

Brown Township News

Manistee County, Michigan

Summer, 2020

Vote!

Over 200 residents voted in the May 5th special election; almost all ballots were sent/returned by mail. Voting by mail is easy, convenient and secure. Since the passage of Proposal 3 in 2018, Michigan now has "no reason" absent voting allowing all registered voters to receive and return a ballot from the privacy of their home. A written application is still required for each election. For the August primary, the Michigan Bureau of Elections will be sending an application with a return envelope to all registered voters in Brown Township.

When your ballot arrives, fill in the ovals with blue or black ink (don't use a check mark or an "X"), sign the return envelope, and mail it back. Voting by mail allows you time and privacy to study and fill out your ballot. Concerns about the spread of the corona virus from in-person contact are completely eliminated by using your right to vote by mail.

Are you concerned about the integrity of absent voting? Michigan enjoys a sterling record of vote-by-mail security. Here are some facts about how your vote is kept secure and private. Clerks must keep meticulous records (both on paper and computer) of every application and ballot that is sent/returned. All signatures on applications and ballot envelopes are checked with the voter's signature on file. Sealed ballots are securely stored until election day. A panel of trained election inspectors representing both major parties processes the ballots in the precinct. Every ballot is numbered and each precinct must account for every single ballot. The numbered stubs are removed before the ballot is tallied, ensuring the secrecy of each voter's choices. You can also track your ballot's sent and return date on the Michigan.gov website.

If you have any questions, please call the Clerk!

Milarch Road Project

The Brown Township Board approved participation in a road improvement project on Milarch Road. We are sharing the cost of resurfacing 1.67 miles with the County Road Commission and Manistee Township. The cost of our portion (15% of the actual cost) is \$87,345.00. The funds are to come from the road millage approved by our voters. Work will take place this summer.

Notes on Summer Taxes

The last day to pay 2020 summer taxes without interest included per month is Monday, September 14, 2020. A 3% penalty will be added after February 14, 2021. After March 1, 2021, late payments must be made to the County. Options for paying taxes are: mailing a check payable to *Brown Township* to: Brown Twp. Treasurer, 8406 Coates Hwy., Manistee, MI 49660. **(Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish to receive a receipt)**; in person on September 14, 2020 from 9:00 – 5:00 at the same address; or in person by appointment. Please call Lani with questions (794-0837).

Township Officials

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Supervisor and Zoning

Administrator: Paul Adamski

510-7887

Clerk: Pamela Tompke

889-5785

Treasurer: Lani Millsap

794-0837

Trustee: Tim Joseph

477-5381

Trustee: Paul Wondolowski

233-6781

Assessor: Jared Litwiller 1-

888-714-9288

Hall Rental: Jon Millsap

357-2573

Our County Commissioner:

Gene Lagerquist: 477-5671

Trash Reminder

Brown Township provides no cost trash drop-off for township residents. The waste truck is parked at the Browntown Hall on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. This service is strictly meant for residential household refuse only.

The garbage truck will be monitored more closely, and certain items will be refused: construction refuse, yard waste, car batteries, paint, tires and larger items that are not household waste. These types of items need to be taken to the county landfill on Camp Road. Scrap metal can be brought on the pick-up days. **Please don't drop off items in the parking lot on non-trash days.** We thank you for your assistance!

Recycle Right

Last month, five bags of garbage were pulled out of the township recycle trailer. The person who put it there was contacted and informed that criminal prosecution and fines can result from this "illegal dumping".

When the trailers are contaminated with food waste or other items that are not recyclable, the entire load may have to be landfilled, defeating the purpose of recycling!

Our township offers recycling to all residents with access available any time. Most people flatten boxes and deposit only clean materials. It is important to "recycle right"! Think of your items being sorted on a conveyor belt - keep food waste and trash out!

Put everything into the trailer loose (not in a bag). Recycle questions? Call 855-246-9346

Recycle these things:

- * clean paper, cardboard and junk mail
- * boxes that are broken down (flattened)
- * clean glass jars and tin cans
- * clean plastic containers marked #1-7
- * clean plastic milk jugs; rinsed out laundry soap jugs - Please flatten gallon jugs to conserve space.

Keep these things out:

- * anything with food on it (including paper plates and pizza cardboards)
- * toys, Styrofoam, laundry baskets
- * garden hose, coolers, furniture
- * pet food bags
- * lightbulbs, dishware, ceramics
- * window glass
- * wire, rope, electric cords, or anything that could get tangled in the sorting machinery
- * paper towel, napkins, Kleenex, tissue paper, gift wrap
- * wax-coated or frozen food boxes
- * electric appliances (coffee makers, toaster ovens, etc.)
- * containers from auto fluid
- * pots & pans, hangers, car parts
- * If in doubt, throw it out.

Residents of Brown Township may use any of these recycle sites: Arcadia, Onekama, and Springdale Twp. Halls. Paper and cardboard can be placed in the trailers in Brethren or Manistee. Schools will earn money from these paper trailers.

Recycling helps the environment and reduces the cost of trash pick-up for our Township.

Thank you for recycling right!

