



## Cooper Charter Township

1590 West D Ave  
Kalamazoo MI 49009  
269-382-0223  
[www.coopertwp.org](http://www.coopertwp.org)

# NEWSLETTER

Summer 2023

### Township Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 8 am to 4 pm  
**We will be CLOSED**

July 4—Independence Day  
September 4—Labor Day  
November 10—Veterans Day  
November 23 & 24—Thanksgiving

### Cooper Township Officials & Staff

**Supervisor** Jeff Sorensen [supervisor@coopertwp.org](mailto:supervisor@coopertwp.org)  
**Clerk** DeAnna Janssen [clerk@coopertwp.org](mailto:clerk@coopertwp.org)  
**Treasurer** Carol DeHaan [treasurer@coopertwp.org](mailto:treasurer@coopertwp.org)  
**Deputy Clerk** Debbie Holtman [dholtman@coopertwp.org](mailto:dholtman@coopertwp.org)  
**Ordinance Enforcement** Chris Mihelich  
[cmihelich@coopertwp.org](mailto:cmihelich@coopertwp.org)  
**Assessor** Kim Kars-Bos [kkars@coopertwp.org](mailto:kkars@coopertwp.org)  
**Building Liaison** Starr Adams [sadams@coopertwp.org](mailto:sadams@coopertwp.org)  
**Planning and Zoning** Julie Johnston  
[jjohnstonzoning@gmail.com](mailto:jjohnstonzoning@gmail.com)  
**Fire Chief** Terry Emig [temig@coopertwp.org](mailto:temig@coopertwp.org)  
*Many questions can be answered by visiting our website*  
[www.coopertwp.org](http://www.coopertwp.org)

### ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS

The Assessing Department will be coming out to gather information and take pictures of the state required 20% of properties. They will also be coming to all residences' that have open permits.



### **Styrofoam Recycling Events**

#### **NOTICE OF CHANGE**



- \* Saturday, July 22— at Mayors' Riverfront Park and KVCC Oshtemo Campus
- \* Saturday, October 28— at Mayors' Riverfront Park and KVCC Oshtemo Campus
- \* Saturday, December 30— at Mayors' Riverfront Park only, no electronics



### **Tire Recycling Events** **APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED**

July 13th 9-2 at Swan Park located at 50 East VW Ave, Vicksburg, MI 49007  
August 8th 3-7 at Perkins Tire Services at 8333 Woodin in Scotts, MI 49088  
For Questions call 269-775-3368

### 2023 Fall Curbside Bulk Pickup!!



**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.

For Additional information about what you can and CAN'T put at the curbside, please refer to the townships webpage at  
<http://www.coopertwp.org/curbside-pick-up-and-recycling/>

### **Celebrate Safely and Respectfully**

Summer holidays offer many opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy the company of friends and family, and fireworks often add to the celebration. The state of Michigan allows for the use of consumer fireworks ONLY from 11:00 AM-11:45 PM on:



⇒ Monday, July 3rd-Wednesday July 5th

⇒ Sunday, September 3rd-Tuesday September 5th

Extremely dry weather conditions could cause a ban on fireworks and recreational fires. Please use extreme caution and be respectful of your neighbors! Remember to collect the debris from used fireworks, nobody enjoys the trash of bottle rockets and discharged fireworks tubes left in the streets or on our lawns.

It is illegal to use fireworks on public property, roads, sidewalks, school property, church property or the property of another without the owner's express permission. It is also illegal to use fireworks while intoxicated or under the influence.

If celebrating the summer holidays includes using fireworks for you, we ask that you do it in a safe, responsible, and respectful manner.

**Cooper Fire Department** received \$387,672.28 in ARPA funds on 9/12/2022, so far they have used a portion of these funds to purchase a double set of extraction tools and a new grass rig. The remaining \$251,320.47 they are planning to use toward the purchase of a new tanker.





## Township Hall & Office Renovation Project

### Summer 2023

At the May Township Board Meeting a contract was awarded to Kalleward Construction for renovations to the hall and office complex. The major scope of this project is as follows:

- Reconfigure the main entrance to the rear of the building. Construction of a new parking lot in the rear area to avoid residents needing to cross D Avenue.
- Essential upgrades to the electrical and mechanical systems.
- New areas required by state law to house absent ballot counting boards during large elections.
- Construct additional office space. This addition will facilitate staff members to be in a central area and provide residents, election workers and voters safer access to the new covered entry area.
- There will be an entrance and exit to and from the township complex on both **D Avenue and Douglas Avenue.**

This renovation will be funded by a portion of the ARPA funds and current cash reserves. Plans are available at the township office for any residents who are interested in viewing them.

## 2023 SUMMER TAX BILL

The summer tax bill you're receiving is due by September 14, 2023. Additional interest of 1% per month accrues beginning September 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 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 the Cooper Township Office doesn't accept credit or debit card payments. Online payments can be made through [www.pointandpay.com](http://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/assessments-and-taxes/](http://www.coopertwp.org/assessments-and-taxes/) 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.



## ELECTION UPDATE

From Cooper Township Clerk DeAnna Janssen...

The May 2nd Election is over and we are moving into the rest of 2023 planning an **August 8 Election** (Gull Lake & Otsego Schools) and a **November 7 Election** (Countywide Veterans Affairs Millage). As always, check out the Cooper Township Website ([www.coopertwp.org](http://www.coopertwp.org)) for more details about election results, future election dates, details about how to register, and details about how to vote! **If you are a Gull Lake School District or Otsego School District Cooper Township Voter, you will be voting at Precinct 1 for the August Election ONLY!!** Precinct 1 is at the Township Hall ... 1590 West D Ave.

Some information about last years Proposal 2 Election Changes are as follows:

- Early Voting—9 days of early, in person, voting prior to State and Federal Elections. Not many details to share yet, other than the State is planning on this going into effect statewide by the Presidential Primary in February 2024.
- Perm Absent Voter Ballots—if you receive an Absent Voter Application automatically prior to every election....pay close attention to the small check box on the form. The state plans to eliminate the application in the not to distant future and your only option will be to receive a Perm Absent Voter Ballot....only requires one request on file to permanently receive your ballot automatically for all future Cooper Elections. Be sure to checkmark that box if you want to continue receiving your ballot at home.
- Postage on your absent voter ballot and absent voter application are now pre-paid by the state. You still have 3 options... drop it off in person, into the drop box, or mail it.