

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

BE COUNTED!

Census 2010 helps determine how much federal money comes into our community.

Answering 10 simple questions on Census Day—*April 1, 2010*—can create a better future for you, your family, and your Township.

In March 2010, more than 130 million addresses in the United States will receive a U.S. Census 2010 questionnaire form either by mail or from a census worker. One of the shortest census forms created since the census was first conducted in 1790, this year's form should take only 10 minutes to complete. The form will ask for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether the householder is an owner or renter. People with more than one residence should be counted only at the residence where they spend the largest part of the year.

By filling out your census form accurately and returning it by the deadline, you and the members of your household will be counted in the national census, which is used to determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, allocate seats in the state Legislature, and influence how the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and local communities. The state also uses this number to allocate money to local communities.

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census be conducted once every 10 years. In accordance with law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's questionnaire responses with anyone.

For more information about Census 2010, contact Chad Miller at DeWitt Charter Township at 517-668-0278 or cmiller@dewitttpw.org or go to www.michigan.gov/census2010.

2010 CENSUS TIMELINE: KEY DATES	
February/March, 2010	Census Bureau begins mailing or delivering questionnaires to households.
April 1, 2010	CENSUS DAY
April – July, 2010	Census takers visit households that did not mail in a questionnaire.
December, 2010	Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President for apportionment.
March, 2011	Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

What is do1 thing?

Do1thing is a 12-month program that makes it easy for you to prepare yourself, your family, and your community for emergencies and disasters. The program breaks the job of emergency preparedness into 12 smaller monthly pieces:

- Each month, the program focuses on one area of emergency preparedness and provides a variety of actions that you can take to become better prepared.
- If you **do1thing** each month, by the time a year has passed, you will have taken big steps towards preparing yourself, your family, and your community for emergencies and disasters.

The simplicity of the **do1thing** program is that you may start at any time; and, in a year's time, you will have done everything you need to personally prepare. It's up to you! In an emergency or disaster, you are the only one who can guarantee the safety and well-being of yourself, your family, and pets.

do1thing for
Yourself-Your Kids-Your Parents and Grandparents-Your Pets-Your Community

For more information, visit the **do1thing** website at:
www.do1thing.us

ELECTION DAY – MAY 4, 2010 – Bath School District Only

May 4th 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 4, 2010, for the Bath School Election only, you will vote at the Bath Charter Township Hall, 14480 Webster Road in Bath. As required by law, every registered voter within the Bath School District, living within DeWitt Charter Township, will also receive a first class mailing about this change. This letter will include all the details about voting by absentee ballot or voting in person for this election.

As always, please feel free to call the Clerk's Office at 517-668-0270 for assistance with any voting question.

OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD ROBERT ANCEL



Robert Ancel was recently recognized by the Township Board as an Outstanding Citizen. Bob spent many years in service to his community, in part by his service as a Clinton County Road Commissioner, DeWitt Charter Township Trustee, a Commissioner serving on SCCMUA, a member of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Capital Area Regional Transportation Study. Bob is also a Veteran of the Korean War.

Congratulations Bob!!!

SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)

The DeWitt Township Police Department is in the process of organizing a Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and a few positions are available. The program is designed for retired or semi-retired citizens to supplement the activities of the DeWitt Township Police Department by performing non-confrontational tasks such as property checks, traffic control, patrolling Township park activities, etc. The RSVP will enhance the delivery of services and improve the overall quality of life for the residents and businesses of DeWitt Township and neighboring communities. Applicants should possess a valid Michigan driver's license, have the desire to provide volunteer service, be a U.S. citizen, and successfully meet the department's qualifications and completion of a personal history investigation and background check. If you are interested in applying for a position, please contact Chief Brian Russell at 517-669-6578 or by e-mail at brussell@dewittwp.org.

CLINTON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION WINTER MAINTENANCE

While winter should be winding down, the Clinton County Road Commission (CCRC) continues to be prepared for winter maintenance. The CCRC is responsible for maintaining a 1,176 mile road system.

Residents may have noticed fewer snow plows out this winter. Decreased revenues caused by higher fuel prices, compounded with expenditure increases in the cost of gas, diesel, and road materials are the primary culprits. The majority of funding for the CCRC comes from the state gas tax, which has not been increased since 1997. As fuel prices go up, people drive less and buy more fuel efficient cars which reduces the amount of money collected from the state gas tax. Revenues for September 2009 were 11.2% less than September 2008. This trend is expected to continue. Less revenue means less snow plowing and less road maintenance.

To keep the roads maintained this year, the CCRC expects fuel to cost nearly \$400,000. Each year, the CCRC uses nearly 7,000 tons of salt. Each ton of salt costs \$61.00, and salt prices continue to rise. In fact, they have increased 122% since 2003.

Services have been reduced this winter by not clearing subdivisions and minor roads on weekends or evenings unless the roads are completely impassible. Salt runs have also been reduced along with the amount of salt used by mixing it with sand. Finally, 12 truck driver positions have not been filled, which means 12 fewer trucks on the road during storms.

The CCRC will continue to provide the best level of service it can with declining revenues and increasing expenses. Questions and comments are always welcome at 989-224-3274 or www.ccr-roads.com.

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED!

Have you ever thought of becoming an Election Worker and working on Election Days? An application is available on our website @ www.dewitttownship.org/DocumentsForms/tabid/2065/Default.aspx or give us a call at 517-668-0270 for more information. Election workers are required to be trained every two years and are paid for their service on Election Day. DeWitt Township is fortunate to have a great group of election workers – consider joining our group and helping the community participate in the democratic process. August and November elections will be held this year, and all predictions are that we will need a full crew of workers.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES BY PEDDLERS

DeWitt Township has regulated door-to-door sales by some peddlers and solicitors since the 1930's. The Township chooses not to regulate certain activities (i.e. school or scouts fundraising efforts); and we cannot, by law, regulate other door-to-door activities (i.e. religious material distribution or political activity). Last year, when the Township's peddler & solicitor regulations were updated, it became clear that many residents were unaware that local regulations exist. It also appears that with the present economic pressures in our state, increasing numbers of peddlers could be present in our neighborhoods and subdivisions. Although the Township cannot prohibit door-to-door solicitations, we can take certain steps to help ensure that known undesirable persons are not coming to your door soliciting sales or signatures.

The Township requires that certain companies and/or certain individuals who will be going door-to-door within the Township complete an application process, which includes background checks of individuals, before a permit is issued. The permit, once issued, must be carried by the person who approaches your door. Please do not hesitate to ask a solicitor or peddler to see their permit. Possession of a permit does not mean that the Township endorses the mission or sales of the peddler. It does, however, mean that precautions have been taken to make sure that permitted activity does not involve persons with a known criminal history. If a person approaches your door and you feel they should be in possession of a permit but are not, please call 911 and report the incident. Remember, anytime someone rings your bell and you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, always make a report using 911. It is important to mention that the 911 system for Clinton County is also used for "non-emergency" reporting. You might be protecting not only yourself and your family, but maybe your neighbors too. It is our hope that this knowledge will better prepare our residents to appropriately handle situations when they occur.

CHECK FIRST! MANY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS REQUIRE A BUILDING PERMIT

Planning on doing some home improvement projects? Before tearing down walls or running electrical wire, check with your local or state building department to learn if your project requires a building permit. A building permit provides the legal permission to start construction of a building project in accordance with approved drawings and specifications.

A building permit is usually required for:

- New buildings
- Additions (bedrooms, bathrooms, family rooms, etc.)
- Residential work (decks, garages, fences, fireplaces, pools (over 24" deep), water heaters, etc.)
- Renovations (finished basements, kitchen expansions, re-roofing, re-siding, etc.)
- Electrical upgrades/modifications
- Plumbing upgrades/modifications
- HVAC (heating, ventilating and air-conditioning) systems

Television programs geared toward home improvements and renovations have inspired many homeowners to tackle their own projects. While the initiative is rewarding, it can also be costly if codes are not followed and inspections are not conducted. Checking with your local Building Department ahead of time can reduce the chance of having to do costly repairs to bring the work into compliance.

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 could be reduced and problems may arise when the property is sold.

By answering some basic questions (What are you planning to do? Where?), a code official will be able to provide the information needed for compliance with the Michigan Building and Residential Codes and an application for a building permit.

Adequately providing the "Who, What, When, Where and How" of the job, along with submitting any sketches or plans of the proposed work, will start the process. A code official will review the application for compliance with local and state requirements. If the plan meets the requirements, a permit is issued. If not, the code official will request the necessary corrections. Separate permits are required for electrical, plumbing, and heating or air-conditioning work.

A permit fee is collected to cover the cost of the application, the review and the inspection process. Once the permit is issued, work can begin. On-site inspections will be required to make certain the work conforms to the permit, codes and plans. More than one inspection is typically required on a project.

Finally, the code official will provide documentation when construction is complete and code compliance is determined. Give the Building Department a call at 517-668-0278 prior to beginning your project.

ROAD MICRO-SURFACING – OAKLAND HILLS

In 2009, the Road Commission tried a newer technology, called micro-surfacing, on a few streets in the Oakland Hills Subdivision. After this work was completed, the Township received a number of phone calls from residents concerned about the end result. Here are answers to some of the questions and concerns which will also apply to future projects within the Township as we plan to continue micro-surfacing within subdivisions:

How does the Township determine road maintenance spending?

Prior to 2008, roads in the worst condition were the first to be addressed. This seems to make sense; however, it is not the best use of limited funds. In 2008, the Township worked with the Road Commission and changed the approach to road maintenance spending. It has been shown that by spending more money on preventative maintenance before a road gets bad, the overall life of the road surface is extended. By extending the road's life, we are able to invest less money over time. Preventative maintenance is more cost effective than rehabilitation or replacement.

What causes a street to deteriorate?

The first line of defense to the preservation of a road is the reduction or elimination of water intrusion into the base of the street. Streets usually fail due to oxidation, hardening, and deterioration of the asphalt. This results in cracks that allow water intrusion, undermining the base of the road. Eventually this intrusion causes the base to no longer be able to support the traffic load on the road. The brittle pavement begins to break apart, thereby accelerating the cycle of disintegration by allowing even more water into the base. Consequently, it is imperative to protect the integrity of the load-carrying base by preserving the waterproof asphalt covering.

Thus, the key to preventative maintenance treatment is to seal the surface and the cracks in the road earlier in its life. The longer you wait, the more expensive and less effective it is to seal the cracks. Since 2008, the Township has been using overbanding to seal the cracks on the newest roads in the Township. This technology works great and is relatively inexpensive compared to other options, but does not address the entire road surface on a middle-aged road.

What is Micro-surfacing?

To address the entire road surface, a technology called "chip sealing" is normally used. Unfortunately, this does not work in residential subdivisions. The chips get out of the road and into areas such as the storm drains. The Road Commission recommended the use of micro-surfacing as a better alternative to preserve 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. Micro-surfacing does not require cold-milling (grinding up the pavement) along the curb, and does not require manholes to be adjusted. Generally the curing time is relatively short and the streets are opened up the same day, as compared to a resurfacing job that can take two weeks.

Unfortunately, a number of the residents in Oakland Hills were surprised by the final result of the micro-surfacing. Instead of a smooth surface you expect to see when a street is repaved, micro-surfacing leaves a number of bumps and ridges. The end product almost looks like the installer did not do a good job of getting the coats even, especially where coats overlap. While this is certainly not as aesthetically pleasing as new pavement, it is less expensive and less of an intrusion of residents' times compared to repaving. Keep in mind that the first goal is to protect the entire road surface, thus extending the life of the road. This practice will help ensure that we are spending taxpayers' dollars wisely.

The Road Commission and the Township will continue to monitor the wearing of the micro-surfacing in Oakland Hills. If the product holds up over time, we will likely use this technology in other subdivisions. If you have additional questions, you may call the Road Commission at 989-224-3274.

GUNNISONVILLE & HURD CEMETERIES

A few cemetery rules worth mentioning in the spring, which will soon (and not soon enough) be upon us:

- driving off the established roadways is prohibited
- all trash, dead flowers, etc., are to be disposed of in the containers provided
- **no artificial ground ornamentation is allowed between March 15th and November 15th so this is the time to make a trip to the cemetery and remove your winter ornamentation**
- planting of trees or shrubbery requires pre-approval by Township staff
- placement of any of the following is prohibited: woodchips or decorative stone; any type of edging; shepherd's hooks; fences and benches; thorned plants; glass, plastic or clay containers
- flowers may be planted in urns or on the ground within 12 inches of a monument or marker, but never outside the boundaries of the owner's burial space
- the Township reserves the right to remove and dispose of, without notice, any unsightly, deteriorated, neglected, or prohibited item

Anyone who plans to do planting in the cemetery should contact the Clerk's Office to request a complete copy of the Cemetery Rules and Regulations. The Cemetery Rules and Regulations can also be found on the Township's website, www.dewitttownship.org.

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.

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES AND SUMMER TAX BILL DEFERMENTS

Governor Granholm recently signed into law legislation that amended the General Property Tax Act to allow the summer taxes for agricultural parcels, owned by a limited liability company (LLC), to be deferred until the winter taxes are due and payable. Individual members of the LLC must still meet the income qualification under the Act which states that a limited liability company may claim the deferment only if the individual members of the LLC qualified for the deferment before the individual members formed the LLC. LLCs were not previously eligible for property tax deferment. Please call the Treasurer's Office at 517-669-1411 if you have specific questions regarding claiming a tax deferment.

DEWITT TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDED GRANT

On February 5, 2010, the DeWitt Township Fire Department received official notice that they were awarded a grant for \$261,750 for a new Pumper Fire Apparatus. This is exciting news for the Township and its citizens. With tough economic times, this grant allows the Township to replace a pumper that is 25 years old with a more modern apparatus.

This grant is part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Chief Frederick Koos applied for the grant in May of 2009 and is very "pleased and excited" that the Township was awarded this grant. The Township has been proactive in developing a vehicle replacement plan; however, tough economic times required us to delay some purchases. This award will allow the Township to move forward with the plan to purchase this critical piece of equipment.

USE OF MORTGAGE APPRAISALS TO COMPARE WITH ASSESSMENTS

Residents will often bring into the Assessing Department a copy of a mortgage appraisal for their property expecting that we will automatically adjust the assessed value to reflect the value in the mortgage appraisal created for the purpose of obtaining a mortgage or refinancing a loan. You may be thinking that this appraisal is "better" or more accurate than your assessment. However, your appraisal's valuation is more likely based on different criteria than assessing criteria. The guidelines for a mortgage/refinance transaction are very different than the state's guidelines used for assessments. An appraisal used for a refinance uses three or more comparables, which have sold within six months and are within one mile of the subject property. An assessment uses all sales within a one-year time line and may or may not be within one mile of the subject property. All appraisals must state the intended use and will also state that any use other than the intended use is not allowed. This is so stated because a different use other than a refinance transaction would require different comparables, different time lines etc. Most of all, using the appraiser's appraisal for another unintended use is simply misleading. If the appraiser gives permission, they are in violation of an USPAP ethics rule. For a more detailed explanation, please visit our website at www.dewitttownship.org, under the News section.

FREE DOWNLOADABLE BOOKS AVAILABLE AT THE DEWITT LIBRARY

The DeWitt District Library is proud to offer 24/7 access to digital media through OverDrive. Audiobooks available through the Fuel Your Mind Digital Collection can be downloaded to your home computer or laptop; loaded onto most PDA, MP3, or iPod devices; or burned onto a CD.

The DeWitt District Library, along with several libraries within the White Pine Co-Operative, have collaborated together to maximize resources and offer this digital service. A committee of professional collection development librarians within the co-operative created an offering to meet and reflect the preference of the patrons they serve. Currently over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles are available to DeWitt District Library patrons.

Getting started is easy! Visit the Library's website at www.dewittlibrary.org, install the free software, browse the collection, and add titles to your cart. Check out using your DeWitt District Library card and download titles to a personal computer or laptop. When the download process is complete, you can enjoy titles on your Windows or Mac computer or transfer to supported devices, like a PDA, MP3 player or iPod. Many audio titles can be burned to CD. Titles are automatically returned at the end of the lending period – eliminating the possibility of late fees from downloads.

Visit the Library's website at www.dewittlibrary.org and enjoy this new service. For further information regarding this and/or other services available at the DeWitt District Library, the Library can also be reached at 517-669-3156.

ORANGE BARREL SEASON - 2010 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

There are a number of construction projects throughout the Township that may affect you this year:

Bridge Replacement – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is planning on two major bridge projects this year. The first is the replacement of the deck/surface of the BR127 Bridge over I-69. MDOT is to maintain at least one lane open in each direction during this project. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$2,639,935. During this project, MDOT will be upgrading the traffic signals at the I-69 ramps and at Clark Road. This work will modernize these signals. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$210,000.

The second bridge project is BR127 over the Looking Glass River. This bridge was built in 1941 and is now scheduled for a full replacement. During the project, MDOT will also be raising the bridge to allow for more clearance under the bridge in the event of a "100 year" rain event. During most of the project traffic will be maintained, except when the final deck is poured. During this process, the bridge **will be closed for up to four days** to allow the concrete to properly cure. During this stage, the signed detour route for through traffic will be I-69 to US-127 freeway to Price Rd/US-127BR. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$1,579,213.

Both of these projects are scheduled to start no earlier than April 19, 2010, and be completed by November 12, 2010. It is expected that work will begin first on the I-69 bridge; however, expect work to occur on both bridges simultaneously throughout the season.

Local Road Construction – In the Looking Glass Pines subdivision just off Herbison Road, .55 miles of road will be ground down and a new layer of asphalt will be added. Additionally, 300' of curb and gutter will be replaced during this project. The Road Commission is still working on bidding this project; however, it is expected this work should take about two weeks and be completed by July 1st. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$120,000.

The ground down asphalt from the Looking Glass Pines subdivision may be applied to the gravel portion of Norris Road. It is not known at this time if there will be enough funds available to complete this job. This will be determined after the Road Commission receives the final bids. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$10,000.

Again this year, the Township and Road Commission will continue to overband (seal the cracks) on various roads throughout the Township. This preventative maintenance is critical to help extend the life

of the roads and reduce the overall cost for maintaining the road network over the long run. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$13,000.

Primary Road Construction – The Road Commission is looking to use federal aid dollars to overlay (place a new layer of asphalt) on State Road from BR127 to Wood Road. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for this work is \$304,000. Additionally, the Road Commission is planning on widening the shoulders of the eastern portion of this section of State Road. This will enhance safety for non-motorized transportation such as bicycles. The Road Commission applied for and received a grant that will help pay for 80% of the cost of this project. The widening of the shoulder is expected to cost \$42,000. At the current time, the Road Commission does not have a start or finish time for both of these State Road projects; however, it is likely to be in September.

The last project the Road Commission has planned is chip sealing Airport Road and Round Lake Road. The Airport Road project is between Howe and Cutler Roads and the Round Lake Project is between BR-127 and Wood Road. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for these projects is \$40,000.

Sewer – The Township continues to work on its Sewer Rehabilitation Plan. This Plan identifies defects in the Sewer Collection System and, based on the nature of the defect and the assessed risk, prioritizes which projects will be repaired in a given year. This year the Township is planning to address five sections of the system:

- Northcrest Drive (between Brook and Boichot Road) - Spot lining to fix fracture and broken segment in pipe.
- Bennett Road (at the east end of Bennett) – Spot lining or possible full length lining to repair multiple cracks.
- BR127 (just south of Pearl St) – Spot lining to fix broken void in pipe.
- Lift Station 102 (South of Stoll Road) - extend force main to replace extensively corroded gravity pipe and install vortex insert to reduce hydrogen sulfide gas.
- Northcrest Drive (between Brook and Boichot Road) – Line section of sewer main between two manholes to repair multiple cracks leading to infiltration of approximately 5.78 million gallons of ground water per year. Depending on the final bid cost of the projects listed above, this project may not be completed.

All of these projects, except for the Lift Station 102 project, will require very little disruption. Because they are lining projects, the work can be done from manholes and there is no need to dig up the sewer. The Lift Station 102 work is underground, but this work is being completed on the cross county interceptor and is out of the road right-of-way. The pre-bid construction cost estimate for these projects is between \$120,000 and \$140,000.

CADGEWITH FARMS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The Township Board and Police Chief Brian Russell recently recognized the Cadgewith Farms Neighborhood Watch for their commitment to their community. The 22 (and growing) members also assist the Police Department with the Meadows Celebration and will be involved with the newly created Retired Senior Volunteer Program. With their dedication, training, and organization, Cadgewith Farms residents enjoy a very safe community.



NEWS BITES

FOUND – Two sets of keys were found at the Granger Meadows Park sledding hill. If they might be yours, contact the Township Hall at 517-668-0270 and identify them.

THANK YOU – to Catherine Reed for donating the wonderful historic artwork now on display at the Township Hall.

RECYCLE – You can drop off old household batteries, glasses & hearing aids, clean athletic shoes (which have no metal pieces), cell phones & chargers, and mercury thermometers at the Township Hall for recycling.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE – One of the Township's best received services is the Newsletter. Unfortunately, the Township continues to be faced with challenging economic times. Because of this, we have decided to schedule three Newsletter mailings per year instead of four. This will save about \$1,800. While this is not a lot, every little bit helps in these uncertain financial times. The Newsletter will now be issued in March, July, and October.

THANK YOU – to Mr. & Mrs. Bob Henning for their donation of a Crimson King Maple in recognition and thanks for Officer Bill Darnell's bravery and selflessness. The tree is planted at the entrance to the Township Hall.

TWITTER – Come follow us at <http://twitter.com/dewitttownship>. The Township posts information such as community events, up-to-date public safety information and planning notices.

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 517-668-1411. **INDOOR FACILITY RENTALS** - (Community Center gym or activity room) are handled through the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority at 517-482-5117.

MEADOWS CELEBRATION BLOG – Check it out at www.meadowscelibration.blogspot.com. This year's event will be held on Friday, July 16, 2010. Mark your calendars!!

DEWITT DISTRICT LIBRARY SATELLITE at the Township Community Center on Brook Road is open during the following hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 2-5, and Saturday 10-2.

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.

CLEAN SWEEP

It's time to get rid of that junk taking up space around your house and haul it down to the Granger Landfill on Saturday, May 8, 2010, 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 DeWitt Township resident and must make an appointment to participate.** For more information or to make your required appointment, call the Township Hall (517-668-0270), beginning April 5, 2010. Space is limited.

Upcoming Dates to Remember.....

March 30	Community Input Session
April 2	Township Offices Closed
May 4	Election Day – Bath School District Only
May 8	Clean Sweep
July 5	Township Offices Closed
July 16	Meadows Celebration

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 517-482-5117. 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 Name	Dates	Time	Registration Dates	Age or Grade	Cost (Res/Non-Res)
All Day Drop Your Kids Off (no school)	3/12	7:30 am-5:30 pm	2/5-3/5	5-12 yrs.	\$25/one child \$15/each additional
March Drop Your Kids Off (evening)	3/19	6:00-11:00 pm	2/5-3/5	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
Easter Egg Hunt	3/27	3:00 pm sharp @ Granger Meadows	No registration	1-10 yrs.	Free (at DTCC if bad weather)
April Drop Your Kids Off (evening)	4/23	6:00 – 11:00 pm	3/5-4/16	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
Spring Youth Soccer League	4/17-5/22	9:00 am-1:00 pm (time varies within)	3/5-3/26	4-6 yrs.	\$33/\$38
Adult Golf Lessons	4/14-5/13 Wed or Thurs	6:00-7:00 pm (Hawk Hollow)	2/5-4/9	18 yrs. & Up	\$60
Spring Break Fun Club	4/5-4/9 Mon-Fri	7:30 am-5:30 pm	2/5-3/19 or when full	5-12 yrs.	\$80/\$85
High School Dodgeball League	4/13-5/11	3:30 pm (after school)	3/5-4/2	9-12 grade	\$19/\$24
Basketball University	4/15-5/6 Thursday	5:45 pm – 8:45 pm (times vary by grade)	3/5-4/9	1-8 grade	\$35
Youth Yard Sale	4/17	9 am-2 pm	3/5-4/1	5-12 yrs.	\$10/booth
Adult Softball Spring/Summer League	5/5 & 5/6 – 7/21 & 7/22	Evenings Men's/Co-Ed Leagues	Begins 3/5	18 yrs. & Up	\$290/team + Ump Fee Individual Player Fees: \$5 Res./\$10 Non-Res.
May Drop Your Kids Off (evening)	5/21	6:00 pm – 11:00 pm	4/30-5/14	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
T-ball/Pee Wee Baseball	6/7-7/7	Evenings	4/1-5/7	4-7 yrs.	\$43/48
Adult Tennis Leagues	6/14-8/2	Schedule on own	4/30-5/28	18 yrs. & Up	\$12/\$15 singles \$17 mixed doubles
June Drop Your Kids Off (evening)	6/25	6:00 pm – 11:00 pm	6/4-6/18	4-12 yrs.	\$15/one child \$10/each additional
Summer Fun Club	6/14-8/27 (11 weeks)	7:30 am – 5:30 pm	Begins 4/2	5-12 yrs.	\$95/\$100 per week
Adult Open Volleyball	Wed & Sun Ongoing	7:00-9:00 pm	Drop in	18 yrs. & Up	\$2 per visit

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.

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Kyle Jonas and Michael Draut on their recent accomplishment of attaining the Eagle Scout Award. Trustee Brian Ross, on behalf of the Township Board, presented each Eagle Scout with a Certificate of Recognition at the February 8, 2010, Board Meeting. This date also marked the 100 year Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

Pictured are Supervisor Rick Galardi, Eagle Scout Kyle Jonas, Eagle Scout Michael Draut, and Trustee/Eagle Scout Brian Ross.

PLEASE SHARE WITH US – Input and Education Session

In the last Newsletter, the Township provided you with a glance into some of the fiscal challenges that DeWitt Township and all Michigan governments are facing. This article was titled “Providing Services in Challenging Times” and can be found on the Township’s website. In summary, the article explains that due to proactive planning, the Township is still in relatively good financial condition for 2010; however, balancing the budget for 2011 and 2012 will be a much larger challenge. Projections show that in the very near future, the Township Board will need to make some tough decisions, decisions that could affect the services that Township residents have come to expect.

On April 20th at 6:30 p.m., the Township will continue its proactive approach to communicating with residents. The first part of this “input and education” session will provide an overview of the Township’s current financial situation. The meeting will then be opened up to get your feedback and to hear about the services you value. This exchange of information will assist the Township in evaluating options for future service reductions and/or possibilities for increased revenue generation. We hope that you and your neighbors will come and share your priorities. We have tough decisions to make, decisions that will affect our entire community. Community input – your input – is essential to the process of facing our future with fiscal responsibility. Please don’t set this article aside to address at a later time - mark your calendar for April 20th and plan to come to the Township Hall. Participate. Share. Make your community’s future your priority.