



7227 West Q Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
269.375.1591
www.texastownship.org

Colony Woods & Surrounding Area Tornado Recovery Efforts

WOOD DEBRIS CLEANUP DATES: August 19 & October 14

August 6, 2024

Dear Neighbor:

You are receiving this notice as your property is located within the designated Cleanup Zone, established following the May 7, 2024, tornado. Since May, the Township has been diligently working with the Colony Woods Neighborhood Association, Kalamazoo County Emergency Management, the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC), County leadership, and State Representatives to respond to the storm events.

The Texas Township Board has committed \$100,000 to fund cleanup efforts in the road right-of-way (located 33' from the centerline of the road). To date, the Township has spent \$94,369.00 on cleanup (*not including Fire Department costs for emergency response related to the tornado*). Kalamazoo County has pledged up to \$130,000 in matching reimbursement funds to support cleanup efforts, and the Township intends to use all available matching funds to support the cleanup effort. Fire Department expenditures are an allowable matching expense and will be used to meet the \$130,000 matching threshold. Additionally, the Township has applied for up to \$250,000 in reimbursement funds from the State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant, which has been funded as part of the State's budget process.

The Township Board remains committed to supporting cleanup efforts in the road right-of-way. As public funds are being expended to facilitate this process, the Township cannot fund cleanup efforts on private property. However, the Small Business Administration is offering low-interest-rate loans to assist homeowners with damage repairs. This remains a viable option for homeowners seeking additional funding for repairs and cleanup on private property. Enclosed is a fact sheet on the SBA loan and you can find more information at: <https://lending.sba.gov/search-disaster/?disaster=MI-20013>. Please note the highlighted application deadlines.

The Township will continue its partnership with Vander Veen Excavating, a subcontractor for RCKC, to facilitate two more cleanup rounds before the end of the year. Vander Veen was selected by Kalamazoo County through a competitive bid process and will extend their pre-negotiated pricing for these cleanup efforts.

If you are securing private pricing to bring debris to the ROW, please ensure estimates do not include removal from ROW or disposal; the Township will bear those costs.



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Schedule of Remaining 2024 Cleanup Dates

Vander Veen will only stop at each household once during each cleanup round; please ensure wood debris is at the curb before the start of collection.

- Round 1 Cleanup: Completed June 3-11
- Round 2 Cleanup: Starting August 19 (Requested by Colony Woods Neighborhood Assoc.)
- Round 3 Cleanup: Starting October 14

Future rounds of right-of-way cleanup will be dependent upon available funding. The Township plans to fund a spring cleanup with a date TBD.

During cleanup, Vander Veen will bring in equipment and laborers to remove wood debris (trees, branches, stumps, root balls), located in the road right-of-way. **Residents are strongly encouraged to move wood debris to the road right-of-way (lawn area ~10' to 12' from edge of curb) for collection. Please do not place debris in the road as this will cause a safety hazard.**

Please visit our tornado resource page for additional information and updates including:

- An interactive map of parcels included in the Cleanup Zone
- Available resources & funding allocations
- Future cleanup round dates

www.texastownship.org/tornado-response

