



# PORT SHELDON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER • WINTER

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JANUARY 1**                      **OFFICES CLOSED**      **NEW YEARS DAY**

**JANUARY 2**                      **SHELDON DUNES WATER BILLS DUE**

**JANUARY 13**                      **TRASH BAG DAY 7:30-10:30 AM**

During regular Saturday trash service, we will be present at the back barn to distribute trash bags to residents.

**JANUARY 31**                      **BLOOD DRIVE 2:30-7:00PM**

**FEBRUARY 14**      **LAST DAY TO PAY WINTER TAXES** WITHOUT PENALTY

The treasurer will have extended hours of 9:00 am-5:00 pm on **Tuesday, February 14**. As always, your tax payments are accepted by check in person, by mail, or in the township drop box. Postmarks are NOT accepted. Please allow ample time for delivery if mailed. Credit cards are accepted online, by phone, or in person. A 3% fee applies to credit card transactions.

**FEBRUARY 27**                      **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION**

The Township offices will be closed for this election, polls will be open from 7am to 8pm. Absentee ballots must be received by 8pm.

**FEBRUARY 29**      **LAST DAY TO PAY TAXES AT THE TOWNSHIP**

The treasurer will have extended hours of 9:00 am-5:00 pm on **Thursday, February 29**. This is the **last day** the township can accept tax payments before being returned as delinquent to the county treasurer. Postmarks are NOT accepted.

**LATE FEBRUARY**                      **ASSESSMENT NOTICES MAILED**

**MARCH 11 & MARCH 12**                      **BOARD OF REVIEW**

Property owners may appeal the assessed value of their property and must do so at the Board of Review. **Appeals are by appointment.** For an appointment time, please call the township office at 616-399-6121. Board of Review hours are:

Monday, March 11: 9:00 am — 3:00 pm

Tuesday, March 12: 3:00 pm — 9:00 pm

**LATE SPRING/EARLY SUMMER**                      **ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY**

A date has not yet been set for our annual clean-up day. Look for more information on the township website or Facebook page.

**Go to [miOttawa.org/eco](https://miottawa.org/eco) for Ottawa County recovery sites, recycling info, composting and more!**

## NEWS TO USE

### CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Consumers Energy J.H. Campbell Complex will accept natural Christmas trees for recycling. Residents may drop off trees in the Christmas Tree Corral near the security gate off Croswell near Lakeshore Drive.

### BLOOD DRIVE

Based on the success of our previous drives, we will be hosting additional blood drives at the township hall in 2024! The dates will be the following Wednesdays: January 31, April 24, July 24, and October 23. Versiti Blood Center of Michigan will continue running these events for our community. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for the links to sign up!

## MORE NEWS TO USE

### EARLY VOTING CENTERS SET TO LAUNCH IN 2024

Ottawa County voters will have additional options for casting their ballot in state and federal elections coming up in 2024, beginning with the Presidential Preference Primary in February. In September 2023, the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners approved a plan presented by the Ottawa County Clerk in collaboration with 23 City and Township Clerks to collectively implement early voting.

Proposal 2022-2, which passed in November of 2022, amended the Michigan Constitution to provide the right to a minimum 9-day period of early voting prior to every state or federal election. The constitutional amendment places the responsibility of funding and operating early voting on city and township clerks across the state but does allow for collaborative agreements between municipal and county clerks for the conduct of early voting.

The County Clerk's Office as well as all local jurisdictional clerks are working hard to ensure that Ottawa County residents have a secure, cost-effective, and customer friendly early voting process.

#### **Here's what to expect:**

Early voting will be conducted at four vote center locations across the county, where any resident may cast a ballot at any vote center. These locations will be:

**Polkton Township Hall:** 6900 Arthur St., Coopersville

**Georgetown Township Hall:** 1515 Baldwin St., Jenison

**Grand Haven Township Hall:** 13300 168th Ave., Grand Haven

**MDHHS Building Macatawa Room:** 12185 James St., Holland

Voters will have nine additional days prior to each state and federal election where they may cast their ballot just as they would on Election Day. The hours of operation for Ottawa County's Early Voting Centers will be:

Saturday: 7AM-3PM

Sunday: 7AM-3PM

Monday: 7AM-3PM

Tuesday: 11AM-7PM

Wednesday: 7AM-3PM

Thursday: 11AM-7PM

Friday: 7AM-3PM

Saturday: 7AM-3PM

Sunday: 7AM-3PM

Monday: No Voting

Tuesday: Federal or State Election Day. Vote at precinct location: 7AM-8PM

Voters will soon be receiving additional information by mail and can also visit [www.mriottawa.org/EarlyVoting](https://www.mriottawa.org/EarlyVoting) for more information.

### THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

For continuing to support the Fire Department's Crusade for Toys! This year, **110 toys were donated and \$500 was collected** for area children in need.

### ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Fire Department is accepting applications for a paid on-call firefighter, all training provided. Applications are available at the Township office during business hours and also on our website.

### SNOW REMOVAL SAFETY

The township reminds all residents and businesses to use both caution and courtesy with snow shoveling, plowing and snow storage. Do not pile snow on the bike paths or in areas where road visibility is impacted.

**PORT SHELDON TOWNSHIP**  
**16201 PORT SHELDON ST.**  
**WEST OLIVE, MI 49460**  
**[www.portsheldontwp.org](http://www.portsheldontwp.org)**



**Supervisor,** *Mike Sabatino*  
**Clerk,** *Meredith Hemmeke*  
**Treasurer,** *Rachel Frantom*  
**Trustee,** *Bill Monhollon*  
**Trustee,** *Luke DeVries*  
**Administrative Assistant,** *Tatjcha Lambers*  
**Building and Zoning Administrator,** *Ryan Capson*  
**Building Administrative Assistant,** *Diane Jansen*  
**Assessor,** *Tyler Tacoma*  
**Fire Chief,** *Brad Dirkse*

**QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHT:  
TOWNSHIP PROJECTS UPDATE**

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose...”

This last season seems to have been one of “repairing” ...

From emergent projects like a failed sewer line in the township hall, to other assets where time and weather have just taken their toll—the list of projects that were tackled this year would take more room than this spot in the newsletter will allow, but here are a few highlights:

This summer, we were able to have several sections of bike path replaced and other spots repaired. Another project that has been addressed this year was the resurfacing of the very popular pickleball courts. Also, the deck and stair rebuild project at Windsnest Park is finally underway, after a lengthy permitting process with the State.

This fall, the Township was awarded a grant to plant dune grass on the face of the Kouw Park Dune, in an effort to stabilize the bank, and help protect against further erosion. (Please help by not trampling these fragile plant starts.)

The Township Cemetery parking lot also received a much-needed sealing and re-striping. Lastly, the larger playground assembly that existed in the Township hall park, has been removed, and the new unit it set for delivery this winter. It will be installed as soon as the weather allows.

More bike path repairs are planned for 2024, as we finalize the complete survey of the path surface conditions, retaining walls and bridges. Additionally, the tennis courts located on the township hall grounds are scheduled for repair/resurfacing proposal. The township is also working on improving broadband, and cellular coverage in concert with the County’s broadband initiative, and adding carriers to the township’s cell tower.

There are so many good things happening around the township, as we look forward to this next year, which brings us into our Centennial year as a Township (1924-2024)! A centennial celebration is being planned for the summer that will highlight some of the great history and way of life in our town-ship. (There will be more on that in the spring newsletter.)

Have a Blessed New Year!

**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NEWS AND CALL LOG**

**CALL LOG:** During September, October and November the Fire Department responded to **55 calls:**

Medical—26, Fire Alarm—8, Good Intent—6, CO Alarm—2, Personal Injury Accident—3, Wildfire—3, Brush Fire—1, Unauthorized Burn—1, Down Powerline—1, Gas Leak—1, Building Fire—2, Service Call—1

**PORT SHELDON TOWNSHIP OFFICE**  
**Phone:** 616-399-6121      **Fax:** 616-399-7173  
**Website:** [www.portsheldontwp.org](http://www.portsheldontwp.org)  
**Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Wednesday evenings 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
  
**Assessor** available Friday mornings  
**Building/Zoning Administrator** available M/W/F mornings

**RECURRING CALENDAR EVENTS**  
**Board of Appeals**  
Meets as needed at 5:30pm the 1st Wednesday of each month  
**Board Meetings**  
5:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month  
**Planning Commission**  
6:00pm the 4th Wednesday of each month  
**Trash Service**  
7:30-10:30am  
Saturdays