



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2022

Township Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 8 am to 4 pm

We will be **CLOSED**

December 23 & 26—Christmas
December 30 & January 2nd—New Years
February 20—Presidents Day
April 7—1/2 day—Good Friday
May 26 & 29—Memorial Day
July 4—Independence Day

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
Building Dept Liaison Starr Adams sadams@coopertwp.org
Deputy Clerk & Planning Debbie Holtman dholtman@coopertwp.org
Ordinance Enforcement Jack Wood jwood@coopertwp.org
Fire Chief Terry Emig temig@coopertwp.org
Assistant Chief Brian Klok bklok@coopertwp.org
Please feel free to call the office anytime at **269-382-0223**, or visit the website at www.coopertwp.org

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FUNDING—Cooper Townships \$10,000.00 funding for HHW has been depleted for 2022. The funding will be reset on January 1, 2023. Until then, residents that try to use HHW will be charged a fee. For tips about other resources you can use to recycle oil, batteries, and electronics, please visit <http://www.coopertwp.org/curbside-pick-up-and-recycling/>

2023 Curbside Bulk Pickup!!
May 8—12 and October 23—27



ITEMS SHOULD BE PUT OUT TO THE CURB NO LATER THAN SATURDAY/SUNDAY BEFORE THAT MONDAY!!

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!

For Additional information about what your allowed to put out at the curbside, please call the office or refer to the townships webpage at <http://www.coopertwp.org/curbside-pick-up-and-recycling/>

2022 STYROFOAM DROP SCHEDULE

Township Hall Parking Lot, 1590 West D Ave,
8am-12pm ; Jan 7, March 25

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

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES.... TO BE AN EVERYDAY HERO?

Contact Fire Chief Terry Emig for more information on how you can serve your community as a firefighter!

269-806-5123



Home Occupations

Over the last two years, there has been a significant upsurge nationally in business start-ups dubbed “the COVID-19 small business boom.” A significant number of these small businesses are run from the owner’s private home. But what many may not know, is that local governments have zoning regulations related to home occupations, particularly in residential districts. The intent of these zoning rules is to protect neighboring properties and to keep the home occupation from overwhelming the residential use.

Cooper Charter Township is one such local government that permits home occupations, opening up opportunities for local residents. However, protective restrictions are included as part of subsection 120.340: *Home Occupations* of the Township Zoning Ordinance, such as:

- Home occupations are only permitted in single-family zoning districts and must be conducted fully within the home.
- No business is permitted to be run from any accessory building or structure like a pole barn.
- Retail sales, manufacturing or processing, employees coming to the home, and outdoor storage of materials or equipment is prohibited.
- No home occupation shall be conducted which would constitute a nuisance to adjoining residents by reason of noise, smoke, odor, electrical disturbance, night lighting, or the creation of a heavy volume of vehicular traffic to the premises.

If you are interested in starting up a home-based business, please review the Home Occupations ordinance which can be found on the Township’s website at <http://www.coopertwp.org/zoning-ordinances>. If you have additional questions, please contact Cooper Township, and request a return call from the Township Planner/Zoning Administrator.

COOPER TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS:



We can finally put elections to bed for 2022. We saw a nice turnout from Cooper Residents for the General Election...61%. In addition to passing State Proposals 22-1, 22-2, and 22-3 we voted in some old and new favorites:

Governor Gretchen Whitmer

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson

Attorney General Dana Nessel

4th District US Congressman Bill Huizenga

19th District State Senator Sean McCann

42nd District State Representative Matt Hall

7th District Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners Member Jeff Heppler

Congratulations to all the winners and to all of us for a secure and fair election process! Not sure when our next election will be, but if there are any special elections that get scheduled they could be in May or November of 2023.

As always, please call the township office if you have any interest in becoming an election worker or would like to learn more about receiving an absent voter ballot in future Cooper Township Elections. In the November 8th election 49% of our voters voted via an Absent Voter Ballot.

Thank you very much to Bethel Baptist Church, Coopers Landing Apartments, and Northbridge Church for hosting our elections each year. Your willingness to not only host but assist with moving chairs out of the sanctuary for the bigger elections is so very kind of you and we appreciate it very very much!!

Residents of Cooper....lots of great information regarding your voter registration, your ballot, your absent voter ballot, election results, your voting location and much more can be found via several links that are always available on the Cooper Township website election page at coopertwp.org/elections/.



REAL ID IS REAL!! As you may know, the federal government extended the deadline for REAL ID to May 3, 2023. When it goes into effect, this federally required standard for identification means anyone who travels by air within the United States will be unable to board a plane without a REAL ID-compliant document.

A REAL ID also will be required to enter certain federal facilities. More information about REAL ID can be found at

Michigan.gov/REALID



Playground, Pavilion and Paved Walking Paths....Oh My!!

Township officials are currently working to put together a grant application for money to help add a few park properties to the township. Michigan Spark Grants will support projects that provide safe, accessible, public recreation facilities. We are making application for a park/playground/walking path behind and across from the township hall on D Ave. In addition we are having conversations with the Kalamazoo County Parks program to work together to create/maintain a Kalamazoo River kayak/canoe/park near the Trail entrance on D Ave. Stay tuned for more information on these exciting developments!!



If you have a fire hydrant in front of your house, please include it in your mowing and snow shoveling routine. Emergency personnel may need access to this vital equipment in your neighborhood and your help keeping it accessible would be appreciated by them and your neighbors!



2022 Winter Tax Bill

The winter tax bill you're receiving is due by February 14, 2023. Additional interest of 1% per month accrues beginning February 15, 2023.

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've 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 www.pointandpay.com. Please be aware.....Point and 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. We have had several instances 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.