

Charter Township of Lyon

58000 Grand River Ave, New Hudson, MI 48178

248-437-2240



UPDATE TO COVID-19

APRIL 9, 2020

TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT - UPDATED WEEK OF 4/6/2020

The Township Fire Department office is closed to the public. The department is fully operational. In case of emergency, CALL 911

Effective 3/26/20: The DNR, in conjunction with the State of Michigan, has issued a statewide burn ban until further notice.

What does this mean? You may NOT build a pile of yard waste on your back lawn and torch it; permits are not being granted at this time (unless the ground is snow-covered). This will help protect firefighters from possibly getting COVID-19 and frees them up for medical situations as needed. Want to make some s'mores over a contained campfire? You can! Recreational and domestic warming or cooking fires are still allowed, as long as you keep an eye on it while it's burning and then douse it thoroughly when the fun is done.

Check online for any changes at <http://michigan.gov/burnpermit>.

April 6, 2020

Here's a message from Chief Van Sparrentak:

For our Lyon Township community in these trying times, here's a status report of your Fire Department (LTFD).

Over the past few weeks, LTFD has increased our 24-hour coverage in anticipation of a possible force reduction. Currently, our daily staffing is stronger than ever before. We have daily conference calls with our mutual aid partners to ensure the protection and coverage and needs of all Oakland County departments.

We are available to assist communities as needed depending on our real-time capabilities, but our top priority will always be to protect Lyon Township. That's our job.

The community support from residents and businesses to our first responders is humbling and greatly appreciated. LTFD also has the unanimous support of the Lyon Township Board of Trustees in the actions we determine that best serve our community.

With all the changes in our everyday lives, this message is to reassure our residents, businesses, and mutual aid partners, that you can expect the same level of customer service as always. This is a tough time for everyone, but we're dealing with it knowing that this crisis will come to an end. Our top priority remains the safety of our first responders and the community.

Please continue to do your part and maintain social distancing for a few more weeks, and consider risk versus benefit. Take care of family and check in with friends.

I could not be prouder of our firefighters who do not question why, when, or where they should respond. They continue to be there for you as they always have. We also appreciate the stepped-up efforts from Huron Valley Ambulance (HVA) and their service to our community during the COVID-19 crisis.

Job #1 is to stop the spread so we can get back to normal quicker. We know that you are out there supporting us and we will continue to be there for you. Stay safe!

OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF

The Oakland County Sheriff Sub Station, located in the lower level of the Township office building, is closed to the public. The department is fully operational.
In case of emergency, CALL 911

TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER

The township water plant and sewer plant are fully operational. The facilities have an operations manager onsite daily and are also being monitored remotely.

For our sewer and water customers, the originally scheduled due date for utility bills was March 27th. In light of recent events, Lyon Township extended the due date to May 1st. There will be no late charges incurred during that time period.

The Township Hall is currently closed to the public, but those wishing to make utility bill payments can utilize one of these options:

1. Mail your check to the Township Hall (58000 Grand River Avenue, New Hudson, MI 48165).
2. Deposit your check in the locked drop box located on the circle drive by the office, near the flagpole.
3. Pay online with a credit card: <https://payments.g2gcloud.com/LyonTownship/1151>

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

On March 16, 2020 the township offices were closed to the public and staff continued to report to work.

On March 19, 2020 in order to keep the staff safe and still provided services, it was decided that no more than 10 employees would be in the building at a time. A schedule rotating staff members to three days at work while and three days at home was initiated.

March 24, 2020 - Governor Whitmer declared a statewide "Stay At Home" order for a minimum of 3 weeks. Because of this, the Lyon Township Municipal Center was closed until further notice.

Our three full-time elected officials ([John Dolan](#), [Michele Cash](#), and [Patricia Carcone](#)) continue to check the mail box and drop box. Please click on their names for their individual email addresses.

The rest of the office staff continues to do its best in monitoring email but the level of service is unfortunately limited during this time, due to not being in the office regularly. Due to this closure, departments are unable to receive and process applications. This includes the Building Department and Planning Department.

Lyon Township would like to thank you all for your understanding and patience as we attempt to handle things the best we possibly can. Please stay safe and, if possible, stay at home.

TOWNSHIP COMUNICATIONS

The township continues to post important updates to the website and Facebook page. Updates include important information from the State such as Executive Orders from the Governor and information for citizens affected by work closures regarding eligibility for Unemployment Benefits and where and how to apply. Also being shared is important information for our township business owners regarding Federal, State and County grant and loan applications for those being impacted by the Stay at Home order and business closures due to Executive Orders.

The township is participating in regular teleconference calls with State and County officials and is actively sharing important information as well as assisting local business owners in issues dealing with economic response and recovery efforts.

White House/FEMA/CDC – Coronavirus COVID-19 website - <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>
CDC Information and Resources - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/index.html>
Presidential Actions - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/>

State of Michigan – Coronavirus COVID-19 Website - <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>
State of Michigan Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/Mlgovernment/>
State of Michigan Governor Executive Orders - https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705---,00.html

Township Website - <https://www.lyontwp.org/>
Township Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/lyontwp/>
Downtown Development Authority Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/Lyon-Township-Downtown-Development-Authority-570714456361464/>

For questions regarding Covid-19 Business Relief programs offered through the Federal, State and County please contact Lyon Township Economic Development Contact: Tina Archer at carcher@lyontwp.org 248-215-6376

TOWNSHIP BUILDING DEPARTMENT – UPDATED WEEK OF 4/6/2020

Effective March 24, 2020, the Building Department is closed until further notice. Residential or commercial construction is not allowed. No building permit applications will be accepted or issued and no inspections will be conducted. All building permits and construction are suspended with the exception of those essential services defined in Executive Order 2020-21. For those essential services, permits must be applied for as required by Building, Mechanical, Electrical or Plumbing codes as regulated by the state and local ordinance. Anyone proceeding with construction that is non-essential is doing so at their own risk, and may be required to later remove or replace construction that has occurred without permits or inspections.

A violation of Executive Order 2020-21 is a misdemeanor.

The Building Department staff is monitoring voicemails and emails remotely and will make every effort to respond as required. Questions? Email Dav Herriman, Building Official at DHerriman@lyontwp.org or PJ Andrews, Building Coordinator at PAndrews@lyontwp.org

Township Officials are actively monitoring the current situation. The status of the Building Department closure will be assessed and revised as required and allowed under Executive Order. Permit processing will resume when the township offices reopen.

TOWNSHIP – MAY ELECTION

The Board of Education has agreed to postpone the May 5th election and address South Lyon's facility needs in a future election. There will be no May 5th election in Lyon Township. [Notice of Postponement](#)

TOWNSHIP – FOIA REQUESTS - UPDATED WEEK OF 4/6/2020

Revised FOIA Response Procedure in light of Executive Order 2020-38

As a result of the Governor's April 6, 2020 Executive Order (Order) No. 2020-38, the Charter Township of Lyon ("Township") will continue to fulfill Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the extent possible due to the circumstances arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic and subject to the procedures set forth in this notice, which are based on that Order.

Pursuant to the Governor's Order, "strict compliance" with some FOIA response requirements has been temporarily suspended. The Township now has ten (10) business days to respond to a FOIA request or appeal received via mail, hand-delivery, or fax. That time period begins when a Township employee physically opens the envelope containing the request or appeal, or takes a faxed request or appeal from the fax machine, not the dates when requests are considered to be received under the FOIA. The Township will provide written notice to the requestor should compliance with any of the current COVID-19 emergency orders preclude the Township from providing a response within the new timeline.

Additionally, if the FOIA request requires "in-person efforts" to prepare the response, e.g. search, examination and copying of documents, then the Township may defer responding to that portion of the request until the expiration and/or any extension of the Order and will provide written notification to the requestor explaining the reasons for the deferral. If a requestor informs the Township in writing they want to revise their FOIA request to exclude the portions requiring "in-person efforts," then the Township will respond to the request for records that would not require such efforts within the time frames set forth in MCL 15.235. Finally, the Township will continue to respond to all public records requests submitted and seeking records via email or website submission that do not require "in-person" efforts within the statute's current guidelines set forth in MCL 15.235

The Township will follow the above procedures and adhere to the Governor's Order through its effective date of **June 4, 2020** and/or any extension of the Order's duration.

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Due to concerns surrounding COVID-19, Lyon Township had made the decision to cancel upcoming public meetings previously scheduled during the month of April. This includes the following meetings:

Board of Trustees - Monday, April 6th
Planning Commission - Monday, April 13th
DDA - Tuesday, April 14th
ZBA - Monday, April 20th
Parks & Rec Advisory Board - Tuesday, April 21st
Planning Commission - Monday, April 27th

PARKS AND RECREATION

The playscape, restrooms, and the Lyon's Den Disc Golf Course at the James F. Atchison Memorial Park are closed for public use until further notice.