



*Alamo Township*  
7901 North 6th Street Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009  
(269) 382-3366 Fax: (269) 552-4733  
[www.alamotownship.org](http://www.alamotownship.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 11, 2024**

## **Alamo Township Achieves Significant Progress on Court-Ordered Property Remediation with Court and State Oversight**

ALAMO TOWNSHIP, KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MI — Alamo Township has made substantial progress in a court-mandated remediation of a property located at 5747 West B Avenue, following an extensive compliance process to address unsafe and unsanitary conditions. Initial complaints from neighbors and community members began in December 2022; by 2023, a significant accumulation of hoarded items had developed on the property, leading to widespread concerns. This prompted the issuance of a civil infraction citation on June 20, 2023, marking the start of formal action to address ongoing violations. Over the course of the following year, Alamo Township, under court oversight, provided multiple opportunities and timelines for the property owner to address the issues independently.

### **Kalamazoo County 8<sup>th</sup> District Court-Ordered Timelines for Compliance**

The court issued a series of orders to ensure compliance, repeatedly extending deadlines to provide the property owner time to remediate the property on their own:

- October 6, 2023 – The first court order required compliance within 30 days, establishing a deadline of November 5, 2023.
- February 26, 2024 – A follow-up order was issued with an initial deadline of March 30, 2024, which the court subsequently extended to April 2024.
- July 15, 2024 – A third court order required the property owner to complete the cleanup by August 15, 2024, later extended to September 16, 2024.
- October 2024 – Following continued non-compliance, the court issued the final enforcement order allowing Alamo Township to begin direct remediation which occurred starting on October 18, 2024.

These orders demonstrate the court's extensive oversight and willingness to provide the property owner ample time to address the issues, ensuring a fair and transparent process.

### **Significant Remediation Efforts by Alamo Township**

Under court direction, Alamo Township proceeded with remediation beginning October 18, 2024 (486 days after citation issuance), prioritizing community health, safety, and welfare. Over two days, nearly 1,000 cubic yards of waste—equivalent to 37 full 30-yard dumpsters—were removed from the property. Following Alamo Township's Litter Ordinance (41-M), the remediation effort targeted materials classified as "litter," including debris, cast-offs,



*Alamo Township*  
7901 North 6th Street Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009  
(269) 382-3366 Fax: (269) 552-4733  
[www.alamotownship.org](http://www.alamotownship.org)

scrap metal, deteriorated plastic and metal parts, construction materials, and other decayed waste that posed potential safety hazards.

### **EGLE Investigation Confirms No Environmental Damage**

Following the cleanup, the property owner contacted the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) with concerns about environmental damage. An investigation by EGLE's Remediation and Redevelopment Division on October 30, 2024 found only minor soil staining consistent with heavy machine use, which posed a low risk to the property's water well and nearby drainage areas. EGLE's findings confirmed that no significant contamination or environmental harm resulted from the hoarding of items nor the Township's remediation efforts.

### **Commitment to Community Health and Safety**

Alamo Township's enforcement actions were guided by the Township's Litter and Vehicle Storage Ordinances, which prohibit the accumulation of waste and hazardous materials on private properties. "Our priority is always to work collaboratively with property owners to address these issues in a manner that respects property rights while upholding the safety and well-being of our residents," stated Ordinance Enforcement Officer Mihelich.

### **Conclusion and Next Steps**

Alamo Township appreciates the patience of neighboring residents throughout this prolonged process and remains committed to transparency and fairness in ordinance enforcement. With additional court proceedings pending, the Township is prepared to continue its efforts to bring the property fully into compliance.

For questions regarding Alamo Township's ordinances or the compliance process, residents are invited to contact the Township's Ordinance Enforcement Officer or view the Ordinances online or a hard copy can be provided from the Township's office.

Contact:

Christopher Mihelich

Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Alamo Township

Phone: 269-220-0657

Website: <https://alamotownshipmi.gov/>