

WRIGHT-TALLMADGE FIRE DEPT Fire Chief - Mike Gavin



HYDRANT ACCESS - If there is a hydrant near your home or business, please clear the snow to keep it accessible during winter.

CONGRADULATIONS! - In 2014 we received the ISO analysis of our fire suppression services. Most insurers use this classification for underwriting and calculating premiums for residential, commercial and industrial properties. Our previous rating of 07/10 is now 06/10. The lower number normally indicates lower insurance premiums.

SAFETY and COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Many of our Fire Fighters volunteer their personal time to teach fire education and preparedness at local schools as well as civic and church organizations. Recent activities included the Open House at Tallmadge Township and the Haunted Fire Station at Wright Township. Members donate many hours of time planning and staffing these events.

AVOID PANIC! - Make a plan and practice the plan...NOW! Reinforce what your kids have been taught in school and by their local Fire Fighters. Specify the emergency exits from each room and set an outdoor meeting place.

SMOKE and CO DETECTORS - Keep your family safe and minimize property damage by frequently checking the batteries.

SMART 911 - Ottawa County is on the cutting edge of new technology that enables you to create a Safety Profile for your household. Pre-registration is done on a secure website: www.Smart911.com. You can choose to answer whatever questions and share what information you personally feel comfortable with. Critical minutes are saved when you may be panicked, unable to communicate, or it is unsafe to talk.

Monthly Township Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are held in the Township Hall Board Room.

- Planning Commission: 4th TUESDAY
- Township Board Meetings: 2nd TUESDAY
- Zoning Board of Appeals: 1st TUESDAY , as needed



How WE communicate to YOU

Newsletters - We anticipate sending a written communication with both Summer & Winter tax bills. As stewards of your Township's funds, this saves over \$1000.00 in postage costs each mailing.

Advance Newspaper - The Clerk posts a Synopsis of all Board Minutes and Notices of Public Hearings in both local issues of the Advance Newspaper.

Website - www.tallmadge.com

- The Clerk posts the Minutes of Board Meetings on the website.

- You can also find copies of recent ordinance and zoning changes.

- Many forms/permits available for download.

Township Spring Clean-up



We do not yet have a confirmed date. Further details will be posted on our website, www.tallmadge.com by early Spring or call the township office.

Clean-up day is only for the residents of our Township. There is a cash fee for large appliances. Batteries will be accepted as well. We can **NOT** accept the following: Contractor debris, yard waste, paint or tires.

Winter 2014 Newsletter Tallmadge Charter Township

O-1451 Leonard St.
Grand Rapids, Mi. 49534

Phone - 616.677.1248 Fax - 616.677.6133

Website - www.tallmadge.com

Township Hours

Monday - 9-2

Tuesday - 9-7 evening

Wednesday - 9-2

Thursday - 9-2

Closed Friday



All Offices Closed these Holidays:

Wednesday & Thursday - December 24 & 25

Wednesday & Thursday - Dec. 31 & January 1

Seasons Greetings



Toby VanEss
Supervisor



Lenore Cook
Clerk



Brenda Martin
Treasurer



Joel Terpstra
Trustee



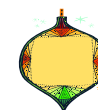
Mike Eppink
Trustee



Tip Bronkema
Trustee



Gerald Walt
Trustee



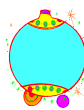
Tyler Tacoma
Assessor



Val Schwallier
Receptionist



Ellen Grifhorst
Deputy Treasurer



Greg Ransford
Planner

CLERK'S CORNER

Lenore Cook

lcook@tallmadge.com



The General Election 2014 took place on Tuesday, November 4.

Tallmadge Township had 2975 residents vote in the General Election either in person or by absentee vote.

The break down is as follows:

Precinct 1	831 Voted in Person
Precinct 2	834 Voted in Person
Precinct 3	577 Voted in Person
All 3 precincts	733 Voted by Absentee

Tallmadge Township residents can be very proud of their voting record.

ASSESSOR'S NOTES

Tyler Tacoma

ttacoma@tallmadge.com

The job of the local Assessor's Office is to determine the value of every property in the Township as of "Tax Day," December 31st, for the upcoming year's assessments. In the next several weeks, I will be visiting various work sites and properties. This appraisal review may involve taking measurements, photographs and speaking with property owners.

In early February, you will receive a 2015 Notice of Assessment for your property. Should you have any questions, please call me or follow the appeal procedure outlined in that notice.

For additional property assessment information, please feel free to visit the Tallmadge Township Assessor's Webpage at <http://www.tallmadge.com/assessor.htm>

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

Brenda Martin

bmartin@tallmadge.com

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer. This office is responsible to collect and distribute funds on behalf of several entities that provide services to the residents and businesses in our community.

This year, many of the mandatory tax due dates will fall on weekends or Holidays. Therefore, this year only many of the due dates are adjusted to accommodate that fact.

All taxes are due Tuesday Feb. 17, 2015, 5:00 PM, in-hand to Treasurer's office.

Taxes may still be paid at Tallmadge between Feb. 18th and March 2nd with added penalty. Call the office for that amount.

The Treasurer's office hours are the same as Township hours plus extended hours on the following days:

- Tuesday - Dec. 30 - until 7 PM
- Tuesday - Feb. 17 - until 7 PM
- Monday - March 2 - until 5 PM

Unpaid taxes are sent to Ottawa County after the close of business day March 2nd, 2015.

TAX PAYMENTS:

- I would be honored to meet you in person at the Township Office.
- Payments may be mailed or placed in the Township's drive-up drop box located a few steps west of the main entrance. Payments made after business hours are dated the next business day. Postmarks are not accepted as date of payment.

Include the top 1/3 of the bill along with your check or money order. **Partial or full payments are acceptable any time through 5:00 PM on March 2nd, 2015.**

RECEIPTS:

- A receipt will be issued if you include a SASE as well as the entire tax bill.
- **OR** provide your e-mail address on the top 1/3 when you send in your payment.

NOTE: If your mortgage company pays your property taxes, the Township sends them a statement as a service. *However, each property owner is ultimately responsible to see that his/her property taxes are paid.*



Avoid Frustrating Penalties!

Review your check carefully before sending. In most cases, we must return the payment to you for any of the following reasons: post-dated checks, overpayment, number and written amounts do not agree, just to mention a few. If you have waited until the due date to send payment, this will likely cause late fees and penalties. The penalty after close of office on February 17th is 3%.

Tax payments not IN-HAND to the Treasurer's office by close of the posted business hours will be receipted as the following day and may incur late fees as shown on your tax bill. This includes after-hour use of the drop box. We cannot accept postmark as date received.



Could we save you some money?

1. Most Special Assessments for road or water/sewer were begun when interest rates were much higher. The Treasurer will be happy to give you a current pay-off amount.
2. If you realize you can not pay the entire property tax bill by the due date, you may pay what you can as a partial payment. Interest/penalty will only be charged on the balance due.