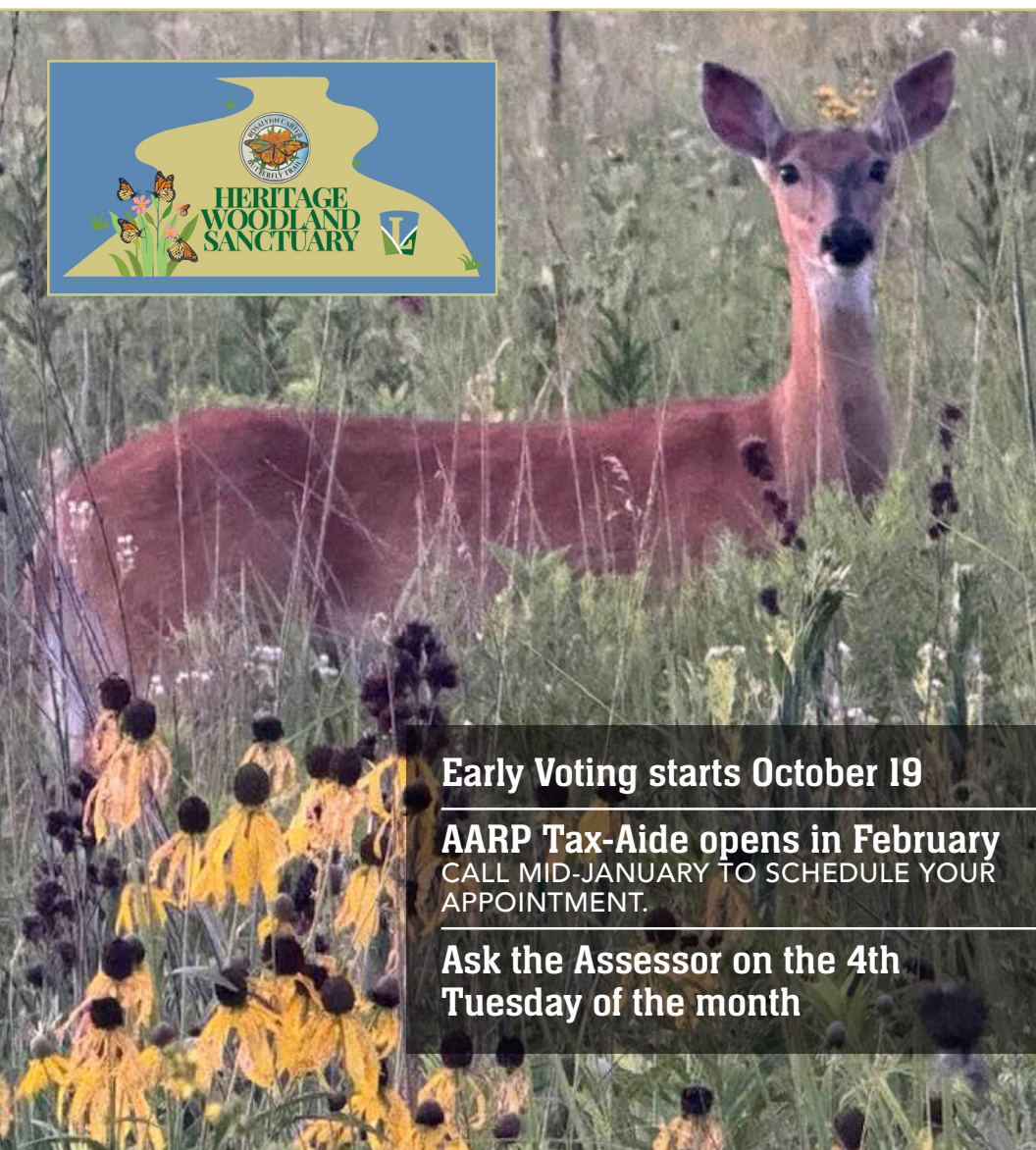




Lemont Township NEWSLETTER



Early Voting starts October 19

AARP Tax-Aide opens in February
CALL MID-JANUARY TO SCHEDULE YOUR
APPOINTMENT.

**Ask the Assessor on the 4th
Tuesday of the month**

16300 ALBA ST. LEMONT, IL 60439 | (630) 257-2522

TOWNSHIP HOURS: Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm (see page 10 for Township closures)

Letter from the SUPERVISOR



Dear Neighbors,

Affordability is a term you will hear in the next few months leading up to the mid-term elections.

Lemont Township has started the process of studying the process and costs associated with refuse, recycling and yard waste collection. Currently, residents negotiate individually with haulers. For example, I live in unincorporated Lemont, one block out of the Village of Lemont. I pay \$184 monthly for service. The same hauler provides service to the residents of the Village of Lemont at a rate of \$89 monthly. There are several different haulers and costs vary widely for the same services. We have identified up to 6 haulers who operate in our area. Trucks are on our

roads multiple days of the week which causes added wear and tear on our roads.

The solution we are considering, with voter approval, is that Lemont Township would contract with a single hauler for refuse, recycling and yard waste.

A referendum will be proposed on the next election cycle ballot. If approved, a contract would be awarded through a competitive bidding process.

I welcome your thoughts. The Lemont Township Board will continue to seek solutions that reduce costs and improve the quality of life for all our residents.

Michael G. Shackel
Lemont Township Supervisor

Food Pantry

Lemont Township partners with two local food pantries which form the Lemont Township Open Pantries to assist our families in need. Both pantries offer non-perishable food items and gift cards to local grocery stores. Residents must complete an application located at the Township to utilize these pantries.

Bethany Lutheran Church

500 Lemont Street

Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9:30am-12:30pm

Lemont United Methodist Church

25 West Custer Street

Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9:45am-11:00am



Lemont Township will offer **gift cards to assist with Thanksgiving meals**



for all active patrons of the Lemont Township Open Food Pantry. Registration is required for this program. Please call the office between October 27th and November 14th to register. Gift card pick up will be November 17 and 19 at Lemont Township Community Center.

Financial Assistance

Lemont Township offers two main types of financial assistance: General and Emergency Assistance. **General Assistance is offered to residents who have no income or financial resources and are not eligible for Federal or State Assistance.** This is a financial aid program that helps residents meet basic needs monthly until employment or another source of income is obtained. **Emergency Assistance is a one-time financial aid grant available to qualified individuals and families to help alleviate life-threatening circumstances due to emergencies that have happened outside of their control.** Emergency

Assistance can help with rent, utilities, and other essentials.

Lemont Township is a service extension unit for Salvation Army which provides individual and emergency services including rent, utilities, and other essentials. **The Salvation Army's Sharing Program** also offers Energy Assistance for gas bills which is a one-time yearly grant towards past due gas bills.

Lemont Township partners with **CEDA (Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc.)** to offer Energy Services called **LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program).**

Seniors

Reduced-Fee License Plate Stickers



Lemont Township can assist residents with obtaining the Illinois Department on Aging's Benefit Access Program. This allows the Illinois Secretary of State's office to provide reduced-fee license plate stickers from \$150 to \$10 for senior citizens 65 and older and persons with disabilities who meet specific financial requirements. The total Gross Income limit is \$33,562 for a 1-person household or \$44,533 for a 2-person household.

in a variety of engaging programs throughout the month. Meals are served daily at 11:30am, with a suggested donation of \$4 per meal. All seniors must dine in, we are no longer serving to-go meals. Additionally, Meals on Wheels services are offered through this location for individuals who are unable to leave their homes. For those looking for some fun, BINGO is played every Monday following lunch for \$3, there are also lots of other daily activities throughout the month. The café is open Monday-Friday from 10:30am to 1:30pm.

Senior Community Café

The Lemont Township Community Center is home to the Lemont Senior Community Café, operated by the Meals on Wheels for Northern Illinois. This welcoming space **provides nutritious meals for adults 60 and older**, offering a wonderful opportunity to socialize, enjoy a healthy meal, and participate

To learn more about joining the Meals on Wheels program or visiting the Lemont Senior Community Café, please contact Stephanie Gasca (Nutrition Director) or Lisa O'Brien (Program Assistant) at 630-257- 0515. (Advanced meal reservations are preferred and open to Lemont Township residents and residents of surrounding communities.)

Lemont Township Senior Organizations

Lemont Township is proud to sponsor the **Lemont Township Senior Association** (LTSA) and **Seniors and Law Enforcement Together** (SALT). Involvement in these programs are open and free to all seniors in Lemont and surrounding communities. The goal of these organizations is to promote and provide services and activities to enrich the lives of anyone 60 and older. The Lemont Township Senior Association (LTSA) offers daily socialization opportunities and monthly events in conjunction with CNNSSA/ MOWNI. SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) hosts meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Lemont Township Community Center. These meetings allow an officer to come and give updates on any scams or crimes that are happening in the area. Each month there is a different speaker about topics that may affect seniors.

Giving Tree

Lemont Township hosts an annual Giving Tree Program to help families and children in need of Christmas presents. Registration for this program begins October 1st and ends November 7th. You must be registered with the Lemont Township Pantries and email Melanie Grzesik-Duffy at melanie@lemonttownship.org for an application. The Giving Trees will go up at the Lemont Park District Core and Lemont Township lobby in mid-November. Snowflakes will be placed on the trees with a child's Christmas wish. If you are able, please help a family and child in need! Return all gifts to Lemont Township for distribution in December.



Township Events

October 27

LTSA Halloween Party

November 19

Annual Best of Lemont

November 20

LTSA Thanksgiving Bingo

December 3

LTSA Christmas Luncheon at Crystal Grand Banquets

December 9

LTSA Winter Bingo

Family Assistance Fund

Please consider donating to our Family Assistance Fund. This fund offers emergency assistance to our families and seniors in need. You can also donate to our Lemont Township Open Pantries. Make checks payable to Lemont Township and add a memo of who you are donating to. Please send donations to 16300 Alba Street, Lemont, IL 60439.

If you or someone you know needs assistance or has questions, **contact Human Services at 630-257-2522 x 117.**



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Please visit the Lemont Township Assessor's Office website at www.lemonttownship.org assessors-office to make yourself aware of any updates, as well as the links to the relevant websites from the Cook County Assessor's Office (CCAO), Cook County Board of Review (CCBOR), Cook County Clerk, Cook County Property Tax Portal, Cook County Treasurer's Office (CCTO), and the Property Tax Appeals Board. You can also schedule appointments on our website with our very helpful staff to get the personalized attention you deserve. Please remember, we are advocates for our residents; however, we do not process the applications.

We encourage residents to review our reports posted during the monthly Board Meetings, which occur on the second Tuesday night of every month. We document relevant and statistical information about the important work we do for our residents in this report. All Board Reports for all of Lemont Township offices are located on our Lemont Township website at www.lemonttownship.org/departments/clerks-office/board-meetings/2026-board-meetings.

The CCTO mailed the Second Installment Property Tax bills in late August. Because the CCTO works alongside the CCAO, and the computer upgrades also affect their office, it appears refunds continue to be delayed. We encourage our residents to monitor the refund process by reviewing our monthly Board reports or by visiting www.cookcountyil.gov/propertytaxtracker.

The CCAO completed the 2026 Triennial Reassessment for the south/southwest suburbs, which include Lemont, and they mailed the results to our residents. From August 17 to September 29, our office handled numerous CCAO appeals for our residents. The CCAO should mail the results of those appeals to our residents around Thanksgiving.



Your next attempt to appeal the value of your residence will be to the CCBOR; however, prefiling your application to the CCBOR is highly recommended, which can be completed by visiting www.cookcountyboardofreview.com. Our office **cannot** electronically file the appeal on your behalf, as you will need to enter your email address and password. If a resident needs any computer assistance, our Lemont Library is an excellent resource to guide you. If you prefile your application to the CCBOR, there is no need file an application once the window opens sometime in November or December.

If you work in the real estate profession, or if you are new homeowner in Lemont (welcome!), please join us for our annual Realtor presentation, which is slated for Tuesday, January 19, at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at our Lemont Township office. No appointment or registration is required.

Please join us for the very popular **Ask The Assessor** at the Lemont Library, which is on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No appointment or registration is required. Residents can bring their own device, or access one of the five laptops we donated to the Library.

LEMONTTOWNSHIP.ORG/ASSESSORS-OFFICE

GENERAL SERVICES



Notary

Lemont Township provides notary services free of charge for the community. Our notary services policy has recently changed. Please visit www.lemonttownship.org/departments/general-services or call 630-257-2522 for more information.

Medical Equipment Lending Closet

Medical Equipment Lending Closet offers gently used wheelchairs, walkers, knee scooters and shower chairs available on a first-come, first-serve basis. We also appreciate donations of gently used equipment. Please call 630-257-2522 to check availability or need.



For any questions about General Services contact Lisa Kairis, 630-257-2522 x 100.

Highway Department

The Township Road District services all unincorporated areas of Lemont Township. If you have concerns regarding potholes, drainage, blocked roads, salting, snowplowing or any other issue, please contact the Highway office at 630-257-1155. Visit our website at www.lemonttownship.org/road-district to report issues and for additional information.



Warming Center

Lemont Township will assist residents who may need a place to keep warm during the winter months. We are a Warming Center for the community during normal operating hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm, Monday-Friday.





RTA Reduced and Free Rides

Applications for this service are available in our office.

The 2026 Gubernatorial Election is on November 3, 2026.

For detailed information, visit www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections

Lemont Township Community Center at 16300 Alba St. will be open to all Lemont Township residents for **early voting** for the Gubernatorial Election on the following dates and times.

Please note there will be a secure ballot drop box at our location each day of early voting.

Voter Registration

Lemont Township can assist residents with registering to vote.

**REGISTER
TO VOTE HERE**

**OUR STAFF CAN ASSIST YOU
WITH GETTING REGISTERED!**

Prescription Dropoffs

We are a Cook County Sheriff Prescription Drug Takeback Program site. Residents can drop off unused prescription drugs in pill form only to the secured box located in our lobby. **Pills need to be in a Ziplock bag.**



Early Voting

Mon, October 19 - Sat, October 24:
9am - 5pm

Sun, October 25: 10am - 4 pm

Mon, October 26 - Sat, October 31:
9am - 5pm

Sun, November 1: 10am - 4pm

Mon, November 2:
9am - 5pm (early voting ends)

Tues, November 3:
ELECTION DAY VOTING

The Lemont Township Community Center is a polling place for Precincts 7, 11 and 13. Visit www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/polling-places to find your election day voting center.

Glasses & Hearing Aids Donations

Lemont Township collects used glasses and hearing aids for the Lemont Lions Club. There is a drop box located in our vestibule.



Free Tax Prep Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides free in-person tax prep. This Program will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from early February until April 8. Appointments are required. Please call mid-January to schedule your appointment.



Clerks Corner

Hello! I am Christine Zielke, your elected Lemont Township Clerk since May 2025. As Clerk, I serve as the official record keeper for the Township and am responsible for maintaining all meeting agendas, minutes, and official records of the Board of Trustees. I also oversee all Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests submitted to the Township and Road District.

I am proud to serve alongside Deputy Clerk Lisa Kairis, who supports the daily operations of the Clerk's Office and is also available to assist residents.

Statutory Duties of the Township Clerk

(60 ILCS 1/ART. 75)

- Maintain all Township records, books, and papers, and file certificates or oaths as required by law
- Administer oaths of office for Township officials
- Serve as the local Election Authority for all Township elections
- Annually certify the Township's tax levy to the County Clerk
- Serve as ex-officio Clerk for the Highway Commissioner and

maintain Highway Department records in accordance with the Illinois Highway Code



IN ADDITION:

- The Clerk prepares and posts meeting agendas and notices
- Takes roll call votes and records actions of the Board
- Maintains minutes of both regular and closed (executive) sessions
- Attests to all payments approved by the Township Board and Road District
- Witnesses all bid openings for Township and Road District projects
- Serves as FOIA Officer for both the Township and Road District
- Registers voters and accepts petitions for local elections and referendums

As a member of the executive board of the township, I do not vote except in the case of a tie to fill a Board vacancy.

Lisa and I are committed to transparency, service, and accessibility. **Please feel free to reach out to the Clerk's Office at 630-257-2522 X 112 with any questions or requests.** We are here to help.



Township Bee Hives

Honeybees live in highly organized colonies that can contain tens of thousands of bees, including a single queen, female worker bees, and male drones. Worker bees collect nectar from flowers and bring it back to the hive, where it is transformed into honey and stored in wax honeycomb cells. Bees fan their wings to remove excess moisture from the nectar and then seal the finished honey with a wax cap for preservation. When harvesting honey, beekeepers carefully remove the honey-filled frames, uncup the wax seals, and use a honey extractor to spin the honey from the comb. They leave enough honey behind to ensure the colony has plenty of food to survive, especially during the winter months.

Butterfly Garden - Year Two



This is the second season of our Butterfly Garden, and we couldn't be prouder of our Woodland Sanctuary volunteers. Their dedication and hard work have helped transform our trail intersections with beautiful native gardens while also adding fresh new native plantings throughout the Butterfly Garden. These enhancements provide important habitat for pollinators and create a more vibrant space for everyone to enjoy. Stop by, take a stroll, and see the incredible results of their efforts for yourself!



Central Bark Dog Park

Lemont Township has two parks, one for large dogs and one for small dogs, located on Alba Street approaching our Administrative and Community Center building. **Registration of all dogs is required for use of the dog park.**

Annual Fees

- \$30 – Lemont Township Residents
- \$45 – Non-Residents

Event Rentals

Residents of Lemont Township, as well as non-profit organizations and community groups, can **rent out two rooms at our Community Center** located at 16300 Alba Street. Both rental spaces have modern decor, natural light, expansive views of the Woodland Sanctuary and are conveniently located by I-355. The main banquet hall is 4,200 SF with modern and simple décor. You can accommodate up to 125 for a sit-down dinner reception in this space. The Township boardroom is 875 SF and includes a customizable conference room table, holding meeting sizes of 10-35 people. The Community Center is perfect for your next event! (All use of this building is subject to approval by the Township Supervisor.)



For any questions about facilities or event rentals, or to check availability, contact **Cindy O'Malley at 630-257-2522 x 115**



Woodland Sanctuary

Protect. Preserve. Keep it beautiful!

The Woodland Sanctuary was created to provide a place where visitors can enjoy nature and escape from our hectic, busy lifestyles. Here you will find walking trails that expose you to native plants, restored Illinois prairie grasses and wildlife. We invite you to explore the prairie, tall grasses, or the woodlands today!

Restoration activities, educational opportunities, and special events that focus on enhancing our pollinator plant populations are held throughout the growing season. You can support the improvement and expansion of the Woodland Sanctuary by volunteering or with a monetary donation. Visit our website for details.

Township Hours

Monday – Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm

Township Closed

Thursday, Nov 26	Thanksgiving
Friday, Nov 27	Day after Thanksgiving
Thursday, Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Friday, Dec 25	Christmas Day
Friday, Jan 1	New Year's Day
Monday, Feb 15	President's Day



PAGE Dial-a-Ride

Curb-to-curb transportation within Lemont Township boundaries. Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 3:30pm. *Advanced reservations are required.*

Rates (CASH ONLY)

Seniors	\$1 per stop
Adults & Children 8+	\$2 per stop
Children 7 & under	Free w/paid adult

Lemont Township Board

- Michael G. Shackel, *Supervisor*
- Christine Zielke, *Clerk*
- Mark Labno, *Highway Commissioner*
- Mario Mollo, *Assessor*
- Debra A. Blatzer, *Trustee*
- Terry Lemming, *Trustee*
- David Molitor, *Trustee*
- Richard Wilk, *Trustee*

Lemont Township board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, located at 16300 Alba Street, Lemont, IL 60439 in the board room at 7:00pm

Agendas are posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting date on the Township website and the front window of the building. The public is welcome to attend Township Board meetings.

PAGE Vanpool Program (Medical)

Non-emergency, curb-to-curb, medical transportation for appointments that are located outside of Lemont Township **up to 40 miles round trip for Township residents only**. Passengers requiring assistance (wheelchairs, etc.) must have a companion to accompany them. One ride along passenger/caregiver travels at no charge.

Hours of operation

Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

Rates

\$25.00 round trip	1-15 miles
\$30.00 round trip	16-25 miles
\$35.00 round trip	26-35 miles
\$40.00 round trip	36-40 (Max 40 miles)

Cash preferred or check. Please make checks payable to: *Lemont Township*

Reduced rates are available for low-income residents and are approved by the Human Services Department. Although we try to accommodate every request, there will be times it is not always possible.

To schedule rides, contact Marybeth at 630-754-8901

Drivers Needed!

We are always looking for Volunteer Drivers for our Vanpool program (Medical).

BENEFITS INCLUDE: Quarterly Paid Stipend, Paid Training, Flexible Schedule, Use of Township Vehicles & an Opportunity to Serve your Community

If interested in joining our team, please contact Marybeth, Director of Transportation at 630-754-8901.



Lemont Township
16300 Alba Street
Lemont, IL 60439