

Township Newsletter

Winter 2017



The PGA is coming back to Grand Blanc Township! Our sincere gratitude and thanks to all of the individuals who worked so hard for the past several years to make this event a reality. **The Ally Challenge** will be the week of September 11th – 16, 2018 at Warwick Hills Country Club. Our local economy and community spirit will both benefit from this event. This also gives us the opportunity to showcase Grand Blanc Township in the national media. Watch for much more news on this event in the coming weeks.

Our Township is seeing renewed growth in both the business sector and residential development. The inquiries from business leaders interested in locating to our area is great! The Township Board, as well as staff and the various Commissions, are working diligently to ensure that Grand Blanc Township remains a premier community which people hold in high esteem.

Your Township Board has been very busy on a number of issues. We have prioritized several areas of concern and have formed sub-committees to perform research, develop background information and make recommendations to the Board. We would value your input on any or all of these concerns!

A few of the Board Task Forces:

- Appearance & Curb Appeal of Grand Blanc Township (Including Expressway Exits)
- Business Attractiveness: Attracting Restaurants & Retail Establishments
- Department of Public Works: Water/ Sewer/ Drains
- Fire Prevention and Protection
- Parks & Recreation and Affiliated Facilities (Non-Motorized Pathways, Senior Center)
- Perry House
- Planning & Zoning
- Streets & Roads
- Technology Village
- Zip Code Alignment

Please contact me with any of your ideas.

Scott Bennett, Supervisor

bennett@twp.grand-blanc.mi.us

Ph: 810-424-2664

Please sign up today and stay connected with both your Township and neighborhood:

www.Nextdoor.com

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

TREASURER'S OFFICE: Earl Guzak, Treasurer

Enclosed you will find your **2017 Winter Tax Bill**. The due date is **February 14, 2018**. 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 **Phone: 810-424-2600**

- Our Township has a website where you can obtain forms, tax information, water / sewer information, departmental contacts, etc. (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 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.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Kae Eidson, Director

- Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation is currently taking registration for the Spring boys' lacrosse teams. Teams are available for grades 3rd to 8th. The season will start with practices in mid-March with games starting in April. Registration for girls' lacrosse will begin in January and will follow a similar practice and game schedule to the boys' teams.
- The Winter/Spring Program Guide will once again be included as an insert in the Grand Blanc View Newspaper. Details are currently being finalized for programming offerings. We anticipate the Program Guide will be included in The View paper in late November or early December. Registration for all programs, including swim instruction, basketball, volleyball, and after-school programs, will begin immediately.
- The Daddy Daughter Date Night, featuring a Mardi Gras theme, is planned for early February – stay tuned for the scheduled date. Tickets for the 37th Annual Hard Times Party will go on sale Tuesday, January 16th, at the GB Parks and Recreation Office. The party is scheduled for Saturday, March 10th, at the Grand Blanc Senior Center.
- To register for any program, visit gbparks.recdesk.com or visit gbparks.com for more information on programs and events. (Ph: 810-694-0101)

Have a question for our Township?

General Phone Number: 810-424-2600 www.twp.grand-blanc.mi.us

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Ronald Wiles, Police Chief

Winter is right around the corner. The number of residents taking vacations or heading to warmer climates for the season increases. To reduce crime, we recommend the following measures:

- Notify a neighbor if you will be out of town, so they can keep an eye on your property.
- Stop your mail service or designate a friend or relative to get your mail and other packages daily.
- Have snow removed from your driveway as soon as possible.
- Install timers on interior lights to make it appear you are home.
- Be mindful of social media posts stating you are on vacation.
- Remove keys and door openers from vehicles left in garage or driveway.
- If you are going to be gone for an extended period, contact the Police Department to set up a “Vacation Check.”

The colder temperatures and first snowfall usually bring with them an increase in accidents. To keep yourself and other motorists safe, keep in mind:

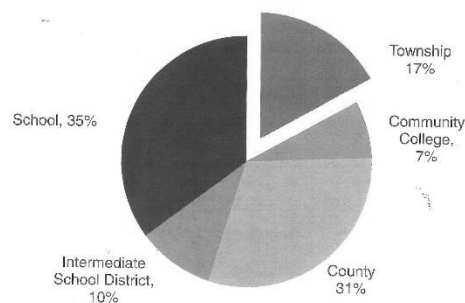
- Know before you go – Know the forecast/weather conditions before you leave.
- Turn on your lights for increased visibility.
- Slow down and drive according to road/weather conditions.
- Do not assume salted roads are ice-free.
- Allow more time to get to your destination.
- Keep your distance between you and other vehicles.
- Remove ice and snow from your windows and mirrors.
- Stay alert and pay attention to other motorists and emergency vehicles.

One final reminder....” **Lock It Or Lose It”.... Always** lock your vehicle and home when unattended. The overwhelming majority of larceny complaints involve property stolen from an unlocked vehicle. Three small steps done every night will greatly decrease the chances of someone breaking into your home or vehicle:

1. Lock your doors.
2. Remove valuables from your vehicle/yard so that they are not in open view.
3. Turn on your exterior lights.

When we reduce opportunity, we can reduce crime. Together, we can reduce crime and keep our community safe. Thank you for all your assistance and support. Should you have any questions or are in need of any help, please do not hesitate to contact us. Your Police Department can be reached 24/7 at **(810) 424-2611**.

Did You Know...GRAND BLANC TOWNSHIP'S SHARE OF TAXES.... DECEMBER 31, 2016



DPW – WATER/SEWER BILLS: Jeff Sears, Director

You may have already received your most recent bill in the new “full-page” layout. Bills previously mailed on postcards have been replaced with a full sheet of blue paper, making them less likely to be lost in the mail or misplaced. You may still pay your bill at the Township Hall with a check or cash, just like before, or you can enroll in our FREE ACH payment program and have your bill automatically deducted from your bank account on the due date. Save yourself the hassle of writing a check and sign up for auto-pay. Enrollment forms can be downloaded from our Website or picked up at the Township Hall.

Recent changes to water rates include: a decrease in the water commodity rate from \$7.00 per 100 Cubic Feet to \$6.90 per 100 Cubic Feet. Ready-to-Serve Fees have increased for water, based on the size of the meter(s) your residence or facility has. Previously, water customers were all billed the same \$11.50 per month per meter fee; but, with a recent increase to Grand Blanc Township from Genesee County for water fees, it is necessary to bill customers with larger meters a higher fee, since larger meters put the most demand on the service. This is a water only increase; sewer rates are not affected. Please visit gbtgov.com or call **810-424-2640** for more details.

CLERK’S OFFICE: Cathy Lane, Clerk

“COMPOST” PICK UP ENDS – Wednesday, November 29 – last Wednesday in November
Holiday GARBAGE PICK-UP schedule: Thursday December 28 & Thursday, January 4
Garbage Pick-up Questions/ Concerns: 810-424-2602

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Robert Burdette, Fire Chief

• **EVERY SECOND COUNTS, PLAN TWO WAYS OUT!**

During Fire Prevention Week, the firefighters participated in 60 fire safety presentations to over 2,000 students and adults. The theme for this year’s presentation was “**EVERY SECOND COUNTS, PLAN TWO WAYS OUT!**”! School children were introduced to planning at least two ways out of their room and home in case of a fire and to have a meeting spot outside with their parents, so first responders will see them right away. As adults, we sometimes forget the importance of having such a simple plan before an emergency occurs. Therefore, take a few moments right now to make that plan. Then, share it and practice it.

• **Carbon Monoxide Detectors**

Just like a smoke alarm, this small appliance will save your life when this colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas gets into the air you breathe. Allowing your car to run inside the garage, operating a generator indoors, or a small leak in chimney or the vent pipe from your water heater, furnace, or dryer can send this deadly gas into your home. When the gas gets to be too high, the alarm sounds, and you need to get out right away. Once you are safe, call “911” so the Fire Department can come and help you, find the leak, and call Consumers’ Energy to make the repairs. Ph: **810-694-7211**

GRAND BLANC TOWNSHIP BOARD

Scott Bennett, Supervisor
Cathy Lane, Clerk Earl Guzak, Treasurer
Trustees: Clark Kent, Al Mansour, Joe Massey, Ken Thomas

TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS:

THANKSGIVING – Thursday and Friday – November 23 and 24
CHRISTMAS – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – December 25, 26, and 27
NEW YEARS – Monday and Tuesday – January 1 and 2