



Summer 2019

# East Bay Charter Township Newsletter

1965 N Three Mile Rd, Traverse City, MI 49696 (231) 947-8647 / FAX: (231) 922-2094 [www.eastbaytwp.org](http://www.eastbaytwp.org)  
Township Hours Monday—Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed on Friday  
Township Offices will be closed July 4, September 2, November 11, 27 & 28

## Short-Term Rental Ordinance

Introduced ordinance 5 of 2019, a Short-Term Rental (STR) Licensing Ordinance, will be considered by the Board of Trustees at the regularly scheduled July 8, 2019 board meeting. This proposed ordinance would repeal and replace the previous short-term rental ordinance which was passed on June 11, 2018. Please visit [eastbaytwp.org](http://eastbaytwp.org) to view the full ordinance and watch for updated information regarding the Short-Term Ordinance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Planning & Zoning at (231) 947-8681 or (231) 947-8647.

## ALS EMS....what's in a few letters? A lot!

East Bay Ambulance successfully transitioned to an Advanced Life Support (ALS) emergency medical service provider. Previously, emergency calls requiring a high level of care were answered by two ambulances, in these cases a neighboring ALS service provider also responded. Additionally, the geographic area served by East Bay Ambulance has been expanded to all areas of the township. On April 26, 2019, East Bay Ambulance passed the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' inspection for ALS certification. East Bay Ambulance now services patients requiring higher levels of care, including administration of electrocardiograms, defibrillation, advanced airways, fluid therapy, and critical care medications.



East Bay Ambulance welcomed a new Director, Nick Lemcool, in late 2018. Nick was previously employed full-time as a Fire Lieutenant with Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority. Nick is a Laker and a Husky, receiving an associate degree in Fire Science from Lake Superior State University and a bachelor's degree in Fire and Emergency Management with a minor in Health Care Management from Siena Heights University. Director Lemcool is a Paramedic and EMS instructor. East Bay Ambulance also welcomes Paramedics Shawn Bottomley, Rick Osburn, and Chase Schelling, as well as EMT's Jayna Olosky and Austin Miner to East Bay Ambulance's current roster of dedicated emergency medical care providers.

Thank you for the tremendous support at the annual pancake breakfast! Each year, proceeds from the breakfast support emergency services in East Bay Township. This year's success provided for the purchase two King Vision Laryngoscopes. These devices will assist staff with difficult advanced airway maneuvers.

## Fireworks Ordinance Update

In 2018, the State of Michigan amended the 2011 Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, which modifies the standards under which local municipalities may regulate the ignition, discharge, and use of consumer fireworks. Accordingly, the Township Board of Trustees amended its existing fireworks safety ordinance on June 10, 2019, with an effective ordinance date of June 17, 2019. The amendment altered the days and times consumer fireworks may be ignited, discharged or used and increased the fine the municipality charges for violations. The complete ordinance is available at [eastbaytwp.org](http://eastbaytwp.org).

The *Consumer Fireworks Ordinance*, as amended, states that no person shall ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks within East Bay Charter Township at any time, except during any of the following days and times:



- 11:00 a.m. on December 31 – 1:00 a.m. on January 1.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. on June 29 through July 4.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. on July 5, if July 5 falls on a Friday or Saturday.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day.

## Wildfires – Not Just Something that Happens in California



The word “wildfire” automatically brings visions of the devastation witnessed in California, especially over the past two years. Those wildfires have taken hundreds of lives, thousands of structures and millions of acres of land. While Michigan’s northern lower peninsula is fortunate not to experience that level of loss, the region is not exempt from the dangers of wildfires. Like any fire, a wildfire needs oxygen, fuel and a heat source to ignite. In the case of a wildfire, the fuel load comes from surrounding flammable vegetation such as trees, grass, brush and can end up including structures. The drier and more abundant that vegetation, the more intense the fire can become. During summer weather with long periods of dryness and winds, which encourage fire to spread, the only thing still needed to set a wildfire in motion is a spark.

Hot summer months require extra vigilant during outdoor activities. Be sure not to leave unextinguished materials or heat sources behind, especially when doing things such as: smoking, using fireworks or sparklers, lighting candles, having campfires and barbequing.

Here are some *summer fire safety tips* to practice:

- Create a safety zone of up to 100 feet around your home. Remove pine needles and dry leaves from around your home. Keep woodpiles at least 30 feet from your home.
- Smoke outside, use deep ashtrays and fully extinguish and wet down your smoking materials.
- Move the grill away from siding, decking, and other things that can catch fire.
- Stay with the grill the entire time you're cooking.
- Use long-handled barbecue tools when cooking on the grill/firepit.
- Use a metal screen over wood-burning fires to keep sparks from floating out.
- Turn off or put out fires before you leave the backyard using water & stirring the ashes.
- Build campfires at least 15 feet away from shrubs and other combustibles and 25’ from structures.
- The best way to stay safe from fireworks is to not use them. Enjoy a professional display.

Have a safe, healthy and happy summer!

Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority, (231) 947-3000

## Clerk’s News

In November 2018 Michigan voters approved a constitutional amendment known as Proposal 3. One of the major aspects of Prop 3 is NO-Reason Absentee Voting. EVERY Michigan voter now has the right to vote by absentee ballot, no reason is required. The East Bay Charter Township Clerk’s office maintains a Permanent Absent Voter (AV) List. From this list **Applications for an Absentee Ballot are automatically mailed out for every election as required by Michigan Election Law.** If you would like to be placed on our Permanent AV List, please fill out the request form below and return it to the Clerk’s office.

All applications returned are reviewed for completeness and signatures are compared to those in our data base. Your ballot will be mailed to you as soon as ballots are available for mailing, typically, we mail applications 10 weeks prior to an election and ballots 5 weeks prior to an election.

Our election workers are a very important part of the Election process. We train our workers to help assure Elections run smoothly for our residents. We are looking for folks who may be interested in joining our team of Election Inspectors for future elections. Please contact us if you would like to learn more.

Sincerely  
Susanne M. Courtade CMMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

.....  
Yes! I would like to sign up to receive Permanent Absent Voter Applications

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

## What are your tax dollars funding?

The tables list the percentages of each taxing unit. Each of these are voted millages or special assessments. There are several methods to pay your tax bills, please go to the Treasurer's page on the township's website for all the options. The Treasurer's office is always available to answer questions, so stop in or call us at (231) 947-8647.

Summer Property Tax Percentage	
County	13.3%
Bata	1.4%
NMC Operating	2.9%
NMC Debt	0.8%
TBA/ISD	7.9%
State Ed	16.3%
TCAPS Operating*	49%
TCAPS Debt	8.4%

\* Principle Residence Exemption  
Reduces this by 18 mills.

Winter Property Tax (2018) Percentage	
COA	6%
COA Senior Center	1.2%
Road Commission	11.9%
Veterans	1.4%
Animal Control	0.5%
Conservation	1.2%
NMC Operating	12.9%
NMC Debt	3.4%
Library Operating	11.4%
East Bay Operating	8.8%
East Bay EMS	10.2%
GT Metro Fire	28.1%
East Bay Community Police	3%

## Honoring an East Bay Township Supporter

Grace Macdonald passed away on February 26, 2019 at her winter home in California. Grace "Mac" Macdonald came to East Bay Township as a young woman and fell in love with northern Michigan, her community service showed a special commitment to East Bay Township. Grace served the community as a Park Commissioner for many years. Grace enjoyed the company of young people and many days she would have lunch with the Hayo-Went-Ha campers or visit Grace Macdonald Park and chat with the children and their parents. She was a dedicated supporter of emergency services, pouring syrup at the crack of dawn every year at the annual Pancake Breakfast. While all residents impact the community, Grace Macdonald influenced the shaping of East Bay Township through her entire adult life, taking great pride in where she lived. Her influence and memory will be fondly remembered by those who knew her personally and by those who enjoy her impact on life in East Bay Township. There will be a memorial service at 1:00 p.m. on August 3, 2019 at Grace Macdonald Park. For any questions, please contact [tgmacdonald06@outlook.com](mailto:tgmacdonald06@outlook.com).

## Assessing News

With the retirement of Russ Casselman, Joel Bremer has joined the Assessing Department. Joel is a Michigan Advanced Assessing Officer (MMAO, Level III) certified assessor with four-years' experience with the Grand Traverse County Equalization Department. Joel has a previous background in real estate and construction.

Both Susan Karakos and Joel Bremer are available at the township hall from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Thursday, and can be reached at (231) 947-8647. Additionally, Susan is available every Friday at the County Equalization office at 400 Boardman Avenue. She can be reached by phone at (231) 922-4759. For site visits, staff carries county-ID badges and drives a vehicle clearly marked with a Grand Traverse County logo.

## Class of 2019 - Personal Safety Class

Wednesday, August 7th at 6:00 p.m. East Bay Township and its Community Police Officers will be offering a Personal Safety Class for East Bay Township residents who are young adults just graduating from high school. This fall, whether a student headed near or far, to a technical program, college campus, or new work environment, the safety tips and techniques reviewed and demonstrated by a skilled and highly trained Community Police Officer will last a lifetime.

Reservation required by contacting East Bay Charter Township at (231) 947-8647. Space is limited to the first 20 registrants. The class will be held at the East Bay Township Hall located at 1965 North Three Mile Road and will last approximately two hours. There is no charge for this class, it is only asked that you notify the township asap if you cannot attend so any waitlisted registrants may be notified.

## Local Government – viewable at your convenience



Traverse Area Community Media (TACM), formerly Up North Media, may have changed its name but it is still providing access to community meetings at [tacm.tv](http://tacm.tv). Follow the GovernmentTV link and find East Bay Township's Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Parks Commission meetings. This feature is funded by East Bay Township in participation with TACM and neighboring jurisdictions. Agendas, minutes, and board packets are available at [eastbaytwp.org](http://eastbaytwp.org).

## Oak Wilt ([michiganoakwilt.org](http://michiganoakwilt.org))

Property owners can protect their oak trees by understanding oak wilt basics, and by making sure that they and anyone performing work on their trees follow procedures to prevent the spread of oak wilt, including:

- Do not prune oak trees during the greatest or lower risk periods according to the "oak wilt risk meter".
- Immediately paint any pruning cuts made during greatest risk or lower risk periods with sealing paint (shellac or latex paint).
- Never allow tree workers to use climbing spurs on trees unless doing tree removal or absolutely needed for hazard abatement.
- Monitor your trees for [oak wilt symptoms](#), particularly notable is leaf drop during the summer months.
- If you suspect oak wilt activity contact an ISA certified arborist and report to the MDNR hotline by emailing [DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov).

### OAK WILT RISK METER

<b>GREATEST RISK</b> APRIL 15 – JULY 15
<b>LOWER RISK</b> MARCH 15 – APRIL 14, JULY 16 – OCTOBER 31
<b>SAFEST PERIOD</b> NOVEMBER 1 – MARCH 14

## Passports and Notary Services

U.S. citizens planning international travel may apply for passports at the East Bay Township hall. For application forms, information on documentation required, fees and other passport and international travel information, visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov).

These services are available during Monday to Thursday, 7:00 am through 5:00 pm, and by appointment on Friday or Saturday at the Township Office, 1965 N. Three Mile Rd.

For resident's and property owner's convenience, the township has several notaries on staff, and available during office hours.

## Torn or Worn American Flag?

East Bay Township Hall is a collection site for American Flags which need to be disposed of properly. Drop any torn or worn flag, during business hours, to be assured of proper disposal.

## East Bay Branch Library Hours

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., CLOSED Sundays and Mondays.

Wiggles Story Times with Miss Rosie continue throughout the summer on the last two weeks of the month on Wednesdays & Fridays.

### July

7/17 Wed @ 10:30 a.m.  
7/19 Fri @ 10:30 a.m.  
7/24 Wed @ 10:30 a.m.  
7/26 Fri @ 10:30 a.m.

### August

8/21 Wed @ 10:30 a.m.  
8/23 Fri @ 10:30 a.m.  
8/28 Wed @ 10:30 a.m.  
8/30 Fri @ 10:30 a.m.

Don't forget our Annual Ice Cream Social! Saturday, September 14th 1:00-3:00 p.m. See you at the East Bay Branch Library!

### Staff Directory

Township Office Phone Number (231) 947-8647

Supervisor  
Office Administrator  
Clerk/Deputy Clerk  
Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer  
Planner  
Zoning Administrator  
Assessors  
Building/Grounds

Beth Friend  
Val Hendges  
Susanne Courtade/Helen MacArthur  
Tracey Bartlett/Deb Hamilton  
To be announced  
Leslie Couturier  
Susan Karakos/Joel Bremer  
Bob Burns

[bfriend@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:bfriend@eastbaytwp.org)  
[vhendges@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:vhendges@eastbaytwp.org)  
[scourtade@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:scourtade@eastbaytwp.org)/[hmacarthur@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:hmacarthur@eastbaytwp.org)  
[tbartlett@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:tbartlett@eastbaytwp.org)/[dhamilton@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:dhamilton@eastbaytwp.org)  
[lcoururier@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:lcoururier@eastbaytwp.org)  
[skarakos@grandtraverse.org](mailto:skarakos@grandtraverse.org)/[jbremmer@grandtraverse.org](mailto:jbremmer@grandtraverse.org)  
[rburns@eastbaytwp.org](mailto:rburns@eastbaytwp.org)



### NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ambulance: East Bay Township EMS-9A @ 947-0299  
Fire: Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority (GT Metro) @ 947-3000  
Police: East Bay Township Community Police Officers @ 947-3631 or  
Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office @ 995-5000