
Oakfield Township Outlook

Summer 2022

10300 14 Mile Rd, Rockford, MI. 49341
Phone: (616) 754-5679 Fax: (616) 754-0989
Office Hours Mon. – Thur. 8-12 noon & 1-5pm on Tues. & Wed.



From the Supervisor:

Please be advised that tickets are being issued to homeowners who have junk vehicles or trash laying around on their property. In an effort to keep our township looking nice, please keep your yards picked up. Enjoy your summer!

Oakfield Township Supervisor, *Greg Dean*



ASSESSOR

Please check your tax bill for correct spelling, addresses and legal descriptions.

If you receive a tax bill and are no longer the owner of the property, please give us a call so we can get a tax bill to the new owner.

The due dates for Principal Residence Exemption are June 1 for current year summer taxes and November 1 for current year winter taxes. It's a savings for property owners who purchase between June 1 and November 1 and live in a school district that collects non homestead in the winter.

VETERANS: If you have not received your VA exemption for 2022, please file an affidavit with the assessor's office prior to July 19, 2022. In order to qualify for a Veterans Exemption from property taxes, you must have a letter from the VA stating that you are 100% disabled and the nature of your disability is total and permanent. You may also qualify with a disability rating of 70% - 99% disabled if you are designated as unable to work. All applications must include an Affidavit for Veterans Exemption (Form 5107). Affidavits are available at the Township Hall or on our website at www.oakfieldtwp.org.

Finally, as of January 1, 2014, transfers of ownership between immediate family members are exempt from uncapping. If you sell property to a blood relative to the first degree, e.g. your mother, father, brother, sister, son, or daughter (either biological or adopted), the Taxable Value will remain capped. Please remember to check the appropriate box on the Property Transfer Affidavit.

Matthew J. Smith
Oakfield Township Assessor



The Treasurer's Desk:

We hope you are having a great spring/summer. It is almost time to send tax bills once again, so we wanted to send out some reminders.

2022 SUMMER TAXES ARE DUE JULY 1 AND PAYABLE UNTIL 5:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 WITHOUT INTEREST.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Check or money order is preferred. Please write legibly and include parcel number(s) and telephone number. Payments made through your bank bill pay DO NOT arrive at the township on the date you pay them. Please allow enough time for mailed payments to reach the township before the deadline. **POSTMARKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS ON TIME PAYMENTS.** If your check is not honored by the bank, the tax is considered unpaid and will be restored to the tax roll without further notice.
- If paying with cash, please pay with the exact amount.
- The township is now accepting credit card payments. These can be paid online, in person, or over the phone. **There will be a fee for using this service.**
- For your convenience, you are able to pay your taxes online using a credit card or e-check. Click on the link on Oakfield Township's website. **Again, there is a fee for these services.**
- If you want a **receipt**, please enclose **both portions of the tax bill** with your check and a **stamped, self-addressed envelope**. We will return the top portion.
- Oakfield Township office hours are Monday – Thursday from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and Tuesday & Wednesday from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM. The township office is closed on Fridays.
- We will be open 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 for tax collection.

THERE ARE A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS TO CHECK WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR TAX BILL.

ESCROW ACCOUNTS FOR TAXES

If your taxes are paid from an escrow account, your copy of the tax bill should arrive on white (instead of colored) paper and state, "A copy of this bill has been sent to your mortgage provider". If this message does not appear on your tax bill, **you** are responsible for paying. You should contact your mortgage holder and resolve the problem.

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION (PRE)

Look in the top section of your bill under "Tax Detail" to verify you have the 100% Principal Residence Exemption (PRE). If you qualify, and the exemption is in place, the tax detail portion of your bill will state "PRE % 100.000". By State of Michigan standards, you must own and **occupy** your home on or before June 1st of the current year, and it must be the only property for which you have filed. If you think you qualify for a PRE and don't have it, please contact our assessor, Matthew Smith, at 754-5679. The exemption reduces the School Operating Tax for **Cedar Springs** and **Rockford** School Districts on the **summer** bill, and Greenville, Belding and Rockford School Districts for the winter bill.

SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT

Qualifying seniors may apply for a summer tax deferment. This will defer payment of the summer tax until the winter taxes are due. Please contact the treasurer's office for more information.

REVIEW YOUR TAX BILL FOR ACCURACY

Please read and review your bill for accuracy. Are your name and address correct? Is your PRE up to date? If you have moved and still own the property, please notify the township of your change of address. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TAXES EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T RECEIVE THE BILL BECAUSE OF A WRONG MAILING ADDRESS.** We strive to keep all information current, but with continued activity of sales, building, and parcel splits, errors can occur. Some changes take time to clear through the system, so if you have a question on your parcel, please call our office for confirmation of status.

**If you find any discrepancies on the bill or have any questions, please contact us immediately via phone (616)754-5679 or email info@oakfieldtwp.org or treasurer@oakfieldtwp.org.

THE LAST DAY TO PAY TAXES WITHOUT INTEREST IS SEPTEMBER 14th, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

*Betsy N. Koett, Treasurer
Amy Christensen, Deputy Treasurer*



Clerk's Corner:



Prepare now for the upcoming election year in 2022!

Our elections will be held August 2 & November 8 from 7 am to 8 pm. ALL registered voters are now eligible to vote absentee if you have met the photo ID rule when you registered to vote.

Absentee voting is a method of voting in which you can receive and mark the ballot before Election Day.

- Absentee voting applications are available 75 days before each election. Ballots are available 45 days prior to each election
- Submit an application for a ballot to your Township Clerk's Office.
- We will issue a ballot to you once we have your application processed and ballots are available.
- You can review the candidates and proposals and mark your vote(s) at your leisure.
- Once you have made your selection(s) on the ballot, seal it in the return ballot envelope. The ballot envelope must be signed by the voter ONLY.
- The Clerk's Office **MUST** receive the ballot no later than 8 pm on Election Day.
- The absentee voting process can take place in person, by mail, or by using the drop box.
- The Absent Voter Processing Board will count the absentee ballots on Election Day. YES, they do get counted!

If you want to vote absentee in future elections, we can add you to a permanent absent voter list.

We will mail an application to you before each election. If you want to vote absentee in that election, complete the application and return it to the Clerk's Office. If you'd rather vote in person at your precinct or not at all, you may dispose of the application.

In order to be placed on the Absent Voter list, you may do one of the following:

1. Complete the Absent Voter form.
2. Call the Clerk's office at 616-754-5679
3. Email a request to clerk@oakfieldtwp.org (include your name, address and date of birth).



Enjoy your Summer!

*Sue Trainer, Clerk
Ashlee Vanderkooi, Deputy Clerk*

2022 Oakfield Community Blood Drives

Oakfield Township continues to sponsor our blood drives in partnership with Versiti Blood of Michigan. The dates for the remaining blood drives for 2022 are July 6, September 7, November 2 and December 28 from 1:00-5:30 pm. Each donation has the potential to save 3 lives. To sign up online, go to <https://donate.versiti.michigan.org/donor/auth/signin>.



Fire Department:

When doing your yard cleanup, if you plan to burn brush, leaves, or any other yard waste, you must have a burning permit. Permits are easily obtainable. You can do one of the following:

- Call the Fire Station and speak with the Fire Chief, providing the dates you will be burning and type of materials you plan to burn.
- Fill out the burn permit application online at www.oakfieldtwp.org in the Fire Department under the Departments & Services tab.

Please check the sign in front of the Township Hall for the daily Fire Danger Classification to help with your decision on when to do your burning.

If you have any questions about these items, please feel free to call me at any time and I will be glad to provide you with more information.

Sincerely,
Samuel Peterson, Fire Chief

Firefighters' Auxiliary Newsletter

We are looking for new members. We have 4 meetings per year, along with a couple of fundraisers and community projects. The remaining meetings are June 7, September 6, and December 6 at 6 pm at the fire station. Please consider joining us. For more info, please contact Becka Merren at becka.merren17@outlook.com or Meredith Harter at meredith.harter@icloud.com.

We had another successful spring flower sale. Thank you to all who purchased from us. The flower baskets, from Kraker Greenhouse of Allendale are always lush and beautiful. Funds from this sale are used for purchasing extra items for the department, such as white board and supplies, dress uniform shirts and radio straps.

Make A Difference





Oakfield Historical Commission

Have you ever visited your Oakfield Township Museum? It's YOURS because you live in Oakfield Township! It's located on Podunk Road, south of M-57 and is open fourth Sundays from 2-4 pm during June through September.

It's full of wonderful discoveries about the rich history of our township...our early pioneers, churches and schools...the three communities that were a part of the township...the history of the museum building itself...AND MUCH MORE!

But all this isn't possible without people to make it available. The township Historical Commission is responsible for making the museum function, but volunteers are desperately needed to make it really succeed! WE NEED YOU! We don't want the museum to close!

Do you like history? You'll love learning more about your township and neighborhood!

Do you like genealogy? We have lots of records to search and research!

Do you like people? We meet lots of nice visitors at the museum when we host!

Are you artistic? We need people to create displays and exhibits!

Do you like keeping records? We need people to help create documentation of artifacts!

Do you like performing? We'd like to do some historical programs about the past!

If you like to plan, maybe you can serve on the Historical Commission itself!

Let us know what you like to do, and we can find a way for you to use your time and talents!

To learn more, stop by the museum when it's open or call Sharon Bouck, 616-754-4553.

We'd love to hear from you!

Oakfield Township Historical Commission:
Steve Tower, Ray Salyer, Sharon Bouck, Ed and Alice Jackson,
John Frueh, Carolyn Balko



Meeting Schedule:

Township Board of Trustees:

7:00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month

Planning Commission:

7:00 p.m. 3rd Tuesday of the month. Meets quarterly, additionally as needed.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

7:00 p.m. 4th Tuesday of the month as needed.



**10300 14 Mile Road
Rockford, MI. 49341**

Phone: 616-754-5679

Fax: 616-754-0989

Web Site: oakfieldtwp.org

Oakfield Township Board of Trustees:

William Greg Dean, Supervisor

Sue Trainer, Clerk

Betsy Koett, Treasurer

Trustees: Bryan Porter, Pamela Riker, Ken Rittersdorf, and
Chad Sowerby

Assessor- Matthew Smith

Tuesday 8 am – 12 pm & 1 pm – 5 pm

Wednesday 8 am – 12 pm & 1 pm – 5 pm

Building Inspector- P.C.I.

8:30 am to 10:30 Tuesday and Thursday

Fire Chief- Sam Peterson

8 am – 4 pm Monday – Friday

Burn Permits: Fire Barn 754-5122