

SPRING 2016 OLIVE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Olive Township Office
6480 136th Avenue, Holland, MI 49424
E-Mail: info@olivetownship.com
Website: www.olivetownship.com
Phone: 616-786-9996
Fax: 616-786-3133

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 - 4
Zoning Administrator Hours: Thursday & Friday, 8 - 5
Supervisor Hours: By appointment
Assessor Hours: Tuesday 8-4

Supervisor - Todd Wolters	786-9996
Treasurer - Randy Vander Zwaag.....	875-8324
Clerk - Lona Bronkema	786-9996
Trustee - Al Nienhuis, Jr.....	875-2883
Trustee - Terry Hossink	875-7685
Zoning Administrator - Steve Kushion.....	786-9996
Assessor - Tyler Tacoma	786-9996

Election News

2016 Elections:

Registered voters who live in Olive Township will have an opportunity to vote several times this year. Here's a list of election dates:

- May 3 – School Election for Zeeland and West Ottawa districts
- August 2 – State Primary Election (including local millage)
- November 8 – State General Election (including President)

All elections will be held at the Olive Township Hall at 6480 136th Avenue. To see what is on the ballot, go to <https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/>, type in your information, and click on sample ballot. Polls will be open from 7am – 8pm.

Voter Registration:

In order to vote in an election, you must be registered to vote at least 30 days before the election. Once you have registered to vote, you do not need to re-register for each election unless you have moved. To find out if and where you are registered, go to <https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/> You may register to vote by mail or in person at the Secretary of State office, or at the township office. Online voter registration is not available in Michigan. Due to recent changes in voter registration laws, those who register to vote in person must provide a photo ID at the time of their registration.

Absentee Ballots:

If you would like to vote by Absentee Ballot, please stop in the office M-F from 8 am – 4 pm to fill out your ballot application form. A recent change to state laws requires us to ask for photo ID whenever a voter requests an absentee ballot in person. Applications for absentee ballots can be **mailed** out without a photo ID, but if you come in and fill one out in the office, you must have a photo ID.

Filled out Absentee Ballots can be mailed back with a forever stamp—no extra postage is needed. Don't forget to sign the envelope! The township hall will also be open from 9 am – 2 pm the Saturday before each election to allow you to vote by absentee ballot.

Permanent Absentee Voter List:

If you are over 60 years of age and would like to be placed on a permanent Absentee Voter list and receive an Absentee Ballot for every election, just call (786-9996) or stop in the office and let us know that. Just voting once by Absentee Ballot does not mean you will be placed on the permanent list—you must make a special request for this. When you request to be on the Permanent AV list, you will automatically receive an

Olive Township Clean Up Day
April 30, 2016
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Old Township Hall - 11768 Polk St.

COUPON

Reminder--Please wait until 9 am on Saturday to bring your items. No items are to be brought the night before.

Accepted recyclables include: aluminum, glass, paper, tin, and batteries (including car). Appliances will be accepted with a \$20 charge for Freon removal. **We will not accept tires, whole cars, paints, oil, or solvents of any kind.** The county has drop off points for solvents and paints.

This year we are **not** offering electronics recycling.

Please present this coupon at the entrance to the clean-up day.

Students who need community service credits may volunteer during cleanup. Call 786-9996 to volunteer.

application for every election. State law requires absent voting to be a 2-step process. First you must fill out an application, and then you will receive and be able to vote your ballot.

Fire Millage:

At the August 2nd election, voters in Olive Township will be asked to vote on a millage renewal proposal for the Fire Department. This is an operating millage that will be levied for four years, if approved. At 1 mill, the millage will cost taxpayers \$1 per \$1,000 in taxable value.

Lona Bronkema, Clerk

Planning & Zoning Department

Getting Ready for Spring Projects?

We are approaching that time of year – the Spring construction season. New construction projects on your home, a new pole barn or other new structures on your property require a permit from the Township prior to construction. Most improvement projects also require a permit from the Township. Given this, before you begin any project, be sure to check with the Township at least seven days prior to when you wish to begin the project to allow for enough time to receive a permit, if required. In addition, we realize that most are eager to begin construction and wish they had their permit immediately. While we wish we could, we cannot process the permit any faster than the content that is provided. When filling out the building permit application, please make sure to complete all of the requested information to save time on our end for review and on your end to provide additional information. When completely filled out, we can issue permits fairly quickly.

Did You Know?

If you are interested in selling part of your property you need to receive approval from the township to divide the land prior to the sale of the property. Inquiring with the township prevents the sale of a parcel that is unbuildable. In addition, we can help ensure structures are appropriately setback from proposed property lines.

Olive Township prohibits the outdoor storage of junk or junk vehicles on any property. While we have a lot of space around us, keeping our property clean keeps the township attractive to its residents and visitors.

Planning & Zoning Office Hours/Contact info

I have been with Olive Township since November of 2015, taking over the position from Greg Ransford. I am in the office Thursdays and Fridays from 8am-5pm. I can return calls and emails from Saugatuck Township Monday-Wednesday as well, feel free to contact me at Steve@olivetownship.com

Steve Kushion, Planning & Zoning Director

Notes from the Supervisor

Cleanup Day

Our annual cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30. This is a great opportunity to clean up your property and get rid of junk at little or no cost. Please bring the coupon on the front of the newsletter with you when you drop off your articles. Read the coupon to see what can and cannot be accepted. Township officials will be canvassing the township this year looking for junk, and sending letters about complying with the zoning ordinance to clean up properties.

Staff Change

We welcomed Steve Kushion as our new planning and zoning administrator in November 2015. Residents are encouraged to contact Steve with their planning, zoning or land division questions.

Road Brining

We anticipate having the township's gravel roads graded and brined three times this coming season. Weather permitting we will apply brine at the end of April, midsummer, and in the fall.

Roads

Our road millage brought in approximately \$341,400 in revenue from 2015 taxes that will be used to improve township roads. If you are interested in viewing the Ottawa County Road Commission construction projects for this year go to <http://www.ottawacorc.com/construction-projects/>

Appraisal Review

Our assessor will be out and about this year appraising a sampling of parcels. He will be measuring buildings and taking pictures around the township. This is being done to comply with State Tax Commission recommendations.

Check Out Our Website

There is a wealth of information about the township and community on our website. Please visit us at <http://www.olivetownship.com/>

Todd Wolters, Supervisor

Historical Society News

Dandelion Festival- Is May 7 in Borculo with the parade starting at 11-we will have antique cars carrying local veterans, and the Smeyers Family display of fly wheel engines.

The Memorial Day Observance will honor past and current veterans, and those currently serving our country. The ceremony begins at 10:30 at the Olive Township Cemetery on the corner of 116th & Taylor. Following the service will be the Memory Walk to the Olive Township museum on Polk St. The Bartels family military exhibit will be on display. Lunch will be served from 11 – 2 by the South Olive CRC Mission Group. Free dessert and coffee served to all veterans. Ottawa School House on Stanton St. will be open from 11-2 with wooden replicas on display.

Pigeon River Barn Quilt Trail promotes barn quilts on our area barns, we have 12 so far. If you are interested in participating please contact society member Sandy Karsten at 875-8036. Barn Quilt Tour brochures are available at the township office.

OTHS always welcomes new members! Help preserve local history. We have history books and school house replicas for sale.

Olive Township
6480 136th Avenue
Holland, MI 49424

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Greetings from the Fire Chief

Burn Permits-If you have a smart phone or email you can now obtain a burning permit by calling the township office at 786-9996, or submitting the burn permit form found on our website. Office staff will e-mail the signed permit to you. Your information is sent to Central Dispatch. This saves us from running false calls. You can also stop by the Township Office and pick up a permit. Burn permits are issued Nov 1 to May 31. There is now a provision in the ordinance to obtain a burn permit for those instances that can't wait until the normal burning season begins. You must contact the fire chief and post a \$500 deposit with the township.

Fire Insurance Rating- Recently the township's fire insurance rating was upgraded from 7/9 to 5/6. If you are within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant your rating is 5. Through mutual aid agreements with surrounding township fire departments most, if not all, residents are

within 5 miles of a fire station, and qualify for a rating of 6. Please notify your home insurance carrier of this change.

Looking for Training Buildings - We are seeking buildings to use for firefighter training and live burns. If you have a house, mobile home or other building you are going to demolish, and would be interested in allowing us to use it for training please call me for details or with any questions at 616-836-2398.

Duane Wolters, Fire Chief
Olive Township Fire Rescue

Property Tax Due Dates

2016 Summer Taxes: September 14, 2016
2016 Winter Taxes: February 14, 2017