



NONPARTISAN VOTER INFORMATION

2026 Benzie County Ballot Proposals

Three countywide questions are on the November 3, 2026 General Election ballot. Here's what services are funded by them and their financial impact on property owners.

COUNTY PROPOSAL 1

Separate Tax Limitation

Headlee Reset | General Operating

4.9500 mill cap · 2 yrs (2027–28)

Resets the combined levy limit: **County 3.77, Townships 1.00, ISD 0.18** mills.

Partially restores rates reduced as Taxable Values outpaced inflation. The proposal would establish the maximum authorized levy limit. Actual millage levied each year would be determined through the County and township budgeting processes, subject to applicable law.

REQUESTED INCREASE VS. 2025:

- **County:** +0.5826 mills (previously approved 5.29, reduced to 3.1874 for 2026)
- **Townships:** +0.1938 to +0.4805 mills, varies by township (previously approved 1.21)
- **ISD:** Not affected by vote

See below for a partial list of funded services.

COUNTY PROPOSAL 2

Animal Control Millage

Up to +0.21 mill · 5 yrs (2026–30)

REQUESTED INCREASE VS. 2025:

County requests **+0.0764 mills** vs. 2025 (previously approved **0.1400** mills).

ANIMAL CONTROL MILLS FUND:

- Enforcement of animal laws & patrol
- Animal-related emergency call response
- Investigation of abuse
- Shelter, food & care for impounded pets
- Officer & facility upgrades (MDARD)

Taxable Value is not Market Value

At most it's 50% of market value, **often less.**

To understand what Taxable Value is and how it impacts your taxes, please visit the website below.

COUNTY PROPOSAL 3

Drug Enforcement Millage

Up to +0.10 mill · 5 yrs (2026–30)

REQUESTED INCREASE VS. 2025:

County requests **+0.0046 mills** vs. 2025 (previously approved **0.1000** mills).

DRUG ENFORCEMENT MILLS FUND:

- Benzie's role in the **Traverse Narcotics Team (TNT)**
- Managed by Michigan State Police
- Serves a 7-county area, including Benzie

Find Ballot Language Confusing?

Ballot proposals must be written with specific language by law, which can make them difficult to interpret.

Visit the site below to read each proposal's official wording alongside an explanation in plain language.

Cost to Property Owners — Annual Tax Increase Per \$100k of Taxable Value

Estimated increase requested for each measure, vs. 2025 levels, by township.

Township / City	County Tax Limit	Twp. Tax Limit	Animal Control	Drug Enforce.	Total Increase
Almira	\$58.26	\$34.63	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$100.99
Benzonia	\$58.26	\$27.13	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$93.49
Blaine	\$58.26	\$31.06	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$97.42
Colfax	\$58.26	\$22.89	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$89.25
Crystal Lake	\$58.26	\$35.71	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$102.07
Gilmore	\$58.26	\$22.94	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$89.30
Homestead	\$58.26	\$19.38	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$85.74
Inland	\$58.26	\$29.35	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$95.71
Joyfield	\$58.26	\$6.04	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$72.40
Lake	\$58.26	\$48.05	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$114.41
Platte	\$58.26	\$21.80	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$88.16
Weldon	\$58.26	\$29.92	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$96.28
Frankfort City *	\$58.26	\$0.00	\$7.64	\$0.46	\$66.36

*Frankfort City's millage is set by charter and is unaffected by this proposal.

Learn More & Get Your Estimate



benziereset.org

Look up your parcel for an exact estimate.

What Your County Operating Millage Funds (COUNTY PROPOSAL 1)

The Separate Tax Limitation proposal supports the County's general operations, including:

ADMINISTRATION & ELECTED OFFICES

- Commissioners & Admin.
- Clerk & Treasurer
- Deeds, Equalization & Elections
- Building, Grounds & Legal

COURTS & LEGAL SYSTEM

- Circuit & District Court
- Friend of the Court
- Prosecuting Attorney
- Juvenile Division

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Sheriff's Office & 911 Dispatch
- Secondary Road Patrol
- Emergency Management
- Medical Examiner

COMMUNITY, LAND & ECONOMIC

- Drain Commission
- MSU Extension
- Economic Dev. Corp. (EDC)
- Parks & Recreation | Recycling