BLUE LAKE TOWNSHIP

2019 Winter Newsletter

10599 Twin Lake Rd NE, Mancelona, MI 49659

Phone: 231-587-8354 Fax 231-587-4066

Web Site: bluelaketwpkalkaska.org

### Township Hall Office Hours

**Supervisor:** Thurs 1:00PM – 4:00PM & Sat 10:00AM – Noon

**Clerk:** Tues 9:00AM – 3:00PM

**Treasurer:** Wed 10:00AM – 1:00PM

**Assessor:** 2nd & 4th Tue. 9:00AM – Noon

**Zoning Dept:**  Fri & Sat 10:00AM – Noon

#### **Fire Dept. Meeting:** Mon 7:00PM – 9:00PM

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 **Township Telephone Numbers you may need:** Emergency Call 911

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Supervisor | Blair Shearer | Home: 231-587-5698 | blsuper@torchlake.com |
| Clerk | Tracy Nichol | Home: 231-587-9644 | blclerk@torchlake.com |
| Treasurer | Christine Almose | Home: 231-587-9593 | bltreas@torchlake.com |
| Trustee | Mary Shaw | Home :231-587-8468 | maryshaw@torchlake.com |
| Trustee | Larry Shoemaker | Home: 231-587-0723 | Gladysshoemaker90@yahoo.com |
| Township Assessor | David Grimm | Home: 231-331-6370 | blasser@torchlake.com |
| Zoning Admin | Kathy Campbell | Home: 231-384-6147 | blzoning@torchlake.com |
| Blue Lake Fire Dept. | Chief Bob Barr | Home: 231-587-5148 | bluelakefd@yahoo.com |

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| **Other County Numbers of Interest:** | **Phone Number** | **Other County Numbers of Interest:** | **Phone Number** |
| American Waste (Trash) | 231-258-9030 | Kalkaska CountyRoad Comm. | 231-258-2242 |
| Kalkaska County Comm. Kohn Fisher | 231-258-5178 | Kalkaska Animal Control | 231-258-3309 |
| Kalkaska Sheriff Department | 231-258-8686 | DNR Burning Permithttp://www.dnr.state.mi.us.burnpermits | 866-922-2876 |
| Kalkaska County Clerk | 231-258-3300 | EGLE (formally DEQ)Theresa Sherwood | 989-619-3740 |
| Kalkaska Recycle Center | 231-384-1304 | RAP Poaching Hotline | 800-292-7800 |

**Board Meetings**

The Board meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM at the township Hall. We welcome everyone to attend. January 2020 board meeting will meet Wednesday, January 8th due to the holiday.

**December Board of Review Meeting**

The board of review will meet December 10, 2019 at the township hall located at 10599 Twin Lake Road NE, Mancelona, MI 49659 for the purpose of correcting omission’s and errors of fact to the 2019 assessment roll. The time of the meeting will be at 1:30pm. No property valuation appeals are heard at the meeting.

**Fire and Rescue Department**

Presently we are staffed with volunteers but we are always seeking new members. Volunteers are paid for their time coming to meetings, taking classes, and during runs. Please feel free to call Fire Chief, Bob Barr at 231-587-8711 or simply stop by the fire barn on Monday evening after 7pm. We meet every Monday evening! We would be happy to meet with you and talk about your options.

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**From the Treasurer’s Desk**

The Treasurer’s office will be closed Wednesday, December 25th for Christmas day. Instead it will be open on Monday Dec 30th. The office will be closed January 1st New Years day.

Tax bills are due on February 14, 2020. Our office will be open on Monday, February 14th for payments.

All tax information is posted on our website on the Taxes page. Updates of payments are posted weekly. We also have an alphabetical list of everyone who owns property, addresses, taxable values and tax bill information in the right-hand column of our Tax page under 2019 Owner Names & Taxable Values.

**Drop Box**

The Township has a Secure Drop Box located between the office and Hall doors. For your convenience this can be used to drop off any correspondence (for example: voter information or taxes).

**Kalkaska Memorial Health Center**

 The new and improved Hospital additions are completed. 24/7 Emergency services are available with new physicians and extended services.

**Community Police Officer**

Ben Hawkins is our Community Officer and has been providing regular road patrol within the Township. If you have a concern or an issue you would like to discuss with Deputy Hawkins, you can leave a detailed message for him at the Sheriff’s office at 231-258-8686. For any emergency always call 911. In an emergency other Sheriff’s Department Officers may respond.

### Trash Pickup

**Residential trash pickup is on Monday by American Waste with a 5 bag limit per household.** If a holiday falls on Monday, pickup will be on Tuesday. Please do not put out trash that is not bagged - our contract with American is for bagged trash only. If you put your trash out before Monday morning please have your trash in an animal proof receptacle. Dogs, cats, ravens and raccoons are just some of the critters who love to spread trash around. FYI: scattered trash violates the nuisance ordinance and a ticket may be issued. **Appliance Recycling -** Ready to upgrade or get rid of an old refrigerator or freezer? Call Energy Optimization at 877-296-4319 to schedule an appointment to pick your old **working** refrigerator or freezer. You can also receive a $50.00 cash incentive for having purchased your new energy star appliance. If your old refrigerator or freezer is no longer working, you can call American waste for pick up at 231-258-9030. However, they will not pick up your old appliance unless the Freon has been removed and has a sticker documenting the removal. According to American Waste the closest company that deals with Freon removal is B & T Electric in Traverse City at 231-947-0465.

**County Recycle Center**

The County Recycle center is located at 904 Island Lake Road. Hours are Monday - Thursdays from 8:00AM – 4:30 PM and Saturday’s 8:00AM – Noon. Call 231-384-1304 for tire information.

**Zoning Permits**

A Zoning Permit shall not be issued until all other necessary permits required by federal, state, county or local regulations, including well and septic system approvals have been obtained or waived with exception of those permits issued by the Kalkaska County Building Department and County soil erosion, sedimentation and storm water runoff control office. The location of the property boundaries and all structures shall be staked on the ground for Zoning Administrator approval prior to the issuance of the Zoning Permit.

**Zoning Dept Complaint Form**

In order to provide better service the Zoning Department has developed a complaint form. This form is available on our web site on the “Zoning and Permits” page and should be used for all complaints about possible violations of our Zoning Ordinance. Once received the Zoning Administrator will investigate and take any action that is required. No alterations to the original form will be accepted.

**Land Splits & Divisions**

All land divisions, new lot lines, and lot combinations must comply with Blue Lake Township Ordinances and the State Land Division Act. There are requirements as to road access, the size and shape of the lots, and the number of lots that can be created. An application and more information are available on the web site under “Zoning and Permits”. An application fee of $50 and a $20 per split administration fee is required. Your completed application and fees must be submitted to the Blue Lake Township Land Division Agent, the Assessor, David Grimm.

 **Short Term Rental Property**

 The Zoning Ordinance requires short term rental properties be registered with the Township. It also requires that owners post an information sheet in a conspicuous location within the property. If you rent out your property please contact the Zoning Administrator.

**Campers and Trailers**

Per our Township Zoning Ordinance Campers and Trailers cannot be stored or left on vacant property. This helps keep vandalism down, improves property values, and prevents that abandoned look. Campers can be used for 15 days in a 12-month period without a permit. Upon application to the Township Zoning Administrator, a permit costing $5.00 will be issued for an additional 30 days. A Camper may be kept on any property that has a dwelling without a permit.

**Township Hall Available**

The Township Hall is available for your personal use. It requires an application to be completed and a $50 deposit. If the usage rules are followed and the hall is left clean, the deposit will be refunded. Call the hall at 231-587-8354 during office hours or visit our web site and look under “Events - Hall Rental” for further information

**Broadband Service**

The Township maintains a Public Access Wi-Fi system at the Township Hall. If you have a compatible computer you can use it in and around the Township Hall to access the Internet. It works in the parking lot but if you are there during office hours come in and use the table inside.

**Township Website**

We have recently updated the township website to be more user friendly and to support a variety of devices.

Please check the site out: bluelaketwpkalkaska.org. If you have suggestions for adding additional information, please give us a call.