

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK

ORDINANCE NO. 572

ADOPTED: OCTOBER 5, 2026

EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 13, 2026

TRESPASS ORDINANCE

An Ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by prohibiting certain types of trespasses within the Charter Township of Comstock, to provide for severability, to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, and to provide an effective date.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDAINS:

SECTION I

PROHIBITION ON TRESPASSING GENERALLY

- (A) No person, without lawful authority, shall knowingly or willfully enter upon the real property of another or remain on such property if notice to stay off or leave the premises is personally communicated to the person by the owner, lessee or person rightfully in charge or in possession thereof.
- (B) No person, without lawful authority, shall enter any building, structure, or area within, of another not open to the general public without first obtaining permission to enter from the owner, lessee or person rightfully in charge or in possession thereof.
- (C) No person, without lawful authority, shall enter onto any real property that is fenced, or enclosed in a manner to exclude intruders, without first obtaining permission to enter from the owner, lessee or person rightfully in charge or in possession thereof. This restriction does not apply if the area enclosed or fenced is the only access point to any building upon the property by which a visitor may proceed to contact the owner or occupant and the person is proceeding, by the most direct route, to the building's front entrance through a gate or other access-point.
- (D) No person, without lawful authority, shall enter onto real property that has been conspicuously posted with a sign that reads "No Trespassing" or synonymous wording without first obtaining permission to enter from the owner, lessee or person rightfully in charge or in possession thereof. This restriction does not apply

to a person proceeding to contact the owner or occupant and the person is proceeding, by the most direct route, to the front entrance of a building on the property.

SECTION II

PROHIBITION ON CAMPING ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

- (A) The following definitions apply to this Section:
- i. "Camping" means the use of tents, hammocks, temporary shelters, campers, RVs, vans, or motor vehicles for temporary or permanent residence, including but not limited to sleeping or storing personal belongings with or without shelter.
 - ii. "Township property" means any real property, building, structure, equipment, public right of way, public open space, and public park, including all associated areas such as public parking lots, controlled or owned by the Township.
 - iii. "Shelter" includes, but is not limited to, a tent, tarpaulin, lean-to, sleeping bag, bedroll, blankets or any other form of protection from the elements other than clothing the individual is wearing.
- (B) No person may camp on Township property, except in areas specifically designated by the Township for camping purposes, and in compliance with applicable regulations, including fees and registration.
- (C) This prohibition does not apply to:
- i. Emergency situations as determined by law enforcement or other authorized Township personnel; or
 - ii. Township-sponsored events or programs that allow camping on Township property and that have been approved by authorized Township personnel.
- (D) Personal property used or left on Township property in violation of this Section may be removed and disposed of by authorized Township personnel or contractors.
- (E) Prior to enforcement, Township personnel or law enforcement shall, where feasible and appropriate, offer information to affected individuals about shelters, housing programs, and other resources available through local social service organizations.

SECTION III

VIOLATIONS

- (A) Any person or entity who violates, disobeys, neglects or refuses to comply with any provision of this Ordinance, or any order issued under the Ordinance, or who causes, allows, or consents to any of same, shall be deemed to be responsible for a violation of this Ordinance.
- (B) Any violation of this Ordinance is hereby declared to constitute a public nuisance, and shall constitute a basis for such judgment, writ or order necessary to compel compliance with the Ordinance and/or to restrain and prohibit continuation of the violation, or other appropriate relief in any court of competent jurisdiction, in addition to any other relief or sanction herein set forth or allowed by law.
- (C) A violation of this Ordinance is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or up to 90 days in the county jail. Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, which the Township has incurred in connection with prosecution of a violation.

SECTION IV

SEVERABILITY

Should any provision or part of the within Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the enforceability of the balance of this Ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION V

REPEAL

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication after adoption.

Amber Lawrence, Clerk
Charter Township of Comstock

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK, KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following is a summary of an ordinance that was adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Comstock on October 5, 2026.

ORD. 572–TRESPASS ORDINANCE

SECTION I PROHIBITION ON TRESPASSING GENERALLY. This section sets forth general restrictions on trespassing.

SECTION II PROHIBITION ON CAMPING ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY. This section provides definitions of “camping”, “township property”, and “shelter”; restricts camping on Township property; provides exceptions; addresses personal property used or left on Township property and the offer of information to affected individuals.

SECTION III VIOLATIONS. This section provides the penalties for violation of the Ordinance, including a misdemeanor violation.

SECTION IV SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

SECTION V REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES. This section provides for repeal of any conflicting ordinances.

SECTION VI EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication after adoption.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the Office of the Charter Township of Comstock Clerk at the address set forth below; on the Charter Township of Comstock website at <https://comstockmi.gov>; and that a copy of the Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the office of the Charter Township of Comstock Clerk during regular business hours of regular working days (Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Fridays 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) following the date of this publication.

Amber Lawrence, Clerk
Charter Township of Comstock
5858 King Highway
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
(269) 381-2360
<https://www.comstockmi.gov>

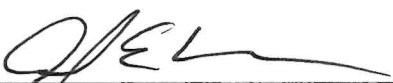
CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I, Amber Lawrence, Township Clerk of the Charter Township of Comstock, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, do hereby certify that in pursuance of law and statute provided, at a meeting of the Charter Township of Comstock Township Board held on October 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at which the following members were present, the Board enacted and passed Ordinance No. 572, hereinbefore recorded, to become effective on October 13, 2026, and that the members of said Board present at said meeting voted on the adoption of said Ordinance as follows:

Benjamin Martin	Aye
Amber Lawrence	Aye
Sandra Bloomfield	Aye
Jerry Amos	Aye
Kirk Hart	Aye
John Paver III	Aye
Joseph VanBruggen	Aye

I do further certify that a Notice of Ordinance Adoption was published in the Kalamazoo Gazette, a newspaper printed in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and circulated in the Charter Township of Comstock on Tuesday, October 13, 2026; that said Ordinance No. 572 was recorded in the official Ordinance Book on October 14, 2026.

Dated: October 14, 2026



Amber Lawrence, Clerk

ATTEST:



Benjamin Martin, Supervisor