

ADMINISTRATION

TwP Hall - 668-0270

Cemetery
Clerk
Information
Manager
Supervisor

Assessing - 669-6494

Building - 668-0278

DARA - 482-5117

Fire - 669-0071
Administration

Planning/Zoning
669-6576

Police - 669-6578
Administration

Treasurer - 668-1411

CLINTON COUNTY

1-888-224-2450
Toll Free

**POLICE & FIRE
ASSISTANCE**

Fire - 9-1-1
EMT/Ambulance
Police - 9-1-1
State Police - 322-1911

TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor
Rick Galardi
Clerk
Diane Mosier
Treasurer
Phyllis Daggy
Trustees
Max Calder
Steve Musselman
Brian Ross
David Seeger

Manager
Rodney H. Taylor

www.dewitttownship.org

DEWITT AREA RECREATION PLAN

DeWitt Charter Township, the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) and the City of DeWitt are working together to develop a five year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This will address operations, activities, and improvements within our parks system and recreation programs. We would like to hear comments and suggestions from residents about recreational programs, facilities, and parks in the DeWitt area.

Please complete our on-line survey about parks and recreation in our community. Go to www.dewittrecreation.org and look for the link that says "DeWitt Area Recreation Survey." Or, stop in at our Open House to talk with recreation planners and community leaders. It won't take long, just 5 to 10 minutes of your time. We want to hear your ideas and suggestions! Your input is critical in developing this five year plan.

Community Input Open House
Thursday, April 30, 2009
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
DeWitt Charter Township Hall
1401 W. Herbison Road



The 5th Annual Meadows Celebration *A Blast in the Moonlight* is scheduled for Friday, July 17th at Granger Meadows Park. Activities for all ages and interests will begin at 4:00 p.m. and conclude with a spectacular fireworks display, best viewed from the sledding hill, immediately following the concert. Bring the whole family, from kids to grandma and grandpa; they are sure to find an exciting event to view or even participate.

Primary sponsors are DeWitt Township and Granger. Watch for an event brochure in the next issue of this Newsletter. For questions, or to volunteer, call the Township at 668-0270.

2009 ROAD AND SEWER PROJECTS

Once again, the Township has a number infrastructure projects tentatively scheduled for this year:

Sewer Projects

- Repair of a 12-inch diameter sanitary sewer main under Stoll Road (between DeWitt Road and Turner Road). This will require a closure/detour of Stoll Road.
- Repair of an 8-inch diameter sanitary sewer main at the intersection of State Road and Brook Road. This will require a closure/detour of State Road for approximately two weeks.
- Repair of an 8-inch diameter sanitary sewer main at the intersection of State Road and US-127BR

Road Projects

- Asphalt resurfacing of Brook Road (Boichot Road to State Road)
- Asphalt resurfacing of Oak Lane Drive (off of Brook Road)
- Asphalt resurfacing of Twilight Lane and Robinwood Drive
(between Wynbrooke Drive and Shamrock Trail)
- Mill and resurface Clark Road between US-127BR and Wood Road (this is a federal stimulus project)

Preventative Maintenance

Overbanding (crack filling) approximately 19 roads

Micro-surfacing Oakland Hills Dr, Castlewood Circle, and a portion of Burlingame Dr

Last year was the first year the Township added preventative maintenance as a strategy for the upkeep of the road network. Previously, the Township tried to pave the heaviest traveled roads that had the most deterioration. Research has found that by applying cost-effective treatments to correct minor pavement deficiencies before problems become major, the life of the pavement is extended. Extending the life of the road saves money and ensures that funding for roads is more optimized.

This year, the Clinton County Road Commission and the Township will try a new preventative maintenance strategy called Micro-surfacing. Micro-surfacing preserves existing pavements on streets. Micro-surfacing is a polymer-modified asphalt and sand mixture designed to protect the pavement and provide a skid-resistant wearing surface. Used at the right time on the right pavement, it is extremely cost-effective. With curing time of about one hour, streets are given back to traffic in short order.

Micro-surfacing does not require cold-milling along the curb, does not require manholes to be adjusted, and its smooth finished surface allows residents to enjoy a preventative surface maintenance treatment that is aesthetically pleasing.

PAVILION RENTALS HAVE STARTED . . .

As the long winter comes to an end, plans for summer events are being finalized. With this comes an increase in calls for pavilion rentals. If you need to rent space this summer, call early, as some dates are already booked and space is limited.

The Township rents 5 park pavilions for graduations, reunions and other gatherings. There are 3 pavilions at Granger Meadows Park and 2 pavilions at Valley Farms Park. All are very nice and have locations close to restrooms and playgrounds. Each pavilion has 10-12 tables which can seat 8 people each. All pavilions have electrical hook-ups and grills available to use.

To reserve a pavilion, first call the Treasurer's Office at 668-1411 and check availability. Then you can pick up a rental form at the Township Hall from the Treasurer's Office or on-line using this link http://www.dewitttownship.org/web/forms_docs.htm. You may also call the Treasurer's Office and request the form to be mailed to you. Complete the form and return it to the Treasurer's Office along with the \$20 security deposit. The security deposit will hold a confirmed reservation until 10 days prior to the rental at which time the rental fee is due. If the rental payment is not received as of 10 days prior, the reservation will be cancelled. Your deposit will be returned after your rental date if rental conditions have been met. Rates are as follows:

Facility	Category	Resident Fee	Nonresident Fee	Security Deposit
Pavilion	Non-Profit	\$15.00 (4 hours)	\$20.00 (4 hours)	\$20.00
	Business/Family	\$35.00 (4 hours)	\$40.00 (4 hours)	\$20.00

*Fee structure is subject to change.

Basic rules to know when reserving a pavilion:

- No alcoholic beverages allowed
- No pets allowed
- Leave the pavilion in the same condition you found it (put your trash in the containers provided)

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY COMING THIS FALL

It is the goal of the DeWitt Township Police Department to assist citizens in gaining a better understanding of how policing is conducted in our community. Meet different officers of the agency, learn how some decisions are made, and get educated about crime prevention. That being said, the Police Department is working on the 1st Citizen Police Academy to be held this fall, if there is enough interest. The classes would start on September 21st and go through November 10th—meeting every Tuesday night between 6 - 8:30 p.m. Topics for discussion will be: Criminal Investigations, Criminal Law/Prosecution, Patrol Operations, Traffic Safety, etc. There is NO cost to be a part of this Academy; however, you must be at least 18 years of age and agree to a background check. Preference will be given to those people residing or working in DeWitt Township. If you are interested, contact Chief Brian Russell @ 517-669-6578 or email at policechief@dewitttownship.org.

REMEMBER, YOU'RE NOT JUST FERTILIZING YOUR LAWN...

Storm drains found in our streets and yards empty into our lakes and streams. So, when we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and streams! While fertilizer is good for our lawn, it's bad for our water. Just like in your garden, fertilizer in rivers and lakes makes plants grow. In water bodies, extra fertilizer can mean extra algae and aquatic plant growth. Too much algae harms water quality and makes canoeing, fishing and swimming unpleasant. As algae decay, they use up oxygen in the water that fish and other wildlife need.

How Can You Care for Your Yard *and* Help Keep Our Environment Clean?

You can help keep our lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, and groundwater clean by applying the following tips.

- **Sweep it.** Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from pavement back onto your lawn so that they don't wash into storm drains.
- **Buy low and go slow.** First, find out if you even need fertilizer! Contact your Michigan State University Extension office to get a soil test. If you do need it, choose a fertilizer with no or low phosphorus - phosphorus causes algae growth. You can also use an organic or slow-release nitrogen fertilizer, which causes less harm to water. Follow the manufacturer's recommended amounts, and don't fertilize before a rain storm.
- **Hire smart.** Select a lawn care service that follows the practices noted above.
- **Mow high.** Keep your lawn at three inches in height. Taller grass strengthens roots and shades out weeds. Also, remember that the nutrients from grass clippings left on your lawn act as a great fertilizer.
- **Don't over water your lawn and garden.** Consider using a drip system or soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- **Go natural.** Use commercially available compost or make your own using garden waste. Mixing compost with your soil means your plants will need less chemical fertilizer and puts your waste to good use. And, consider using organic fertilizers and pest control methods whenever possible.
- **Make fertilizer-free zones.** Keep fertilizer at least 20 feet away from the edge of any lakes, streams, or storm drains.

In recent years sources of pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like excess fertilizer applications, cars leaking oil, pet waste and failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water too, and that adds up to a pollution solution!

Having a clean environment is of primary importance for our health and economy. Clean waterways provide recreation, commercial opportunities, fish habitat, and add beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from clean water - and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater clean. For more easy steps on protecting our lakes and streams, visit www.mywatersheds.org.



SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Spring means the return of home improvement projects. The DeWitt Township Building Department would like to remind residents and consumers about some important tips to remember to help avoid mistakes while building and/or renovating a home.

Tip #1

It is important for consumers to check with us first to verify if the contractor you're looking at hiring is properly licensed with the State of Michigan. You can also do it yourself on the State of Michigan's website at: <https://www2.dleg.state.mi.us/colaLicVerify/> or by calling the Bureau of Construction Codes at (517) 241-9313. It only takes a few moments to verify this information.

Tip #2

Don't pay your contractor in advance. You should never give a contractor a large sum of money prior to the work being completed. A down payment is acceptable; however, never pay in full prior to the completion of the project.

Tip #3

Pull a building permit! Before your project begins, please call us first to determine if the work you are planning on doing requires a permit. A permit gives you legal permission to start construction of a building project in accordance with the proper documentation (drawings, specifications, etc.). A building permit ensures that the proposed construction meets minimum safety standards and allows code officials to protect the public by reducing potential hazards of unsafe construction. Property insurers may not cover work completed without permits and inspections. The value of the property may be reduced and problems may arise when the property is sold.

Even if home renovations aren't in your immediate future, you should take some basic steps to protect your investment. One of the most important things for homeowners to remember is that you should perform certain routine maintenance to keep your house functioning properly. These tend to be relatively simple; but, easily overlooked. For example, changing your furnace filter on your heating unit will help it run smoother, not to mention, reduce dust particles in the air. Also, cleaning your gutters and downspouts is important to help keep water away from the foundation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Building Department at (517) 668-0278 or by email at cmiller@dewittwp.org.

Upcoming Dates to Remember.....

April 18	Clinton County Clean Community Junk Collection – St. Johns – some fees apply
April 25	Friends of the Library Pancake Breakfast
May 2	Clean Sweep
May 3	YMCA Family Adventure Relay – Granger Meadows Park - cancelled
May 9	Mother's Day Flower & Craft Extravaganza
July 17	Granger Meadows Celebration
September 19	Clinton County Clean Community Junk Collection – Granger - some fees apply

SPRING YARD CLEANUP

Are you ready to dispose of those fallen tree limbs, remaining fall leaves and other yard debris? The DeWitt Township Fire Department wants you to do this in a safe and legal manner. The Township's Burning Ordinance 45.12 allows for open burning and sets out the rules for accomplishing this work. The Burning Ordinance also sets the rules for on-the-ground recreational fires. Open burning and recreational fires require a burning permit. Permits can be obtained from either the Fire Department or the Clerk's Office.

If you intend on burning brush and/or having a recreational fire, need a new burning permit, or have any questions on your current permit, contact the DeWitt Township Fire Department at 669-0071. For those of you living in residentially zoned neighborhoods, your open burning ends on April 30th and resumes on October 1st.

As a courtesy to your neighbors, we ask that you always consider the direction the smoke from your fire travels. The smoke may pose a serious threat to many people that suffer from asthma and other respiratory conditions. Please be considerate!

While burning is allowed, we recommend environmentally friendly ways to dispose of your leaves and brush. Composting of leaves and chipping of brush are excellent methods to be earth friendly. These items can add nourishment to your garden and natural mulch around your plants. Please consider earth friendly ways of disposing of your yard debris.

ELECTION DAY – MAY 5, 2009 – Bath School District Only

May 5th is Election Day for DeWitt Township residents who live within the Bath School District. If you are a resident living within the Bath School District in DeWitt Township, your polling location, **for this election only**, has been changed. On May 5, 2009, for the Bath School Election, you will vote at the Bath Charter Township Hall, 14480 Webster Road, Bath, Michigan. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: The Township maintains a list of voters who have requested to automatically receive an Absentee Ballot Application prior to each election. If you are on this list, and are registered to vote in the Bath School District, you should have already received an Absentee Ballot Application for the May 5th Election. If you believe you have requested to be on the list, but have not yet received an application, please call the DeWitt Township Clerk's Office, 668-0270. Please note that if you are sixty years of age or older, or expect to be absent from the community, you qualify to vote by absentee ballot.

For in-person absentee voting, please go to the Bath Township Clerk's Office at the above address.



Welcome - Richard M. Trent **Community Development Director**

Rich Trent began employment as the Township's Community Development Director on March 9, 2009. Rich comes to the Township from Clinton County where he served in the same capacity. Prior to the County, he served as the Planning Director for Watertown Charter Township. Rich, his wife Suzanne, and their three children live in DeWitt.

The Township Board recently approved plans to reorganize the Planning and Building Departments into one Community Development Department. This reorganization allows the Township to save money, become more flexible during busy or slow times, and allows the Township to focus on new and important priorities. The Community Development Department is charged with focusing on more projects related to citizen's quality of life. Mr. Trent has a long list of projects including: ●South Central Area Plan ●Downtown Development Authority and Corridor Improvement Authority opportunities ●Access Management Plan for the south corridor ●Business retention ●Non-Motorized Transportation Plan ●Parks and Recreation Master Plan ●Property Maintenance Code ●Code enforcement

WHY DO WE TAKE THE CENSUS AND IS IT IMPORTANT?

The U.S. Constitution (Article 1, Section 2) mandates a headcount every 10 years, of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens, and noncitizens. The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

The next census occurs in 2010. The population totals from this census will determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. States also use the totals to redraw their legislative districts.

The U.S. Census Bureau must state population totals to the President of the United States by December 31, 2010. **The totals also affect funding in our community.** 18% of the Township's revenue comes from State Revenue Sharing, which is determined by our population. In total, approximately \$300 billion in federal funding is distributed to communities each year.

Will the 2010 Census be the same as the 2000 Census?

The answer is NO. Some important changes are:

- 2010 Census will be short form only – just 10 questions.
- The long form is now part of the annual American Community Survey.
- Handheld computers with Global Positioning System will be used to check our address list in 2009.

NEWS BITES

WEB SURVEY – Getting information to our citizens is important to the Township. This survey should only take about one minute and it will help the Township know how our “word” is getting out and if there are any problems or issues. This survey will also help us determine if there are any alternatives we should consider, such as e-mail newsletters. Take our brief media survey at www.dewitttownship.org and let us know.

RAIN BARREL DISTRIBUTION EVENT – Saturday, May 16, Eastwood Towne Center – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Regional Recycling Coordinating Committee. Barrels are sold on a “first come, first served” basis for half the retail price at \$49 plus tax.

WELCOME ABOARD – to Jason Rogers, Melissa Hunnicutt and Troy Rambo - the newest members of the DeWitt Charter Township Fire Department.

OUTDOOR FACILITY RENTALS – If you would like to rent a park picnic pavilion, softball field, inline skating rink, or soccer field, call the Treasurer’s Office at 668-1411.

INDOOR FACILITY RENTALS - (Community Center gym or activity room) are handled through the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority at 482-5117.

GUNNISONVILLE & HURD CEMETERIES - If you have a loved one interred in a Township Cemetery, you should have a copy of the Cemetery Rules and Regulations. Call the Clerk’s Office at 668-0270 and we will mail or email you a copy.

CEMETERY FOUNDATIONS - All foundations for headstones in the cemeteries are required to be installed by Township staff. These installations are typically done twice each year, once in the spring and once in the fall. The deadline for ordering foundation placement for this spring’s installation is May 1st. Arrangements for installation of a foundation are made through the Clerk’s Office.

DEWITT PUBLIC LIBRARY SATELLITE at the Township Community Center on Brook Road is open during the following hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2-8, Wednesday 2-6, and Saturday 10-2. Check it out!

Have you ever thought of becoming an **ELECTION WORKER** and working on Election Days? An application is available on our website @ www.dewitttownship.org/web/forms or give us a call at 668-0270 for more information.

In partnership with the **REDEEMER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DEWITT’S FOOD BANK**, you can now drop off non-perishables any time of the year at the DeWitt Township Hall. A box is located in the Police Department’s lobby. The lobby is open 24 hours. The DeWitt YMCA is also a drop off food collection site.

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION’S (MTA’s) ROBINSON SCHOLARSHIP – Know a hard-working college student majoring in local government administration? If so, encourage that student to apply now for a \$1,000 scholarship, being made available through the Michigan Townships Association (MTA). The Robert R. Robinson Memorial Scholarship is a one-

time award determined on a competitive basis. Applicants must be a junior, senior or graduate student enrolled in a Michigan college or university and be pursuing a career in local government administration. The three key factors that the scholarship committee will use to select this year's scholarship recipient are: (1) the student's academic achievement; (2) his or her community involvement; and (3) the student's commitment to a career in local government administration. To apply, the student must submit a letter of recommendation from a professor or instructor, along with a copy of a resolution of support from a township board in Michigan. In addition, the applicant is required to include a short essay on an important issue facing local government. All materials should be sent to: Robert R. Robinson Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Michigan Townships Association, P.O. Box 80078, Lansing, MI 48908-0078. The deadline for applying is May 31, 2009. For additional information, visit www.michigantownships.org/rrrschol.asp or call (517) 321-6467.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER & CRAFT EXTRAVAGANZA - sponsored by the DeWitt Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the DeWitt Sports Park. ► create your own bud vase, ► decorate your patio planter and fill with annuals, ► make and take dish gardens, ► fresh flowers and plants will be available, ► great gifts for Mom starting at \$5

PANCAKE & STRAWBERRY BREAKFAST - Join the Friends of the DeWitt Public Library for a pancake and strawberry breakfast on Saturday, April 25th, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., at the DeWitt Township Community Center (16101 Brook Road, Lansing). Funds raised will be used to continue to support and enhance the programs, activities and services of the Library. Donations of used books and materials (including music, movies, videos, video and Wii games, and books on tape) will be accepted. Check the Library's website, www.dewittlibrary.org for more information.

CLEAN SWEEP

Get rid of that junk taking up space around your house and haul it down to the Granger Landfill on Saturday, May 2, 2009, for the annual Spring Clean Sweep Project. This is a free program to DeWitt Township residents that allows you to haul a load of junk to the landfill with DeWitt Township picking up the bill. **You must be a Township resident and must make an appointment to participate.** For more information or to make your required appointment, please call the Township Hall at 668-0270. Space is limited.



DARA RECREATION NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) is located at the DeWitt Township Community Center (DTCC), 16101 Brook Road, Lansing, MI 48906. Information regarding any event or program can be obtained by calling the DARA office at 482-5117. You may register for programs in person at the DARA office (16101 Brook Road, Lansing), the DeWitt Township Hall (1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt) or DeWitt City Hall (414 E. Main Street, DeWitt). Registration forms and program descriptions are also available on DARA's website, www.dewittrecreation.org.

Program	Dates	Time	Registration	Age	Cost (Res/Non-Res)
Drop Your Kids Off-Night	4/24	6:00-11:00 p.m.	3/27-4/17	5-12	\$15/1 child \$10 each addl. child
Youth Indoor Yard Sale	4/18	9:00am – 2:00pm	3/6 – 4/16	5-17	\$10/booth
Pitch, Hit & Run	5/2	10:00am	On site	7-14	Free (age as of 7/17/09)
Big Truck Day	5/9	12:00-1:30	n/a	All	Free
Youth Cheer Camp	5/26-5/28	5:30-6:30 p.m. 6:45-7:45 p.m.	4/11-5/16	3-5 6-11	\$42
Adult Softball-summer	5/6&5/7- 7/29&7/30	Evenings	Begins 3/13	18+	\$290/team + Ump. Fee Player fees: \$5 Res./\$10 Non Res.
T-ball/Pee Wee Baseball	6/8-7/8	Evenings	4/17-5/8	4-7	\$43/\$48
Adult Tennis Leagues	6/8-7/27	Schedule on own time	5/8-5/29	18+	\$12/\$15-singles \$17-mixed doubles
Summer Day Camps	6/8-8/14	7:30 am-5:30 pm	Begins 4/3	5-12	\$95/\$100
Youth Golf @ Hawk Hollow	7/14-8/13	6-7 pm or 7-8 pm	Begins 5/29	8-15	\$50
Open Volleyball	Wed. & Sun. thru 5/24	7:00-9:00 pm	Drop In	18+	\$2
Discount Cedar Point Tickets	Sold 5/16-8/28	Use during 2009 season	n/a	All	\$18.00-\$68.25
Discount MI Adventure Tickets	Sold 5/16-8/28	Use during 2009 season	n/a	All	\$24.00

DARA has updated its online registration program. To register online, you must first call the DARA office to receive a username and password. Visit our website at www.dewittrecreation.org, select the sports, special events or classes tab on the home page, select your program and complete the required information. DARA accepts Visa and MasterCard payments online. You may also print registration forms by clicking on the forms tab and mail them.



DeWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP/COMMITTEE & COMMISSION APPLICATION

Standing Committees: Recreation Authority (m)/Board of Appeals (m)Public Safety (an)/Planning Commission (m)/Board of Review (ar)/Library (m)/Salary Compensation (ar)/Construction Board of Appeals (an)/Sewer Board of Appeals (an)/Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority (m)/Sister City (m)

Meetings held: m-monthly ar-as required an-as needed Please print or type the following application

NAME OF APPLICANT_____

ADDRESS_____

PHONES Home_____ Work_____ Cell_____ Fax_____

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT INFO_____

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Optional) such as family, number of years of residency, etc. _____

EDUCATION_____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, MEMBERSHIPS_____

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE_____

PARTICULAR COMMITTEE OF INTEREST_____

REASONS FOR APPLYING_____

LOCAL REFERENCE (OPTIONAL)_____

PERSONAL COMMENTS, if any_____

I declare the foregoing statements to be true_____ Date _____

Signature

Return to: DeWitt Charter Township, Clerk's Office, 1401 W Herbison Rd, DeWitt, MI 48820

**DEWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W HERBISON ROAD
DEWITT MI 48820-7900**

**PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 66
LANSING MI**

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

A FEW OF OUR REGIONAL COLLABORATION EFFORTS

DeWitt Charter Township is considered one of the leaders in multi-jurisdictional cooperation. One of the first joint ventures was the creation of the Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCCMUA) in the late 1970's. Our partners include the City of DeWitt, Bath Township, and Watertown Township.

In 1998 the City, Township, and DeWitt Public Library worked together to purchase a building at 13101 Schavey Road in DeWitt Township. This has been home of the Library ever since. To better serve the residents in the southern part of the library district, a satellite branch of the Library was opened in the DeWitt Township Community Center in 2007.

In 2003, the City of DeWitt and the Township formed the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority. DARA, as it is known, is a joint recreation authority and handles all recreational programming for the Township and the City of DeWitt. Since 2003, more than 5,500 Township and 2,700 City residents have participated in DARA programs.

In 2006, the Clinton County Economic Alliance (CCEA) was created by area municipalities and businesses. DeWitt Township and representatives from our community were one of the first to contribute towards building this organization. The CCEA is an economic development organization whose mission is to promote and nurture economic growth within Clinton County. They are responsible for developing, executing and sustaining a targeted business attraction, and a retention and expansion initiative that defines and builds on the strengths of Clinton County and the mid-Michigan region. The Clinton County Economic Alliance is a member of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) and also works closely with the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce.