Fall 2023

ZEELAND TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER









CALENDAR of EVENTS

OCT. 6-7 PUMPKIN FEST - DOWNTOWN ZEELAND

OCT. 28 TRICK OR TREAT - ZCT PUBLIC SAFETY BLDG
5-8 PM

OCT. 31 DOWNTOWN ZEELAND TRICK OR TREAT

NOV. 1 DEADLINE FOR WINTER P.R.E. EXEMPTION

If you purchased a home after June 1, 2023 you should check if you are receiving the **P**rincipal **R**esidents **E**xemption. Residents claiming a "homeowners" exemption are exempt from paying 18 mills on their tax bill for Hudsonville and Zeeland School's Operating budget. Call the office or go to our website: zeelandtwp.org to verify your exemption.

NOV. 23 & 24 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - OFFICE CLOSED

NOV. 27 MAGICAL CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

Tree Lighting is at 6:15PM. Parade runs down Main Street in Zeeland at 6:30PM.

DEC. 12 BOARD OF REVIEW

The December Board of Review meets to correct "qualified errors" and to consider appeals related to PREs, qualified agricultural exemptions and poverty exemptions. The December board cannot hear appeals of assessment.

DEC. 25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY - OFFICE CLOSED

DEC. 28, 8:30AM-5:00PM TREASURER'S HOURS

Treasurer will be available from 8:30am-5:00pm on Thursday, December 28 to receive property tax payments. *There is a drop box at the township hall to drop off your tax payment over the holiday.*

JAN. 1 NEW YEARS DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

FEB. 14, 2024 FINAL DAY TO PAY WITHOUT PENALTY

2023 winter tax bills will be due on Wednesday, February 14. We will continue to receive tax payments through Thursday, February 29th; late payments include a 3% late fee. After Thursday, February 29th, tax bills are due to Ottawa County. Please call the Ottawa County Treasurer for tax amount owing. There is a drop box beside the township hall's front door to drop off your payment after hours.

MARCH 1, 2024 TAXES TO BE PAID AT THE COUNTY

As of March 1, 2023 all delinquent tax bills will need to be paid to the Ottawa County Treasurers office. Please call (616)994-4501 for amount due.

FALL CLEANUP

- 1. Please be aware that the only fires permitted in the township must be in a hand-fed burning barrel. Ground fires are not allowed unless you obtain a burn permit by calling (616)886-6666.
- 2. Fall leaves can be disposed of free of charge, in a dumpster at Autumn Hills Recycling. Please remove the leaves from plastic bags. You can dispose of your plastic bags in a nearby container. Burning leaves on the ground in your yard is <u>not allowed</u>.
- 3. The township provides two dump coupons per year, once in the spring and once in the fall. The coupons are for residential use only—please do not try to use them for your commercial/industrial trash.

WHAT'S NEW...

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNITY DAY!

Thanks to everyone that came out to The Township's first annual Community Day on Aug. 16th at the Drenthe Grove. It was a beautiful afternoon and evening filled with food trucks, the Critter Barn and free ice cream from our friends at Mooville, along with representatives from the Ottawa County Sheriff's Dept., ZCT Fire Dept., State Police, Zeeland City police, Ottawa County Dive team and more! *Mark your calendar for next year's event on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024!*

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN - INPUT NEEDED!

The Township, in partnership with Zeeland Rec., is engaging in a planning effort this fall to help set the course for the future of parks and recreation in Zeeland Township over the next five years (2024-2029). As community members, your input is important and will help shape future plans.

There are two ways to engage: First, on *Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 6:00 pm* we will be hosting an event to hear from you, our ZCT residents, at the Drenthe Grove. Second, there will soon be a survey link on our website to gather your input. Stay tuned to our website, www.zeelandtwp.org, for more information. We appreciate your involvement!

PARKS & RECREATION

Drenthe Community Grove offers playground equipment, a ball field, a beach volleyball court, 2 tennis courts, 2 pickleball courts, basketball court and shaded picnic areas open to the public. There is also a 0.7 mile paved walkway, fishing pond and a picnic shelter. The Dozeman Center is available to rent by calling the Township office.

Stop by and enjoy the new playground that was installed this Spring!

Van Zoeren Woods This 34 acre parcel of land lies along side of the Expressway at the corner of 56th Ave & Riley St. The park has crushed aggregate and natural walking paths, several benches, and a portable restroom to enhance your experience at the woods.

Sledding Hill Come out and enjoy the Sledding Hill located on Waste Management Property, 3/4 mile east of Autumn Hills landfill on 56th Ave. The hill will be ready for sledding by the first snow fall.

FLOWER DONATION

Thank you to Outback Greenhouse for the flower donation at Gord Ellens Park located at the corner of Adams St. & 64th St. in Drenthe!

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Thank you to all of our residents for your patience with the road construction in the Township again this year. We appreciate your understanding and we know everyone is looking forward to open roads and clear sailing in 2024!

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

The Assessing Dept. is staffed on Tuesday's & Thursday's between 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Residents are welcome to stop in or call during these hours. The Assessing staff is also continuing their annual "20% Review" process, whereby they visit each property in the township, on-site, every 5 years (870 visits in 2023).

visit us on the web at zeelandtwp.org





6582 Byron Road Zeeland, MI 49464

Supervisor, Tom Oonk Clerk, Kate Kraak Treasurer, Melissa Veldheer Trustee, Jeff Salisbury Trustee, Ron Brink Trustee, Kerri J. Bosma Trustee, Mike Riemersma

Building & Zoning Adm., Kirk Scharphorn Jr - PCI Assessor, Tyler Tacoma Fire Chief. Brock Bruce

CEMETERY REMINDERS

The Township has four active cemeteries within its boundaries. The following three are managed by Zeeland Township:

East Drenthe Cemetery is located on 60th Ave, south of Adams St. **West Drenthe Cemetery** is located on the northeast corner of 78th Ave. & Adams St.

Vriesland Cemetery is located on 72nd Ave., 1/2 mile south of Riley St.

Beaverdam Cemetery is located on Ransom St., 1/4 mile east of 64th Ave., and is owned and operated by Beaverdam Christian Reformed Church.

Please remember that artificial flowers are not permitted. Per Township ordinance, we also reserve the right to remove any displays, containers or other sources of maintenance problems.

BUILDING RENTALS

Zeeland Charter Township has two rental facilities: Drenthe Community Grove Dozeman Center (615 68th Ave), and the Community Center (2446 64th Ave). Rental times for both facilities are from 12:00 noon until 10:00 pm. No alcoholic beverages, no smoking and no excessive noise are allowed. To inquire about availability and rates, please call the Township Office at 772-6701.

RESPECTFUL FLAG DISPOSAL

There is a box in the Township office lobby for you to dispose of your old American Flags. The Daughters of the American Revolution will pick up the flags for a proper disposal.

Zeeland Township Office

6582 Byron Road Zeeland, MI 49464 616-772-6701

Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs. 8:30-5:00 Wed. & Fri. 8:30-noon Assessor available on Tues & Thurs 9:00-2:00

Fire Chief Brock Bruce Burn permits call: 616-886-6666 or email burnpermits@zeelandtwp.org

Township Web Site: zeelandtwp.org
Email: info@zeelandtwp.org

FIRE DEPARTMENT

SAVE THE DATE! The Public Safety Building, located at 6522 Byron Rd., will be hosting a Trick or Treat event on Saturday, October 28th from 5-8 pm. Bring your family for some fun and treats. No tricks, we promise.

Burn permits - are available 24 hours in advance by visiting our website at www.zeelandtwpfire.com or calling 616-886-6666. Permits will not be issued to burn leaves.

Smoke & CO Detector Safety: As we prepare for colder weather, it's crucial to ensure the safety of your home and loved ones. Regularly check your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors to confirm they are functioning properly. Change the batteries annually, test them monthly, and keep them free of dust and debris.

If you need assistance with your detectors or require the installation of smoke alarms or CO alarms in your home, our dedicated team can provide these services at no cost to you. Please email chief@zctfd.org or call 616-886-6666 to schedule an appointment or discuss any fire safety concerns.

Hydrants, Driveways & Addresses—Just a reminder to keep your hydrants clear and your addresses visible through out the winter so that emergency workers can easily find your home and access the hydrants.

We also have green reflective address signs available in the Township for \$20. These help emergency workers find your home especially during the dark and snowy winter. Call 616-772-6701 or stop by the office to purchase one.