

#### Officials

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## You May Need to Know...

### Road Work Update

Road and drain work are continuing. Look for the Road Commission updates posted on the Township web site [www.ktwp.org](http://www.ktwp.org) to let you know what is slated for the next week. If you have questions you may contact the Township's Highway Commissioner, Donald Martin at (269) 251-7377 or [martindd@ktwp.org](mailto:martindd@ktwp.org).

**Please don't park on roads where work is being done.** We would also like to caution you not to walk your dog on the road without paw protection for a few days after road work to prevent any asphalt from getting on their paws. It is never a good idea to walk a dog on a road in hot weather because it can burn their paws.

### Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Bulk Trash Pick-Up Starts on July 5. Because of the July 4 Holiday your pick up will be a day later than usual.

- Know which day of the week you're slated for pick up (Check the [map](#) on the [recycle page](#) or call the Township.)
- No black plastic bags, use boxes or heavy duty clear plastic bags
- If you think you've been missed, call the Township, NOT Republic Services customer service.
- Be sure to have it out the night before, they start picking up between 6:00 and 7:00 a.m.
- Please keep items to 4ft - 8ft maximum size
- Items must be able to be picked up by 2 people
- No more than 3 bucket loads (loading bucket on the front of the truck)
- If you have more, please save it for the October pick up or contact a commercial garbage service for a large bin.
- It's a good idea to put recyclable metal where it can be easily found and picked up.
- NO YARD WASTE, TIRES, PAINT/CHEMICALS, NEEDLES OR HAZARDOUS WASTE - Contact the County Household Hazardous Waste Center [www.kalcounty.com/hhw](http://www.kalcounty.com/hhw) or 373-5211 for disposal information.

The next bulk trash pick-up will be the week of October 3  
Leaf and Brush pick-up will be the week of November 14

### Fireworks

Everyone is looking forward to celebrating Independence Day. Please be considerate of our veterans and to neighborhood pets who may be particularly disturbed by fireworks. Ordinance # 570 only allows igniting, discharging or use of consumer fireworks on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after a national holiday and not at all during the hours from 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. See [Michigan Legal Fireworks](#) on the Township home page quick links.



## Election Information

### Voter Registration Information:

To register to vote you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age by election day, and a resident of Michigan and the city or township where you are applying to vote. To qualify to vote in an upcoming election, registrations must be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the election.

### Precinct and Ballot Information:

The Township of Kalamazoo is divided into 11 voting precincts. Where you vote depends on where you live. To find out where you vote, either review your voter identification card or visit the [Michigan Voter Information Center](#). This website will let you know if you are registered to vote, provide a map of polling locations, provide a listing of candidates and ballot proposals specific to your precinct, view ballots, and provide a calendar of important election dates.

### Absentee Ballots:

As a registered voter, you may obtain an absent voter ballot if you meet one of these requirements:

- age 60 years old or older
- unable to vote without assistance at the polls
- expecting to be out of town on Election Day
- in jail awaiting arraignment or trial
- unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons
- appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct of residence



### Parking Rules to Keep in Mind:

- RVs, boats, ATVs, and trailers may not be located within the public right of way.
- No repairing, redesigning, modifying or dismantling work is allowed on the public right-of-way or other property not zoned for such purposes.
- The above vehicles cannot be located within front, side, or rear yard setback areas, which are generally 25 feet (front), five feet (side), and two feet (rear) from the respective property lines. An exception is allowed for periods of cleaning, loading and unloading, provided it does not last more than 48 hours in a seven day period.
- A camper can be used on your property for a maximum of 14 days per year provided running water and bathroom facilities are available within the home for guest use.
- Most other licensed operable vehicles may be parked in the driveway or temporarily in most public right-of-ways along local roads, facing the same direction as the flow of traffic but never in the front yard.

Any and all may be located in an enclosed building on your property at any time.

## Deferment of Summer Property Taxes

Deferment of your summer property taxes for eligible homeowners (those with total household income of \$40,000 or less and who are either 62 years of age or a qualified person as defined in Chapter 9 of the Income Tax Act of 1967) can provide a delay in the due date of your tax bill, without added penalty, until February 14th. The deferment form needs to be filed with the Township Treasurer's Office by September 14th. If you have any questions, please call 381-8080.

## Your Community

### Becoming More Bicycle Friendly

Bike route signs will be popping up in Westwood and Eastwood over the summer. The signs help bicyclist get from place to place on a contiguous series of street segments. Bike routes will follow primary roads with marked shoulders, like Drake, and local roads with lower traffic and speeds, and good width and visibility, such as Canterbury. That route will work its way east to link with city routes on North and Grove Streets. Eastwood routes will include Kenilworth Ave. between Wallace and Nazareth linking to E. Main via Gayle Ave. Find descriptions and maps on the [Transportation page](#) of our website under the Community tab.



It is important for everyone using the bike routes to obey the laws and be vigilant when riding a bike or driving near bikes. Please remember to watch for bicyclist and pedestrians when pulling in and out of driveways.

## Sidewalk News

The north side of Grand Prairie is getting a sidewalk this summer. We will also be extending several “orphan” sidewalks that don’t reach the road at either end.

You may notice that most new sidewalks are at least five feet wide. The wider sidewalks allow people to walk side by side or to more easily pass others walking in the other directions. They are especially helpful to people pushing strollers, using wheelchairs or walking dogs. A wider sidewalk makes it easier for people to stay off lawns and avoid walking in the street. To make older, narrower sidewalks more useful please remove grass that’s growing over the sidewalk to restore the sidewalk to its full width and trim any trees or bushes that are growing over the sidewalk. Also, if you have a sidewalk you would like to repair the Township may cover half the cost. Find more information on the [sidewalk replacement page](#) on our web site under the Community tab.

## Northwood

It’s Northwood’s turn to get a new fire truck. The Township of Kalamazoo recently added a new fire truck to its response fleet. A Pierce Saber fire engine will replace a 1988 Spartan Monarch fire engine that has been in service with the Township since early 1989. The new Pierce fire engine has a 750 gallon water tank, a 1,500 gallon per minute water pump and will be equipped with all of the tools and equipment needed to respond to fire and medical emergencies in the community. The new Pierce fire engine will be stationed at the Northwood Station on Mosel Road.



## Lakewood

Lakewood will again be home to the Kalamazoo County Fair on August 8 through 13. This is a great event for families with children. There will be animals to meet, games, activities and entertainment. Look for themes and discounts for different days. Go to the Kalamazoo County Parks website for a complete schedule. [www.kalcounty.com/parks/fair](http://www.kalcounty.com/parks/fair)

## Eastwood

East Main Street is becoming a complete street. Improvements to East Main are making it user friendly for cars, bikes and pedestrians with the addition of bike lanes, and ADA curb cuts. While you’re walking or biking around the neighborhood be sure to check out the Eastwood branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library. Go to [www.kpl.gov/eastwood/](http://www.kpl.gov/eastwood/) for a list of activities and their new hours.

## Westwood

The Westwood Firefighters Association’s 75<sup>th</sup> annual ice cream social is from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on July 29 at the Westwood Fire Station on Nichols Rd. Tickets, available at the door, are good for ice cream, cupcake and door prize raffle. There are games and prizes for the whole family. Call Westwood Fire station at 343-1811 for more information.

Watch for new playground equipment coming to Stroud Park.

## Communications from the Office

### Keep Mosquitoes out of the Township

This is the time of year when it’s important to check your property for any standing water where mosquitoes can breed. It can be just a small amount of water, a forgotten child’s toy in the back yard, a tire or an old can left along the road. Look for anyplace stagnant water can collect and keep it dry. If you have a bird bath or leave water out for some other reason be sure to dump and refresh it often. This will go a long way towards making this summer more pleasant and safer for everyone.

### Zoning Update

The new zoning ordinance is almost complete. Passage will be considered at the Planning Commission’s July 7, 2016 meeting. The new ordinance should be easier to use with a reduced number of zoning districts, a simple outline structure and graphics. You can find the most current draft ordinance and map on our home page [www.ktwp.org](http://www.ktwp.org).

## Planning Commission and ZBA openings

The Township is going to have openings on the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. If you would be interested in serving in either of these positions you can find descriptions and applications on the [Planning Commission](#) and [Zoning Board of Appeals](#) pages on our web site.

## Manager Search

The search for a township manger is well underway. You can see the job description and other information that was prepared for the search by going to the [Employment page](#) under the Community tab on our website. On-site interviews are expected to begin in early August.

## Subscribe to the Newsletter

If you just happened across this newsletter online or picked one up at the township hall and aren't a subscriber yet be sure to go to [www.ktwp.org](http://www.ktwp.org) to subscribe so you can receive it quarterly in your email.

## Red Med Box

Properly disposing of unused and unwanted medications helps to protect the environment. It also helps to protect our community against prescription abuse, addiction and accidental or intentional overdose. Red Med Box is an easy and secure way to dispose of your unused or expired medication. There is a Red Med Box located in the entryway to the Police Department on the Mt Olivet side of the Kalamazoo Township Hall. It is available for you to drop off your expired and unused medications from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## Recognition and Thanks

### *THANK YOU TO OUR POLICE AND FIRE FIGHTERS!*

When you think of the bravery of police and firefighters you think of the risk of being shot or of going into a burning building. It's been said that after a confrontation that you live through there is a rush of adrenaline, after preventing a dangerous situation from escalating there's a feeling of satisfaction but after witnessing a tragedy there is little upside, just dealing with the press, the well intentioned reminders, the thought that it could have been someone you know or your family and wondering if there's anything that you could have done to prevent it. These are the times when first responders show their true mettle. This is something they hope they will never have to deal with, but they do, many times. Usually not on the scale of recent tragedies but often no less tragic. Yet, they wake up each day ready to do their job, and do what's necessary. We want to commend this bravery and thank everyone who is willing to take this risk for us.

If you're having trouble coping with a tragedy you can find help by calling Gryphon Place at 211.

## Meeting Dates and Times

**Board of Trustees** - 2nd & 4th Mondays of every month at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).

**Planning Commission** - first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** - third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Unsafe Building Hearing** - every other month, beginning in January on the third Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.

All meetings are at the Township Administrative Offices at 1720 Riverview Drive. Check website for schedule changes.

## Watch Board Meetings from Home

Board meetings are broadcast live on Charter Communications channel 190 and AT&T U-verse channel 99: Replays are on Mon. 8 a.m., Thur. 1 a.m. and Fri. 3:00 p.m. Meetings are also online at <http://pmn.pegcentral.com/> Also, check out "Kalamazoo Township Roundtable" on channel 190: Sun. at 2:30 p.m., Wed. at 7:00 a.m., and Thurs. at Midnight.

## Upcoming Township Office Closures

Independence Day, July 4, 2016

Labor Day, September 5, 2016

*The mission of Kalamazoo Township is to provide government services that promote a safe, healthy, accessible, and economically viable community to live, work, learn, and play.*