

Clean Up Day May 11, 2024

Once again, the Banks Township Board of Trustees is offering an opportunity for taxpayers to dispose of hard to get rid of items at no charge to residents and property owners of Banks Township. The drop-off site is at 7111 Essex Rd, former site of Drenth Brothers Gravel Plant. Collection begins at 8 AM and the site will close at 11AM (Please note the time change). **NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE and NO HAZARDOUS WASTES!**

Proof of residency or property ownership is required. Please be prepared to present this notice or some form of proof of ownership. No building materials will be accepted: shingles, insulation, drywall, etc. Examples of allowed items: Household items, furniture, scrap metals, tires, car type batteries, appliances, air conditioning or refrigeration units. Freon will be purged at township expense. Site supervisors and signage will direct you to the proper drop off containers. Please assist with unloading if you are able. Please be careful driving through the site as pedestrians are present. Tires will be accepted .

- The Banks Township Fire Department has **free smoke alarms** available. This is a necessary safety tool that should be in each home. Contact the Township Office.
- **2024 Pig Roast** “A-MAZE-ing Ellsworth” is almost here! Friday: Waterslide, food truck, cornhole, ice cream social, kids activities & music. Saturday: Parade, kids activities, horse-pull, food truck, music, & so much more. June 14 & 15. Please follow us on Facebook.
- The **Independence Day Fireworks Display** will take place on Wednesday, July 3 over St. Clair Lake. Good viewing from the ball fields. The firework’s committee, a 501.c.3 nonprofit organization, is once again working to raise the \$12,000 needed to put on the show. The giant thermometer will go up at the launch site on East Jordan Road on Memorial Day weekend and the fireworks golf outing will take place in June. The 17th Annual Freedom Salute, honoring those who fought for our freedoms is held prior to the start of the display beginning at 5 PM. You can show your support by donating at Charlevoix State Bank or send contributions to Ellclair Committee, PO Box 282, Ellsworth, MI 49729.
- **Concerts on the Square** continues this summer. Bring a lawn chair to the heart of the village for six Wednesday eve concerts starting June 26 at 6PM. Something new each week.
- **Paddle Antrim** launches an-end-of-the-summer spectacular paddle through the Chain of Lakes from River Park. Always the second weekend in September. www.paddleantrim.com
- **Banks Township Dive Rescue Team** now has grown to four fully dive-certified Fire Fighters. Thanks to the Great Lakes Energy Peoples Grant and the Michigan Fire Equipment Grant we are in the process of purchasing needed equipment. “We want to thank our community and neighboring communities for all of their support,” said Captain Daryl Richards.

Banks Township Officials

Township Hall 231-588-6126

Township Fax 231-588-2079

Supervisor Alex Busman 231-676-1075

Clerk Donna Heeres 231-588-7741

Treasurer Katy Postmus 231-599-3433

Trustee David Rasmussen 231-313-1327

Trustee Jule Waterman 231-675-5535

Assessor Amy Jenema 231-632-3529

Zoning Admin Kurtis Busman 231-676-2414

Hall Reservations Jan Rasmussen 231-497-4248

Please visit our Website: bankstownship.net for updates

Email: bankstownship@bankstownship.net

Banks Township
6520 Center St
PO Box 68
Ellsworth, MI 49729

Banks Township

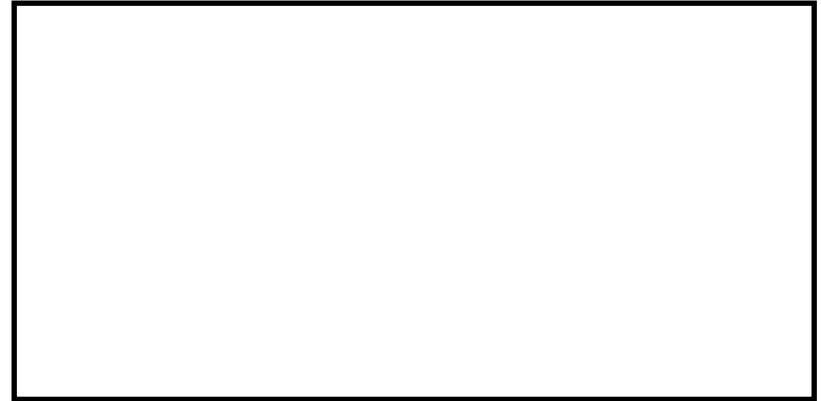
established in 1898

PRSRT STD
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GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT NO 657

Proposed Road Milage to appear on August ballot:

As you may know, there are 84 miles of road in Banks Township, and about 56 of them are considered "local" roads, which means that the county will not spend any money on them beyond normal maintenance. Any significant improvements or repair, such as new gravel, chip seals or paving, must be paid for almost entirely by the township. Over 20 years ago, the board of trustees for Banks Township came to the citizens asking for a local millage of 1 mill to create a fund from which the township could pay for these types of projects. Over that time, the township has paved, re-graveled and otherwise repaired many miles of road in our township. However, inflation over the past 3 years has caused prices to skyrocket on almost everything, including road construction. Our current millage of 1 mill brings in about \$130,000 in revenue annually. Based on last year's Rushton Rd project, it now costs over \$185,000 to pave a mile of road. At our current millage, we will only be able to pave 2 miles of road every three years. The board has deliberated on this issue and has determined it is necessary to ask the community to increase the millage to 2 mills for our roads. This will allow the township to maintain our local roads and not fall drastically behind the rate of deterioration. We hope that you will consider this proposal for adoption as it will be on the August 6 ballot.

Elections: 2024 has historically ushered in early voting in Michigan. Passed in November of 2022 the new constitutional change allows voters access to the polls for 9 days leading up to all state & federal elections (not local). On May 7, voters will be asked to consider school & ISD tax levies, there will be no early voting in May. On August 6 we have the state primary. Senators, Representatives and local candidates with party affiliations will be on the ballot. There will be 9 days of early voting beginning July 27-Aug. 4. **The Monday before the election there is no voting.** November 5 is the General Election, early voting for this election begins Oct. 26-Nov. 3. **The Monday before the election there is no voting.**



*The Township Flag
is available for
purchase at the
Township Office*

\$75