



COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Volume #XX Issue #01

FEBRUARY- MARCH 2018

**Township Hall – 6515 County Road 571 (please address any mail to Cheryl Collins' address)
(231) 587-0985 FAX: (231) 587-8633 Email: clerk@coldspringstwp.com**

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P.O. Box 380
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7875 Covert Rd
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Treasurer: Brenda G. Smith
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Email schallerlt@hotmail.com

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Kalkaska, MI 49646 231-258-2147
Email kalkaskagreenberet@yahoo.com

Assessor: Mark Johnson
2190 Woods Lane
Petoskey, MI 49770 231-224-3183

Ordinance Enforcement Officer:
Contracted with Kalkaska Co. Sheriff
Deputy Brian Peacock
Central Dispatch 231-250-3350

Drain Commissioner:
Seth Phillips
605 N. Birch St., Kalkaska, MI 49646
231-258-0045

Dist. 2 County Commissioner:
Stuart McKinnon
Email smckinnon@kalkaskacounty.org

TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

This newsletter is published each year to keep our township property owners informed of what is and has been going on in the township. Names and contact information for township officials can be found in the newsletter.

The Township Board passed a Fireworks Ordinance which puts time restraints in place regulating the time when fireworks can be used.

Please note: Ordinance Number 1 of 2017 Regulates Fireworks Activity.

“Section 4.

1. Consumer fireworks may be ignited, discharged and used in Coldsprings Township on the day proceeding, the day of and the day after a national holiday without restriction.

2. At any time other than the day proceeding, the day of and/or the day after a national holiday consumer firework may be used in Coldsprings Township subject to the following requirements and restrictions:

a. Not allowed all days from 12:00 p.m. (Midnight) until 9:00 a.m.”

The entire ordinance can be found on the Coldsprings-Excelsior Township web site.

Please keep in mind this newsletter is not all inclusive of things past and things to come, but it will at least give you an idea of what your elected officials are accomplishing or considering.

As usual, all feedback is most graciously welcome and desired.

We encourage our residents to attend a Board meeting when possible. Please try to attend at least one Township Board Meeting this year.

This newsletter includes the 2018 Trash Labels. They will be affective until the new labels are issued in 2019.

Raymond M. (Ray) Hoffman, Supervisor

2018 Township Board Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month and start at 7:00pm at the Township Hall, 6515 County Road 571, Kalkaska

January 8 th	Feb. 12 th	March 12 th
April 9 th	May 14 th	June 11 th
July 9 th	August 13 th	Sept. 10 th
Oct. 8 th	Nov. 12 th	Dec. 10 th

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

The schedule for regular township board meetings is printed above. Please take a little of your time and plan on attending a few of our meetings this year. You are an important part of this community, whether you are eligible to vote here or not, and we would really appreciate the chance to meet you and hear your views!

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Cemetery

As mentioned in the last year's newsletter, it is an ongoing attempt to keep our township cemetery clean and serene. Each of the headstones are weed-whacked regularly, and this is a very time-consuming task. Every item on the grave must be moved then trimmed and then replaced. This is very costly. The Sexton's manual limits items placed on individual graves (other than new burials) to a maximum of two items. The township maintains the cemetery out of respect to those buried there, and their relatives and friends who come to pay their respects. Although most have complied with the new limits that went into effect 5 years ago, we still find some who have ignored this change. We would appreciate it if the plot owners/caretakers would abide by the new limits that were set.

Also, in the Township Hall a new map of the cemetery is available with each person's name on the grave that they are buried in. A new map of the cemetery is located in the west end, so graves can be located easily. Items placed on the Cemetery must be removed by November 1 or they will be discarded. Christmas items will be removed in the Spring. The cemetery has now been remarked and green stakes have been removed making it easier to mow. In the next coming year, we hope to replace the rusted-out fence with a new fence and repaint the cemetery entrance arch.

Elections

We will be having 3 election this year. The first election is a Kalkaska School Election on May 8, 2018

and the next election is the State Primary on August 7, 2018 and the State General Election on November 6, 2018. Watch your local paper for current election information. If you are 65 or older you may be placed on an absentee Voter list, if you want to be added to the list please contact the Coldsprings Township Clerk.

Clerk's Hours

The Clerks Hours are as follows:

Tuesday 1:00 to 5:00

Thursday 1:00 to 5:00

The clerk can be reached at the office during office hours at 231-587-8633

Or if you have an emergency at her home at 231-587-0985

TRASH PICKUP

AREA WASTE has been contracted to provide for our trash removal throughout the township. We will continue to provide for 4 large-item pickups along with our regular trash removal days (Mondays). Your Township is providing 4 labels (numbered 1-4) to each taxpayer with this newsletter

Please remember that **PRIOR** to placing an item out for pickup, it is requested that you contact AREA WASTE at the number on the label to advise them of what you are placing out for pickup and where the pickup is located. In some instances, large items may not necessarily be picked up on the normal trash days. However, if called prior to our normal pickup day of Monday, large items will be removed within a day or two of our normal pickup day.

If you have more than 4 large items that you need to dispose of or are "cleaning up" and need to dispose of items in quantity, Kalkaska County operates a trash recycling facility located at the Island Lake Road facility. You can contact the Island Lake Road facility at 258-3369 to find out what their operating hours are (it varies by season), and what items they will or will not accept.

AREA WASTE DOES NOT pick up trash on any private roads. **RESIDENTS/PROPERTY OWNERS ON PRIVATE ROADS ARE REQUIRED TO LEAVE THEIR TRASH FOR PICK-UP NO EARLIER THAN SUNDAY AFTERNOON** at the intersection of their private road and the county-maintained road intersecting it. Each township property owner is allowed five 30 gallon bags for pickup each week.

On weeks that have a holiday on the regular Monday pick-up day, trash will be picked up on Tuesday instead. Questions concerning missed pickups should first be directed to AREA WASTE AT 258-4503. If they are unable to provide you with a satisfactory response, do not hesitate to call one of your township board

members at the numbers listed on the first page of this newsletter.

Trash will NOT be collected on Memorial Day or Labor Day but will be collected the day following. Please note on your calendar.

Scott Matley, Owner/Operator
Area Waste

2018 ONE TIME CURB SIDE

CLEAN-UP

HAVE YOUR TRASH PLACED IN THE SAME SPOT THAT YOU PLACE YOUR TRASH FOR REGULAR PICK-UP.

AREA WASTE WILL MAKE ONE (1) TRIP DOWN EACH TOWNSHIP ROAD STARTING AT 6AM ON MAY 31, 2018 AND FINISHING OF THE PICK-UP THE NEXT DAY JUNE 1, 2018.

(NO SPECIAL PICKUPS ALLOWED).

TRASH THAT IS NOT ACCEPTED DURING THE WEEKLY PICK-UP, "THAT CAN BE LIFTED BY TWO AVERAGE PEOPLE", HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, CARPETS, BUILDING MATERIALS MUST BE IN SIX FOOT LENGTHS OR LESS, WEIGHING 50# OR LESS AND BUNDLED SECURELY.

ALL APPLIANCES, CAR BATTERIES AND METAL MUST BE SEPARATED. SIX (6) CAR TIRES ONLY!!!!

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

LARGE TIRES, LEAVES (YARD WASTE – BRANCHES), LIQUIDS (PAINT, MOTOR OIL, ANTIFREEZE), SHINGLES, CHEMICAL OR OTHER HAZARDOUS WASTE, FLAMMABLE ITEMS OR EXPLOSIVES, CONCRETE BLOCKS OR PIECES, AND BRICKS **ARE NOT ACCEPTED**

NOTE: REMEMBER YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING NOT PICKED UP, YOU WILL BE FINED FOR ITEMS LEFT THAT ARE NOT PICKED UP WITHIN 3 DAYS OF THE COLLECTION. ITEMS MAY NOT BE PLACED AT CURB UNTIL 5 DAYS BEFORE COLLECTION OR YOU WILL BE FINED.

CHECK WITH THE COUNTY RECYCLE CENTER ON ISLAND LAKE ROAD TO DISPOSE OF UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS. 231-258-3369. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL AT 231-587-8633 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE AND YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED.

CALL SUPERVISOR RAYMOND HOFFMAN IF YOU ARE MISSED FOR THIS COLLECTION AT 231-258-5534 OR SCOTT AT AREA WASTE AT 231-258-4503..

BOARD MEMBERS

SUPERVISOR: RAYMOND HOFFMAN 231-258-5534

CLERK: CHERYL COLLINS 231-587-0985

TREASURER: BRENDA SMITH 231-587-9427

TRUSTEE: DICK MALOTT 231-258-2147

TRUSTEE: LOWELL SCHALLER 231-587-0028

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

The township board hopes you have been enjoying the new dock at Sands Park. A donation box is located near the dock. Collected funds are used to maintain the dock and the launch area.

We do our best to maintain the park for your safety and enjoyment. As always feel free to contact us with your suggestions or concerns.

We are inviting community volunteers to help beautify Sands Park on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. (Church groups, service groups, school groups, families and individuals are welcome.) A picnic lunch will be provided following the clean-up. Bring a rake, gardening tools & gloves if you can. Please contact Trustee Lowell Schaller at schallerlt@hotmail.com or call him at 587-0028 to help.

Thank you in advance for helping us keep our park beautiful for all residents and visitors to enjoy.

CEMETERY FENCING

Plans are being made to replace the deteriorating wrought-iron fence fronting the Township Cemetery, along with repainting the main archway entrance.

Trustee Lowell Schaller
Planning & Maintenance Liaison

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Property taxes are due on September 14th 2018 for the Summer taxes and February 14th 2019 for the Winter taxes. Please note that we **do not** accept postmarks. Payments received after the due date will be charged interest. Interest fees will apply at 1% per fiscal month beginning September 15th through February 14th of the current tax year. A 3% penalty will apply starting February 15th through February 28th of the current year.

Please allow time for your payment to arrive in our office by the due date. Property taxes can be paid to Coldsprings Township Treasurer through February of the current tax year. March 1st of the current year they are considered delinquent and **must** be paid to the Kalkaska County Treasurer.

The Treasurer is available on Monday and Thursdays from 9:00 am to Noon for payments or questions. The phone number for the office is 231-587-8633. When sending payments by mail, please make checks payable

to: Coldsprings Township and mail to: P.O. Box 380 Mancelona, MI 49659 and enclose a contact number on your check or bill in case we need to contact you with questions.

When paying your taxes with cash, please have exact change. We do not keep cash in the office.

When paying by check please make sure the written amount is filled in and the check is signed. The written amount is what the bank will accept as payment.

The paid/unpaid taxes will be on our website, updated every two to three weeks.

The Township website: coldspringsexcelsior.org

Thank you,

Brenda G. Smith, Treasurer

PARK PAVILION RENTAL

The new pavilion at Sands Park is available for use. It can be used for free on a first come first serve basis. It can also be reserved for special events. The rental fee for reservations is \$25.00 per day. For rental information contact the Clerk Cheryl Collins or the Treasurer Brenda Smith at 231-587-8633.



Sands Park Pavilion

TOWNSHIP ROAD REPORT

First, the good news: This year we finally saw the completion of the Starvation Lake Road project. Overdue, but, a job well done. We also saw the complete overdue improvement of county road 612 from Darragh to East Shore Drive. The road has added extra wide paved should to accommodate heavy traffic by pedestrians (especially children) and ATV/Snowmobiles to and from the Cove gasoline & convenient store. You also may have noticed the highly visible turning signs

and guard rails by the lake. This was added due to the fatality accident at the end of the lake. By using special safety funds set aside by the state and federal government, this project was accomplished at no cost to our township.

Now the bad news: We have no more major projects in the 5-year plan. We will continue to get repairs/patching and any emergency repairs and will get improved snow plowing when the Road Commission gets all four new trucks (total cost of one million dollars). They will replace 18-year-old trucks which are literally falling apart and are no longer repairable.

I am also Vice-Chair of the county recycle committee which we are required by state law to have. We have ordered several trailers to receive recyclable materials which will be spotted throughout the county. I have arranged for one to be spotted at the CETA Hall alongside county road 612. It will be open 24/7. It is a double axel steel trailer with 3 easy-access bins for plastic, and metal, plus a slot for cardboard. Please do not use it for garbage. We especially like cardboard as we make a small profit.

By: Trustee Dick Mallott

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

The township has an active Website which can be found at www.coldspringsexcelsior.org.

We are placing the approved minutes of each board meeting on this Website, along with minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Board of Review. This Website can also access Excelsior Township information (under construction); the Manistee Lake Improvement Board minutes; the Coldsprings Excelsior Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department (CEVFR); and the Coldsprings Excelsior Taxpayers Association (CETA).

This Website is packed with lots of information, and if you are someone that has online capability, it would be worth your time to log-in and discover some of the things that have been happening in your community. Items of interest also include a calendar of events and copies of recently enacted township ordinances.

If you log into the Fire Department, tremendous amounts of information can be obtained regarding equipment, procedures, run information, the Fire Explorers Post, and much, much more.

As always, suggestions for improvement of this Website are welcome, and can be addressed to the Webmaster through the Website, or to the Township Supervisor at the email address noted on page 1 of this newsletter.

COLDSPRINGS-EXCELSIOR VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE

Our Fire and Emergency Service are provided for our Township as a result of a joint effort and millage levy between Excelsior and Coldsprings Townships.

The Coldsprings/Excelsior Volunteer Fire Rescue Board of Directors meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Fire Hall located at 6565 County Road 612 East. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these meetings.

CEVFR is always looking for individuals interested in becoming an active part of Fire and/or Rescue within the joint townships. If you are interested, or know of someone that may be interested in joining the Department, please let us know. Our Firefighters are such a key part of our community and no one pays them much notice until they have a personal emergency. Their training is updated regularly.

The Fire Board has contracted with Frederic Township EMS/ALS making available a fully equipped Critical Care Advanced Life Support ambulance. The ambulance is kept at the fire barn. When it's called out, another unit is sent from Frederic to stand by until the first Ambulance has cleared. The arrangement has been very beneficial to Coldsprings/Excelsior Townships. There is no charge to township residents for this service. The cost is recovered from insurance companies and other means. The Frederic ALS ambulance responded to a total of 423 calls within the Twps that it serves (Coldsprings, Excelsior, Bear Lake, and Blue Lake).

There have been quite a few changes around the Dept in the past year including updating the training requirements to the newly updated state requirements to ensure that the Firefighters and properly trained to provide you the best service possible while remaining safe while doing so.

In addition to new training standards a new Class "A" Fire engine was ordered and is currently being built with a delivery date scheduled to be sometime in March. This new engine will be replacing one that has currently been in service for over 20 years. It is being built directly to our dept needs and will be updated with the latest technology.

The fire dept responded to 236 fire and EMS calls last year.

Anyone wishing to join the dept or take a tour of the dept and equipment may do so by stopping on any Monday night at 7pm.

Also, a new addition was added on to the station to house the Frederic ALS ambulance and also contains sleeping quarters for the ambulance crew as they are at the station 24/7 when not responding to an emergency.

"Mission Statement" We, the members of the Coldsprings/Excelsior Fire & Rescue Volunteer Department, dedicate our efforts to provide for the safety & welfare of the public through preservation of life, property, and the environment."

Fire Chief Rusty Headley

BURNING PERMITS

Obtaining a burning permit is now as easy as going online to www.mi.gov/dnr. They have an interactive map to find the burn conditions in our (or any) area in Michigan.

If "YES" appears in the Burning Permits Issued Column you are authorized to burn that day. This serves as your burn permit. You don't need to print anything.

Burning authorized by this permit is for yard rakings and brush ONLY. It does not relieve the responsible person(s) of liability for all damages resulting from the escape of the fire.

Further information may be obtained about permits and what you can/can't do at the above website.

If you're unable to access "DNR Burn Permit" via the web site, you can call 866-922-2876.

MANISTEE LAKE

IMPROVEMENT BOARD

The Manistee Lake Improvement Board (MLIB) has completed another successful year working on important issues to protect our lake from invasive plants and to improve the lake's sport fishery. The annual report of the MLIB work on milfoil treatment and water quality monitoring is available on the Manistee Lake Association (MLA) website manisteelake.org. Several very small areas of submersed milfoil were treated with localized applications of herbicide and successfully controlled. Ongoing monitoring keeps check on any new areas of milfoil as well as monitors for other, more desirable plant growth. Native aquatic plant growth has improved after two years of poor growth due to severe winters and late loss of ice cover. These weeds are important to the fish populations as well as to tying up nutrients that could otherwise be feed stock for algae growth. Water quality monitoring indicates our lake continues to be a healthy water body with good levels of oxygen and low levels of algae. Other water quality parameters were also all at good levels.

The MLIB voted to continue its current water monitoring and milfoil control program for another two years using existing funds. The special tax assessment that supports this work has expired and the Board determined that it was not necessary to renew it at this time.

The fishery and food chain research the MLIB has instituted is also ongoing. The final report for the 2017 research work is not yet complete but preliminary information suggests that some improvement in the number of fish species found, their overall health and diversity of food sources for them was indicated. More information will be forthcoming once the report is received. The Joint MLIB/MLA Fishery Improvement Team will once again conduct its white sucker removal project in the spring once the lake is ice free and the sucker run begins. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources supports this ongoing program and the modifications made last spring to remove all the adult fish netted but to return eggs and sperm back to the lake to help reproduction of food size suckers for other fish species.

MLIB meetings for 2018 are scheduled on: April 16th at Coldsprings Township, June 18th at Excelsior Township and September 17th at Coldsprings Township. All meetings are at 7:00 PM.

Seth Phillip, Manistee Lake Improvement Board

TAX ASSESSOR

Mark Johnson, the Township Assessor is available by phone or text at (231) 224-3183 or email "mark68keith@hotmail.com" Monday through Friday. Effort is taken to respond within 1 day and usually will be the case, but sometimes that is just not possible. Weekend calls/e-mails are also fine, they just may not receive an immediate response. E-mail is generally the easiest and most convenient means of contact, but again all methods of contact are acceptable. Mark would also like to remind you that the State is recommending that a township reviews 20% of the parcels every year now, so don't be surprised to see him or one of his employees at your residence in the near future.

Mark Johnson, Coldsprings Assessor

KALKASKA MEMORIAL HEALTH CENTER (Tax Payer Reimbursement)

Application of Taxpayer Millage Payments to Patient Accounts

Purpose:

To provide for an adjustment of a Taxpayer's out-of-pocket portion of their respective KMHC bill in an amount not to exceed the portion of the Taxpayer's prior five-year property tax bill directly attributable to the "1.6 hospital millage."

Definitions:

Taxpayer: Individual who resides in Kalkaska County and who pays property tax on residential property

located in Kalkaska County. Commercial property is not eligible for this adjustment.

Eligible Account: A Taxpayer's account of charges incurred for the Taxpayer or the Taxpayer's dependent as defined by IRS regulations, with an out-of-pocket responsibility of greater than \$50.

Eligibility Procedure:

1. To be eligible for the adjustment, the Taxpayer will:
 - a) Provide KMHC with a copy of the Taxpayer's prior five year property tax statements that itemize the Hospital Millage portion. The Taxpayer may request such itemization from his/her respective township office if it is not already provided.
 - b) Provide KMHC with proof of ownership of their property for the period of time for which the adjustment is being requested.
 - c) Provide KMHC with proof of payment of their property taxes. Unpaid portions of property taxes cannot be used for the adjustment.
2. KMHC will determine whether the Taxpayer is an officer or trustee of KMHC. If yes, then the adjustment will be reviewed by a KMHC Finance/Accounting manager to assure that that the adjustment has been calculated in accordance with this policy.
3. KMHC may adjust the Taxpayer's Eligible account by an amount equal to the Taxpayer's prior five year Hospital Millage taxes.
4. KMHC will maintain documentation of the charge adjustment for six years. Documentation must include the Taxpayer name, date of adjustment and evidence of confirmation of the residency requirement and tax payment requirement.
5. The adjustment may be applied to the Taxpayer's individual account or to any IRS dependent account of which the Taxpayer is the guarantor.
6. The adjustment will be applied to any KMHC bill demonstrating an out of pocket portion of greater than \$50.
7. The adjustment will not automatically be applied. KMHC does not have specific tax information on all township residents. The patient or Taxpayer must apply for the adjustment.
8. Adjustments cannot be requested to prior paid bills.

- 9 This modified policy will be applied retroactively for dates of service beginning January 1, 2014.
- 10 The KMHC Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify or terminate this policy without notice at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

***Coldsprings Township
Raymond M. Hoffman, Supervisor
P.O. Box 380
Mancelona, Michigan 49659***