



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020

Township Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 8 am to 4 pm

We will be **CLOSED**

July 3—Independence Day

September 7—Labor Day

November 11—Veteran’s Day

November 26 & 27—Thanksgiving

From Supervisor Jeff Sorensen—

Please welcome Cooper Townships new Planning/Zoning Administrator Julie Johnston! Julie comes to Cooper Township with over 20 years of municipal planning experience, an engaging personality, and a heartfelt desire to help Cooper Township and it’s residents. Office hours for Julie will be Fridays from 1pm—4pm. Please call the township and make an appointment with her if you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of your property!

Russ Wicklund is retiring after working with Cooper Township for many, many years. We thank Russ for all his years of great service, hope that he enjoys his retirement, and wish him and his family health and happiness!

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

Assistant Chief Brian Klok bklok@coopertwp.org

Ordinance Enforcement Dee Menzie dmenzie@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.

STYROFOAM DROP SCHEDULE

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

June 27 and Sept 26

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



From Treasurer Carol DeHaan on 2020 Summer Taxes—

The summer tax bill you’re receiving is due by September 14, 2020. Additional interest of 1% per month accrues beginning September 15, 2020.

PAYING YOUR TAXES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC: We strongly encourage residents to utilize our drop box at the front door or to mail in tax payments. The office will maintain social distancing recommendations and require face coverings prior to entering the building. If you intend to make a cash payment, please call our office and set up an appointment. CASH WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED BY APPOINTMENT. We anticipate that the enforcement of these requirements will mean longer wait times in our office.

Cooper Township Office doesn't accept credit or debit card payments. If you go to our website and access the tax and assessment information page, payments can be made by credit card by clicking on the “Click here to View Your Property Information Online”, then choose “Current Tax Payments”. Please be aware.....**point & pay 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. Your payment not being received by us 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.

2020 Fall Curbside Bulk Pickup is October 12-16

PLEASE REVIEW THE NEW RULES BELOW! *Items should be put to the curb no later than Sunday the 11th of October.* Properties without a residence are **NOT** eligible to use Bulk Pick-up or Curbside Recycling.

ACCEPTABLE:

- No Bags Allowed – only items too large to fit into a garbage service herby will be picked up!
- Larger items such as: Furniture, toys, bicycles, appliances*, home fixtures and any other items as long as they are considered non-hazardous. Mattresses, if they have bedbugs, have to be wrapped in plastic and labeled.
- Small amounts of building materials—door, window cabinet—must be cut down to fit into the truck and be lifted by one person!
NO DEMOLITION STYLE LARGE VOLUMES.
- Tires (tires may be accepted if they are cut up in flat pieces—like a bagel).
- **PICK UP VOLUME IS LIMITED TO 3 CUBIC YARDS PER RESIDENCE (EQUAL TO A PICK-UP TRUCK BED)**
- **REPUBLIC EMPLOYEES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO UNLOAD VEHICLES OR TRAILERS.**



UNACCEPTABLE:

- bagged garbage – anything small enough to go into a garbage herby should go into a garbage herby!
- Large plastic drums, concrete, large pieces of metal, yard waste, liquid waste, hazardous waste
- Whole tires and tires on rims
- Non-latex paints and varnishes, motor oil, solvents, any batteries
- Regulated medical waste
- Large car parts such as: engine blocks, bodies, oversize hoods & doors
- Building demolition: while they will take certain amounts of building material (see above), they will not be able to remove loose material or large volumes such as: Garage, Room or House demolition that would normally require a construction style dumpster.
- Appliances that contain Freon, such as: Refrigerators & Air Conditioners. *These items can be accepted if the Freon has been removed and the appliance is “tagged” by a licensed facility that the Freon has been removed.
- **NO GRASS, LEAVES, BRUSH OR BRANCHES!**

Any item not picked up must be removed and stored out of sight by Monday following pickup week.

Violators will be prosecuted. Containers will not be returned.

From Clerk DeAnna Janssen on 2020 Elections—

Per direction from the State of Michigan, all registered voters in Cooper Township have been sent an Absent Voter Application. This is a dual application that, when marked appropriately, will apply to both the August 4, 2020 General Primary and the November 3, 2020 General Election.

AT THIS TIME, IN PERSON VOTING LOCATIONS ARE STILL PLANNED TO BE OPEN, BUT ALL VOTERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO VOTE BY MAIL IN ORDER TO HELP PROTECT COOPER RESIDENTS AND ELECTION WORKERS FROM COVID-19.

Absent Voter Ballots— despite the rumors, AV Ballots are a safe and efficient way to vote. The voted ballot can be dropped off at the township or mailed in (keep in mind how close you are to the election day before popping that into the mailbox). All delivered ballot envelopes are sorted, signatures verified, scanned into the State Election Software, and locked into a vault. On election morning, these ballot envelopes are delivered to the Absent Voter Counting Board (made up of 5-9 trained election workers) to be opened in a assembly line style to ensure anonymity. The ballots are put into a tabulator just like the ones found in the precincts. At the end of the night, the total tabulated ballot count has to equal the count on the State Election Software.

Voting in the Precinct— in order to enable the 6 foot safety guidelines, fewer voting stations will be available at the precincts. Combine that with the lengthy ballot and in person voters should expect to see extended time spent in line waiting to vote. Please plan to wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth in order to help protect your neighbors and hard working election workers.

August 4, 2020—this ballot includes US Senator and Representative, State Representative, County Officials, Local Officials, Precinct Delegates, and Local Proposals. With this ballot, you CANNOT split your ticket. Any votes you cast have to be for one party or the other. If you cross party vote, your partisan votes will not count. This election determines which candidates will be sent on to the November 3, 2020 ballot.

November 3, 2020—this ballot includes the office of President and all of the same offices listed above. In this election you can split your ticket and vote for either or both parties.