

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
David Fedewa
Steve Musselman
Brian Ross
David Seeger

Manager

www.dewitttownship.org

**HAPPY RETIREMENT
TREASURER PHYLLIS DAGGY**



In July, after 18 years serving as the elected DeWitt Township Treasurer, Phyllis Daggy will retire. During her tenure, many changes and much automation has occurred, improving processes handled by the Treasurer's Office. Phyllis was a voting member of both the Township Board and the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority. We wish her a long and happy retirement!

**HAPPY RETIREMENT
FIREFIGHTER DOUG BOWERS**

Come and celebrate Doug Bowers' retirement with us on Monday, June 25th from 5-7 pm at the DeWitt Township Fire Department, 1445 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt. After nearly 46 years of dedicated service, Doug has certainly earned a cake and ice cream send off into retirement, hosted by the DeWitt Township Firefighters Association and the Township Board. Also, that evening at the 7 p.m. Township Board Meeting, Doug and Mary Bowers will be presented with Outstanding Citizens Awards. Two community-minded residents serving their community. Now that deserves recognition.



FOLLOW US - www.dewitttownship.org, www.facebook.com/dewitttownship, [http://twitter.com/DeWittTownship](https://twitter.com/DeWittTownship), [http://flickr.com/DeWittTownship](https://www.flickr.com/photos/DeWittTownship/). Find Township agendas, minutes, community events, job openings, event photos, election information, ordinances, planning notices and much more.



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)
Cardio Drumming	Mon & Wed ongoing	6:15-7:15 pm	Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$3 per visit
Adult Open Volleyball	Wed & Sun Ongoing	7:00-9:00 pm	Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$2 per visit
Pickleball	Sundays	3:00-5:00 pm	Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$2 per visit
Summer Fun Club & Double Digit Day Camps	12 weeks offered 6/11-8/31, no camp 7/4	7:30 am-5:30 pm	1 week prior to week registering for or until full	5-9 yrs. 10-14 yrs.	\$120/res per week \$135/non-res per week
Zumba Gold	Mondays, 6/18-7/23	6:00-7:00 pm	4/30-6/17 OR Drop-in	18 yrs. & Up	\$30/person for 6 week session OR \$7 per visit
Adult Softball_Fall Leagues	Coed: Sun, 8/12-9/16, no games 9/2 Men's: Mon, 8/13-9/17, no games 9/3	Coed: 4:00-6:00 pm Men's: 6:00-8:00 pm (time varies within)	7/2-8/5	18 yrs. & Up	\$240/team + Ump Fee + Individual Player Fees: \$5 Res./\$20 Non-Res.
Basketball University	Thurs, 9/6-9/27 (1) Thurs, 10/4-10/25 (2)	5:45-6:45 pm: 1 st -2 nd grade 6:45-7:45 pm: 3 rd -7 th grade	8/2-9/4 (1) 8/30-9/27 (2)	1 st -7 th grade	\$35 per session
Fall Soccer Leagues	Saturdays, 9/8-10/13	9:00 am-1:00 pm (time varies within)	7/23-8/17	4yrs-3 rd grade	4 yrs-1 st grade: \$36/res; \$51/non-res 2 nd -3 rd grade: \$40/res; \$55/non-res
Fall K-7 th Grade Flag Football	Saturdays, 9/8-10/13	1:00-5:00 pm (time varies within)	7/23-8/17	K-7 th grade	\$36/res \$51/non-res
Spirit Squad	Saturdays, 9/8-10/13	1:00-5:00 pm (time varies within)	7/23-8/17	K-5 th grade	\$36/res \$51/non-res
Zumba	Wed, 9/12-10/24 (1) Wed, 11/7-12/19 (2)	6:00-7:00 pm	8/1-9/11 (1) 9/26-11/6 (2)	18 yrs. & Up	\$35/person for 7 week session OR \$7 per visit
Drop Your Kids Off	9/14, 10/12	6:00-11:00 pm	Registration due one week before event	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
Sports Starter Fall Session	Saturdays, 9/22-10/21	9:30 am-12:00 pm (45 min sessions)	9/22-10/12	3-5 yrs.	\$36/res \$51/non-res
Preschool Science	Thursdays, 10/4-10/25	9:15-10:00 am OR 6:30-7:15 pm	8/30-9/20	2-5 yrs.	\$25/res \$40/non-res
FunAppetit: PreK Cooking	Thursdays, 11/1-11/29	9:15-10:00 am OR 6:30-7:15 pm	9/27-10/18	2-5 yrs.	\$25/res \$40/non-res
Preschool Play	Thursdays, 10/4-12/13	10:00 am-12:00 pm	Drop-in	2-5 yrs.	\$2 per child per visit
Fall Basketball Leagues	1 st -2 nd : Sat, 10/20-12/1 3 rd -6 th : Sat, 10/20-12/8 No games 11/24	9:00 am-1:00 pm (time varies within)	9/7-9/30	1 st -6 th grade	1 st -2 nd : \$36/res; \$51/non-res 3 rd -6 th : \$51/res; \$66/non-res
Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt	10/16	6:45-7:45 pm	9/4-10/9 or until full	3-10 yrs.	\$5/res \$10/non-res
Haunted Halloween Tour	10/19	7:00 pm-midnight	9/7-10/12	6 th -8 th grade	\$45/person
Accessible Trick or Treat	10/21	6:00-7:15 pm	9/1-10/21	3-19 yrs.	FREE
Fall Volleyball Leagues	Tues, 11/13-12/18	5:30-8:30 pm (time varies within)	10/2-10/23	3 rd -6 th grade	\$36/res \$51/non-res

DARA Mission: DARA promotes community and quality of life through leisure services provided for the residents of the DeWitt Area. You can register for most DARA programs online by visiting their website at www.dewittrecreation.org.



WELCOME ABOARD CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL AL HOARD

We would like to introduce and welcome Al Hoard to the DeWitt Township Building Department. He is the new Building Official and is responsible for administration of the building department, including plan review, inspections and zoning enforcement. Al has spent the last four years working in that same capacity for Clinton County.

Building Department activity January 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

- New Home Starts - 14
- New Commercial Buildings and Businesses - 3

PRIMARY ELECTION – AUGUST 7TH

What's different; what's new this year? Voters will be using the new Hart Verity digital voting system. The differences you will notice the most are the visual screen that gives voters instructions when feeding the ballot into the tabulator; and, voters will have a box to fill in rather than connecting the arrow to cast a vote. Also, the voter assist terminal is now called the Verity touch and is much, much easier for any voter to use.

Voters in Precincts 1 & 2 have received a new voter card changing their polling location from Herbison Woods to the DeWitt Junior High School. The courtyard entrance will be marked for voters to use for this election because the Junior High is under some major reconstruction. Check your voter card for a Precinct # because some voters have been moved from Precinct 1 into Precinct 2.

Where and when to vote in person on Election Day:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH FROM 7 AM UNTIL 8 PM at one of the following:

Precincts 1 & 2 – DeWitt Junior High School - access from Herbison or Schavey Road, DeWitt

Precincts 3 & 4 – Herbison Road Fire Station – 1445 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt

Precincts 5, 6 & 7 – DeWitt Township Community Center - 16101 Brook Road, Lansing

Voting in person will be easier and quicker if you do the following:

- Know your Precinct, which can be found at the site shown below, or by calling the Clerk's Office.
- Have your driver's license or a pictured ID with you.

Absentee Voting:

- 1) If you are on the Automatic Absentee Application list, you should have already received your application to vote by absentee ballot. Be sure to return that application as soon as possible so we can send your actual ballot. Those on the list received a dual application in early June so you can request your absentee ballot for both the August and November Elections.
- 2) You can vote by absentee ballot if you expect to be absent from the community on Election Day, are over 60 years of age, or are physically unable to attend the polls without assistance. If you call the Clerk's Office, we will assist you in determining the best way for you to vote by absentee ballot. There are lots of options, from email to regular mail, and making the right choices can shorten the process reliably. Let us assist you to assure that your vote will count.
- 3) If you are a student going away to school this fall, registering to vote in person at the Clerk's Office will allow you to vote by absentee ballot while away. If you registered to vote during a voter registration drive, or somewhere other than a Clerk's Office, please call us before you leave for school and we will make sure you are all set to receive an absentee ballot.

ELECTION CALENDAR

June 25th – Approximate date for absentee ballots to be available for the August Primary Election

July 9th – Last day for new voters and those relocating to register to vote in the August Primary Election

August 6th – 4:00 PM is the cut off to receive an absentee ballot from our office, except for emergencies

August 7th – ELECTION DAY

www.michigan.gov/sos will allow you to track your absentee ballot or find your precinct number by clicking on Elections & Voter Information.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND FENCE PERMITS

DeWitt Township regulates accessory structures (e.g. storage sheds) and fences under the Township's Zoning Ordinance and Building Codes. The intent and purpose of regulating accessory structures and fences is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by establishing reasonable standards for the design, placement, size, and maintenance of all accessory structures and fences.

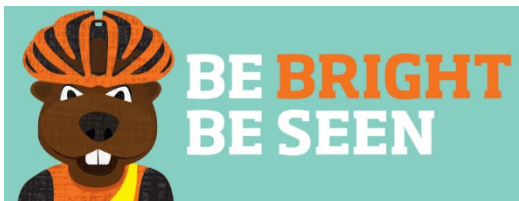
Building permits are required for the construction of all residential accessory structures in excess of 200 square feet and fences in excess of 7 feet in height. Residential accessory structures must be setback at least 5 feet from the side and rear property lines, and meet the front setback requirement for the Zoning District where the property is located. In addition, if an accessory structure is located closer to the road right-of-way than the principal structure, it must be constructed of similar materials as the principal structure it is accessory to.

Fences placed in a front yard closer to the road right-of-way than the principle structure shall be decorative in nature. However, privacy fencing shall be permitted closer to the road right-of-way than the principle structure in the following circumstances:

1. For corner lots, privacy fencing shall only be permitted to encroach in a front yard area that is located opposite from the primary building entrance along secondary street frontage.
 - a. Privacy fencing shall not extend beyond the front of the home where the primary building entrance is located.
 - b. Privacy fencing shall meet the minimum front yard setback from the secondary street front lot line.
2. For through lots, privacy fencing shall be permitted in the yard area with secondary street frontage. Secondary street frontage shall be opposite from the designated front lot line and be considered a rear lot line.

If you are thinking about constructing an accessory structure or installing a fence, even though a permit may not be required, the Township still requires a site plan that shows the location of the accessory structure or fence, to ensure that it complies with applicable ordinance requirements. Contact the Planning Department at 517-669-6576.

THE RULES OF BICYCLING



With summer almost here, the Police Department would like to remind residents of the rules of bicycling. Let's be seen, be safe and follow the rules!

When riding a bicycle on Michigan roadways, you should follow the same rules as motorists. Bicyclists can be cited for violating traffic laws, under Michigan Vehicle Code (MVC) Section 257.657 which says; "Each person riding a bicycle upon a roadway has all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, this includes stopping at stop signs and obeying traffic signals.

Other frequently asked questions:

Q. Do I have to have lights on my bike?

A. Yes - MVC 257.662. If you are operating on the roadway between 1/2 hour after sunset or 1/2 hour before sunrise, you must have a white (not orange, yellow, red or blue) light to the front visible from 500 feet to the front and you must have a red reflector to the rear of the bike visible from all distances between 100 and 600 feet to the rear. And again, only red to the rear. We, of course, recommend a red light for safety.



Q. Is it legal for a cyclist to use a cell phone while riding a bike?

A. Only if the phone is in hands free mode. MVC 257.661. AND-NO TEXTING while riding. Remember, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers, so **NO TEXTING AND DRIVING OR RIDING.**

Q. Is it legal to grab onto a vehicle and “hitch a ride” so to speak?

A. MVC 257.659 states, "A person riding upon a bicycle shall not attach themselves to a streetcar or vehicle upon a roadway."

For more information on bicycle laws and rules, safety tips, how to deal with road rage (call 911), where your serial numbers on your bike may be located and much more, contact the League of Michigan Bicyclists at 517-334-9100, they have a GREAT booklet on "What Every Michigan Bicyclist Must Know."

2018 CLINTON COUNTY FIRE SCHOOL



The Clinton County Fire Chiefs Association, in coordination with the State of Michigan, has been holding a Firefighter I & II class at the DeWitt Township Fire Department. This class is made up of 15 personnel from DeWitt Township, DeWitt Area, Bath Township, Marion, Elsie, and Capital Region International Airport Fire Departments. They started their training on January 8, 2018. The participants will obtain 296 hours of instruction and will finish on June 9, 2018. Once they pass their practical and written testing, they will become certified Firefighters with the State of Michigan.

MICHIGAN GREEN SCHOOL AWARD Congratulations to DeWitt Public Schools!

The Clinton County Department of Waste Management is proud to announce that two DeWitt Public Schools have received the Michigan Green School Award for the 2017-2018 school year. DeWitt High School and Herbison Woods have been recognized for their effort to provide their students with a productive learning environment that connects them to the natural world and helps reduce their overall impact on the environment. Both schools earned the top designation of the award, “Evergreen” status, for each completing at least 20 different objectives. Examples include expanding recycling in the classroom, hosting guest speakers, volunteering at county recycling events, and raising salmon in the classroom! Congratulations to these two schools for their incredible dedication!

WHAT IS THE GLRC?



The Greater Lansing Regional Committee for Stormwater Management (GLRC) was formed to protect and improve the quality of our water resources through a coordinated and consistent stormwater management effort. The GLRC represents 17 of the region's counties, communities, and schools that have been required to implement a stormwater management program as part of the federal Stormwater Regulations. In a nutshell, the GLRC was formed to help reduce polluted runoff from reaching our local rivers and streams.

Watershed Management Plans: In 2006, the GLRC published watershed management plans for the Grand River, Red Cedar River, and Looking Glass River watersheds. These plans were updated in 2007 to address current water quality issues and needs. The revised plans focus on restoration and maintenance of designated uses for surface waters and advocates for an inter-municipal approach for protecting water quality. One of the goals of the plan is to provide educational programs for greater Lansing area stakeholders, including programs that advocate voluntary pollution prevention actions and stewardship of our water resources by the public, government, and business. Implementing a regional education campaign is a key component in implementing the Watershed Management Plans.

Public Participation, How you can Get Involved: While public education is a large part of the GLRC, public participation is just as important. Here are some activities that you can do to join us in protecting our local water resources:

- ❖ Help collect information about our local rivers and streams by filling out simple visual assessment sheets. This can be done by a local boy/girl scout troop, by individuals using the waterway for recreation, or pretty much anybody.
- ❖ Participate in the local Adopt-A-River events that take place every spring and fall.
- ❖ Help label storm drains in your community. By labeling the storm drain, to let people know that they dump directly to the river, it can reduce pollution in a big way!
- ❖ RECYCLE – Use your community's local recycling program and facilities to help reduce trash and pollution in your community.

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.

PEDDLERS & SOLICITORS IN DEWITT TOWNSHIP

The Township regulates most peddlers or solicitors who come to your door. Applicants are screened with criminal history background checks and vehicles used within the community are documented. If a peddler or solicitor 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 at your door has no permit, politely tell them you are not interested in their product/issue and close and lock your door. Do not be confrontational. Then call 911 to report this activity. Never let a stranger into your home, and always report suspicious activity to the police by calling 911. Children fundraising, political activity, and religious affiliation door-to-door activity is exempt from Township Ordinance.

NEW: We now have active permits listed on our website's (www.dewitttownship.org) home page under News. You can check to see which vendors/solicitors have an active permit.

ROAD PROJECTS UPDATE

Old 27 from Clark Road to Northcrest - MDOT will be resurfacing Old 27 and adding a center left turn lane at Stoll Rd. The project is scheduled to begin June 4th and run through the end of August. One lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained on Old 27 for the duration of the project. Traffic will be able to access Stoll Road for the duration of the project, except for two 1 week periods (TBD) where each leg of Stoll Road will need to be detoured. Only one leg will be detoured at a time. Detours will be posted.



The Herbison Road project (DeWitt Road to Schavey Road – asphalt overlay, adding sidewalks/pathways, realigning Panther Drive, and adding a traffic light) and the **Clark Road project** (Airport Road to DeWitt Road – asphalt overlay and adding pathway) will be in full swing by the time you receive this Newsletter.

Slow down and be careful when driving in these areas, or simply take an alternate route.

Also note, the City of DeWitt is completing a major road/water project in Downtown DeWitt with an anticipated start date of late June/early July.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In the Great State of Michigan, we don't get volcanoes, earthquakes (not big ones anyway), or hurricanes. We do get severe thunderstorms, ice storms, lots of snow in a short time span, tornadoes, floods and fire. Disaster can strike without warning, forcing you to go for days without power and necessities. You may even have to evacuate from your home. You need to be prepared and know what steps to take during a Michigan disaster--whether it's a tornado, flooding, or other crisis. Have an emergency plan and a disaster supply kit; it will help you manage in almost any kind of crisis, whether natural or caused.

THUNDERSTORMS - Only 10% of the thunderstorms that occur annually in the United States are classified as severe. Even those storms that are not classified as severe can be dangerous--and as you know, weather can change rather quickly in Michigan. No one thought it was going to snow on April 17th, 2018, either. Lightning is one of the main concerns with a thunderstorm. If you are outside in the woods, take shelter under a thick growth of small trees. If you're in an open area, move to a low spot such as a ravine or a valley--but beware of flash flooding. NEVER stand under a tall isolated tree, on a hilltop, in an open field, on the beach, or near open water. Stay away from metal equipment and apparatus such as fences, tractors, pipes, bicycles, golf clubs, etc. If swimming or boating, get out of the water immediately and take cover. **SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH** – means severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. **SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING** – means severe thunderstorms have been spotted and people in its path are in danger.

TORNADOES - Tornadoes are violent, rotating storms with winds that can exceed 300 miles per hour. These can be highly destructive and can cause injury and death--most often due to collapsed buildings and flying objects. Designate a shelter area in your home--basements and storm cellars are the safest. Otherwise, use an interior room or hallway on the ground floor. **TORNADO WATCH** – means tornadoes are possible in the area, stay tuned to radio or TV and watch the sky. **TORNADO WARNING** – means a tornado has been sighted. **Take Cover Now.**

For more information, the following organizations and agencies can help you prepare even more thoroughly for emergencies and disasters that could strike your community.

Fed Emergency Management Agency

www.fema.gov

US Fire Administration

www.usfa.dhs.gov

US Department of Energy

www.energy.gov

US Department of Homeland Security

www.ready.gov

National Weather Service

www.weather.gov

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org

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

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TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

NEWS BITES

BURNING PERMITS - You can now 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. You can also visit the Clerk's Office or either fire station to obtain a permit in person.

GUNNISONVILLE & HURD CEMETERY - before you plant flowers or place anything on the ground in the cemetery, please check out the rules and regulations at www.dewitttownship.org. Also, the deadline for ordering grave marker foundations is October 1st. Orders received after October 1st will not be installed until the spring of 2019.

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 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.