

Chippewa Township
Mecosta County, Michigan
2020 WINTER NEWSLETTER
www.chippewatwp.org

Supervisor: Bryan Roels

Clerk: Kristin Lytle

Treasurer: Julie Austin

Trustee: Annette Walters

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 1pm UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED

****Closed on Holidays****

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – 2020 WINTER TAX INFORMATION

2020 Winter Tax Bills are due on or before 2/16/2021. POSTMARKS will **NOT** be accepted. On 2-17-2020 late penalties will apply. **DELINQUENT 2020 Summer Taxes** are **NOT** reflected on the 2020 winter tax bills. On March 1, 2021 **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 2020 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 1 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, 2020 Board of Review. Upon the adjournment of the 2020 December Board of Review, corrections **cannot** be made, to the 2020 Tax Roll, until the 2021 July Board of Review. The December Board of Review is for "**Qualified Errors & Poverty Appeals ONLY.** The 2020 taxes are assessed to a property as it existed on 12-31-2019 (MCL211.2). If a property is sold during the 2020 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!

The Chippewa Township Offices will be closed for in-person contact until December 8, 2020. However, we will continue to monitor emails and phone messages. If it is absolutely necessary for you to come to the office, **Please call ahead and make an appointment as we will be adjusting our hours. A mask is required for entering the Township Building!** Township officials believe taking precautionary steps are the responsible steps a government must take to ensure the safety and well-being of the community and its employees.

NEW TRADITION:

Will you come out on your doorstep to raise a little Christmas Cheer? We're calling on families in Chippewa Township to come outside and ring a bell on Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. We'd like everyone to ring a bell for 2 minutes to spread Christmas Cheer. After a tough year, it would be wonderful to end 2020 with a bit of Magic, Hope, & Togetherness!



ROAD PROJECTS: 23 Mile from 105th to 90th was paved this Fall. The Gravel project on 60th Ave. from 19 Mile to 20 Mile was also completed. We will be looking at last mile of 23 Mile Rd 90th to 80th in the future.

LIBRARY NEWS: **The Chippewa Branch Library is closed until December 8, 2020. The Barryton Branch is offering limited capacity and services until 11/30/2020.** 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 normally on duty Tuesday 12 noon-5pm; Thursday & Friday 10am-5pm; 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 Phone Number 231-867-2014

CHIPPEWA-MARTINY FIRE DEPT:

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 **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, 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.**

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. Please watch Facebook for updated hours of operation and upcoming events.

CHIPPEWA LAKE FIREWORKS: 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. 2020 has been a year of challenges, however, we are pushing forward to ensure a wonderful fireworks display for 2021. The first ever bottle/can drive raised \$3626.70. WOW! If you are interested in supporting another bottle/can drive in 2021, please email us and let us know your opinion. Continue watching the township website and Chippewa Lake Facebook page for upcoming events. If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Leiter by email at:

Chippewafireworkscommittee@gmail.com.

MOTA TRANSPORTATION: How exciting! MOTA now picks up at 11 a.m. and 2:20 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Chippewa Township Community Center. For more information please visit www.motaonline.net.

The standard fare for adults is \$2.00 per ride.

Senior Fare*

Senior Fare rate is \$1.00 for those 60 and over.

Children Fare*

The fare rate for Children is \$1.00 for those between 6 and 16. Children 5 and under ride for free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Disabled Fare*

The fare for ADA qualified riders is \$1.00 per ride.

SENIORS OVER 80*

Seniors over 80 years old now ride for FREE

VETERANS*

Veterans of any age ride for \$1.00. Thank you for your service!

Chippewa Lake Community Church: CLCC has added an additional Church Service on Sundays. Services are at 9:00 A.M. & 10:30. December 20th is the Children's Christmas Program. (During the 10:30 service) They are excited to announce the CLCC Food Truck is funded for the 2021 year. The desire at CLCC is to supply 200 families with turkeys for Christmas. If you can or would like to help with this Goal, please contact CLCC. <https://chippewalakechurch.org>

2021 CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP NON-HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP DAYS:

Because of COVID-19, Township Officials will NOT be helping unload trash. You are responsible for unloading ALL of your trash in a timely manner to help keep the flow going smoothly!!

Township Officials will only be on-site to direct traffic and oversee drop-offs. Only one vehicle unloading at a time, so prepare for traffic back-ups! The Chippewa Township Annual Clean-Up day is May 15, 2021. ALL loose trash must be put in trash bags. Please bring help to assist you in unloading. Due to previous problems, each property owner is limited to one truck and one trailer load. *This event is free to property owners and residents of Chippewa Township Only!* NO building materials will be allowed! Please help us keep Chippewa Township a beautiful place to reside and visit, by cleaning up the trash!

*This event is from 8 a.m.-11 a.m. **OR** until dumpsters are full!*

RECYCLE OF MECOSTA COUNTY: Recycle of Mecosta County is now open both Mondays and Saturdays, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Amidst the ongoing pandemic threat the following changes and safety measures will continue to be observed: All materials must be presorted prior to entering the normal recycling lot. That means cardboard, fiberboard, plastics (#2, #1), metal items (cans, metals), aluminum, colorless glass, Styrofoam, newspapers and magazines, must be sorted in SEPARATE containers before depositing them to the appropriate exterior portals. Everything is clearly marked.

- Six cars at a time will be admitted into the normal recycling area. There are now canvas carts in the parking areas to make it easier to deposit cardboard.
- Facemasks and social distancing are required.
- Only Recycle Workers will be admitted within the building (unless you've requested to use our paper shredder).
- Donations will still be appreciated and are NEEDED. We ask for a dollar per visit. Anything more is your generosity.

RECYCLE OF Mecosta County located at 424 N. 4th Ave., Big Rapids. Contact Information is: Recycle of Mecosta County @ 231-796-9872 or visit their website at recyclemecosta.org

2021 POLAR PLUNGE GOES VIRTUAL:

The annual Michigan Law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Michigan will shift to a virtual format this winter, making way for some exciting changes to the beloved event's traditional cold water format.

While, on the surface, this decision is disappointing for Special Olympics Michigan (SOMI) and its loyal Plungers, it also presents a unique opportunity to reinvent Special Olympics Michigan's largest fundraising event amid the current pandemic while ensuring the health and safety of all those involved.

Among the planned 2021 Polar Plunge opportunities awaiting participants include virtual Polar Plunges that can be done anywhere at any time this winter as well as a **Frigid 5K**, which will add a new element of excitement for participants. Complete details for all of SOMI's planned Polar Plunge events happening this winter can be found at PlungeMI.com, beginning **Thursday, December 10.**

CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP GRANTS: In 2020, Chippewa Township has been awarded multiple grants to better our community. A DNR 50/50 matching grant in the amount of \$1800 was awarded to purchase equipment for the Fire Department, A People's fund grant was awarded in the amount of \$500 for ice rescue equipment for the Fire Department, A Risk Reduction Grant was awarded in the amount of \$5,000 to purchase safe playground surfacing, and a Center for Technology and Civic Life grant in the amount of \$3500.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFERS FREE SITE ASSESSMENTS

www.mecostacd.org

Forestry Assistance Program Keeping your forest healthy, productive and sustainable long term is no easy task. 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 McDaniel, Mecosta MAEAP Technician, at 231-408-3574.

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, *The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer and Lender.*



Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Saturday, October 9, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Collection Sites:

Mecosta County - Mecosta County Fairgrounds
Osceola County - Road Commission North Facility
Lake County - Wenger Pavilion, downtown Baldwin



**CALL TO RECEIVE A FREE SPRING &
FALL 2021 TREE/SHRUB CATALOG**

Native Plant Presentation & Sale
Friday, June 4, 2021

Call or email the Mecosta Conservation District to be placed on
our mailing list. (231) 796-0909 Ext.3
brook.baumann@macd.org



Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver. Be kind to one another!

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.

Wishing you all a very blessed Holiday Season!
The Chippewa Township Board