

LIVING IN BLOOMFIELD

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TOWNSHIP



Experience and Vision Will Define Next Four Years First 100 Days of Term Prepares Community for Success

I want to thank all the voters in Bloomfield Township for exercising their right to vote and entrusting me with the role of Supervisor. I am honored to serve the

community I call home by bringing my prior experience in government to the Township. I grew up in Bloomfield Village and graduated from Seaholm High School. Then while running a small business I served on the Bloomfield Hills City Commission including stints as Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem. From there, I served three terms in Michigan House representing the residents of Bloomfield Township in addition to other communities. Since, I've worked in roles of economic development for both Oakland County and the City of Novi.

This experience has prepared me well to better serve Township residents for the next four years. The job of the Board of Trustees is simple: insure residents have first-class service that provides a safe, clean, prosperous and fun place to live. From public safety to public works and beyond - if you live or work here, we should be considered the gold standard. I write this column three weeks into my term and am already hard at work on what I've dubbed my listening tour.

That means listening to residents, business owners, government partners, department heads, employees, and more on what is being done well and what can be done better. I'm planning to attend HOA meetings, conduct ride-alongs with our public safety and road crews, and have an open-door policy for all. As Supervisor, my role is to lead this community and lead it with great services that our residents expect. Fundamental to great service is great staff who share

a common vision. I know we have hard working departmental directors and the board needs to empower them to carry out their functions. I get the pleasure of working with the other elected officials as a group to see this happen.

I took office in the midst of a compensation study. Recruitment, retention, and compensation are the keys to healthy work environment. This board needs more information on how the Township compares to other municipalities of similar size and scope to know how to best recruit, retain, and compensate. Especially in public safety, we can't experience a revolving door of employees. We need the right information to attract and keep the best employees for each department and fulfill the vision of a premier government.

As I campaigned this summer, I heard many comments from residents about our roads and water and sewer rates. I plan to build relationships at the state and county level that will help achieve the replacements and repairs needed. I also know that economic development is important to growing the community and attracting future homeowners. I've heard requests for a downtown, public parks, and gathering spaces. We'll explore all options of how this might be achieved or providing a comparable experience.

Want to participate in my listening tour? Reach out to my office so I can hear your ideas and questions. If residents have questions, I want to get them comprehensive and complete answers as quickly as possible. I am so excited to get to work for the residents, but I'm also focused on initiating great and lasting change for our community.



New Supervisor Mike McCready getting to know residents at a recent event.



Mike McCready leading his first Board of Trustees meeting as the new Township Supervisor.

Mike McCready, Bloomfield Township Supervisor | 248.433.7700 | mmccready@bloomfieldtwp.org

On the Cover: A boy scout pets K9 Vince during a Bloomfield Township Police Department K9 demonstration. Photo credit: Zayda Schneider, Bloomfield Township Cable & Community Relations Assistant. For a chance to have your photo featured on the cover of a future Living in Bloomfield, email photo to: cable_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org.

Election Officials and Inspectors Celebrated in 2024



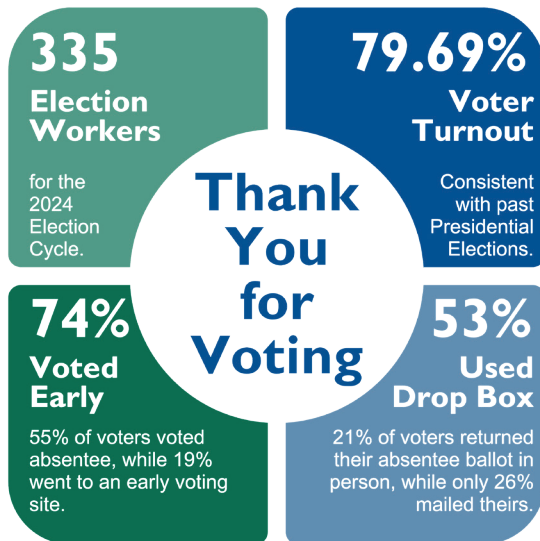
On November 25, 2024, the Township celebrated election officials and inspectors for their hard work with a reception and proclamation presented at the Board of Trustees meeting. We recognize that without these dedicated individuals, elections could not be held. I want to thank all election workers for their tireless efforts throughout 2024 culminating with November's General Election.

To learn more about the work of election officials and inspectors, as well as the entire Clerk's Office staff, I highly recommend BCTV's video Accuracy over Speed available at bloomfieldtwp.org/elections. You'll also find photos from the reception and proclamation.

We had just under 80% turnout among the 38,587 registered voters in the Township. Approximately 1.28% less than the 2020 November General Election. That places our community 14th for highest turnout among the 130 municipalities in Oakland County. Absentee and Early Voting numbers continued to rise this election.

While the election season is over, the audit season is just beginning for the Clerk's office. One part of the ongoing effort to ensure accuracy and security is the post-election audit process. Audits occur throughout the state of Michigan. We review processes, procedures, and double check the accuracy of counting machines.

Martin C. Brook, Township Clerk | 248.433.7702 | clerk@bloomfieldtwp.org



Treasurer's Turn: Explaining Your Tax Bill

As winter sets in, it marks the start of another tax season in the Township Treasurer's Office. Winter tax collection is notably different from summer tax collection earlier in the year because the Township collects all its millages during the winter. These millages account for approximately 70% of the revenue in our annual budget, funding critical services and operations. Here's a breakdown of the millages we collect and how they are used:

- **General Millage (2.1305 mills):** Funds the general operations and administrative functions of the township, ensuring smooth day-to-day management.
- **Roads Millage (0.6654 mills):** Supports the maintenance, repair, cleaning, and snow plowing of neighborhood roads.
- **Library Millage (1.8564 mills):** Funds our exceptional public library, which is overseen by a separately elected Library Board of Trustees.
- **Safety Path Millage (0.4489 mills):** Provides for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks and public safety paths throughout the township.
- **Public Safety Millage (6.3809 mills):** Supports police, fire, and dispatch services to keep our community safe. Bloomfield Township is proud to have 65 active-duty firefighters and 72 sworn police officers serving our residents.
- **Senior Services Millage (0.3314 mills):** Supports the township's senior center and its outstanding programs for older residents.
- **Drains Millage (0.0778 mills):** Repays bonds issued for township drainage improvement projects.
- **Capital Projects Millage (0.3293 mills):** Repays bonds used to construct and improve buildings within the Township Hall campus, completed in 2008.

It's important to note that as a township, we are limited to a maximum of 10 mills for operating millages, unlike cities, which are permitted to levy higher millages.

Our commitment to fiscal responsibility and strategic planning ensures we provide exceptional services while maintaining a tax rate that compares favorably with neighboring communities. Bloomfield Township takes pride in efficient budgeting and maximizing the impact of every dollar. We also prioritize voter input, ensuring residents have a say in the services they value most.

Michael Schostak, Township Treasurer | 248.433.7705 | treasurer@bloomfieldtwp.org

Taxes Due by Friday, February 14, 2025

IN PERSON Extended Office Hours Feb 14 & 28: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	DIRECT DEPOSIT Free option.	CREDIT CARD Convenience charge applies.
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For more information visit
www.bloomfieldtwp.org/paymentoptions

SERVICES THAT

Local Podcasts Available on Township App

You can listen to your favorite podcasts produced by community producers at Bloomfield Community Television on demand via the Bloomfield Township app! If you haven't downloaded the app yet, look for it in the Apple Store for iPhone and Google Play for Android. No login or password information is required. Once inside, select Local Podcasts & Media for access to playlists.

Listen to the latest happenings in public safety on Community Policing with Police Chief James Gallagher as well as shows like Eye on Oakland, Michigan Entrepreneur, The Collectors, and more! If you're enjoying the app or have suggestions, your feedback is important! Reach out to cable_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org with comments.



Bonus Menu

Open for additional content.



Featured News

Swipe through the rotating banner at the top for the latest news. Tap for more information.



Quick Link Buttons

Convenient access to the most popular resources.



Task Bar

Navigational buttons to quickly report an issue, pay bills, contact us, or return to the home page.

HELPFUL REMINDERS • HELPFUL REMINDERS

STREAM BCTV ON ROKU AND FIRESTICK

You can stream our channel on Roku and Firestick. Visit bloomfieldtwp.org/watchlive to get started.



VACATION HOUSE CHECK

If leaving your home for an extended period, you can arrange for a vacation house check. Police Officers will periodically check the exterior of your residence.

Call 248-433-7724.



BTFD “Fill The Boot” Proceeds Benefit Muscular Dystrophy Association

On December 9, 2024, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD) presented a check to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Stacey Breitlow, Account Manager Fire Fighter Partnerships, was present to accept on behalf of the organization. The check totaled \$16,000 and represented the proceeds from the November 27 “Fill The Boot” event.

Breitlow was amazed by the amount raised by BTFD in a one-day event. She addressed the BTFD representatives on hand and stated, “You guys are Rock Stars.” She also added, “We are now celebrating 70 years in our partnership with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF). For 2024, we are looking at over \$10.5 million raised for MDA, here in Michigan.”

“Fill The Boot” features firefighters and their family members volunteering to collect donations from residents at various locations such as parking lots and high-traffic intersections. President of the BTFD Charities, Lieutenant Chris Hull, spoke about the success of the event. “Getting people right before Thanksgiving seems to be the perfect time. They are feeling grateful and giving,” he stated.

In addition to much-needed research, funds donated to MDA help support their Summer Camp program. Young individuals aged 8 to 17, with neuromuscular disease, have the opportunity to attend these overnight camps around the U.S. - at no cost to their families. Michigan’s camp is held at Camp Cavell in Lexington, MI. There are also six MDA Care Centers in the state and over 9,000 individuals currently living with neuromuscular disease.

Hull spoke about the importance of raising these essential funds for individuals living with muscular dystrophy and their families. “We get to see the fruits of our labor. We stay connected with these kids and we see how the money we raise can make a serious impact.”

► Pictured above: Firefighter/Paramedic Alec Fowler, Kelly Lagarde, Lt. Chris Hull, Stacey Breitlow, and Capt. Mike Sova

HELPFUL REMINDERS • HELPFUL REMINDERS

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Daylight savings time will start on Sunday, March 9th. Remember to set your clocks one hour ahead after 2 a.m.



YARD WASTE COLLECTION RESUMES

Curbside collection of yard waste will resume the week of March 17th

PUBLIC SAFETY

BTPD Trains for Crime Prevention at Places of Worship

Community Relations Officer (CRO) Heather Glowacz completed Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design training this Fall. Known as CPTED (pronounced 'sep-ted') by police agencies internationally, the organization is a multi-disciplinary approach to crime prevention that uses urban and architectural design. Strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community to reduce crime and fear of crimes.

The accredited course is standard training for CROs in Bloomfield Township. "We believe every single resident in the Township deserves the right to feel safe, especially in their place of worship. No matter your beliefs, religion, or creed - we take an oath to protect and serve all people," says Officer Glowacz. There are over a dozen places of worship in the community representing multiple faith communities. CPTED training helps officers to

look for a multitude of safety concerns.

"We will gladly assess any place of worship and make safety recommendations," says Glowacz. "These could be as minute a detail as a rusty door hinge to something more in depth like alarm system sensor placement." Ongoing training is essential to keep safety standards at the highest possible level.

"We train frequently for what I refer to as 'low frequency, high risk' situations," says Bloomfield Township Police Chief James Gallagher. "We hope tragedies we see in the national news never come to our doorstep, but we absolutely have to prepare to handle situations like an active assailant. Training that evaluates what went right and wrong in well known events is very beneficial for our officers."

BTPD has a relationship with all places of worship in their jurisdiction and works regularly to promote and ensure safety.



CRO Officer Heather Glowacz offers safety recommendations at local places of worship.

SENIOR SERVICES

Exhale Grant Supports BTSS with Caregiver Support Group, Companion Café, and Return of Friendship Club

Senior Services mission to promote wellness, support independence, strengthen the community, and cultivate vitality is receiving a boost with a grant award from Exhale - The Family Caregiver Initiative. This grant not only effects seniors in the community, but their primary caregivers of all ages. It is essential for caregivers to care for themselves, as well as find a supportive community. BTSS is excited to host complimentary Caregiver Connect Groups with upcoming meetings on Thursday, January 16 and Thursday, February 13.

Caregiver Connect will offer wellness programs, evidence-based caregiver education, and leisurely learning; as well as include a meal and facilitated support discussions. While they attend, their person in care will attend adult day services courtesy of newly re-opened Friendship Club. Exhale funding does not end here, but also provides for caregivers and receivers to participate together in the Companion Café.

Companion Café offers creative, social, and enjoyable activities in a safe, positive, and supportive setting. Bloomfield Hills Rotary Club provided startup funding in 2023 and feedback was resoundingly positive. The Exhale grant now ensures that this monthly program will remain active and complimentary for the year ahead.

To learn more about the supportive service offered by BTSS, visit bloomfieldtwp.org/seniorsupport or call 723-3500.



CABLE DEPARTMENT

An Exciting 2024 Serves as Prelude to BCTV's 40th Anniversary in 2025

The past year saw more exciting changes at Bloomfield Community Television while still delivering residents favorite services. Living in Bloomfield is not just the magazine you hold in your hand, it's also a TV show that delves deeper into the stories of the community. After a hiatus through most of 2024, the show returned this fall and the Winter Edition just launched! Segments include a profile of new Supervisor Mike McCready, a profile of election workers, a haunted house dinner that benefits local preservation efforts, and more!

The Township Open House debuted the Performance Stage in the BCTV parking lot. Featuring performances from the Bloomfield High School Marching Band, Bloomfield Hills Factor Jazz Combo, and more local acts. Back to School with BCTV held educational workshops on digital literacy within a wide range of topics including camera operation, Photoshop, and a live podcast recording. Monthly orientations and Food Truck Wednesday events continued through the summer. Watch coverage of these events at the link below. Anticipate more free live music and podcast recordings to come in 2025!

Set to return this Summer is the Youth Documentary Workshop where ages 14 - 18 can learn the basics of documentary storytelling with hands-on experience. Alumni from last year speak about the equipment and editing software they used to create a video recapping the Regional Youth Academy held with local police agencies. The final product premiered before cadets at graduation. It's the perfect gateway to seeing how the world of Public, Education, and Government television works. To learn more about all the new shows produced in 2024, watch footage from the programs mentioned in this article, and see what 2025 holds in store, visit bloomfieldtwp.org/bctv2024review.



2024 saw the return of the Living in Bloomfield show. Production crews seen here taping at Bloomfield Hills School Auditorium.

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bloomfieldtwp.org/socialmedia



[@BloomfieldCommunityTV](https://www.youtube.com/@BloomfieldCommunityTV)



bloomfieldtwp.org



ADMINISTRATION

Mike McCready, Supervisor
Martin C. Brook, Clerk
Michael Schostak, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Neal J. Barnett
Valerie Murray
Christopher Kolinski
Mark Antakli

2025 MEETING DATES

Jan 13 & 27
Feb 10 & 24
Mar 10 & 24
Apr 14 & 28
May 12 & 27
Jun 9 & 23
Jul 14 & 28
Aug 11 & 25
Sep 8 & 29
Oct 13 & 27
Nov 10 & 24
Dec 8

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BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, MI 48303-0489

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Administration	248.433.7700
Accounting	248.433.7712
Assessor's Office.....	248.433.7710
Building Division	248.433.7715
Clerk's Office.....	248.433.7702
Community Cable	248.433.7790
Engineering & Environmental..	248.594.2800
Fire Non-Emergency	248.433.7745
Ordinance Division.....	248.594.2845
Planning Division.....	248.433.7795
Police Non-Emergency	248.433.7755
Senior Services.....	248.723.3500
Treasurer's Office.....	248.433.7705
Water & Sewer	248.594.2800
Water/Sewer Emergency.....	248.433.7730

CONTRACT SERVICES

Comcast Cable	1.888.XFINITY
Consumers Energy	1.800.477.5050
Detroit Edison	1.800.477.4747
Priority Waste.....	1.855.WASTE65

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

SECRETARY OF STATE MOBILE OFFICE

January 23 | 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Senior Center
Skip the lines and make an appointment in the mobile SOS office! Most services available. Residency and appointment required. Call 248-723-3500.

NEW SPRING SENIOR SERVICES CATALOG

February 1
Registration begins for new spring programming.

TRUSTEE OFFICE HOURS

5 - 6:30 p.m. | Bloomfield Township Public Library
Prior to the final board meeting each month.
(Typically the 4th Monday.)
Opportunity to meet with a Trustee in person.

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Board of Trustees | 7 p.m. | 2nd & 4th Monday
Planning Commission | 7 p.m. | 1st & 3rd Monday
Zoning Board of Appeals | 7 p.m. | 2nd Tuesday
Design Review Board | 2 p.m. | 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Location: Township Auditorium

