

Township Newsletter



Summer 2017

Welcome to Grand Blanc Township's revamped newsletter that will be mailed to residents and businesses at a minimum of twice each year.

As your Township Supervisor, it is my goal to make sure that our **communication with residents and business owners is at its best.**

- We encourage you to go to our website and/or our Facebook pages for regular updates and answers to many frequently asked questions.
- Township Website: <http://www.twp.grand-blanc.mi.us/>
- Township Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/gbtwpmi>
- Neighborhood Communication Tool: www.Nextdoor.com
- We encourage you to attend any of our three Township Board meetings each month. The complete schedule is posted on our website.
- Subscribe to our **"Grand Blanc Township" YouTube Channel** and watch our meetings online at your convenience.

Please feel free to contact me with any of your concerns.

Scott Bennett, Supervisor

bennett@twp.grand-blanc.mi.us

Ph: 810-424-2664

General Office: (810) 424-2600

Clerk: (810) 424-2602

Treasurer: (810) 424-2600

Senior Center: (810) 695-3202

Police Department: (810) 424-2611

Fire Department: (810) 694-7211

Dept. of Public Works: (810) 424-2640

GC Road Commission: (810) 767-4920

5371 S. Saginaw Street, PO Box 1833, Grand Blanc, 48480-0057

Treasurer's Department:

Enclosed you will find your 2017 Summer Tax bill. The due date is September 14, 2017. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Deputy Treasurer, Nancy Stilson by phone or email, Guzak@twp.grand-blanc.mi.us or Stilson@twp.grand-blanc.mi.us

Earl Guzak, Treasurer

- Our Township has a website where you can obtain forms, tax information, water / sewer information, departmental contacts, ect. (www.twp.grand-blanc.mi.us)
- We have a drop box for your payments located right next to the post office box in our parking lot.
- We also have a drive up window for your convenience.
- If you meet certain criteria, you may be able to defer your summer taxes until a later date without penalties or interest. (Call Treasurer's department for details)
- If you are paying by check for tax or water / sewer, we request you write separate checks for each billing.
- Returned check or ACH fee is \$30.00, per return.
- If the enclosed bill has reached you in error, PLEASE DO NOT DESTROY; please return the bill to the Township or forward it to the correct owner.
- We have listed a copy of the tax codes on the back of the tax bill for your convenience.
- Did you know you could have your tax bill taken directly out of your bank account? Sign up today at the front counter in the Treasurer's department for ACH payment (Automatic Withdraw). You will still receive a bill in the mail with a message that will tell you when your payment will be deducted. Forms are also available on our website.

Clerks Department:

- 60-gallon trash containers with attached lids are available from Emterra and Rewards for Recycling – \$63.60 includes tax and free delivery. Guaranteed for 10 years against breakage and made in Michigan. Go to EmterraRewards.com, click on Purchase Trash/Recycling Cart, fill out the form and they will deliver within 10 days. Sign up for Rewards and get coupons – and help save the planet. Remember...composting CANNOT BE IN PUT OUT IN PLASTIC.
- 4th of July Holiday on Tuesday - Garbage pickup will be on Thursday, July 6.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collections are scheduled for: Saturday, August 26, 2017, at Flushing High School and Saturday, October 21, at Bentley High School. On both dates, you can also drop off at Flint East – Water Service Center, 3310 E. Court Street in Flint. Check the Township's Web Site for "Accepted and Unaccepted" items and/or call Genesee County Recycle Hotline (810) 762-7744 with any questions.

Fire Department:

- Relaxing with friends or family around a campfire is a very popular activity our residents enjoy on a cool evening. However, with any open flame, great care needs to be used to assure it does not get out of control. Be sure weather conditions (wind speed less than 10 miles per hour) and the location of the fire (25 feet to 50 feet away from other combustibles) is appropriate before lighting the fire. Be sure to have a hose or fire extinguisher available nearby. Since permits are no longer required, go to <http://www.twp.grand-blanc.mi.us/departments/fire/index.php> and select “Guidelines for Open Burning” to see if campfires are being allowed at that time. Authorization for campfires can be closed at the directions of the Fire Chief.

Pot-holes and Street Repairs:

- We all know that many of the streets and roads in Michigan need some serious attention. The Genesee County Road Commission has jurisdiction and responsibility for the roads and streets in Grand Blanc Township. If you have questions, concerns or want to report a road hazard or animal carcass in the roadway, the best place to go is WWW.GCRG.org or call 810-767-4920.

Department of Public Works:

Sewer Cleaning and CCTV:

- The Township DPW will be cleaning and inspecting the sanitary sewer system in the northwest sections of our Township this summer. This includes Hillcrest, Concord Green, Wishing Well, Rockwood Dr, all of Sandalwood, The presidential streets off of Fenton Rd, and Ottawa Hills. You will also see them on major roadways such as Hill Rd and Fenton Rd. During these times backflow of sewer into your homes is possible and more than likely would come from your lowest level toilets. You can prevent damage to your home by keeping toilet seats down at all times.

Township Water Source to Change to KWA:

- As of this fall, Grand Blanc Township will no longer receive drinking water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (Formerly the City of Detroit). Our new source will be the KWA pipeline. Your water will still come from Lake Huron only a couple miles from the GLWA pipeline and the water will be treated by the Genesee County Drain Commissioner in their new state of the art water treatment plant located in Lapeer County. Residents will see no change in their water quality and no interruptions in their service. You will receive more notification before this exciting change takes place.

Water / Sewer Utility Bill ACH Payments:

- Did you know you could have your water and sewer bill taken directly out of your checking account? Sign up today at the DPW counter for ACH Payment (Automatic Withdraw) and your utility bill will automatically be deducted each quarter. You still receive a bill before the payment comes out of your account but you eliminate the hassle of mailing a check or making a trip to the Township Hall. For more information, call the Water and Sewer Department at (810) 424-2640.

Police Department:

The Grand Blanc Township Crime Prevention Unit was created to strengthen and educate our entire community with the purpose of preventing crime in Grand Blanc Township. Through the use of simple Crime Prevention techniques, we strive to educate and advise all members of our community to ensure their safety and security at home, church, school and in our many businesses. We have adopted principles established in the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) model, which identifies crime trends and breaks down prevention techniques for each resident and business partner.

For example, we have been in contact with local residents in regards to recent telephone scams, fraud and vehicle thefts, and used social media to spread the word about “Lock It or Lose It,” which encourages everyone to lock their doors and remove valuable from their cars. Members of the unit have also spoken at senior centers, restaurants, schools, and Homeowners Association meetings about many different crime prevention topics. We are also very excited to see everyone at our “Annual National Night Out Event” that will be held in August 1, 2017. Look for more information in the coming weeks about this fun event that brings hundreds or people to the front lawn of your Police Department.

The recent addition of the “NextDoor app” has been a huge success and well-received by over 3,000 residents of Grand Blanc Township. Using the app, the members of your specific neighborhood can communicate with each other about strange vehicles in the area, lost dogs, or even hosting a cookout. Becoming a member of this FREE service, allows each resident to receive alerts and messages from the Police Department directly to your smart phone. This also allows you to ask questions and report non-emergency activity directly to us!

In an effort to advertise that our community has united to prevent crime, the Grand Blanc Twp Police Department has partnered with a community business – Action Traffic Maintenance – and created a sign that can be posted in your neighborhoods. For \$15.00, you can purchase a sign from Action Traffic and our DPW will install it for FREE in your neighborhood. Please contact Molly at Action Traffic for more information (810) 695-7516.

As mentioned earlier, we are looking for opportunities to meet with churches, businesses, and school officials to better educate the public on ways to protect their property and keep their parishioners, customers, and students safe. Please contact the Crime Prevention Unit if you would like more information on how to better secure your facility.

It is our belief that a united community will seek out opportunities to keep their area free of crime and build partnerships with their neighbors. We strongly urge all residents to communicate with each other and report any suspicious activity to the Police by calling 911 or, our 24-hour Police Dispatch Center at (810) 424-2611. You can contact the Crime Prevention Unit directly at CrimePrevention@twp.Grand-Blanc.MI.US, or by telephone at (810) 424-2754.

Your Police Department and the Crime Prevention Unit would like to thank everyone for your outpouring of support in keeping our community safe to live, work, and play.

Working together, we can prevent crime!