

RAY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM RAY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR ERIC CRUMP

As summer is coming to an end, I hope this message finds you well. I'd like to share an important update regarding the future of waste and recycling services in our community.

Background

Since 2020, Ray Township has had a contract with GFL Environmental for trash and recycling services. That contract was set to run through 2025, with an option to extend. However, last year, GFL sold its residential operations to Priority Waste. Because of this sale, the existing pricing and terms will not carry forward. Rather than issuing a formal Request for Proposal (RFP), we evaluated options appropriately. The concern was that Priority Waste might be the only company to respond, and delaying action could lead to higher prices.

What We Found

Our outreach confirmed that the municipal waste hauling market is very limited. Other communities that issued RFPs received just one bid and it was from Priority Waste. We also contacted multiple vendors directly and received no additional interest. It became clear that having multiple companies in the Township could increase resident costs, wear down our roads faster, and complicate service oversight. These findings reflect larger industry trends: consolidation and rising operational costs have made competition scarce.

Industry Challenges

At our July 15, 2025, Board meeting, Priority Waste explained current challenges:

- Waste trucks now cost over \$150,000 more than they did in 2020
- Labor and insurance costs are up significantly
- Environmental compliance costs continue to grow

Moving Forward

After careful review, the Township plans to enter a new five-year contract with Priority Waste starting January 1, 2026:

- Trash Service: \$66.00 per unit per quarter (\$22/month or about \$5.50 per weekly pickup)
- Recycling: \$18.00 per unit per quarter (\$6/month)

The contract includes a 5% annual increase, in line with inflation.

Why It Matters

A single-hauler approach helps keep costs predictable, reduces road wear and traffic, and improves environmental efficiency. This is the most stable and cost-effective option available today.

Next Steps

We will continue to share updates through our website and newsletters. Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to provide essential services responsibly.

Have a wonderful Fall!!

Autumn Greetings from your Treasurer's Office.....

The summer tax due date will be extended to Monday, September 15th, with office hours extended on that day from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., as required by law. Starting September 16th, summer taxes are considered late, 1% interest will be added to the bill plus 1% at the beginning of each month thereafter.

We encourage tax payments to be made by check or money order by coming into the township office or using our blue drop box outside the township offices (please do not put cash in the drop box). You may also mail in your payment but be sure to allow at least 7 days for delivery.

Please review your tax bill along with our website for important tax information, millage rates with explanations and origination dates. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer.

We are in the office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Robin Fortuna, Deputy Treasurer, and I are happy to serve the residents of Ray.

Betsy Bart, Treasurer



TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025



Mark your calendar for this popular annual event in the Ray Township Park. There will be fun for all with trunk-or-treating, music, food trucks, and more! Check our website or Facebook page in September for more information and a link to sign-up.



THANK YOU!

We would like to extend a very special thank you to Rudich Farms for donating the flowers that have made our township grounds beautiful all summer.





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Romeo Community Schools Special Election
Tuesday, November 4, 2025
Polls will be OPEN from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Romeo Community Schools have called for a Special Election on Tuesday, November 4th, 2025. The Clerks' Office will be OPEN on Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to obtain an absentee ballot or to Register to Voter.

The Millage Renewal for the Ray Township Fire and Rescue Operations passed along with the Millage Renewal for Ray Township Fire and Rescue Department Equipment and Truck Replacement. Thank you to the Election Inspectors that worked the polls for the Special Election on August 5, 2025. We appreciate your dedication and professionalism.
Lori R. Lascoe, Clerk

A message from the Fire Chief Mark Hoskin.....

This year the Ray Township Fire Department will be hosting our annual pancake breakfast on Oct 5th at Camp Rotary. Just follow the signs. We look forward to seeing you there.


The new fire station is coming along and we will hopefully have an Open House before the end of the year!

The crews will be visiting the elementary kids at Endeavor for Fire Safety this fall. We really look forward to this! You can also find us at the library for Read with a Firefighter once a month on a Saturday morning!


Please keep in mind that when you change your clocks, change your batteries in all your detectors. You should also test your detectors once a month by pushing the test button on the top. When changing your batteries, be sure to check the manufacture date. If you have just a smoke detector, it has a maximum 10-year life span. If you have a combination smoke/CO detector, depending on the manufacturer, it may only have a maximum of 7 years.

We have noticed that some of the address posts are weathering and need to be updated to meet Ordinance #58. This is for your safety so that we can easily find your address in case of an emergency.


One last reminder for fall clean-up, make sure you have a 2025 Burn Permit before burning. They are available at the Township Office.



Pancake Breakfast October 5, 2025
8:00 a.m. until Noon



Ray Township Fire and Rescue will be hosting a pancake breakfast. Due to our building construction, it will be held at Camp Rotary (next door) this year. Come out and enjoy a delicious breakfast, visit with your neighbors, and meet our firefighters. Cost is by donation. Take outs are available.



Blood Drive

Ray Township Hall
64255 Wolcott Road

Friday, October 17, 2025 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

The Ray Township Fire Department is having a blood drive. To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. (Sponsor code: rayfire). To save time, visit redcrossblood.org/rapidpass or use the Blood Donor App to complete your health history online.

RAY TOWNSHIP OFFICERS	
Supervisor	Eric Crump
Clerk	Lori Lascoe
Treasurer	Betsy Bart
Trustee	Betty Grader
Trustee	Joe Jarzyna



RAY TOWNSHIP SENIOR EVENTS

Please preregister for all events at the Ray Township Office. Some events have limited capacity. Payment is required at time of registration & is nonrefundable.

MYSTERY LUNCH

September 11 th	October 9 th	November 6 th
September 25 th	October 23 rd	November 20 th

Join us for lunch at a surprise location. These trips leave at 11:30 am and offer the chance to get out and socialize with a small group. Transportation is \$2 and you pay for what you order for lunch. Trips fill up fast and space is limited so register early.

GUARDIAN TOUR

September 29th at 10:00 am

Experience one of the most stunning art-deco skyscrapers in the world with a guided walking tour of the Guardian Building in Detroit. After our 1-hour tour, we will enjoy lunch at The Firebird Tavern. Cost is \$17 and you pay for your own lunch.



MGM Casino in Detroit

Thursday, October 16th



Test your luck for the day at the casino. Bus departs at 9:30 a.m. and returns by 4:00 p.m. Cost for transportation is \$10.

Parade Company Tour and Buddy's Pizza Detroit
Thursday, November 13th Departs 10:45 a.m. Returns 4:00 p.m.

Experience a behind-the-scenes look at America's Thanksgiving Day Parade. On this walking tour, you will learn the history of the parade, explore the studio of floats, and see how the award-winning artisans bring them to life. After the tour we will have lunch at the original Buddy's Pizza in Detroit. Tour and transportation cost is \$15. You pay for your own lunch.

White Horse Inn and Holiday Lights Tour December 18th

We will enjoy dinner at the White Horse Inn in Metamora and view the Magic of Holiday Lights drive-thru display at Pine Knob. Cost is \$15 and you pay for your own dinner. Trip departs at 3:00 p.m. and returns around 8:30 p.m. Sign up early to secure your spot.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Senior Exercise Class Tues and Thurs 9:30 - 10:30 am
Senior Center Closed on November 4th and 11th

Tuesday Events 11:00am * Free blood pressure check days

Sept 2 nd * & 9 th	Senior Social and Noon Bingo
Sept 23 rd	Senior Social Pizza Party (\$3) & Noon Bingo
Sept 30 th	Senior Social and Noon Bingo
Oct 7 th * & 14 th	Senior Social and Noon Bingo
Oct 21 st & 28 th	Senior Social and Noon Bingo
Nov 18 th * & 25 th	Senior Social and Noon Bingo

Tree Lighting Ceremony

December 3, 2025

Save the date and plan to join us as we kick off the holiday season. Santa will arrive to greet everyone and help light our tree at this fun family event. Details will be posted on www.raytwp.org and on our Facebook page.



The Ray Township Office has a Notary Public available at no charge to Ray residents.

All Ray Township meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Dates, agendas, and approved minutes are available on our website.

586-749-5171