hesitation and we truly appreciate all of your dedication and hard work. When you hear those sirens or see those flashing lights, say an extra little prayer!

TOYS FOR TOTS: The Rooster Saloon is participating in the Mecosta County Toys for Tots program. Toys for Tots is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, giving toys to children whose parents can't afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. Please drop any toys off at the Rooster Saloon. The Rooster Saloon is now serving breakfast! Please watch Facebook for updated hours of operation and upcoming events.

EASTBAY GENERAL STORE: The new owners of Eastbay General Store would like to Thank everyone for their continued support during the past year, and for making it such a success. Please remember that we have DNR licenses and all your ice fishing bait needs.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY 2020: We would like to extend a Thank You to all those who graciously continue to support and donate for the Chippewa Lake Fireworks display each year. 2019 was a year of positive change for the committee and they are looking forward to many upcoming events. Please watch the township website and Chippewa Lake Facebook page for upcoming events. If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Leiter or Jackie Mason at chippewafireworkscommittee@gmail.com.

Chippewa Lake Community Church Upcoming Events - Everyone is Welcome

Live Nativity – Friday, December 13 6-8pm and Saturday December 14 6-8pm

Join us for an exciting way to experience the Christmas story. Presenters will be in period costumes as they share the Christmas story. This is an outdoor event. As you enjoy the presentations at various stations, you will be welcomed and invited inside to warm up with a bread bowl of cream of potato soup or beef stew, cookie, and beverage. Join us either night, Friday or Saturday.

Sunday Worship Service – Sunday, December 22 10am Service- Children's Christmas Program

Christmas Eve Service – Tuesday, December 24 7pm-Christmas Eve and Candlelight Service

Find out more information on our website: ChippewaLakeChurch.org

A message from the Chippewa Lake Mobile Food Program: Thank you to all who participated and gave so generously to the mobile food program. Because of your efforts, we are able to fund 2 of the planned 6 Mobile food trucks for 2020. These trucks help an average of 60 families monthly with fresh produce. A special thanks to the business and individuals who went out of their way to assist: Chippewa-Mecosta Lions Club, East Bay General Store, Jett's Pizza, Deborah Benson, Sonya Goodnoe, and members of the Chippewa Lake Community Church who gave individually. Volunteers, we cannot thank you enough for giving of your time each month!

A message from the Health Fair : Thank you to the Chippewa Lake-Mecosta Lions Club for assisting and providing opportunities For Kid Site Vision, A1c & Blood Sugar testing, Blood Pressure evaluation, hearing information with free hearing test, and educational opportunities for AED and CPR. Bob Roebuck, thanks for all the volunteering you do! This program was planned as a Health Fair for the residents of Chippewa Township and will occur again in the Spring of 2020. All testing is free with educational Opportunities provided by members of the Chippewa Lake Community Church and Community Members. A special thanks to Elson Stearns and Richard Gabbert for kitchen duty providing the Hotdog lunch.

2020 CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP NON-HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP DAYS: Mark your calendars! The Chippewa Township Annual Spring Clean-up day will be Saturday, May 16, 2020 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 2020 NO Building materials *****

RECYCLE OF MECOSTA COUNTY: RECYCLE OF Mecosta County located at 424 N. 4th Ave., Big Rapids. Monday, Wednesday, & 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 We Collect -

Paper; Newspaper, White & Colored Office Paper, Magazines & Catalogs, Corrugated Cardboard, Fiberboard, Junk Mail, Books. **Plastics;** Plastic Bottles & Jugs (#1 & #2 only) (caps removed) Styrofoam / Polystyrene

Glass; Glass Jars & Bottles (colorless only) **Metal;** Steel Tin Can, Any Metal Pieces, Aluminum

Other; Used Automobile Batteries, Used Motor Oil, Household batteries

Note: Special containers for collecting bottles and cans during special events are available to borrow. We have a paper shredder that is available for your convenience. Call us if you'd like more information.

PICKLE BALL: There has been some interest and request to paint pickle ball court lines on the basketball court in Millet Park. The Township would like to hear from property owners, how many of you play pickle ball? Would you like to see the pickle ball lines painted on the basketball court? Send an email to Kristin@chippewatwp.org or Julie@chippewatwp.org and let us hear your opinions.

POLAR PLUNGE: The 2020 Michigan Law Enforcement Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Michigan is moving from Chippewa Lake to downtown Big Rapids. This was not an easy decision for Area 5 Special Olympics but our area program is all about our athletes and ensuring that we provide them with a quality year round program. With increased expenses for 2020 which includes our expanded territory of Newaygo and Oceana Counties in addition to Mecosta and Osceola Counties, we had to make the decision to try to increase our revenue by moving the plunge to Big Rapids. As everyone may or may not know, Area 5 does not receive any funding other than donations from individuals and businesses and our area fundraisers and our program is entirely run by volunteers with no paid staff. We are sincerely grateful for everyone's support for the Polar Plunge at Chippewa Lake for the past 11 years and hope that everyone will continue to support our area program for our athletes.



The plunge will be held Saturday, February 29th with a pool at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Pine Street in downtown Big Rapids. Registration and the After Splash Bash is to be held at the Elks Lodge #974:

- Register on line at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/397870794216044/>
- Registration and check-in begins at 10:30AM
- Parade of Plungers and Plunge begins at 12:30PM
- After Splash Bash will start immediately after the last plunge (food, awards,

and raffles)

Contact Pat Rosales at area05@somich.org or 231-527-5238 or Andy West at west1ad@cmich.edu for more information.

SENIOR NEWS: The purpose of the Mecosta County Commission on Aging (COA) is to improve the quality of life of the county's 60-plus population. The agency's goal is to support Seniors in their efforts to remain in their own homes, maintaining independence, health, dignity, and self-respect. The Senior Center's goal is to help area Seniors remain healthy and active through participation in recreational, educational and leisure activities. The Senior Center and Commission on Aging encourage the community to share their skills and at the same time enrich their own lives by gaining knowledge through their volunteer experience. The COA/Senior Center offer many activities as well as volunteer opportunities. For more information, go to <http://www.mecostacounty.org/seniorservices.html> or on Facebook: Mecostacountyseniorcenter.

As always, Please feel free to stop in to the Township Offices, for any questions, concerns, suggestions or comments.

“Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.”

Be kind to one another and have a Very Blessed Holiday Season and Wonderful New Year!