



**What is a census and why is it important?**

In early 2020, you will be asked to count everyone who lives in your home as of April 1. The United States has counted its population every 10 years since 1790. Responding to the 2020 Census is a chance to shape your future and fulfill your civic duty because it is mandated by the US Constitution.

The census is a count of every person who lives in the United States and its territories. It is important because your response impacts where over **\$675 billion in federal funds** is distributed to communities for schools, clinics, roads, and more.

This data gives community leaders vital information to make decisions about building community centers, opening businesses and planning for the future.

Your responses are used to redraw legislative districts and determine the number of seats your state has in the US House of Representatives.

**The census will never ask for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties.**

WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL	
On or between	You'll receive:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
	<b>If you haven't responded yet:</b>
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.
April 8-16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Building, Plumbing, Mechanical & Electrical Permits**

Permit costs will be **doubled** if you begin work before obtaining a required permit.

You must call inspectors for a **FINAL INSPECTION** once work is completed.

**WATER QUALITY REPORT**

2018 Drinking Water Quality Report is available online at the following web address:

[www.baycodws.org/ccr2018.pdf](http://www.baycodws.org/ccr2018.pdf)

Call us at 989-893-7541 or visit [www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory](http://www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory)

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

If you have or think you may have a lead water line, please call our office to schedule a visit to see if you could be lead sample test site. Call 989-893-7541 for more information.

**WATER/SEWER RATE INCREASE**

Effective January 1, 2020  
Water rates will increase 5%  
Sewer rates will increase 3%

**2020 Holiday Closed For Business**

**Transfer Station Holidays**

January 1	Wednesday	New Year's Day
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day
July 4	Saturday	Independence Day
September 7	Monday	Labor Day
November 26	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
December 24	Thursday	Christmas Eve
December 25	Friday	Christmas Day

**Hampton Township Offices & Department of Public Works (DPW) Holidays**

January 1	Wednesday	New Year's Day
January 20	Monday	Martin Luther King Day
February 17	Monday	President's Day
April 10	Friday	Good Friday
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day
July 3	Friday	Independence Day
September 7	Monday	Labor Day
October 12	Monday	Columbus Day
November 11	Wednesday	Veteran's Day
November 26	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
November 27	Friday	Day after Thanksgiving
December 24	Tuesday	Christmas Eve
December 25	Friday	Christmas Day
December 31	Thursday	New Year's Eve



# Hampton Times

Winter 2019

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Terri Close  
Supervisor  
tmclose@hamptonmi.net

Pamela J. Wright  
Clerk  
pwright@hamptonmi.net

Donna Samyn  
Treasurer  
hamptontreasurer@hamptonmi.net

**TRUSTEES:**

Fran DeWyse  
Paul Hugo  
Donald Klass  
Steve Wisniewski

**Hampton Township Offices:**  
801 W. Center Rd.  
Essexville, MI 48732  
Telephone: 989-893-7541

**Office Hours: Monday — Friday**  
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 187  
Bay City, MI 48707-0187

**Board of Trustees** meets the second & fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission** meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Board of Appeals** meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**All meetings** are held in the Boardroom at 801 W. Center Rd.

Visit us at  
[www.hamptontownship.org](http://www.hamptontownship.org)

**Hampton Township Supervisor  
Terri Close**

Hello Township Residents,

As 2019 is coming to a close, we have been busy working and preparing for 2020. During 2019, we experienced many changes, many challenges and a lot of progress. Hampton Township and Bay County, as a whole, had a lot of rain, high water levels in the bay and in our ditches.

Our DPW has been working diligently on replacing the **tubes and flood gates** and repairing and/or replacing pumps at the ends of the roads to prevent flooding. At times, this seems like an endless feat. The pumps would be operating great, then debris or trash would get lodged in the pumps and they would need to be repaired.

The DPW have been cleaning and televising the **sewer system**. This was made possible by the DEQ awarding Hampton Township a \$1.6 Million SAW (Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater) grant. This grant was applied for in 2013 and awarded in December, 2017. Assessing our sewer system is important to identify any blockages or issues so we are able to fix problems and prevent bigger issues such as major back-ups. There have been areas where the system was plugged due to prohibited flushing of non-biodegradable wipes.

Hampton Township is working with the USDA and an engineering firm to upgrade many of our aging **pump stations** that were installed in the 60's. Maintaining our township's infrastructure and assets is very important to all our residents.

All seven (7) of the **lead service lines** that had lead exceedance levels have been replaced. This was completed right before our next scheduled testing occurred. I am glad to report that Hampton Township tested below the action level for both lead and copper.

Hampton Township applied for and has been awarded a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for Coal-Impacted Communities. This will be used to have an Economic Recovery and Development Strategy Plan prepared for the area most impacted by the closure of the Weadock and Karn coal plants. This grant is for \$100,000 of which the EDA will contribute 50% and the Township provides a "match" contribution of 50%. The EDA has awarded \$63,000 and the match dollars have been donated by Consumers Energy (\$20,000) and Just Transition Fund (\$17,000). We are hoping this plan will provide Hampton Township with a comprehensive strategy and an economic plan of action to diversify and strengthen our local and regional economy and capitalize on our assets to achieve economic diversification.

In addition, the Board of Trustees voted to repeal **Medical Marijuana** and has opted out of **Recreational Marijuana** in Hampton Township.

Effective January 1, 2020, **water rates will increase 5%**. The Bay Area Water Treatment Plant passed their budget which included a 4.39% rate increase for the cost of water which we must pass onto our customers. **Sewer rates will increase 3%** as was previously determined to be done each year. This is due to the Bay Area Waste Water Treatment Plant's announcement of a 7% increase.

Don't forget to visit our website at [www.hamptontownship.org](http://www.hamptontownship.org) and our "Hampton Township Administration" Facebook page to get up-to-date township information. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing you a wonderful winter!

Assessing Information

December Board of Review

Clerical Errors on your property tax bill can be addressed at the December Board of Review which is on December 10th at 9:00 a.m.

Assessment Change Notices showing the 2020 tentative values will come out in the month of February. These values can be appealed at the March Board of Review with an appointment.

Did you know?

The only tax revenue Hampton Township receives from the taxes you pay is from the Winter Tax Bill and from the following:

- 5 Mills—Township Operating (This is the maximum allowed for a Charter Township)
1 Mill—Public Safety
.65 Mills—Roads
.4 Mills—Drains

Please take a look at your tax bill and add up what portion of what you pay for the above.

1 Mill is equal to \$1.00 per every \$1,000 of the taxable value of your home.

For example, a home with a value of \$100,000 (taxable value of \$50,000), the cost is:

- \$250 per year—Township Operating
\$50 per year—Public Safety
\$32.50 per year—Roads
\$20 per year—Drain

This totals \$352.50 for the year.

Contact Information: Ronda Mrock-Parks, Assessor
Phone: (989) 876-7625
Email: asqfirm@charter.net

Treasurer's Report

Tax Collection
Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 am—3:00 pm.
Drop box is also available.

The Winter tax bills will be mailed out on November 29, 2019. Be sure to review them carefully for any errors. The last day to pay the Winter Tax Bill is Friday, February 14, 2020. Payments must be in the office by the due date to avoid a penalty and interest charges. Please review the back of the tax bill for additional information.

Please use the drop box, to avoid waiting in line. The drop box is located on the south side of the Administration Building, the door to the left of the main entrance. The drop box is secure and checked three (3) times a day. Thank you to the residents who already use the drop box. The drop box closes February 14, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

Please include a phone number on your check. Office staff find many errors on checks and having a phone number to call means a problem can be corrected before depositing into the bank.

Partial payments are accepted. Last acceptable postmark date is February 7, 2020.

★ ★ DATES TO REMEMBER ★ ★

CLOSED: December 24th, December 25th, and December 31st, 2019

Open: December 26th—9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

CLOSED: January 1st, January 20th, and February 17th, 2020

Open: February 28th 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 14, 2020—ALL TAXES ARE DUE

March 1st, 2020, the Bay County Treasurer will collect delinquent taxes. For correct payment amount, please call (989) 895-4285.

Happy Holidays!

Donna K. Samyn,
Hampton Township Treasurer

Clerk's Report

Hampton Township is looking for residents to work as Election Inspectors on Election Day!



Hampton Township is seeking community minded individuals to work as Election inspectors. These workers provide a critical service to the public. State law requires a staff of certified workers to work the polls, these workers are training (certification class attendance is a must) and paid an hourly rate.

If you are interested, please contact the Hampton Township Administration Office and fill out an Election Inspector application. You can contact me at 989-893-7541 or email me at pwright@hamptonmi.net.

Pam Wright
Hampton Township Clerk

Other News



FROM THE DESK OF BRYAN BENCHLEY
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Hampton Township Public Safety Department has added a new fulltime Fireman to its roster, Shaun Johnson. Shaun has been with the department for 10 years as a paid-on-call fireman and has been instrumental in training the Public Safety Officers in the fire services. We have also added a new Public Safety Officer to the ranks, Nicholas Ratajczak. Nick has been with the department for 5 years as a paid-on-call fireman. Nick will be graduating from the Police Academy in December and start his field training program after that. Three more officers are going through the fire academy starting in December. Once those officers graduate we will have 10 fully trained police/fire officers to keep your community safe.

It's getting that time of year when our car larcenies start to increase. This is one of the easiest crimes to avoid being a victim. Ensure that your car door's are always locked and if you need to leave valuables inside your car, please make sure they are out of site. Identity theft cases have continued to rise and have cost some people their entire savings. Always remember that the IRS will never call you about your taxes and inquire about your social security number. You should never give your social security number out to anyone over the phone. Please keep yourself safe and never give out personal information to anyone over the telephone.

Day light savings time come and gone, if you haven't, please change the batteries in your smoke detector. The smoke detector may save your life at night to alert you of a possible fire. Please keep fresh batteries in them.

Christmas is also closing in on us. If you use a fresh cut tree it is important that you keep it watered to avoid it drying out. A dry Christmas tree is a potential fire starter. Also remember not to overload your electrical outlets with lights. This can overload the circuit and possibly cause a fire.

Please be safe and Thank You for your continued support.

Hampton Township PUBLIC SAFETY

KEEPING HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SAFE

Hampton Township will be asking voters in August, 2020, to renew a public safety millage and pass an additional millage that provides funding for police, fire and emergency medical services to Hampton Township. The ballot will consist of two separate millage questions. One, renew the existing millage and the other will approve an additional millage to be determined by our Board of Trustees.

Please look at your enclosed Winter tax bill and see how much you are currently paying for Public Safety (Police and Fire Services) per year.

TRANSFER STATION
RATES WILL REMAIN THE SAME FOR 2020!!!

2020 Permit Fee: \$100 annual fee
Large Item Permits (Open Dumpster): \$15 One-Time Use

Transfer Station Card and Drivers License is required
2020 Transfer Station Card available at the Township Administrative Office on December 1, 2019

RECYCLING RULES

- Do not place Styrofoam in the recycle bins
Crush all plastics before inserting into the bin
Compact, crush or flatten all cardboard boxes before placing in the bin—Please remove plastic tape
Do not recycle pizza boxes, put in regular trash
Violation will result in the Township being fined and the recycling service discontinued.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED TUESDAYS

Saturday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday and posted Holidays
www.hamptontownship.org