

Blue Lake Township

10599 Twin Lake Rd NE

Mancelona, MI 49659

231-587-8354 Fax 587-4066

Web Site: bluelaketwpkalkaska.org

Township Telephone Numbers you may need:

Emergency Call 911



Check Out
Our New
Website

Supervisor	Dean McCulloch	587-4836	Township Hall	587-8354
	blsuper@torchlake.com		Fire Barn	587-5148
Clerk	Tracy Nichol	587-9644	Sheriff Department	258-8686
	blclerk@torchlake.com		County Clerk	258-3300
Treasurer	Christine Almose	587-9593	Recycle Center	258-3369
	bltreas@torchlake.com		County Road Comm.	258-2242
Trustee	Larry Shoemaker	587-0723	Animal Control	258-3309
Trustee	Mary Shaw	587-8468	DNR Burning Permit	866-922-2876
Township Assessor - Dave Grimm		331-6370	Kalkaska DNR	258-2711
	blasser@torchlake.com		DNR-DEQ	231-775-3960
Zoning Admin. – Blair Shearer		587-5698	RAP Poaching Hotline	800-292-7800
	blzoning@torchlake.com		American Waste (Trash)	258-9030

Township Hall Office Hours

Supervisor: Tue. 1:00 – 4:00 & Sat. 10:00 – 12:00
 Clerk: Tue. 9 – 1 & 6:30 – 8:30 Sat 11-1
 Treasurer: Wed. 10:00 – 1:00
 Assessor: 2nd & 4th Tue. 1:00 – 3:00
 Zoning Adm. Fri. & Sat. 10:00 – 12:00
 Fire Dept (Fire Barn) Mon. 7:00 – 9:00
 Board Meetings 1st Wednesday 7:00 pm

Board Meetings

The Board meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. We discuss local issues and have a public input time so that everyone can be involved. Please attend when you can, we would appreciate your help and input.

We also have several committees that you could serve on. If you are interested please contact any Board member, we are always glad to talk with you.

Trash Pickup

Residential trash pickup is on Mondays 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. Also our contract with American Waste allows household pickup of 4 large items per year if they have the required sticker. You can obtain the stickers at the Township Hall during our normal operating times. Almost any household item including beds, couches, chairs, washers, dryers, and refrigerators will be picked up. Refrigerators / freezers need to have the coolant removed and certified as such before it can be removed. If you have additional trash pick-up needs or questions call American Waste at 258-9030.

**Trash Pickup
is on Monday**

Kalkaska Memorial Health Center News

Kalkaska's Emergency Department was just rated in the top 1% in patient satisfaction. The patient survey was conducted in over 1,700 hospitals across the country and KMHC was rated one of the top 17 in Emergency Department satisfaction. KMHC is owned by the Townships of Kalkaska County and serves more than 50,000 patients each year. If you have comments or questions, contact your hospital representative Dean McCulloch 587-4836.

Current Watercraft Rules

Eagle and North Crooked Lake

Slow, No Wake Speed

Bass, Indian, Little Twin, North Blue, and Squaw Lakes

No High Speed Boating or Water Skiing (Boat below Plane Speed and no towing)

Big Blue, Big Twin, Starvation Lake

No High Speed Boating between 7:30 PM and 11:00 AM.

From The Treasurer's Desk

Summer tax bills must be paid by September 14 (the Treasurer's office will be open that day). A 1% penalty begins on September 15th. On October 1st another 1% penalty is added on. Each month thereafter, another 1% is added to the unpaid bill. Winter tax bills are due by February 14th. A 3% penalty is levied on February 15th to any unpaid Summer or Winter tax bill. Bills unpaid by February 28 become delinquent. As of March 1st your delinquent taxes are turned over to the County Treasurer, who then adds another 5% penalty to your tax bill. Not paying on time is costly.

When paying your taxes please make checks payable to **Blue Lake Township**. Office hours for the Treasurer are Wednesdays 10-1. The Treasurer's office will be open on September 14 for your convenience.

Fire Department

The Department had 47 runs in 2011, about normal for most years. Many of the calls the Fire Department receives are for Medical and Rescue Services (23).

If you are interested in joining the Fire and Rescue Department, they meet at 7:00 PM every Monday at the Fire Barn located on Blue Lake Rd. just north of Blue Lake. They will be glad to show you around and give you details about joining the Department. You can also contact our Fire Chief Bob Barr at 587- 8711.

The Fire Department needs YOU. Please volunteer. Mondays – 7:00 PM at the Fire Hall on Blue Lake Rd.

County Recycling Available

The Island Lake Road County Recycle center is open Monday through Thursdays from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM and every Saturday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. For no charge they will take: batteries, scrap metal and appliances, newspapers, magazines and catalogs, glass jars, #1 & 2 plastics, cardboard, tin, aluminum cans & foil, and Styrofoam packing material (but not packing peanuts). There is a charge for tires and to remove coolant in refrigerators. They will not accept rubber, glass windows and dinnerware. Call 258-3369 for further information.

Zoning Permits

Last year we issued 14 zoning permits 7 less than the year before. Most of them were for accessory buildings (garages and pole buildings). This number is considerably less than in past years. If you plan on building or making any alterations please check with the Zoning Administrator before you begin. Complying with the Blue Lake Township Zoning Ordinances is required. Blair Shearer our zoning administrator can issue zoning permits on Friday or Saturday mornings from 10 AM to Noon at the Blue Lake Township Hall. A Blue Lake Township Zoning Permit is required prior to obtaining a Building Permit from Kalkaska County Construction Codes.

You can contact Blair Shearer at 587-5698.

Activities at the Township Hall

On Monday's you are invited to join the Blue Lake Quilters, which meeting from 1 to 3 PM.

The Tuesday morning Yoga Class has temporarily been suspended due to lack of participations. If you are interested in attending the Yoga class please call the instructor, Daryl Allison-Busch at 587-8954, email:dallisonbusch@gmail.com.

The Township Hall is available to any Township resident for parties or get-together's. Please contact the Clerk or check the web site for rules and fees that may apply.

Road Paving

In May the Board approved a contract with the Kalkaska Road Commission to pave Twin Lake Rd. The Township will be paying the majority of the cost from the tax payer supported Highway fund. If you have any road issues to discuss contact any Board member or give the Kalkaska County Road Commission a call at 258-2242.

WEB Site / Broadband Service

The Township's Web site is up and running. You can get it at "bluelaketwpkalkaska.org" it contains a lot of information about the township and what's happening. Much of the information you need is there including tax records, the complete zoning ordinance and other important documents.

The COLI Communications can offer high speed Internet service in some locations in the Township (mostly around lakes). If you are interested in High speed Internet service contact COLI at 888-299-0071 they may be able to help you.

The Township also maintains a Public Access WiFi 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.

Campers and Trailers

Our Township Zoning Ordinance limits the parking of Campers and Trailers on vacant property to 45 days of vacation use only. 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 can be kept on any property that has a dwelling.

Community Police Officer

Eric Johnson is our Community Officer and has been providing regular road patrol within the Township. Last year Eric reported on a total of 141 incidents within the Township a slight increase from last year. If you have a concern or an issue you would like to discuss with Eric you can leave a detailed message for Deputy Johnson at the Sheriff's office at 258-8686. For any emergency always call 911. In an emergency other Sheriff's Department Officers may respond.

Greenbelt Law

A Greenbelt ordinance (part of our Zoning Ordinance) limits what can be done on the strip of land measuring 25 feet from the high water line. Trees, shrubs and native vegetation should be in this area to protect the bank from eroding. Lawns going down to the shoreline are hard on the lake and can create soil erosion and excess fertilizers can result in nutrients entering the lake, creating excessive water plant growth. If in doubt about what you can or cannot do near the waters edge, please call the Zoning Administrator Blair Shearer 587-5698.

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. Part of the application process includes providing: a copy of proof of ownership, a certified survey drawn to scale, and proof that taxes due have been paid. The application (available on our Web Site) and appropriate fees must be submitted to the Blue Lake Township Land Division Agent, David Grimm. He will approve or deny the application within 30 days. If you have questions about the process please feel free to contact Dave at (231) 331-6370.