

**BENZONIA TOWNSHIP — 2025 SUMMER NEWSLETTER**

231-882-4411, [www.BenzoniaTownship.org](http://www.BenzoniaTownship.org)  
1020 Michigan Avenue, P.O. Box 224, Benzonia, MI 49616

**GENERAL OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY through THURSDAY 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

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**Supervisor – Jason Barnard**

**Clerk – Diana Heller**

**Treasurer – Karen Burns**

**Assessor – Jill Brown**

**Zoning Administrator – Jason Barnard**  
**Assistant Zoning Administrator – Mary Pitcher**

**Trustees – Julie Orr, Al Rose**

**Fire Chief – Steve Adams**

**Cemetery Sexton – Robert (Bob) Wilkinson 231-633-2592**

**BENZONIA TOWNSHIP AND FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL BE MOVING INTO THE NEW BUILDING IN MID-JULY TO EARLY AUGUST. THE NEW ADDRESS IS 2717 BENZIE HIGHWAY. WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEB PAGE FOR DETAILS. THE PHONE NUMBER AND OFFICE HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME. ONCE WE MOVE, THERE WILL BE SIGNS POSTED ON THE OLD BUILDING WITH DIRECTIONS TO OUR NEW LOCATION.**

General information, forms, ordinances, etc. are available on our Web site: [www.BenzoniaTownship.org](http://www.BenzoniaTownship.org). We also have a Facebook page for Benzonia Township that we hope you will take a minute to look at, like, and share.

**SUMMER PROPERTY TAXES** — Treasurer's office hours during summer tax collection will be Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9 am to 12 pm. Taxes are due September 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid interest. If you'd like a receipt, please include a SASE. We now accept property tax payments by credit card or ACH payment, there is a link on our Web page [www.BenzoniaTownship.org](http://www.BenzoniaTownship.org) for that payment. If you have questions, please email Karen at: [treasurer@BenzoniaTownship.org](mailto:treasurer@BenzoniaTownship.org).

**ELECTION 2025** — We will be holding our next General Election on November 4, 2025 and it will be held at our new building, 2717 Benzie Highway, Benzonia, MI 49616. It will be exciting for the election committee to be able to introduce all our voters to the new facilities. There will be more room for voting and lots of other new things to show off to our residents. Looking forward to seeing everyone then.

**ASSESSOR** — Jill Brown can be reached at 231-881-4000 or at [TownshipAssessing@gmail.com](mailto:TownshipAssessing@gmail.com). Appointments are still best, please consider calling or emailing her in advance.

**RECYCLE** — Bring in your dead batteries (non-automotive), cell phones, printer cartridges and compact fluorescent bulbs to the township hall. Please put tape over the terminals on the 9volt batteries and on **ALL** lithium-ion batteries.

Remember, if you have a flag to retire, we have a collection container at the hall. The Boy Scouts will hold a ceremony to dispose of them.

There are collections for tires and electronics scheduled throughout the summer with Benzie County Recycling, appointments are required for both of these events: [rroelofs@benzieco.gov](mailto:rroelofs@benzieco.gov) or call 231-882-0035 or visit [www.benzieco.gov](http://www.benzieco.gov).

**WEBSITE UPDATE:** We have been working on a new website for the township which should be up and running soon.

**MEMORIAL PARK** — Our park is located between South Street and Grace Road in Benzonia. We have two pavilions available for gatherings. Please schedule your group events at the township hall. We have a form for groups over 25.

**DOG PARK** — Remember to pick up after your pet. There are bags and a refuse container available. It's amazing how many dogs bring their people to the park to play! Lots of fun.

**WALKING TRAIL** — It's great to see the people and children using the new walking trail which is now paved! This great project was funded with monies received from the excise tax revenue received from cannabis sales in our township.

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT** — The new playground equipment has also been a hit with children, we are hoping to expand that area with more equipment as funds permit.

If you have any suggestions, we'd like to hear them as we move along with these projects.

**Donation boxes can be found at the park if you'd like to "chip in" and help us with maintenance and development. THANKS!**

**STATION 5 FIRE DEPARTMENT** — Our fire department not only provides fire protection services but also medical first response, vehicle extrication, search and rescue, ice & water rescue, hazardous materials management (operational level), and fire prevention services. Calls for service continue to increase and in 2025, thus far, we responded 280 times to either fire or medical first response calls. With this continued increase comes a continued demand for emergency response staff in which our paid, on-call crew members are on-call 24/7 for 365 days a year. We look forward to growing as a department in providing these essential services for our community. We would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to the community for your continued support of the Fire Department.

**NEW FIRE/MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER STATION & TOWNSHIP OFFICES** – We will be moving into the new office/fire department very soon. It's an exciting time. We will have an open house after we are all settled and will welcome everyone to see the new offices.

Please like us on our "Benzonia Township Fire Department" Facebook page and we can't thank you enough for the continued support of your Station 5 Fire Department.

**911 SIGNS** — If you would like a 911 sign on your property, there is an application at the township hall or online on our Web site: [www.BenzoniaTownship.org](http://www.BenzoniaTownship.org) The price is \$40.00 and will be installed by Boy Scout Troop 10.

**TOWNSHIP CLEANUP DATES** — Our 2025 summer cleanup will be August 9th from 7:00 - 10:00am and will be located at Memorial Park on South Street in Benzonia, behind the Watson Benzie Chrysler Dodge Dealership. Please stop in at the township offices to pick up your free refuse pass.

**CEMETERY** — We are in the process of an update to the cemetery ordinance. Please contact the Township if you have questions.

The township purchases flags for the veterans buried in our cemetery each year. We'd like to thank Boy Scout Troop 10 for placing over 500 flags on the graves of our veterans in Benzonia Township.

**ZONING** – Benzonia Township is a zoned township and requires a land use permit for any changes to your property.

**SHREDDING-** Would you be interested in a township shredding day? Please email us, or call and let us know. It would be a way to get rid of the personal papers you don't know what to do with.