

Comstock Connect

November 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

Winter Hours
November 1-March 31

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

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



Happy November! We hope the beginning of the holiday season is a wonderful one for your family. Please take time to read these important articles about:

- Our Spring 2024 Curbside Pickup Date (Page 2)
- Information about the November 7th election (Page 2)
- Important Winter Property Tax information (Page 2)
- The Transfers Station Winter Hours (Page 3)
- November meetings and other important dates (Page 3)
- The Winners of the 2023 Haunt Your House (Page 4)
- Why you should be excited about the Comstock Center DDA (Page 5)
- The DDA's Informational Meetings on November 20th and 22nd (Page 5)
- Fun family-friendly events from the Library (Page 6)
- Comstock Township Fire Department News (Page 7)
- How we're preparing our cemeteries for Veterans Day (Page 8)
- Cemetery Records Update Form (Page 9)
- How to connect with your Township Government (Page 10)

Messages from the Township

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Randy Thompson, Township Supervisor

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 126](tel:2693812360)

supervisor@comstockmi.gov



We're pleased to announce that Spring Curbside Pickup will begin on Monday, April 29, 2024. Curbside Pickup is only for residents that live within Comstock Township's limits. All items must be put out on Saturday, April 27th or Sunday, April 28th. 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 April 28th.

Please go online for more details and for a list of items we can and cannot accept for curbside pickup. As a general rule, we cannot accept anything that two people cannot safely pick up and put into a truck.

Nicole Beauchamp, Township Clerk

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 111](tel:2693812360)

clerk@comstockmi.gov



There is a countywide Veteran's millage on the November 7th ballot. To see ballot language or find out where you vote, visit [Michigan.gov/vote](https://michigan.gov/vote).

Deadline reminders:

- Friday, November 3rd is the last day to submit a written request to spoil an absentee ballot and have a new one mailed to you.
- Saturday, November 4th - Clerk's office is open 8 am - 4 pm to register voters and issue absentee ballots.
- Monday, November 6th - Last day to submit a written request to spoil an absentee ballot and have a new one issued to you in the Clerk's office.
- Tuesday, November 7th - Election Day! Voters may vote in the polls 7:00am - 8:00pm. Absentee ballots can be issued only to those registering to vote on election day.

We are looking for election workers for the 2024 elections as well as for the nine days of early voting. Please contact the Clerk to inquire: clerk@comstockmi.gov or call 269-381-2360.

Bret Padgett, Township Treasurer

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 112](tel:2693812360)

bpadgett@comstockmi.gov



Winter property tax bills will be mailed out by December 1, 2023, and tax amounts become due and payable on that date. To avoid a 3% penalty, payments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 14, 2024.

Payments can be made by mail, in-person at the Township office, by using the drive-up drop box located at the east end of the parking lot, or online at www.comstockmi.gov. We accept cash, check, money order, electronic check (\$3 fee), and major credit cards (3% fee). When paying online, we also accept PayPal, Venmo, Google Pay, and Apple Pay (3% fee for each). Any payments not received by February 29, 2024, will be turned over as delinquent to the Kalamazoo County Treasurer.

Curious about how the Township's funds are invested? Head to www.comstockmi.gov and navigate to the Treasurer's page. There you will find our investment policy, investment procedures, and the most recent quarterly investment report.

Dates and Announcements

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Announcements



The Comstock Charter Township Transfer Station starts winter hours on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Winter hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Comstock Township Residents can purchase a Transfer Station ID card for \$20 at the Transfer Station or the Township Office, located at 5858 King Highway. You can find more information here: <https://comstockmi.gov/transfer-station/>

Important Dates

The Planning Commission

is meeting on Thursday, November 9th at 7:00 PM and on Thursday, November 30th for a special meeting.

The Parks and Recreation Board

is meeting on Monday, November 13th at 6:00 PM.

The Township Board

is meeting on Monday, November 20th at 6:00 PM.

The Zoning Board of Appeals

is meeting on Tuesday, November 21st at 4:00 PM.

The Downtown Development Authority

is meeting on Wednesday, November 22nd at 5:30 PM.

The DDA is hosting Informational Meetings

in conjunction with the Monday, November 20th Township Board Meeting at 6 PM and Wednesday, November 22nd DDA Meeting at 5:30 PM.

The Township Office will be closed

Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans Day. The office will be closed Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Haunt Your House Winners

We had 17 awesome contestants in this years Haunt Your House Competition. However, we could only pick 3 winners. Congratulations to Lisa Dando, Jeff Buckhout, and Sherri Keizer for first, second, and third place respectively. We were excited to see the number of families who participated in Haunt Your House grow from last year. We hope next year's Haunt Your House will have even more people decorating their homes!

Robert Morris Park Passes

are available for purchase at the Township Office located at 5858 King Hwy, Kalamazoo. Passes cost \$25, or \$10 for seniors (60+). Day passes can be purchased at Robert Morris Park for \$5.

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Thank you very much for an awesome summer! We look forward to serving you again for the 2024 summer season.

Robert Morris Park is open year round for you to enjoy.

First place goes to Lisa Dando for a yard full of spooky scenes that are sure to delight and scare trick-or-treaters.

Jeff Buckhout won second place with his glowing green haunted house. The eerie glow revealed tons of wonderful decorations.

Sherri Keizer came in third with her spooky trail that will make getting candy a spectacularly scary encounter.

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 parcs@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.



We Are Here to Help You Grow

The Comstock Center Downtown Development Authority was created to support the growth of small businesses and expand the district as a community destination and gathering place.

- Planning and Design Assistance
- Business Retention
- Business Recruitment
- Property Ownership and Parcel Data
- Financial Assistance- New Façade Improvement program
- Maintenance / Safety
- Technical Support
- Marketing
- Downtown Events

Our Focus for Future Improvements

Beautification / Maintenance / Infrastructure
Economic Development / Marketing / Outreach
Events / Special Programs
Executive Committee / DDA Board Leadership

Contact Us:

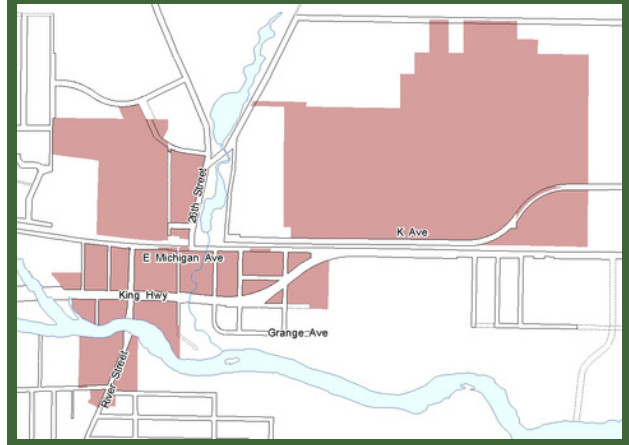
Steve Deisler, Comstock Center DDA Director
5858 King Hwy.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
269-381-2360
sdeisler@comstockmi.gov

Board of Directors

- Sandra Katje, Chair
- Jon Koets, Vice Chair
- Jeffrey Townsend, Secretary/Treasurer
- Randy Thompson, Township Supervisor
- John Gisler, County Commissioner
- Evan Kowalski
- Matt Norman
- Anne Summerfield

Steve Deiser, Comstock Center DDA Director

Map of the DDA Area



<https://comstockmi.gov/downtown-development-authority/>



[269-381-2360](tel:269-381-2360)

Reminder:

The DDA has two Informational Meetings in November. One will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Township Board Meeting and another will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in conjunction with the regularly scheduled DDA Meeting.

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.



Comstock
Township
Library

Where community meets the world.

Library Contact

[269-345-0136](tel:269-345-0136)

Info@comstocklibrary.org

www.comstocklibrary.org

NaNoWriMo Write In

November 6, 9, 16, 20, 27, and 30 from 5:30-7:30pm

Do you have a novel in your soul that you are just itching to get out and onto paper? Join us during the month of November and participate in NaNoWriMo (AKA National Novel Writing Month)? NaNoWriMo is the national organization that encourages you to write with literary abandon during the 30 days of November with the goal of producing a 50,000-word novel in that short of time. You do not have to attend all the sessions and no registration is necessary.

Kids Craft-a-Palooza

Saturday, November 4 @ 11am & 1pm

Ms. Brenna is bringing out ALL the craft supplies, and we'll have a crafting free-for-all! Want to paint? Do it! Want to sculpt? We've got it! Want to glue every sparkly bit we have onto a piece of cardboard? We're in!!! The sky's the limit for this fun, open-ended program. Please register each child individually who'd like to attend.

Tween Movie Afternoon

Saturday, November 18 @ 1pm

Tweens will have the chance to watch an entertaining film with friends! Movies will be rated PG-13 or PG. The library will provide snacks and drinks. This program is for grades 4th-7th only. Please register if you plan to attend.

State Representative Matt Hall Listening Hour

Wednesday, November 15 from 12-2pm

Constituents of the 42nd State House District are invited to meet with staff members from the office of State Representative Matt Hall. All constituents are invited to come discuss any issues of concern or to ask questions.

Make & Share Cookbook Club

Saturday, November 18 @ 12pm

Our November book club is a potluck! Please bring either an appetizer or a dessert to share with the other participants, as well as the cookbook the recipe came from. The cookbook can be from our shelves or one of your own. We will have a microwave available to heat up food with if your dish needs to be warm. Registration is requested.

The Library will be closed on the following dates:

Friday, November 10, closed for Veteran's Day/Staff Training Day

Wednesday, November 22, closing early at 5pm

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24, closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday



Please register for these free events by calling the library at [269-345-0136](tel:269-345-0136) or by visiting the Events page on the library's website www.comstocklibrary.org



Comstock Fire and Rescue

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Assistant Chief Kevin Thompson graduated from Eastern Michigan University School of Fire Staff and Command on October 20, 2023. This executive leadership program consisted of 360 hours of Master's level classroom instruction that required out-of-class study, papers, projects, and examination preparation. This program was completed one week a month from February through October. EMU's Fire Staff and Command School is recognized as one of the nation's most challenging and rewarding Chief Fire Officer management programs. Congratulations Assistant Chief Thompson.

Assistant Chief Thompson's project was on the "Feasibility of providing Basic Life Support to Comstock Township". This project researched the need for Comstock Fire & Rescue to provide a higher level of EMS care to the community, and also the feasibility of doing so.



Cemetery Reminders

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Veterans Day

In preparation for Veteran's Day we will be walking through both cemeteries and replacing flags at the graves of Veterans. If you know of a Veteran whose flag has blown away or been damaged, please let us know! We have been updating our Master List of veterans. If you have discovered a member of the military in our cemeteries has not received a flag or a military grave marker, please contact us so we can place those remembrances at their graves. These include Grand Army of the Republic (1861- 1865), Civil War, U.S. Veteran, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam Service, and Vietnam Veteran markers.

Plot designation

As a reminder, if you have multiple plots in one of our cemeteries, consider designating each plot or adding a co-owner. If the lot owner dies and plots are unassigned, a will or a probate court order would be required to allow heirs to use the remaining plots.



Cemetery Records Update

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Do you or a family member have burial rights in one of our cemeteries? If so, please update your information with us so we can better communicate with you. Here are some ways you can reach us to update your information:

1. Complete the form below and mail it to us at P.O. Box 449, Comstock, MI 49041
2. Call us at (269) 381-2360 with the updated information.
3. Email us at tpenny@comstockmi.gov



Please print your answers below.

Your Name: _____

Your mailing address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email address: _____

Who purchased the burial rights in our cemetery? Please list name whether yourself or a loved one:

Are you the main contact person for future communications regarding this grave? Yes/ No If not you, who should be contacted? : _____

Which cemetery? Comstock/Maple Grove

Please remember to look at the posted signs as you enter the cemeteries for ordinance information.

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.

Have a story to tell? Get in touch with our Communications Development Coordinator and he can help!

Matt Miller

Communications Development Coordinator

(269) 381-2360 ext. 120

mmiller@comstockmi.gov