

# Comstock Connect

## February 2023 Newsletter

Township Office Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday  
8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Friday  
8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Township Board

Supervisor  
Randy Thompson

Clerk  
Nicole Beauchamp

Treasurer  
Bret Padgett

Trustees  
Jerry Amos  
Terry McIver  
Jason Knight  
Clyde "Bub" Sherwood

Superintendent  
Scott Hess

Transfer Station  
November 1- March 31

Thursday  
11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Saturday  
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

The Township Hall  
will be closed on February 20th  
in honor of Presidents Day.



**Happy February! In this issue of Comstock Connect, we have important information for residents for the beginning of 2023:**

- Announcements from the Township and Staff (Page 2)
- The date for the 2023 Spring Curbside pickup (Page 2)
- News on Cemetery and Parks expansions (Page 2)
- Winter Property Tax deadline reminder (Page 2)
- February meetings and holiday dates (Page 3)
- What to expect from our "Winter Warm-up" (Page 4)
- Information about upcoming events in Comstock parks (Page 4)
- Fun family-friendly events from the Library (Page 5)
- Fire Department CPR classes! (Page 6)
- Cemetery expansion (Page 7)
- Plans for a Columbarium at Maple Grove Cemetery (Page 8)
- A flyer for Spring Curbside Pickup (Page 10)

# Messages from the Township

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**Randy Thompson, Township Supervisor**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 126](tel:(269)381-2360)

[supervisor@comstockmi.gov](mailto:supervisor@comstockmi.gov)



This spring's curbside pickup will begin on Monday, May 8th. We expect crews will be done within 2 weeks, but they will take all the time they need to get to every street once. All items must be put out on Saturday, May 6th, or Sunday, May 7th. Any items not put out by then will not be picked up.

Though we still have several months to go before curbside pickup begins, the Township wanted you to be aware of the date to ensure you could begin looking to see what you want removed in May. We have a flyer at the back of this newsletter that lists what is accepted and what isn't accepted for curbside pickup.

**Nicole Beauchamp, Township Clerk**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 111](tel:(269)381-2360)

[clerk@comstockmi.gov](mailto:clerk@comstockmi.gov)



2023 has exciting things in store for our community. Comstock Cemetery is expanding! We're close to running out of burial space and the expansion will create 1280 more plots, 384 being smaller cremation plots. Parks & Rec is also considering options to add a park next to the new section of the cemetery. Some ideas they're considering are a new playground, a dog park, a skate park or a pickleball court. No decisions have been made at this time as they are gathering ideas and input from the community.

Maple Grove cemetery will see a columbarium by the end of this year. Columbariums are a cost effective way to inter and memorialize loved one's cremains (cremation remains). The columbarium is in production and is scheduled to be delivered by the end of October.

See pages 8 and 9 for details and images of the expansion and columbarium.

**Bret Padgett, Township Treasurer**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 112](tel:(269)381-2360)

[bpadgett@comstockmi.gov](mailto:bpadgett@comstockmi.gov)



Winter property tax season is wrapping up. As a reminder, payments must be received in our office by 5:00 p.m. on February 14 to avoid a 3% penalty. Payments can be made by mail; in-person at the Township office; by using the drop box located near our front entrance; or online at [www.comstockmi.gov](http://www.comstockmi.gov). We accept cash, check, money order, electronic check (\$3 fee), or major credit card (3% fee). Postmarks are accepted if payment is received by February 21, and the Township is not responsible for lost mail or mail delays.

Please note, we do not send reminder bills for unpaid taxes. It is highly recommended that all taxpayers take a moment to verify that both seasons have been fully paid. This is particularly important if your summer payment was received after September 14, as there may be interest charges owing. On March 1, all unpaid property taxes are turned over to the Kalamazoo County Treasurer as delinquent.



# Dates and Announcements

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## Announcements



We have released the first video in our 3-part educational video series on Public Meetings. We are creating this video series to help educate our community about how they can engage with their elected officials and view Township business being conducted

## Important Dates

### Township Board Meeting

The Township Board is meeting on Monday, February 6th.

### Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

The Parks and Recreation Board is meeting on Monday, February 13th at 6:00 PM at Fire Station 9-1.

### Planning Commission Board Meeting

The Planning Commission is meeting on Thursday, February 9th, and February 23rd at 7 P.M.

### The Zoning Board of Reviews Meeting

The Zoning Board of Reviews is meeting on Tuesday, February 28th at 4:00 PM.

### The Downtown Development Authority Meeting

The Downtown Development Authority is meeting on Wednesday, February 22nd at 5:30 PM.

### Township Board, Planning Commission, and Downtown Development Authority Joint Meeting

The Township Board, Planning Commission, and DDA Joint Meeting will be holding a joint meeting on Monday, February 13th at 6:00 P.M.

### Township Office Closed

The Township Office will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Days.

## Winter Warm-up

On February 4th from 3-6 p.m., join us for sledding, a treasure hunt, kids activities, s'mores, and much more at Robert Morris Park. Weather Dependent. Park Fees are waived for event participants.



### Robert Morris Park Passes

Looking for outdoor fun for the whole family year-round. Stop by the Township Hall for a Robert Morris Park Pass. Passes are \$25 per vehicle and \$10 for seniors (60+).

### Upcoming Events

Summer Adult Softball  
Runs from April 24-July 24 at  
Wenke Softball Complex

Community Garden  
Starts late May at the  
Community Center

Memorial Day Parade  
The VFW is hosting a party at  
1:30 P.M. after the parade at  
Merrill Park

If you see something, say something. If you see someone dumping trash or you see other unlawful activities, please contact 269-343-8212 or email us at [parks@comstockmi.gov](mailto:parks@comstockmi.gov). You can also contact the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department through the non-emergency line (269) 488-8911. If safe, try to record a plate number. We also have a complaint form online.



# Comstock Township Library

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### Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



### Library Contact

269-345-0136

[Info@comstocklibrary.org](mailto:Info@comstocklibrary.org)

[www.comstocklibrary.org](http://www.comstocklibrary.org)

## Adult Book Club

**Monday, February 27 at 5:30 P.M.**

Please join us for a discussion of *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age* by Kevin Boyle. This nonfiction book covers an important Civil Rights case and a lesser known piece of Michigan history. Call or stop by the Library to register and pick-up your copy of the book. Light refreshments will be served.

## Storytime Room Play

Mondays and Fridays all day

Stop by our storytime room and play with our special toys that are usually reserved for only after storytime sessions. This is a drop-in program for all ages.



**Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 A.M.**

### Family Storytime

Family Storytime provides an opportunity for caregivers to actively engage with their children ages 0-5.

Build early literacy skills in a welcoming environment through meaningful stories, songs, and play.

Encourage a love of language and reading while practicing listening and cooperative tasks. Every storytime is followed by sensory toy play time.



### Winter Reading BINGO

Winter Reading Challenge BINGO continues through February! Print off your BINGO sheet on the Library's website or stop by to pick one up. One lucky family or individual will win \$500!

# Comstock Fire & Rescue CPR Classes

Starting in January, Comstock Fire Department began holding monthly community CPR classes.

We are excited to introduce this community outreach program and encourage all who are interested to consider signing up.

While we introduce this program and evaluate the interest and demand for training, we are limiting the initial class size to 8. Participants will be chosen on a first-come, first-serve basis, with initial preference given to Comstock Township residents, so please do not hesitate to register.

CPR cards will not be issued for this program due to the limited scope of instruction. For this reason, this training is being provided at no cost!

Our overarching goal is to train as many people in our community as possible in how to properly provide chest compressions and use an AED in the event of a cardiac emergency.

Bystander CPR keeps blood moving to the brain and other organs to give victims of sudden cardiac arrest the best chance of survival possible while waiting for emergency services.

Classes will be held once a month at Comstock Fire Station 9-1 (1960 River Street) on Saturdays, 9:00 am – 11:00 am. We will announce upcoming classes on our Facebook page, so make sure you are following us to stay informed.

To register, scan the QR code or go to: <https://forms.gle/B9FWUvRTV4vVkzgL9>



**Please sign up to join us and learn a crucial skill that can help save a life!**  
**Questions can be emailed to FF Crabtree at [ccrabtree@comstockmi.gov](mailto:ccrabtree@comstockmi.gov)**



## Comstock Cemetery Expansion

An expansion of Comstock Cemetery will be completed this year, offering 1280 more plots, 384 of those being smaller cremation-only plots. The expansion will extend into the old ball diamonds on Neal St. The new entrance will be off Neal St and the current entrance will be closed. With very few plots left in the current cemetery, the expansion will benefit our community for a long time to come and will also offer more affordable, smaller cremation-only plots as cremations become increasingly popular.





## Columbarium at Maple Grove Cemetery

A 64-niche columbarium (cremation wall) is scheduled to be installed at Maple Grove Cemetery by the end of October 2023. The columbarium will offer families a cost-effective way to inter their loved one's cremains. Below is a rendering of a wall similar to the one that will be erected. Stay tuned for more details regarding pricing and sale of the niches.





Contact us  
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## Find us on Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/comstocktwp>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/comstockctwp/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ComstockCTwp>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/comstock-charter-township/>

## Meet the author



Thank you very much for reading this edition of the Comstock Connect Newsletter. We look forward to keeping you up-to-date on all the latest happenings in our community.

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Have a story to share?

Matt Miller

Communications Development Coordinator

(269) 381-2360 ext. 120

[mmiller@comstockmi.gov](mailto:mmiller@comstockmi.gov)

# Comstock Township

## Spring Curbside Pickup 2023



### Dates and Policies

- Spring Curbside Pickup begins **May 8th**.
- Clean-up is for residents that live within Comstock Township's limits only.
- All items must be put out on **May 6th** or **May 7th**. Any items not put out by then will not be picked up.
- We hope pickup will be completed within 2 weeks, but pickup will go until crews have reached each street once.
- Crews **WILL NOT** return to areas for items placed after specified dates listed.

### The following items are accepted

- Household doors and windows, furniture, carpeting, toys, miscellaneous rubbish/junk, and packaging
- Limit 4 cubic yards
- Glass should be in a cardboard box or other sturdy container and taped shut
- Mattresses/Box Springs MUST be wrapped in plastic
- Nothing will be accepted that 2 people cannot safely pick up and place into a truck
- No plastic bags
- Loose items must be in boxes

### The following items will NOT be accepted

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Hot Tubs   | • Batteries   |
| • Boats that have been cut up  | • Florescent light bulbs                              |
| • Concrete, Blocks, Bricks   | • Chemicals, paints, solvents, pesticides, herbicides |
| • Freon appliances such as refrigerators                               | • Other household hazardous waste                     |
| • Freezers and dehumidifiers   | • Iron or steel or cast-iron bathtubs                 |
| • Electronics including computers, printers, monitors, and accessories | • Stumps, yard debris, brush                          |
| • Televisions  | • Medical waste                                       |
| • Auto parts or engines  | • Oil, Gasolines or antifreeze                        |
| • Tires  |   |

*Consumers Concrete and the Kalamazoo County Hazardous Waste Center can handle disposal of some of these items. Contact them for more of that information.*