



NEWSLETTER

March, 2020

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
Adam Cramton
Treasurer
Sandy Stump
Trustees
David Fedewa
Steve Musselman
Brian Ross
David Seeger

Manager
Andrew Dymczyk

www.dewitttownship.org

2020 ROAD PROJECTS

Every year, the Clinton County Road Commission (CCRC) ranks the quality of roads in the County. While the County and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) are responsible for funding "primary" and "MDOT" roads, the Township funds much of the maintenance for local roads (excluding winter maintenance). Primary roads are major connectors between multiple jurisdictions such as Airport, Herbison, Webb, Clark, State, Turner, etc. MDOT roads are Old US-27, I-69 and US-127. All other roads are considered local roads.

2020 brings a high volume of transportation projects to be completed in the local area. We have coordinated with the City of DeWitt, the CCRC and other neighboring communities for the least intrusive impact to operations. Below is a tentative list of projects scheduled to be completed in 2020:

Local Area Projects

Westbrook Drive & Andover Drive – Sidewalk (City of DeWitt)
Geneva Drive from S Geneva Drive to Elmwood – Roadwork (City of DeWitt)
S Bridge Street from W Herbison Road to E Washington Street (City of DeWitt)
S Bridge Street – Bridge Repair (City of DeWitt)
Coleman Road – Road extension from West Road to Wood Road
DeWitt Road from Brookview Lane to E Cutler Road – Roadwork
DeWitt Road just north of Brookview Lane on the west side
(north approximately .10 miles) – Sidewalk Construction
DeWitt Road just north of Brunswick Drive on the east side
(north to Arbor Meadows Subdivision) – Sidewalk Construction
Schavey Road – Bridge Repair
Panther Drive – Sidewalk Construction
Pride Drive – Sidewalk Construction

Local

Heritage Glen Subdivision - Mill and Asphalt
Howe Road from Quail Run to Schavey Road – Sidewalk Construction

Primary

Herbison Road from Schavey Road to Airport Road
Roadwork and Sidewalk Construction
DeWitt Road and Clark Road – Roundabout Construction
Airport Road – Bridge repair and Sidewalk Construction

2020 CENSUS



The next Census will take place during the spring of 2020. In addition to the paper questionnaire, people will be able to respond — for the first time — to the Census online and over the phone in 12 non-English languages. Census responses are confidential and cannot be shared with any other entity. Responses to the Census are critically important to our Township's future. For the next 10 years, the 2020 responses will determine how we are represented in Congress and

will guide the allocation of federal dollars to states and local governments each year for infrastructure and services such as schools, transportation projects, public safety, and health care.

Important Dates

- March 2020: The public can begin responding to the 2020 Census online at www.2020census.gov. Replying by mail or phone will also be an option.
- June 2020 through July 2020: Census takers go door-to-door to count people who have not responded to the 2020 Census. Census takers are Census Bureau employees and will provide proof that they are official government personnel.
- December 31, 2020: By this date, as required by law, the Census Bureau reports to the President of the United States the population count and the apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives to each state.
- 2021: Initial 2020 Census data is made available to the public on www.census.gov.

PROPERTY VALUE CHANGES FOR 2020

As you read this Newsletter, if you are a property owner, you should have received your 2020 Assessment notice, which was mailed the last week in February. Unless there has been new construction or improvements made to your property, Proposal A, enacted in 1994, limits your taxable value increase to 5% or the rate-of-inflation, whichever is less. For the 2020 assessment/tax year, the inflation rate multiplier is 1.019, which means your taxable value will increase 1.9%. As a reminder, if you purchased your property in 2019, the taxable value could increase more than 1.9% because the taxable value comes "uncapped" the year following a transfer. The taxable value becomes the same as the assessed value. The taxable value will once again be capped, only increasing the rate of inflation, beginning in 2021. The notice also shows the following changes for the 2020 tax year: increase or decrease in the property assessment, change in taxable value, an approximate change in property taxes based on the new 2020 taxable value, if there was a transfer in ownership, and the percentage of Principal Residence (Homestead)/Agricultural Exemption that the property is receiving.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT

Do you pay flood insurance mandated by your mortgage lender? If you do, you're not alone. DeWitt Township has the Looking Glass River with all of its tributaries and 100-year flood plains. If you have a structure on your property that touches these flood plains, and have an active mortgage, you are probably required to buy flood insurance by your lending agency.

In 2011, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE, formerly MDEQ) created a new set of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) which lending agencies use to determine if you will need flood insurance. Since the FIRM is what determines your need for flood insurance, then a letter of map amendment (LOMA) is what you will need to get relief from the flood insurance requirement.

DeWitt Township has been working with FEMA and EGLE to find the path of least resistance to pursue a LOMA. We have knowledgeable staff who can steer you step-by-step through this process. The key will be to find the base flood elevation on your property and prove through an elevation certificate that, among other elements, the lowest finished floor surface is at least 12" above the base flood elevation.

Please call 517-668-0278 or visit us at the Building Department to talk about your property and options you may have to avoid the expense of flood insurance.

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

The DeWitt Township Fire Department responded to 226 motor vehicle crashes in 2019. Many of these crashes were due to speed and distracted driving.

We want all children to be protected properly in a car seat in case of such a crash. There are quite a few different types of car seats. Here is some basic information on each type of car seat. If you have a question, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

REAR-FACING CAR SEATS

- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends children remain in rear-facing car seats FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE and until they reach the top height or weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer
- Car seat should be properly secured in a suitable seating location in the back seat
- Car seat should not move more than one inch at the belt path (side to side, front to back)
- Shoulder straps should be AT or BELOW the child's shoulders
- Positioned at the proper incline for the child's age (see Owner's Manual)
- Child's head should be well contained within the shell and at least 1" from the top of the car seat
- Harness straps snug (unable to pinch any fabric between thumb and pointer finger at shoulders)
- Harness clip at armpit level

FORWARD-FACING CAR SEATS

- Children should remain in a forward-facing car seat until they reach the top height OR weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer (regardless of their age)
- Car seat properly secured in a suitable seating location in the back seat
- Seat should not move more than one inch at the belt path (side to side, front to back)
- Shoulder straps should be AT or ABOVE the child's shoulders

- Harness straps snug (unable to pinch any fabric between thumb and pointer finger at shoulders)
- Harness clip at arm pit level
- Use the tether strap to limit forward movement & rotation, to stabilize the car seat & limit head movement

BOOSTER SEATS

- Children should remain in belt-positioning booster seats (high-back or backless) until they are big enough to fit properly in a seat belt (4'9" tall – regardless of their age)
- Raise and position a child so the lap and shoulder belt fit properly
- Are more than twice as effective in reducing risk of injury vs. seat belts alone

INSTALLATION

If you need assistance with the installation of a car seat, please call one of our Child Passenger Safety Technicians: Laura Plaza or Lt. Mike Bush at 517-669-0071.

TREASURER'S OFFICE: BE IN THE KNOW

Tax Bill Copies

Taxpayers can access current and historical tax records 24/7 online at www.dewitttownship.org. From the Township's home page, navigate to the Quick Links menu and select BS&A Online-Property Information. Tax bill copies and payment data can be accessed from this platform by name, address or parcel number.

Bill Pay Info and Payment Options

Many residents enjoy the convenience of their bank's bill pay service for tax payments and sewer bills. As a friendly reminder to users of bill pay, it is a good idea to periodically review your pay settings to ensure that account information is up-to-date. Below are bank bill pay issues that we see on a regular basis and helpful tips for handling.

- Incorrect or missing account/parcel numbers. Cross-reference the account/parcel number printed on your bill to the data entered in your bill pay service. Correct account/parcel information ensures your payment is processed timely and credited correctly.
- Address changes. If you have moved, purchased or sold a home, update the account/parcel numbers and the address with your bill pay service. Account/parcel numbers are tied to addresses. If your address changes, your account number changes too.
- Name on payment does not match name of account. Use legal names on utility accounts and update legal name with the Assessor's Office and your bank when there is a name change or change in marital status.
- Over/under payments. Confirm balances owed each billing cycle. Residents receive statements, or can check bills online at www.dewitttownship.org. Sewer service fees are updated annually. Tax amounts change with each tax roll.

Keep in mind that your bill pay service initiates the payment on the date you specify, and mails payment in batches to the Township Office. Be sure to allow enough lead time for USPS mail delivery when scheduling your payment dates. Postmarks are not considered on time.

E-billings and ACH Autopay

Paperless e-billings can be set up for interested residents. If you prefer a green alternative for your quarterly sewer billings, call us and we'll set you up. It's as easy as that. If you have questions about e-billings, feel free to reach out to the Treasurer's Office at 517-668-1411.

ACH Autopay is a convenient, automatic way to handle quarterly sewer account billings. Payments are automatically processed five (5) days prior to the due date, and post the same day. ACH Autopay setup forms can be picked up in the Treasurer's Office or downloaded from the Township's website, under Documents & Forms.

It's a Wrap!

The 2019 tax roll is closed and settled with Clinton County as of March 3, 2020. Outstanding balances were turned over to Clinton County and subsequent payments must be paid directly to the Clinton County Treasurer at 100 E. State Street, St. Johns, Michigan 48879. Michigan statute prohibits collecting taxes at the Township office after settlement with the County.

Thank you to all our taxpayers for paying their taxes to ensure a safe community and provide for the region's public education systems, critical infrastructure, park amenities, community development, facilities, emergency vehicles and equipment maintenance. Many of you did so with smiles on your faces and gratitude in your hearts. We are grateful to all our residents and business owners who make DeWitt Charter Township such a vibrant community.

DeWitt Charter Township - 2019 by the Numbers:

- Parcels: 6,171
- Taxable Value: \$513,792,024
- State Equalized Value: \$584,985,000
- Average Taxable Value: \$83,259
- Average State Equalized Value: \$94,796
- Total DCT Millage Rate: 6.4662 mills
- DCT Average taxes per parcel: \$538.37

POLICE VISIT GIRL SCOUT TROOP #30022



DeWitt Charter Township Police Officer Monica Robbins recently visited the DeWitt Girl Scout Troop #30022. Officer Robbins spoke to the Troop about respecting authority, which will help them all to earn their "respecting authority" badge. Officer Robbins spoke about authority figures in their lives, not only police officers but also firefighters, teachers, principals, parents, aunts and uncles. The Troop also learned that one day they too may become figures of authority and that being a good listener now can help them later on in life. Officer Robbins spoke about the equipment that she uses every day for her job, why she wears a uniform and the equipment that she uses that helps to keep her safe. Lastly, Officer Robbins taught the Troop that

police officers do not just "catch bad guys" but are also here to help keep people safe and help others.

The DeWitt Charter Township Police Department would like to thank Girl Scout Troop #30022 for allowing us to come in and speak with them.

2020 PARK RENTALS

The Township has beautiful pavilions for rent in Granger Meadows and Valley Farms parks. Rental rates for four hours are \$60 for residents and \$80 for non-residents. Contact the Treasurer's Office, 517-668-1411, for terms and conditions and to check availability for your upcoming event. Rental agreements are available online at www.dewitttownship.org, under Documents & Forms.



DeWitt Area Recreation Authority
1401 W. Herbison, DeWitt, MI 48820
Older Adult Activity Survey

The DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) is conducting a survey to increase recreational activities offered to older adults in our community. Your views are important and give us a better understanding of what programs in which you would be most likely to participate. Please check all activities you would be interested in and share any additional suggestions or comments. Thank you for your input.

If you wish to complete this survey online, please visit the DARA homepage at www.dewittrecreation.org. Otherwise, cut out the survey and mail it to the address above.

Which activities would you like to see offered in our community?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent and Grandchild activities (fishing, gardening, arts, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking group | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking classes or clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball (with softer ball) | <input type="checkbox"/> Day trips to special events, places or sporting events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Softball club | <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight trips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music and dancing | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cards/Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Art classes |

Please tell us about other suggestions you may have: _____

Email address to receive info on future offerings: _____

DARA RECREATION NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) is located at the DeWitt Township Community Center, 16101 Brook Road, Lansing, MI 48906. Information regarding any event or program can be obtained by calling the DARA office at 517-482-5117. You may register for programs in person at the DARA Office, the DeWitt Township Hall (1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt) or DeWitt City Hall (414 E. Main Street, DeWitt).

Program Name	Actual Dates	Time of Program Operation	Registration Dates	Age or Grade	Cost (Res/Non-Res)
Adult Open Volleyball	Sun Ongoing	7:00 - 9:00 pm	Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$2 per visit
Pickleball	Sun, Tues, Wed & Fri Through 5/31	Sun: 3:00-5:00 pm Tues & Fri: 9:00-11:00 am Wed: now-May 6: 3-5 pm Wed: 5/13-5/27: 4-6 pm	Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$2 per visit
Zumba Gold; 6 Week Class Zumba Gold & Toning; 12 Week Class	Zumba Gold; Monday & Friday Zumba Gold Toning; Wednesday & Thursday 3/30-5/8	Zumba Gold: Monday: 6:00-7:00 pm, Friday: 8:30-9:30 am Zumba Gold Toning: Wednesday: 8:30-9:30 am, Thursday: 6:00-7:00 pm	3/2-3/23 or Drop In	18+ yrs.	\$30 for 6-week course, \$50 for the 12-week course OR \$7 drop-in per class
Adult Golf Lessons	Wednesdays, 4/8-4/29 OR Thursdays, 4/9-4/30	6:00-7:00 pm at Hawk Hollow	3/2-3/29	18+ yrs.	\$80 straight fee per 4-week course
Men's & Coed 3 v 3 Basketball Leagues	Men's: Tuesdays, 4/7-5/19 Coed: Mondays, 4/6-5/18	Men's: 6:00-10:00 pm (times vary within) Coed: 7:00-10:00 pm (times vary within)	3/2-4/1	18+ yrs.	\$150/team + individual fees (\$5/res; \$20/non-res)
DARA Egg Hunt	Saturday, 4/4	3:00 pm sharp at DeWitt Sports Park	Not required	1-10 yrs.	Free
Miracle League Egg Hunt	Saturday, 4/4	11:00 am	Ends 4/1	Youth with special needs	Free
Drop Your Kids Off	Friday, 4/17 Friday, 5/15	6:00 -11:00 pm	Registration due one week before event	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
Basketball University Session 2	Thursdays, 4/9-4/30	5:45 pm – 7:45 pm (times vary by grade)	3/2-3/27	1-7 grades	\$35/person
PreK -3 rd Grade Soccer League	Saturdays, 4/18-5/30	9:00 am -1:00 pm (time varies within)	Early Reg 4/3 Late Reg: 4/6-4/10	4 yrs-3 rd Grade	\$36/res \$51/non-res 2 nd and 3 rd Grade: 40/res \$55/non-res
K-7 th Grade Flag Football	Tuesdays & Saturdays, 5/5-5/23	Tues: 5:30-8:00 pm Sat: 1:00-4:30 pm (times vary within)	Early Reg 4/17 Late Reg: 4/18-4/24	K-7 th grades	\$36/res \$51/non-res
T-Ball-4&5-year olds	Mondays & Wednesdays, 6/1-7/1	5:30 pm-8 pm (times vary within)	Early Reg 4/27-5/15 Late Reg: 5/18-5/22	4 & 5 yrs.	\$46/res \$61/non-res
Coach Pitch Baseball	Tuesdays & Thursdays 6/2-7/2	6 pm-8:15 pm (times vary within)	Early Reg 4/27-5/15 Late Reg: 5/18-5/22	5-7 yrs.	\$46/res \$61/non-res
Coach Pitch Softball	Mondays & Wednesdays, 6/1-7/1	5:30 pm-8:30 pm (times vary within)	Early Reg 4/27-5/15 Late Reg: 5/18-5/22	5-7 yrs.	\$46/res \$61/non-res
Spring Sports Starters (3 Sessions)	Wednesdays, 3/25-5/6	AM Session: 10-10:45 PM Session: 5:30-7pm (Times vary within for PM)	Early Reg 2/10-3/8 Late Reg: 3/8-3/13	3-5 yrs.	\$36/res \$51/non res
Summer Fun Club & Double-Digit Day Camps	Begins Monday June 8, 2020	7:30 am – 5:30 pm	Registration opens Monday, March 16	5-9 yrs. 10-14 yrs.	\$120/res per week \$135/non-res per week

You may register for most DARA programs online by visiting our website at www.dewittrecreation.org. DARA accepts Visa and MasterCard payments for online registrations. You may also print a registration form and mail it in by clicking on our newsletter link from our home page. You may drop off registration forms at DeWitt Township Hall (1401 W. Herbison Rd.) as well. Call the DARA Office at 517-482-5117 if you have any questions. You may also follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/dararecreation> to receive the most up to date information.

DARA Mission: DARA promotes community and quality of life through leisure services provided for the residents of the DeWitt Area.

CLEAN SWEEP

Get rid of that junk taking up space around your house. This is a free program for DeWitt Township residents only. You will be responsible for unloading your own items.

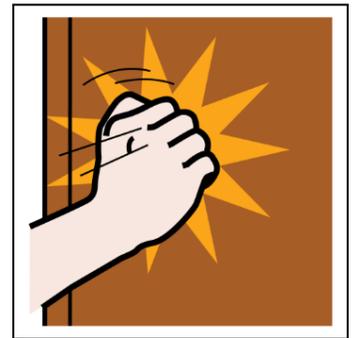
Vouchers will be available at the Township Hall **starting April 1**. You must provide proof of residency when picking up your voucher **and** when dropping off your items. Vouchers are valid from May 4 through May 15. You are allowed to drop off one time during this two-week period. One voucher per household. One pick-up truck and one utility size trailer (4'X8') is allowed. **No construction or building materials.**

Senior citizens and persons with disabilities needing assistance with unloading their items should request help when picking up their voucher. For these persons, help will be available one day only on Thursday, May 7 at 10 am.

For more details on the program and information on items that will be accepted, please contact the DeWitt Township offices at 517-668-0270.

PEDDLERS & SOLICITORS

If a peddler comes to your door and you decide to answer your door, always ask to see a Peddlers/Solicitors Permit issued by the Township. If the person does not have a permit, politely tell them you are not interested and close the door. Then call 911 to report this activity. Always report suspicious activity to the police by calling 911. In Clinton County, you can call 911 for emergencies and non-emergencies.



Persons engaged in soliciting, peddling or vending under the direct supervision of a school, recognized charity or non-profit organization, political candidates or religious organizations are exempt from the licensing requirement; however, they must still follow the hours established in the Township's Ordinance, which is 9 am-8 pm, Monday through Saturday. Active permits are listed on our website at www.dewitttownship.org.

Important upcoming dates:

3/16/2020: Quarterly sewer bills sent covering April, May, June services

4/10/2020: Township offices closed in observance of Good Friday

4/15/2020: Quarterly sewer bills due

5/25/2020: Township offices closed for Memorial Day holiday

6/15/2020: Quarterly sewer bills sent covering July, August, September services

7/01/2020: Summer tax levy

7/15/2020: Quarterly sewer bills due

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIAL RECYCLING & WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

The Clinton County Department of Waste Management (DWM) sponsors several collection events each year. For more information or to learn about other disposal and recycling options that may be available, call 989-224-5186, send an email to recycle@clinton-county.org or visit online at www.clinton-county.org and look for the link to the Department of Waste Management.

The Clinton County Department of Waste Management has search tool. It is called the **Waste Wizard** and can be found at this link <https://www.clinton-county.org/679/Waste-Wizard>. It is a live, searchable version of the Garbage Guide and lists recycling and disposal options for many items. Please take the time to check it out and spread the word.

MEDICATION DISPOSAL PROGRAMS

Protect your family, pets, the community and the environment by properly disposing of unwanted or expired medications through one of the programs noted below. Do not put medications "down the drain" or in the trash. They can end up in surface waters and negatively impact local ecosystems. The preferred disposal option is through special events which ensure safe disposal through incineration. *Please keep your medications in their original containers but be sure to black out any personal information.*

Controlled medications (narcotics and behavioral medications) can be safely and securely dropped off at the Clinton County Sheriff's Office lobby, Bath Township Police Department and DeWitt Charter Township Hall, Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm. More drop off locations can be found online at www.capitalcountiescommit.org and www.takebackmeds.org.

Saturday, April 18 from 9 am to 2 pm at Recycle Rama! Ingham County Health Department, 5303 South Cedar Street in Lansing. *Be sure to black out personal information but leave the drug name visible!* Please do NOT bring needles, Epi pens, inhalers, aerosols or patches - These items can only be handled at the annual Clean Community Event and Free For Fall.

Saturday, April 25 from 8 am to 2 pm at the spring Clean Community Event in St Johns. An appointment is required to attend this event – please register online <https://www.clinton-county.org/329/Registration>. *Please be sure to black out personal information but leave the drug name visible!* We CAN accept used needles, Epi pens, inhalers, aerosols and patches at the Clean Community Event.

Recycle Rama!

Saturday, April 18 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Ingham County Health Department at 5303 South Cedar Street in Lansing.

All area residents are encouraged to take part in this FREE tri-county recycling effort. Acceptable items include electronics, books, unwanted medications, appliances & scrap metal, bicycles, dehumidifiers, room air conditioners, #1 to #7 plastics, glass bottles & jars, compact fluorescent light bulbs, mercury thermostats, mercury thermometers, polystyrene foam (NO packing peanuts), fabric & yarn and eyeglasses. *Please note - there will be a \$20 fee (cash or check only) for all TVs and computer monitors.*

Clean Community Event

Saturday, April 25 from 8 am to 2 pm - *An appointment is required to attend!*

Clinton County residents are encouraged to take part in either event date - please make an appointment up to one week prior at <https://www.clinton-county.org/329/Registration> or by calling the office at 989-224-5186.

Acceptable items include household hazardous waste, unwanted medications, farm & landscaping chemicals, motor oil & antifreeze, electronics, bulky waste, scrap metal, appliances, tires, yard waste, reusable building materials and books. Most items are accepted free of charge; however, for some items, nominal fees do apply (cash or check only).

Meridian Township Spring Recycling Event

Saturday, April 25 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Chippewa Middle School, 4000 Okemos Road in Okemos – This event is open to ALL area residents. More information can be found on their website at www.meridian.mi.us.

Mercury Thermostat Collection

The DWM will accept old mercury containing thermostats year round at our office located at 1307 E. Townsend Road in St. Johns. Residents are encouraged to transport their old mercury thermostats in a plastic zip lock baggie.

CEMETERY INFORMATION

Cemetery Foundations

All foundations for headstones are required to be installed by Township staff. We install them twice each year, once in the spring and once in the fall. The deadline for ordering foundation placement for this spring's installation is April 30. Arrangements for a foundation are made through the Clerk's Office, either by the owner of burial rights or by a monument company.

Removal of Winter Ornamentation in the Cemeteries

No winter ground ornamentation is allowed between March 15 and November 15, so this is the time to remove your grave blankets, wreaths, etc. If we remove the ornamentation, it is disposed of and cannot be returned.

Prohibited Cemetery Items

The Township will remove and dispose of (without notice) any unsightly, deteriorated, neglected or prohibited item(s). Please maintain the items you place in the cemetery.

If we remove your items, they cannot be returned.

The following are some of the items that are prohibited in the Township's Cemeteries:

- Woodchips, decorative stone, fences and all edging, candles
- Shepherd's hooks or hanging containers
- Unapproved benches
- Plants or shrubs with thorns (requires pre-approval by cemetery staff)
- Glass, plastic or clay containers
- Solar lights in the ground (can be in a cement urn)
- Grave blankets or artificial ground ornamentation (except between November 15 and March 15)
- Flowers planted outside the boundaries of the owner's burial space (may be planted in cement urns or in the ground within 12 inches of a headstone)

A complete copy of our Rules and Regulations can be found on our website at www.dewitttownship.org or call the Clerk's Office at 517-668-0270 and we can mail you one.

DEWITT DISTRICT LIBRARY (DDL) NEW SERVICES AND EVENTS

Contact the DeWitt District Library at 517-669-3156 or visit www.dewittlibrary.org for information about Library programs and services. The Library is located at 13101 Schavey Rd. next to the Schavey Road Shopping Center.

New in our Library of Things: Kids Collection

Our Library of Things collection is expanding! Library cardholders ages 18 and older can now check out items children can use for school or play, including American Girl dolls, a mini digital projector, a Kano computer kit, LeapPad tablets, and much more. Stop in to the Library or visit the website for more information.

Upcoming Events

Stampin' with Mary – Thursday, March 19 @ 5:30 pm

Library staffer, Mary, will provide participants with supplies to create several unique, handmade cards. With Mary's step-by-step guidance, this class is perfect for crafters at any skill level. Supplies fee of \$5 is required for registration.

Mad Egg Dash (Ages 18+) – Friday, March 20 @ 7:30 pm

Adults, join us for a glow-in-the-dark egg hunt after hours. Search the Library for eggs filled with candy and other prizes. Please bring your own basket. Costumes are encouraged. Register online.

Growing Together: Raised Bed Building – Saturday, March 21 @ 10 am

Come learn about the Library's newest gardening project! Help us construct our raised beds, which will be featured in upcoming gardening programs for all ages. We will also talk about cold season crops and how to extend the growing season. Light refreshments will be provided. Open to all ages.

Blue Jean Swap – Friday, April 17 @ 2 pm

Do you have any blue jeans you're no longer using? Drop them off at the Library between Friday, April 10 – Thursday, April 16 for our blue jean swap. Each pair of donated jeans earns you one voucher for another pair. Donors will pick out their "new" pairs from 2-6 pm on Friday, April 17. Blue jeans must be washed and in good condition. Any remaining jeans following the event will be donated.

SAVE THE DATE: Chalk the Walk – Saturday, June 6 @ 11 am

Help us kick off our 2020 Summer Reading Challenge! Enjoy sidewalk chalk, play some games, and attend the grand opening of the DDL Planetarium.

Need to pay a sewer or tax bill or a building permit? Here are the available payment options:

- By mail, to 1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820-7900
- On site, in the Treasurer's Office
- Drive up payment drop box in front of the Township Hall
- ACH Autopay from designated bank account (sewer and tax only)
- Credit card online, at www.dewitttownship.org (3% fee applies)
- Credit card by phone, call 833-230-2604 (3% fee applies)
- E-checks online, at www.dewitttownship.org (\$3 flat fee for amounts up to \$10K)
- E-checks by phone, call 833-230-2604 (\$3 flat fee for amounts up to \$10K)

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

NEWS BITES

BURNING PERMITS - You can obtain a burning permit on-line. Go to www.dewitttownship.org and find the "Quick Links" section on the right hand side. Just follow the directions. Alternatively, visit the Clerk's Office or either fire station to obtain a permit.

COMMITTEE & COMMISSION APPLICATIONS – Have you ever thought of serving the community in a more "official" way? Often, your friends and neighbors have been instrumental in shaping our community into what it is today. Committee and Commission applications are available as a fillable form on the Township's website, under Documents & Forms, Clerk. Applications are kept on file for use as vacancies occur.

SEWER BACKUP – WHO TO CALL - The Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCCMUA) operates and maintains the sanitary sewer system of DeWitt Charter Township. If you have a sewer backup, immediately notify SCCMUA at 517-669-8311 or call 911 Emergency Dispatch after hours. SCCMUA will respond for itself and the Township. If a problem within the sewer system is found, SCCMUA will be the agency responsible for determining cause, coordinating claims, and keeping customers informed.

MERCURY HEALTH THERMOMETER EXCHANGE – The Clinton County Dept. of Waste Management (DWM) accepts old mercury health thermometers year round at their office located at 1307 E. Townsend Road, Suite 102 in St. Johns (MMDHD Building). Residents are encouraged to transport their old mercury thermometers in a plastic Ziploc baggie. The DWM will exchange your old mercury health thermometer for a new digital thermometer. You can also drop off your mercury thermometers at the Township Hall Clerk's Office and exchange it for a digital one. **Limit one digital thermometer per person.**

PUBLICATIONS - DeWitt Charter Township publishes legal notices in the DeWitt-Bath Review. Occasionally, when a weekly publication is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the law, the Lansing State Journal is utilized for a publication. Legal notices, such as a Notice of Public Hearing, can also be found on the Township's website, www.dewitttownship.org.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY - In an effort to increase transparency and accountability, the Township has created a number of systems and documents that are designed to visually review the status of our government. It is intended to help the user quickly evaluate key indicators. Over time, it helps citizens, business owners, staff, and elected officials measure and monitor the overall health and direction of our local government. These documents can be found on the Township's website at www.dewitttownship.org/OurDepartmentsServices/ManagersOffice/TownshipFinances.

PROTECT OUR WATERSHED - There are many ways to ensure that the Looking Glass and Grand River watersheds are free of pollutants. One of the easiest is to use phosphorus free fertilizer. For more tips and information, visit <http://www.mywatersheds.org>.

TOWNSHIP E-NEWS – You can sign up to receive the Township's E-News which provides monthly Township and community news. Register your e-mail address at www.dewitttownship.org.