BLUE LAKE TOWNSHIP

2019 Summer 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 9:00AM – 11:00AM

**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 County Road Commission | 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)Gaylord Field Office | 989-731-4920 |
| 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.

**Fire Department**

**Please do not call the fire station phone number for an emergency. Our fire and rescue department is dispatched** **by calling 911.** The Fire Dept is actively seeking new members. If you are interested, they meet at 7:00PM 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 231-587- 8711.

**Wave Boats/High Water**

 **ATTENTION BOATERS! With lake levels at all time highs, please be courteous of the erosion caused to our shorelines and seawalls from high boat wake action.**

 DNR watercraft rules require that boating activity stay a minimum of 100 feet away from stationary structures “ie: docks, swim rafts or shorelines”. Please travel counter clockwise around lake.

**Eagle and North Crooked Lake** – slow, no wake.

**Bass, Indian, Little Twin, North Blue and Squaw lake**s – No high speed boating or water skiing or towing. Boats and Pontoons should go slowly with minimum wake.

**Big Twin, Big Blue, Starvation Lakes** – No high speed boating between 7:30PM – 11:00AM

 In the Michigan laws and responsibilities boating handbook, section 324.80158 states the owner of any vessel operated upon the waters of this state is personally responsible for any damage to life or property resulting from a wake or swell created by the negligent operation or propulsion of the vessel, if the vessel is being operated with his or her consent.

**Fireworks Usage & Restrictions**

 On Holidays, the day before and the day after, there are no restrictions. By township ordinance, fireworks cannot be used after 11:00PM or before 11:00AM on any day that is not a holiday. A fine of $100 could be imposed if you use fireworks in the restricted time. At all times please use fireworks responsibly and with respect for your neighbors.

**From the Treasurer’s Desk**

 Several residents took advantage of paying their tax bill by credit card this year. The link can be found on our website. There is a 3% fee you will be charged from Point and Pay for this service.

 Tax bills are due Monday, September 16, 2019 since the 14th falls on a Saturday. Our office will be open Monday to accommodate you.

 All tax information is posted on our website. The paid/unpaid lists are updated weekly. As of March 1st, when the BLT tax office is required to turn all unpaid taxes into Kalkaska County Treasurer’s office, the paid/unpaid list will no longer be updated. The county does not report back to BLT Treasurer’s office, which residents paid or did not pay their tax bill after March 1st. While you may have paid your bill, sometimes after March 1st it will not appear paid on our web page list.

### 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.

**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**

This form is available on our web site under the “Zoning and Permits” page and must 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.

 **Community Police Officer**

Brian Peacock 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 Peacock, 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.

**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.

**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).

**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.

**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.

**2019 Waterfront Values**

Little Twin Lake $875 front foot North Blue Lake $1000 front foot

Starvation Lake $1050 front foot Big Blue Lake $1500 front foot

Indian Lake $ 300 front foot Bass Lake $ 300 front foot

Eagle Lake $ 350 front foot Crooked Lake N & S $ 300 front foot

Big Twin Lake $2050 front foot Little Blue Lake $ 260 front foot

Squaw Lake $ 350 front foot

**Acreage**

5 acre $13,500 10 acre $21,000 20 acre $36,000 40 acre $64,000 50 acre $77,500