

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

WEBB ROAD/US-127BR UPDATE

Over the last several years, development along US-127BR and Webb Road has increased. This has caused an increased demand on this intersection. Over this period, the Township has received a number of calls from residents who voiced their concern over the safety of this intersection. Since the Township does not control our road network, we forward these concerns to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). In 2007, at the request of the Township, MDOT performed an analysis of the intersection and found that the intersection did not warrant any changes.

In 2008, with additional businesses opening in this area, this issue was again brought to our attention. On September 22, 2008, DeWitt Charter Township held a public informational meeting to discuss this intersection and receive public input. State Representative Paul Opsommer, MDOT Lansing Transportation Center Manager Paul Steinman, and the Township Board were present to listen to the concerns of the residents. Trustee Brian Ross facilitated the meeting in a town hall style. Lansing Transportation Center Manager Paul Steinman gave a presentation describing the factors used to determine whether a traffic signal is warranted at an intersection. A thorough discussion took place with significant input by many of the 43 residents in attendance. From this meeting, MDOT committed to performing a second, more detailed analysis of the intersection. They also agreed to provide a written report of their findings and communicate back to the Township by the end of the year. The Township also committed to sharing this information with citizens.

MDOT's evaluation of the intersection included the following:

- 1) Conducted a field review of the location to assess changes in traffic patterns from the previous study and to determine any obstructions in the line of site.
MDOT's findings: It was observed that the northwest quadrant of the intersection had foliage that could be obstructing sightlines for smaller passenger vehicles. MDOT contracted with the Clinton County Road Commission to cut this foliage to improve the sightline. Foliage was cut on 10/1/08.
- 2) Obtained a copy of a traffic volume count study recently performed (August 2008) by a local engineering firm.
- 3) Reviewed the approach angle of the intersection to determine if the intersection geometry was a contributing factor to residents' concerns.

MDOT's findings: The approach angle of eastbound Webb Road is 72 degrees or 18 degrees from perpendicular. MDOT design guidelines state that consideration for the re-alignment of intersecting roadways is not necessary until the approach angle exceeds 60 degrees or 30 degrees from perpendicular. Therefore, the intersection geometrics should not be affecting the sightlines.

Webb Road/US-127BR, continued

- 4) Analyzed the intersection to determine the need for a traffic signal using nationally recognized factors.

MDOT's findings: When MDOT analyzes an intersection to determine the need for the installation of a traffic signal, several factors are evaluated utilizing nationally recognized warrants (or factors). Among the factors analyzed are traffic volumes, the number and duration of gaps in the major street traffic, delay to minor street traffic, and a review of the crash history to determine if there is a pattern of collisions considered susceptible to correction by traffic control.

Conclusion: Currently, according to MDOT, each of these factors fall below nationally accepted thresholds for the placement of a traffic signal. In fact, MDOT concludes that placement of a traffic signal at Webb Road and US-127BR would increase the crash rate. MDOT does not recommend the installation of a traffic signal at this intersection at this time.

Again, the Township does not have control over placement of a traffic signal at this location, as this is an MDOT decision. As the Township has done in the past, we will continue to listen to residents' concerns, and respond appropriately and timely. MDOT would like to remind all of us that traffic signals are not "safety devices," but rather a metering device intended to control the flow of traffic. We will continue to monitor this intersection closely and facilitate future discussion between our residents and MDOT to provide the safest solution.

If you know someone who has an interest in this matter, please take a moment to share this information. If you would like a copy of MDOT's correspondence or have other questions or concerns, please contact the Township offices at 668-0270.

FAREWELL TO RAYNOLD P. ST. PIERRE



The Board and staff of DeWitt Charter Township would like to wish Raynold P. St. Pierre a well-deserved and happy retirement. Ray has been a dedicated Township employee for 34 years. At the beginning of his career, he was known as the Planning, Zoning and Building Administrator. As the Township grew over the years, he became solely known as the Chief Building Official. Throughout his 34 years, he has been involved in numerous developments and building projects that have helped the Township grow to where it is today.

On December 10, 2008, the Board, with the help of Township staff, held an Open House to congratulate Ray on his retirement. The number of people in attendance was a testament to a job well done. His last official day was December 31, 2008.

Ray is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Barb, and enjoying his hobbies. Good Luck and Best Wishes Ray!

2009 ASSESSMENT NOTICES

The annual "Change of Assessment" notices will be mailed to all Township property owners by the end of February. These notices will reflect the following changes for the 2009 tax year: the increase or decrease in the property assessment, the change in taxable value, and an approximate change in property taxes. With the passage of Proposal A in 1994, increases to the taxable value have been limited to the lesser of 5% or the inflation rate. For 2009, the State has set the inflation rate at a 4.4% increase.

Many residents have asked how the State calculates the annual inflation rate. Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 211.34d states in part:

(1) "Inflation rate" means the ratio of the general price level for the state fiscal year ending in the calendar year immediately preceding the current year divided by the general price level for the state fiscal year ending in the calendar year before the year immediately preceding the current year.

(f) "General price level" means the annual average of the 12 monthly values for the United States consumer price index for all urban consumers as defined and officially reported by the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Based on this statutory requirement, the calculation for 2009 is as follows:

The 12 monthly values for October 2006 through September 2007 are averaged. (column A)

The 12 monthly values for October 2007 through September 2008 are averaged. (column B)

The ratio of B divided by A is calculated.

The specific numbers from the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics are as follows:

<u>Column A</u>		<u>Column B</u>	
Oct-06	201.800	Oct-07	208.936
Nov-06	201.500	Nov-07	210.177
Dec-06	201.800	Dec-07	210.036
Jan-07	202.416	Jan-08	211.080
Feb-07	203.499	Feb-08	211.693
Mar-07	205.352	Mar-08	213.528
Apr-07	206.686	Apr-08	214.823
May-07	207.949	May-08	216.632
Jun-07	208.352	Jun-08	218.815
Jul-07	208.299	Jul-08	219.964
Aug-07	207.917	Aug-08	219.086
Sep-07	208.490	Sep-08	218.783
Average	205.338		214.463
	RATIO		1.044
	% CHANGE		4.4%

What this means to property owners is that unless your 2009 assessed and taxable values are the same, and even if your assessed value decreases and is less than it was in 2008, **your taxable value will increase by the rate of inflation, which is 4.4% for 2009.**

The **2009 BOARD OF REVIEW** will be meeting on March 9, 10, and 11 to consider property valuation appeals from property owners. The Board of Review consists of three Township residents appointed by the DeWitt Township Board. If you feel that your assessed value is inaccurate and you wish to appeal, it will be necessary to schedule an appointment. The dates and times available for appointments will be printed on your 2009 Assessment notice. Appointments can be scheduled after March 1, 2009 by calling the Assessing Department at 669-6494.

As you prepare for a meeting with the Board of Review, it is important that you are prepared to explain what you think your property is worth and why. It will be necessary to provide evidence in support of your estimate of property value. The supporting evidence could include information such as: a recent sale or an appraisal of your property or comparable properties in your area that have recently sold. When making comparisons with similar properties, it is best to select properties from your neighborhood that are comparable in age, size, condition, style, and interior features such as basement finish.

While the Board of Review process is informal, it is important to remember that State law puts the burden of proof on the property owner to show that the assessment is not correct. Your evidence needs to be persuasive enough to support your estimate of property value. It is also important to remember that the Board of Review can only consider a property's true-cash-value and assessed value. **It does not have the authority to lower taxable value because a property owner feels their taxes are too high.**

OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD



The Township Board recently presented Mike Nolen with the Outstanding Citizen Award. Mike's leadership on the Planning Commission, for the past eleven years, has helped define the future of DeWitt Township. Pictured with Mike are Supervisor Rick Galardi and Trustee Stephen Musselman.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK GRANGER MEADOWS ANNUAL CELEBRATION

The Township is looking for new ideas for the annual Granger Meadows Celebration event. If you have some suggestions, please contact the Clerk's Office at 668-0270 and let them know your thoughts, or visit the Township's website <http://www.dewitttownship.org/web/news.htm>. A link is provided to complete an on-line suggestion form.

Upcoming Dates to Remember.....

February 14	Winter Taxes Due
April 3	Book Collection Event – DeWitt Township Hall 3 -7 p.m.
April 18	Clinton County Clean Community Junk Collection – St. Johns – some fees apply
May 2	Clean Sweep
May 3	YMCA Family Adventure Relay – Granger Meadows Park
July 17	Granger Meadows Celebration
September 19	Clinton County Clean Community Junk Collection – Granger - some fees apply



FILL A COP CAR

DeWitt Township Lt. Brian Traub and Bath Township Chief Scott Rose participated in the annual Fill A Cop Car program. This event was very successful due to the generosity of our community. The food was donated to the Redeemer United Methodist Church of DeWitt's food bank for distribution.

CONSUMERS ENERGY PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

Consumers Energy will be working in the DeWitt area to enhance their natural gas delivery system in 2009. The project includes the construction of a new 1.8 mile natural gas pipeline and the expansion of two of their facilities where natural gas pressure is regulated.

The gas pipeline will parallel Turner Road from just north of Clark Road to about a half mile south of Stoll Road. The utility will also be adding a building to their existing DeWitt City Gate facility located on Turner Road and adding equipment to their Lansing City Gate facility located on DeWitt Road near Sheridan Road. The construction phase of the project will be starting in April, 2009 and will be complete in October, 2009. Final restoration will be completed in the spring of 2010.

Questions can be directed to Consumers Energy representative Chris Thelen at cgthelen@cmsenergy.com or by calling 517-374-2235.

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MSHDA) PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

MSHDA is offering low interest loans to improve your home through a Property Improvement Program. MSHDA offers flexible loan terms, no equity requirement on some loans, and no application fee or points. Homeowners with annual gross household income up to \$65,000/\$74,750 (depending upon household size and area) can apply. Landlords may also be eligible. Restrictions apply. For complete details, call 517-373-8017 or go to www.michigan.gov/mshda and click on the Home Improvement link located on the left side of the web page.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SANITARY SEWERS AND STORM SEWERS?

If you've seen one drain, you've seen them all. They are all the same, right? I can pour this cleaner down the drain because it goes to a wastewater treatment plant, right? Not so! It's important to understand the difference between sanitary sewers and storm sewers so we can prevent environmental damage.



The **sanitary sewer** is a system of underground pipes that carries sewage from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens, and other plumbing components to a wastewater treatment plant where it is filtered, treated and discharged.

The **storm sewer** is a system designed to carry rainfall runoff and other drainage. It is not designed to carry sewage or accept hazardous wastes. The runoff is carried in underground pipes or open ditches and discharges untreated into local streams, rivers and other surface water bodies. Storm drain inlets are typically found in curbs and low-lying outdoor areas. Some older buildings have basement floor drains that connect to the storm sewer system.

Disposal of chemicals or hazardous substances to the storm sewer system damages the environment. Motor oil, cleaners, paints and other common household items that get into storm drains can poison fish, birds, and other wildlife, and can find their way into drinking water supplies. In addition, grass clippings, leaves, litter, and organic matter can clog storm drains and cause flooding.

Here are some things you can do to help maintain our sewer systems and keep our environment clean:

- **Do not pour anything into storm sewer drains.**
- **Keep storm sewer drains clear of leaves, grass clippings, sticks and litter.**
- **Repair any leaks and drips from your vehicle.**
- **Collect and recycle motor oil.**
- **Clean up spills and don't wash them into a drain.**
- **Don't pour paints, solvents, cleaners, etc. into any drain – take it to your local county household hazardous waste collection. (see page 11)**
- **Minimize the use of herbicides and pesticides.**



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.

TAX DATES AND DEADLINES

Weekends and holidays always cause confusion regarding deadlines, so here is a quick reference reminder on how those dates will be treated for the 2008 property taxes at DeWitt Charter Township:

- Feb. 14th (Saturday): Due Date for winter 2008 taxes and summer deferred taxes. Taxes mailed must be *postmarked* by this date.
- Feb. 16th (Monday): Last day to pay winter taxes and summer deferred taxes without penalty *in our office only*. The penalty is 3% if received after this date.
- Feb. 28th (Saturday): Treasurer's Office special hours, open 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for the payment of taxes.
- March 2nd (Monday): Due to recently passed legislation, the last day to collect taxes at our local office has been extended to March 2nd. (Formerly, the last day to pay was the last day of February.) Property taxes delinquent after this date will be turned over to Clinton County for collection. All business personal property taxes and buildings on leased land taxes will remain payable at the DeWitt Township Treasurer's Office.

If your taxes are escrowed, and you would like to check their payment status, you may check online at www.dewitttownship.org; go to the Assessing Department and follow the prompts for property records. You may also call our office if you have any questions or need assistance. The direct number is 668-1411.

NEWS BITES

YMCA FAMILY ADVENTURE RELAY – The YMCA of Metropolitan Lansing will be hosting their 1st Annual Family Adventure Relay at Granger Meadows Park on Sunday, May 3, 2009 from 3-5 p.m. A three mile relay event (t-shirts and medals for all participants), a picnic, and family activities are included. For more information, contact the DeWitt YMCA at 668-9622.

THANK YOU – to Doug and Mary Bowers, Al Harrison, Norm Beck, Roy Peterson, Jean Heathman, Helen Parker, Ione Berg, Emma Kyes, Anna Kyes, Barbara Marsh-Smith and Elizabeth Walsh for their help labeling and sorting the Newsletter. Your help is invaluable. If you would like to volunteer your time and help with this quarterly project, call the Township at 668-0270.

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.

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.

2008 ELECTION ADMINISTRATION – A TEAM EFFORT

A review of happenings in the Clerk's Office for 2008 can be summed up in two words – Election Administration. There were three elections held within DeWitt Township in 2008. There would have been four, but the Bath School District voters were directed to Bath Township voting precincts, which was made possible with the cooperation of the Bath Township Clerk, Kathleen McQueen. Also, the DeWitt School Board voted to move their school elections to November in odd numbered years. These cooperative regional efforts save taxpayer dollars.

In the month before the November 4th election, Vicki Shepherd and Gail Junion-Metz assisted staff in the Clerk's Office issuing and processing 2,365 absentee ballots. Those absentee ballots were then sent out into the precincts on Election Day where they were processed. In all, 7,743 votes were cast on November 4th from the 10,263 registered voters in DeWitt Township.

Among our precinct election inspectors working at the November General Election, there were also six high-school government students. Township staff living within Clinton County also assisted in the polls filling in wherever help was needed. But all of these administrative efforts are for naught without the efforts of our community members who work elections. When you see the following friends and neighbors, be sure to recognize their commitment to our democratic process. This team effort ensured your positive voting experience.

Jane Allen	James Dorman	James Kurt	Linda Parkinson
Joan Andrus	Larry Drolett	Judith Kurt	Irene Pierce
Fame Arent	James Dunn	David Lantz	Vicki Planey-Ch
Thomas Bailey	Ryan Ehm	Staci Leyko	Peggy Powers
Wallace Bailey	Lori Fox	Vicki Lietzke-Ch	Bernice Ramsey
Leo Balcer	Nikki Fowler	Lael Lineberry	Roy Rapelje
Pauline Balcer	Albert Gladstone	Jill Linman	Mary Robison
Norm Beck	Billie Gladstone	Joseph Lorenc	Charles Ruble
Courtney Becker	Dale Glynn	Maxine Lorenz	Molly Ruble-Ch
Gloria Bekke	Sue Glynn	David Lusty	Barb Russell
Lois Binkley-Ch	Albert Harrison	Sue Lusty-Ch	Ray St. Pierre
Nancy Bogner	Florence Hartman	Jan Mallison	Leonard Schumann
Marguerite Botke	Lora Higbee	Catherine Many	Vicki Shepherd
Doug Bowers	Gloria Holt	Allen Miller	Robert Smith
Mary Bowers-Ch	Janet Hoyt	Robert Miller	Geneva Speas-Ch
Helen Boyle	Jack Hummel	Jim Mosier	Eugena Stahl-Ch
Jamie Boyle	Janet Hundey	Barb Musselman	Donna Stephens
Traci Brooke	Debra Jaquette	Steve Musselman	Dennis Stiles
Marie Buxton	Carol Johnson	Rick Nalett	Sue Stiles
Max Calder	Nancy Johnson	Carol Neil-Ch	Amy Swenson
Dorian Carroll	Gail J-Metz-Ch	David Neil	Rod Taylor
Shirley Carroll	Ilse King	Gary Nekola	Jessica Thornburg
Jane Casler	Norman Koivu	Janet Nekola	Julie Trierweiler
Julie Coleman	Sandra Koivu	Janice O'Connor	Beverly Vondale
Mary Cornelius	Pat Kost	Sandra Oleson	Robert Vondale
Austin Davis	Bill Kost	Robert Oleson	Cecil Wagstaff
Al Demmon	Suzanne	Sue Anne Oliver	Kyle Williams
Alice Demmon	Kovacevich	Bernice	Mary Woodcock
		O'Shaughnessey	Virginia Zeeb

Ch-Precinct Chair

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)
Floor Hockey	2/21-3/28	9:00 am-3:00 pm	1/9-1/30	Grades K-5	\$33/\$38
Preschool Sports Starter	2/10-3/17	5:30-7:45 pm	1/2-1/23	3-5	\$33/\$38
Bubble Party	2/18	6:00-7:00 pm	1/2-2/6	3-5	\$5/\$8
Hunter Safety	2/9-2/12	6:00-9:00 pm	1/9-2/6	All	\$10
MRPA Hoop Shoot	2/12	6:00-7:00 pm	On site	8-15	Free (age of 12/31/09)
Drop Your Kids Off	2/13	6:00-11:00 pm	1/16-2/6	4-12	\$15/one child \$25/two children
All Day Drop Your Kids Off	3/6	7:30 am-5:30 pm	2/6-2/27	5-12	\$25/one child \$15/each additional
Drop Your Kids Off	3/13	6:00-11:00 pm	2/13-3/6	4-12	\$15/one child \$25/two children
Easter Egg Hunt	4/4	3:00 sharp @ Granger Meadows	No registration	1-10	Free (at DTCC if bad weather)
All Day Drop Your Kids Off	4/3	7:30 am-5:30 pm	3/6-3/27	5-12	\$25/one child \$15/each additional
Youth Soccer	4/18-5/23	9:00 am-1:00 pm	3/6-3/27	4-6	\$33/\$38
Youth Indoor Yard Sale	4/18	9:00 am-2:00 pm	3/6-4/16	5-18 w/adult	\$10/booth
Adult Golf	4/15-5/13	6:00-7:00 pm	2/27-4/13	18+	\$60
Spring Break Camp	4/6-4/9 Mon-Thurs.	7:30 am-5:30 pm	2/20-when full	5-12	\$64/\$69
Open Volleyball	Wed & Sun	7:00-9:00 pm	Drop in	18+	\$2

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.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Over the last year, the Township has been working on establishing a Strategic Plan, currently in draft form. Once completed, the Strategic Plan is intended to layout the Township's vision for the community and establishes strategies for achieving the vision. Governments adopt strategic plans so they can chart a plan for the future that is clearly communicated with the public, Board and Commission members and Township staff.

In creating the Plan, the Township Board used information from input that was provided by the public on a number of occasions. This included a citizen survey, citizen focus group, and public input sessions for the Comprehensive Development Plan and South Central Area Plan. The Township Board and staff then used the assistance of the Clinton County Extension Office and the State & Local Government Program at MSU to combine this data into the draft Plan.

From the citizen input obtained, the Board was able to define five main strategic areas or themes. These can be considered long-term goals that help the Township meet its mission. These strategic initiatives are:

- Fiscally responsible and financially sustainable Township government
- Ensure public safety
- Vibrant, diversified economy
- Well-maintained and adequate infrastructure
- Walkable community with first class parks, recreation amenities and programs/events

The Board is planning to adopt the Strategic Plan in March. Before doing so, the Board would like to once again receive input from citizens. The Township has posted the document on its web site. To view the document, visit <http://www.dewitttownship.org/web/news.htm>. After reviewing the full document, we would like to hear your thoughts and comments. The Township Board will then review these before adopting the final Plan. Either call the Clerk's office at 668-0270 or you can fill out the short survey by clicking on the link below the Strategic Plan.

SOUTHERN CLINTON COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENTS FORM PARTNERSHIP

Bath Charter Township, DeWitt Area Emergency Services Authority, and Looking Glass Regional Fire Authority have approved automatic-aid agreements for fire service with DeWitt Charter Township. These agreements are an effort to foster regional cooperation between these four fire departments and the municipalities they service to provide more effective fire suppression capabilities.

Automatic-aid will break down the jurisdictional boundaries, common to fire departments, and provides fire suppression services from multiple departments when a structure fire is reported to 9-1-1. Fire departments provide emergency services to specific boundaries as set by the municipality(s) that governs them. They do not respond to other jurisdictions until they have been requested for a mutual-aid response. This can delay the response of valuable resources by at least ten minutes or more. Automatic-aid will eliminate that delay. Multiple fire departments

will be dispatched at the same time when a structure fire is reported to Clinton County's 9-1-1 dispatch center.

Implementation of these agreements will take place in early 2009 once all of the proper response information is entered into the Clinton County's 9-1-1 dispatch database. While regionalization and collaboration has been a topic in the Lansing area for many years, these four departments have joined forces to make it happen and better serve the citizens in southern Clinton County.

JOSH HOFFMAN PROMOTED TO FIRE LIEUTENANT

Firefighter Josh Hoffman was recently promoted to the position of full time Fire Lieutenant. He has been with the Township since 1995. Congratulations Josh on your promotion. Pictured is Fire Chief Fred Koos pinning on Josh's new Lieutenant bars.



CLINTON COUNTY SPRING COLLECTION EVENTS

Clinton County will offer the first Clean Community Event of the year on April 18 in St. Johns, the second on September 19 in DeWitt Township. The events are open from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. Clean Community Events assist residents to recycle or properly dispose of just about any household generated waste item. There are fees for some items, but most materials are collected for free. Residents must call 989-224-5186 and schedule an appointment to attend an event. There are no exceptions. Appointments can also be made by sending an email to waste@clinton-county.org. For more information on the types of materials collected, fees, the benefits of volunteering and more, please visit: <http://www.clinton-county.org/waste/CurrentEvents.htm>.

CLEAN SWEEP

The Township will also be holding their Clean Sweep Project on Saturday, May 2nd for DeWitt Township residents only. Watch the DeWitt Bath Review for details. Appointments can be made beginning April 1st.

CLINTON COUNTY DEPT OF WASTE MGMT – BOOK RECYCLING EVENT

A free event to recycle books will again be held in DeWitt Township on April 3 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm at DeWitt Township Hall, 1401 W. Herbison Rd. All hardcovers, paperbacks, magazines, and phone books **WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR FREE**. Library & non-profit groups will be on site to sort books to ensure as many as can be are reused. All non-reusable books are recycled. **PLEASE: ALL ITEMS MUST BE PLACED IN BOXES**. Keep like items separate, i.e. books in separate box from magazines, magazines in a separate box from phone books, etc.

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

SURVEY SAYS.....

Thank you to all who took the time to either call or complete the on-line surveys. Following are the results:

Dogs In Parks

The Township asked for input as to whether or not the current ordinance allowing dogs in only designated areas of Township parks should be changed. The change would allow dogs on leashes in all areas of all Township parks.

After receiving input from 122 residents and considerable discussion by the Township Board, it was the consensus by the Board that no change will be made at this time. The results of the survey were: 62 yes, allow dogs and 60 no, don't change the ordinance. There was no clear majority from the public opinion solicited. The Township is currently updating its Parks Master Plan and this topic will be further explored during this process.

Status quo is that dogs on leashes will only be allowed in designated areas of designated parks.

Credit Cards

The Township solicited the opinions of residents on whether or not to offer credit cards as a payment option. This option would only be considered with the knowledge that the cost of this service would be charged back to the credit card user. There were 58 responses to the survey. 27 % were willing to pay the fee associated with the service.

Although the majority of residents were not in favor of this option, the Township will continue to look at options for our residents. There have been recent changes to credit card company rules that may open up more options for municipal use. We will follow up on those changes to determine whether we can provide this service, with the user still paying the fee and keep you updated as we proceed on this project. In the meantime, your cash and checks are still good with us. 😊 Also, auto-withdraw from your savings or checking is also an option for your sewer payment.