

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

It is the policy of Ogemaw County that all persons, except those incarcerated, consistent with the [Michigan Freedom of Information Act](#) (FOIA), are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials and employees. The people shall be informed so that they fully participate in the democratic process.

The County's policy with respect to FOIA requests is to comply with State law in all respects and to respond to FOIA requests in a consistent, fair, and even-handed manner regardless of who makes such a request.

The County acknowledges that it has a legal obligation to disclose all non-exempt public records in its possession pursuant to a FOIA request. The County acknowledges that sometimes it is necessary to invoke the exemptions identified under FOIA in order to ensure the effective operation of government and to protect the privacy of individuals. Ogemaw County will protect the public's interest in disclosure, while balancing the requirement to withhold or redact portions of certain records. The County's policy is to disclose public records consistent with and in compliance with State law.

The County Board of Commissioners has established the following written procedures and guidelines to implement the FOIA and will create a written public summary of the specific procedures and guidelines relevant to the general public regarding how to submit written requests to the public body and explaining how to understand a public body's written responses, deposit requirements, fee calculations, and avenues for challenge and appeal. The written public summary will be written in a manner so as to be easily understood by the general public.

To submit a FIA request, please select the FOIA request form. Additionally, you may learn more about Ogemaw County's FOIA policy by clicking on [FOIA Procedures and Guidelines](#); or, [FOIA Summary](#). You may also access these guidelines under the *Procedures & Guidelines* link.

Printed copies of the FOIA Procedures and Guidelines and FOIA Summary are available in the Ogemaw County Clerk's Office, 806 West Houghton Avenue, Room 101, West Branch, Michigan, 48661.