



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Township Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 8 am to 4 pm

We will be **CLOSED**

July 4—Independence Day

September 2—Labor Day

November 11—Veteran’s Day

November 28 & 29—Thanksgiving

How to contact your Cooper Township Officials & Staff

Supervisor Jeff Sorensen supervisor@coopertwp.org

Clerk DeAnna Janssen clerk@coopertwp.org

Treasurer Carol DeHaan treasurer@coopertwp.org

Assessor Kim Kars-Bos kkars@coopertwp.org

Assessing&Building Assistant Starr Adams sadams@coopertwp.org

Deputy Clerk & Planning Debbie Holtman dholtman@coopertwp.org

Treasurer’s Assistant Connie Herweyer cherweyer@coopertwp.org

Fire Chief Terry Emig temig@coopertwp.org

Deputy Chief Brian Klok bklok@coopertwp.org

Ordinance Enforcement John Cross jcross@coopertwp.org

Many questions can be answered at www.coopertwp.org. In addition, please feel free to email or call the office anytime at 269-382-0223.



2019 Fall Curbside Bulk Pickup!!

October 7-11

ITEMS SHOULD BE PUT OUT TO THE CURB NO LATER THAN SATURDAY THE 5TH OR SUNDAY THE 6TH!!

Curbside Reminder: Properties without a residence are **NOT** eligible to use the curbside recycling or participate in the Bulk Pick-up in the spring and fall.

The recycling assessment is assessed on residences only!

2019 STYROFOAM DROP SCHEDULE

Township Hall Parking Lot
1590 West D Ave 8am—12pm

Jan 5, March 23, June 22, Sept 28



Clean separated peanuts, egg cartons, clean/dry to-go food containers, etc. Used oil is no longer accepted.

Planning / Zoning Questions? Russ Wicklund is the Cooper Township Planning/Zoning Administrator. His office hours are Wednesdays from 1-3pm. Call the Township Office to make an appointment!

Ordinance Enforcement...Friend or Foe??

The grumblings of many have been heard lately about this rule and that rule regarding the use of your property. “Why can’t they leave me alone and let me do what I want on my property” is a frequent comment. Code Enforcement is not about harassing the citizens of our community, it’s about maintaining the appearance of our neighborhoods and helping to keep the value of our community at the high level we all enjoy and benefit from. If we have a blighted community because of abandoned cars, overgrown lawns, homes in dis-repair, and “displaced items” gathering here and there....pretty soon all of our property values, as well as the health, well-being, and beauty of our community, will plummet.

If the ordinance officer should have a reason to reach out to you, please take a moment to think about how you, your neighbors, and your community may be affected by the reason for his visit. He will be willing to work with you, give you time and suggestions on how to fix the violation. The goal is not to ticket you, harass you, or take you to court. The goal is to make you aware of the violation and to help you find a solution.



NO REASON AV.....YES PLEASE!!

With the passage of Proposal 3 in 2018, any registered voter can now obtain an Absent Voter Ballot instead of voting at the polling location. Simply request your application up to 2 months prior to each election. When you return the application, the ballot will be mailed to you to be voted.

To simplify things, if you would like to receive your Absent Voter Ballot Application automatically prior to every election your eligible to vote in, just call the Cooper Township Clerk’s office and instead ask to be on the **PERMANENT ABSENT VOTER LIST**. We will send the application to you automatically every election!! Then you just proceed as above...return the application to us and we will mail you your ballot approximately 6 weeks before each election. If you receive your application in the mail, but want to vote in person that election....just disregard the application and go to the polls on election day.

If not already on the list, call the clerks office today at 269-382-0223 to add your name to the **PERMANENT ABSENT VOTER LIST!!**

Republic Services Acceptable/Unacceptable Items for Spring & Fall Clean Ups!!

Acceptable—All bagged and containerized municipal solid waste, but please don't use anything but clear plastic bags. All bags and containers must weigh less than 50lbs. Larger items such as furniture, toys, bicycles, appliances*, home fixtures and any other items as long as they are considered non-hazardous. Building materials, doors and sections of fencing must be cut down to fit into the truck and can be lifted by one person. Latex paints must be dried up in containers using sawdust, kitty litter or just leave the can open for a few days. Wheel rims and small car parts are allowed. Mattresses infested with bed bugs MUST be wrapped in plastic and labeled. Republic will basically pick-up most everything placed at the curb as long as it is prepared in "manageable bundles", bags, boxes and containers. They are not allowed to unload vehicles or trailers. The exceptions are included below.

Unacceptable—Large Plastic Drums, concrete, large pieces of metal, yard waste, liquid waste, hazardous waste, tires (unless cut up into flat pieces), tires on rims, non latex paints and varnishes, motor oil & solvents, batteries, medical waste, large car parts such as engine blocks, bodies, oversize hoods and doors. While Republic will take certain amounts of construction debris, they will not be able to remove large volumes such as garage or house demolition that would normally require a construction style dumpster.

*Appliances that contain freon, such as refrigerators and air conditioners, can be accepted if the freon is removed and the appliance is "tagged" by a facility that is licensed to remove freon.

**Limited to 7 yards picked up per event!

Gypsy Moth numbers are rising in Southern Michigan!

Gypsy moths are an invasive species that caused widespread defoliation in Michigan from the mid-1980's to the early 1990s. A large population in 2018 has led to more caterpillars hatching this spring 2019.

According to DNR specialists, the best thing people can do to reduce the effects of pests like gypsy moth is to promote tree health. Water trees regularly and avoid damaging the roots and bark. Periodically removing dead and dying trees in woodlots also helps keep remaining trees strong.

To address a gypsy moth infestation in a handful of individual trees, homeowners can purchase a spray containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk), a bacterium that naturally occurs in the soil but can be lethal to certain caterpillars and moths. Be sure to follow label directions exactly. The best time to spray is when caterpillars are small, usually through mid-June. When caterpillars are massing, spraying tree trunks with a mixture of dish soap and water or scraping caterpillars into a bucket of soap and water also are effective.

For more information about gypsy moth caterpillars, visit the MSU Extension Website at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/> and type Gypsy Moth into the search bar!

2019 Summer Tax Bill

The summer tax bill you're receiving is due by September 16, 2019. Additional interest of 1% per month accrues beginning September 17, 2018.

If you plan to mail your tax payment, please consider using our drop box (located to the right of our front door) or dropping it off at the post office in a secure receptacle. We have all read the stories about criminals stealing mail out of rural mailboxes in order to commit different types of check fraud.

At this time Cooper Township Office doesn't accept credit or debit card payments. Online payments can be made through Official Payments at www.officialpayments.com. Our jurisdiction code is 7131. Please be aware.....Official Payments charges a 3% convenience fee for this service.

Whether you send in a check or initiate an online payment through your bank, please call our office or check online at www.coopertwp.org to confirm that your payment was received. We have had several instances recently when our office has not received the payment. This results in your account being turned over to the Kalamazoo County Treasurer's Office as delinquent which means additional interest and penalty that you will be responsible for.

When paying in the office, if possible please remember to bring your bill with you. We make every effort to save money and trees by re-printing as few bills as possible! If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Carol DeHaan, Treasurer, at 269-382-0223.

DETOUR!! Riverview Road closures are fast approaching for the installation of sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and road replacement and repairs. For all thru traffic, please plan on using the detour of Mt. Olivet to G Avenue until the construction is complete! The project is slated to be complete in the fall.

Ransom District Library is tentatively scheduled to break ground on their new facility in July this summer. The current building will remain open during construction and will not be demolished until the new facility is up and running! Details for the new library are available on the Cooper Township Website and in the Clerks office if your interested. Additionally, Ransom Library has some great summer programs available to young and old alike....from reading clubs to computer and genealogy assistance! Consider calling (685-8024) or visiting them for add'l information about these programs and more at www.ransomlibrary.org or in person at 180 S Sherwood Ave, Plainwell MI 49080.