

# Charter Township of Kalamazoo

## Township News

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1720 Riverview Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49004  
<http://www.kalamazootownship.org>

Summer Edition 2015

### Officials

Ronald E. Reid, Supervisor - [Supervisor@ktwp.org](mailto:Supervisor@ktwp.org)  
Donald Z. Thall, Clerk - [Clerk@ktwp.org](mailto:Clerk@ktwp.org)  
George E. Cochran, Treasurer - [Treasurer@ktwp.org](mailto:Treasurer@ktwp.org)

### Trustees

Pamela Brown Goodacre - [Goodacrepd@ktwp.org](mailto:Goodacrepd@ktwp.org)  
Donald D. Martin - [Martindd@ktwp.org](mailto:Martindd@ktwp.org)



### Editor

Molly K. Cole - [Molly@ktwp.org](mailto:Molly@ktwp.org)

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## You May Need to Know...

### Road Work Update

Work has begun on the roads. Every week an update from the Road Commission is posted on the Township web site [www.ktwp.org](http://www.ktwp.org) to let you know what is slated for the next week. Road milling and paving have already started in the Eastwood area. Crews will plan to start in the Indian Village area on the west side of the township in mid-July. Schedules will be dependent on weather conditions. Any needed storm sewer work is being done ahead of the road work. 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 6. Please make sure you know which day your trash is to be picked up by going to the website or calling the township. Although you are allowed to put your trash at the curb the weekend before we're asking that you wait until the day before if possible. There were a lot of people picking through the trash and leaving things spread around yards during the last pick-up. You can also prevent this problem by taking any reusable or recyclable items in yourself. Almost any clothing can be taken to Goodwill or put in one of the drop boxes. What can't be sold as clothing is sent to other countries or sold to industry as rags. You can cash in your metal at one of the local metal recycling companies or at least put it to the side where it can be picked up easily by others. All old electronics including televisions should be taken to the County Household Hazardous Waste Center [www.kalcounty.com/hhw](http://www.kalcounty.com/hhw) or call 373-5211 for recycling and disposal. Rules for bulk trash pick-up are available on our web site <http://kalamazootownship.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1646>

### Fire Safety

- While using your gas or charcoal grill, make sure you maintain a safe distance from your home and combustibles. We recommended a minimum of 10 feet clearance.
- Open Burning Requirements:
  - To burn in the open, you are required to obtain a burning permit from your district fire station
  - Open burning is limited to Wednesday through Saturday weather permitting. You are also limited to yard waste only (leaves and brush)

The permits are free. A copy of the burning ordinance may be obtained at your local fire station or our quick links.

## Rules of the Road for Bicyclists and Motorists

### Bicyclist:

- Wear a helmet and wear bright clothes
- Ride with the flow of traffic.
- Obey traffic signals and signs.
- Signal your intentions.
- Ride as far to the right side of the roadway as "practicable" with a maximum of two abreast.

### Motorists:

- Be extra alert and don't drive distracted.
- Look in all directions when crossing bike trails or sidewalks, slow down when rounding a corner or cresting a hill.
- Bicycles are allowed by law to ride on the roads.
- Bicyclists need at least 3-5 feet of space to be safe.
- An angry beep may startle a bicyclist into losing control, a dangerous situation for all.
- When turning right at intersections or driveways, make sure no bicyclists are in your path.
- Motorists must yield to oncoming traffic, including non-motorists.
- Please check for bikes before opening doors.
- Don't park in bike lanes



Paul Selden, Director of Road Safety, Kalamazoo Bicycle Club, full article is on our website or find more information at [www.lmb.org](http://www.lmb.org) and [www.bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](http://www.bikefriendlykalamazoo.org)

### Two Millage Questions On The August 4, 2015 Ballot

Voters will be asked to approve a millage up to 0.75 mills for five years beginning in 2016 within the Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA) Boundaries. For more information go to [www.kalcountytransit.com](http://www.kalcountytransit.com)

Kalamazoo Township residents will also be asked to renew the millage that covers most of the general operations of the Township, including fire and police. You can find more information on the Clerk's Department page on our website. Also, please be sure to only mark your ballot within the ovals on the ballot.

### Parking Rules

As many residents may have vehicles in need of repair or enjoy RVs, boats, ATVs, and trailers, please keep these ordinance requirements in mind:

- The vehicles 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 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.



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

### 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.

## Your Community

### Eastwood

Eastwood Fire Station is getting a new \$422,000 fire truck. Engine #812 will be reporting for service by mid-July. Keep an eye out for it.

This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Eastwood Fire Station. There will be a parade and other activities planned for Saturday, October 3. More will be posted on our website as plans develop.



The Eastwood Neighborhood Association is organizing a neighborhood wide garage sale for that same weekend and is looking into holding an electronics recycling event as well. Start thinking of what you have to sell or recycle. If you want to participate contact Rosemary at (269) 345-3589 or email rknox1427@gmail.com.

The Eastwood Community Garden and 4-H Club organized by the Eastwood Neighborhood Association and Cooperative Extension are going strong. For information contact Trustee Goodacre at [goodacrepd@ktwp.org](mailto:goodacrepd@ktwp.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Eastwood-Community-Association/859525920749275?fref=photo>

### Lakewood

Lakewood will be home to the Kalamazoo County Fair on August 10 through 15. This is a great event for families with children. There will be animals to meet, games, activities and entertainment including a Kalamazoo's Got Talent contest. The Township encourages Lakewood residents to take the opportunity to showcase their neighborhood for this and other events at the Expo Center that attract visitors to the Lakewood neighborhood.

### Northwood

Congratulations and thanks to the Northwood neighbors that initiated and participated in the clean-up on N. Edwards and N. Burdick. [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/06/kdps\\_and\\_kalamazoo\\_township\\_pa.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/06/kdps_and_kalamazoo_township_pa.html)

### Westwood Fire Station

The Westwood Firefighters Association's 74<sup>th</sup> annual ice cream social is from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on July 31 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.

You can find out more about things happening in Westwood on the Westwood Neighborhood Association facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/WestwoodNeighborhoodAssociationKzoo>

## Recognition and Thanks

Township Firefighters Tyler Vaughn and Anthony Tazelaar successfully graduated on June 28, 2015 from the Kalamazoo County Fire Chiefs Fire Academy. After over 350 hours of classroom and practical skills training, both members received State of Michigan Firefighters Training Council certification as a Firefight I/II, hazardous Material Operation level, National Incident Management training and Emergency Vehicle Operations training. Congratulations Tyler and Anthony!

Thank you Elly Heacock for the hours of volunteer time you're putting in fingerprinting for the police department.

## Communications from the Office

### Subscribe to the Newsletter

If you just happened across this newsletter online and aren't a subscriber yet be sure to go to the homepage to subscribe so you can receive it quarterly in your email. [www.kalamazootownship.org](http://www.kalamazootownship.org)

## Single Hauler for Garbage? Tell us what you think.



It has been suggested that there's a lot of merit in the idea of having a single garbage hauler for Kalamazoo Township residents the way Parchment does. One of the biggest reasons is to protect the investment you've all just made in our Township roads. The way it works now each week, four different garbage hauling companies send four different garbage trucks down most township streets. In addition, multiple waste hauling companies operate yard waste trucks to collect yard trimmings each week during the growing season from garbage customers who also subscribe for yard waste service. Studies have shown that garbage trucks cause more stress to roads than busses or delivery trucks.

Areas that are using single haulers are saving significantly on their bills and they still have choices in cart size and types of service. If you would like to express your views on the idea please email Supervisor Reid at [supervisor@ktwp.org](mailto:supervisor@ktwp.org) with the subject line "single hauler" or you may call Supervisor Reid at (269) 381-8083.

## 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.



## Meeting Dates and Times

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

### Note new Channels.

Board meetings are on Charter Communications channel 190 and AT&T U-verse 99: Sun. 8 p.m., Mon. 8 a.m. & 7:30 p.m., Wed. 9 a.m. and Fri. 3:45 p.m. Meetings may also be viewed online at <http://pmn.pegcentral.com/>

(Also check out Kalamazoo Township Roundtable replaying on Channel 190 until a new episode: Mondays at 2:30 p.m., Wednesday at 7:00 a.m., Thursdays at Midnight and Saturdays at 9:30 p.m. as well as Connect at 7:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m., and 12:30 a.m. each day of the week, to understand what's happening in your community.)

**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 February on the third Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.

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

## Upcoming Township Office Closures

Independence Day Observed, July 3, 2015

Veterans Day, November 11, 2015

Labor Day, September 7, 2015

Thanksgiving Day, November 26 & 27, 2015

*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.*