

Chester Township Newsletter

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July 2016

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CALENDAR

July 5-Last day to register for August election
July 11-Election Commission Meeting 6:45 p.m.
July 11-Township Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
July 25-Planning Commission Meeting
July 27-Public Test of Election Equipment 11:45 a.m.
July 30-Office open for absentee ballot requests 9:00-2:00
August 2-Primary Election
August 8-Township Board Meeting
August 22-Planning Commission Meeting
September 5-Labor Day office closed
September 12-Township Board Meeting
September 26-Planning Commission Meeting
October 11-Last day to register for November election

All meetings of the Chester Township Board or any township committees are open to the public and everyone is welcome.

ELECTION NOTICES

August 2-Primary Election

November 8-General Election

Absentee Ballots will be available approximately 30 days before each Election Day. If you are over 60 years old or permanently disabled, you can ask to receive an absentee ballot application automatically.

Online information is available at www.michigan.gov/vote. You can check your registration, see a sample of your ballot, track an absentee ballot, and more.

MILLAGES

There are 2 local millage proposals that will be on the August ballot.

The 0.125 mills for Senior Services is a replacement of the existing millage. The amount levied would be the same as is currently on the tax bill, but it will be designated for general senior services, rather than specifically for Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging.

The other proposal is for the 1.5 mills previously levied for Road Construction and Maintenance. The amount had been subject to the Headlee rollback and was reduced to 1.4837. The millage would be renewed at the 1.5 mill amount.

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

We are in the process of updating our photo records for the assessment files. Under standards set by the State of Michigan, this will be done for each property every five years to insure that our records are complete and include a current photo of all buildings. It will not affect the assessment values of your property. If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please contact the township office.

BURN PERMITS

A permit to have an open fire is required except when the ground is snow covered, or for domestic purposes, to protect persons or property in case of fire. To obtain a permit, call the township offices during regular business hours or Fire Chief, Dwight Sheridan, at 231-853-6848 any day except Sunday.

- Permits are not valid for more than 3 consecutive days.
- No fire shall be set when a high wind is blowing.
- An adequate fire line shall be made around the area to be burned.
- A force of adults, sufficient to control the fire, shall be on hand at all times.

- Permit holders are liable for any damage to property which may occur.
- Permits are revoked if conditions are such that burning may not be done safely.

HALL RENTAL

The Community Room at the Chester Township Hall is available to rent. The cost for residents is \$100 for up to 6 hours and \$150 for rentals lasting between 6 and 12 hours. Non-residents will pay additional costs. Please call the township office or check our website for more information.

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

In order to save on printing and mailing costs we are asking that anyone willing to receive their newsletter by email to contact us at mail@chester-twp.org.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary public service is available at no charge to residents at the township office. Please call first to be sure the clerk or treasurer is in.

OTTAWA COUNTY HELPLINE

If you need information about resources to help with counseling, food, clothing and shelter needs, senior citizen programs, job assistance, substance abuse services or any other health and human service problem, just dial 2-1-1. Cell phone users can call 888-353-6717.

This is a 24 hour, 7 day a week service that can link you with the agencies, professionals and business who can help.

PARKING REGULATIONS

Parking at Crockery Lake can become a little congested during the summer, so please be careful to park your vehicles so that all the tires are off the paved portion of the street and that you are not blocking access to driveways. This will help to keep everyone safe and allow for emergency vehicles to pass.

Also, please observe the parking time limits at the boat launch. The 15 minute area allows boaters to pull out of the way while tying down their boats, leaving the launch clear for incoming boats. Thank you!

SENIOR SERVICES

The North Ottawa County Council on Aging (NOCCOA) is now called Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging, but they are still providing the same services to seniors in our area.

A representative is available at the Township office on the second Wednesday of each month from 9:00-11:00am to help with any information or support needed by seniors or their families.

Their toll free number is 1-877-548-1507 to find out more of what assistance they can provide.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLASHOVER

The Chester Township Fire Department extends a thank-you to all who supported our breakfast on Memorial weekend Sunday. We happily served 517 hungry citizens and received net donations of over \$3500.00. With these donations we now have enough revenue to purchase a new thermal imaging camera, which has been our project for the last 2 years. Have a safe and healthy summer!

Dwight Sheridan, Fire Chief

Supervisor-Gary Meerman

Township Officers:
Treasurer-Dianne Berenbrock
Trustees-Troy Goodno & Ed Kelly

Clerk-Jan Redding

Office Hours: Monday 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Website: www.chester-twp.org