

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER

Mastodon Township Office

1371 South US Highway 2
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Website: mastodontownship.com

Phone: 906-875-6232

Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday 8am – 12 pm

Supervisor – Chad Skinner 906-875-6232
Clerk – Karen Mallon 906-875-6232,
Treasurer – Stacey Watters 906-284-1036
Trustee – Mike Bjork 906-284-9106
Trustee – Dave Smith 906-221-6708
Zoning Administrator – Stu Creel 906-367-0852
Assessor – Tammy Hendricks 906-284-1555

Mastodon Township Meeting Dates

Township Board of Trustee Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm, **except the September 2026 meeting will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at the Camp 5 Township Hall at 10:00 am.**

Planning Commission Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm except the May 2026 meeting will be held May 19th.

Board of Review meetings for 2026 are as follows:
July 12, 2026 at 12:00 pm – Correct Qualified Errors
December 15, 2026 at 12:00 pm – Correct Qualified Errors

Zoning Board of Appeals – TBA and as requested by Property Owner Application.

Township Fire Department

Fire Chief, Andy Fleming, is asking for your help. He and his crew have experience problems locating properties when emergency services are required. Visible, reflective fire number at the head of your driveway can help. The fire numbers can be purchased from the Iron County Construction Code Office. Apply online at ironmi.org. or call 906-875-3102.

Township Opportunities

Why Serve? Serving on committees provides a direct avenue for you to participate in the decision-making process, shape the township's future and advocate for issues that matter to you. Serving on a committee in a township can be a valuable way to contribute to your community, gain experience in local government, and influence decisions that directly impact you and other township residents and property owners. The Mastodon Township Board of Trustees is always searching for citizens who are interested in serving on Township boards,

committees and commissions. Commitments are typically for three years. These citizen-oriented committees consider matters from citizens in the special areas of activities assigned to each of the committees.

If you are interested in serving on a board, committee or commission, please send a letter of interest to the Mastodon Township by mail at the address listed above or by email to mastodonclerk@att.net. Interested persons must be qualified electors of Mastodon Township. The following Township opportunities exist:

The Planning Commission is seeking 2 members. The commission is an appointed body that acts as an advisory group to the township board on planning, land use regulation, and community development issues. It is responsible for preparing and updating the township's master plan, which serves as a long-range vision for growth and development. The commission develops and recommends changes to the township's zoning ordinance, which establishes land development regulations and districts. The commission reviews and approves development plans for compliance with township ordinances. The commission reviews and approves site plans for new construction and additions, including commercial, industrial, and residential developments. The commission also reviews applications for special land uses and makes recommendations to the township board.

The Board of Review is seeking an alternate member. The Board of Review examines and reviews the assessment roll for the current tax year as prepared by the assessor. Duties include adding property omitted from the assessment roll, correcting errors in names, descriptions of property, and the assessment and valuation of property. The Board of Review hears taxpayer appeals at the March Board of Review meetings. It is responsible for endorsing the completed assessment roll. The Board of Review meets in March, July and December as required by Michigan Law.

Zoning Board of Appeals is seeking membership for an alternate appointment. The function of the Zoning Board of Appeals is to hear and decide property owner appeals and review any order, requirement, decision or determination made by any administrative official charged with enforcement of the zoning ordinance. It may grant variances from the strict letter of the ordinance where there is practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship in conforming with such ordinance so that the spirit of the ordinance shall still be observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. Meetings are held when needed. Applications for a request for a variance are required to be received 30 days prior to the hearing date.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee is seeking 2 members. This committee works to help develop the Recreation Plan for the township and helps coordinate activities within the park. The committee is made up of five members, and welcomes input from community volunteer members.

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Garbage Reimbursement Program

The Garbage Voucher program is once again available to Mastodon Township taxpayers. The Township will offer \$250 in vouchers for the 2026-2027 year. Vouchers must be presented along with **qualifying paid invoices** for trash removal services. You may register for the program online by following the link on our web page www.mastodontownship.org or by filling out the enclosed form. Please mail or drop off the form to the township office. Please contact the Township if you have questions related to the program. The Program begins April 1, 2026 and ends March 31, 2027.

Clean Up Day: Saturday, June 20, 2026 from 8 am – 12 pm

Clean Up Day is a great opportunity to clean up your property and get rid of junk. Residents will be required to show proof of residency such as a driver's license or state ID, voter registration card, tax bill or utility bill with resident's name and Mastodon Township address. Person's hauling for a resident must have a written statement from the resident with the resident's name and address.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS: Hazardous waste, household garbage, electronics, mattresses, yard waste, shingles, fluorescent bulbs, treated wood, building materials, batteries.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS: Non-hazardous waste including, furniture, sofas, small appliances, old clothing, toilets, sinks, countertops, cabinets, siding. We will have a special dumpster for tires.

Alpha Metal Yard: Open by appointment only until May hours begin for Saturdays 9:00am - noon. Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, microwaves or other electronics are not being accepted. If you have questions regarding what they will accept, please contact Alpha Metal Yard at 906-828-4209.

Other Garbage Disposal/Recycling Options:

GFL – Kingsford, MI 800-774-9006

TRICO Opportunities – Kingsford, MI 906-774-5718

Tru Recycling- Caspian, MI 906-265-9262

Mastodon Township Library Program

Mastodon Township will reimburse you each fiscal year for payments made for a library card to any of the libraries below.

- Crystal Falls
- Iron River
- Dickinson County

Road Brining

Road Brining is a process we use on our local road in the summer to keep dust levels down. The brine we use is a liquid sodium chloride mixture. This should begin early summer.

Community News

May 10 Mother's Day

May 15-17, Spring Garden & Plant Sale Beechwood Hall, Iron River

May 24- Annual Alpha Michigan Brewing Company Celebration- Alpha

June 20: Rhubarb Fest (Harbour House Museum).

June 21- Fathers Day Car & Tractor Show-Iron River

July 4: Independence Day Celebration in nearby Alpha, MI.

July 10–12: Lions Club Bass Fest, Runkle Lake

July 26: UP Volunteer Firefighters Tournament, Caspian, MI

July 31–August 1: Humongous Fungus Fest (parade, vendors, foraging).

August 27-30: Iron County Fair

Elections

State and Local Elections

Tuesday, August 4: Michigan statewide **primary election**— voters will decide major party nominees for governor, the state Legislature, Congress and more.

* Early voting will begin July 25th.

Tuesday, Nov. 3: Michigan statewide general election — voters will decide the state's next governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state legislators, members of congress and more.

* Early voting will begin October 24.

Township Business Advertising Opportunities



Mastodon Township is home to some wonderful business!

For advertising opportunities on Mastodon Township website, contact the Clerk's Office at 906-875-6232 for more information.

Support our Mastodon Township Businesses

Alpha Michigan Brewing Company, Elson's Soaps, Glazed & Confused, Keane Automotive Specialists, MC3 Botanicals, Smith Timber Stand Improvement LLC, Stanek Far, & Silver Wood Farms LLC., Dealz Cannabis