



A Community in Motion
**GRAND BLANC
TOWNSHIP**

From the Supervisor... A New Milestone

SCOTT BENNETT

Grand Blanc Township recently reached a huge milestone! After the recession in 2007-2009, property values plummeted, with the total taxable value in the Township falling by \$603,480,000. Income for Township operations is millage-driven and totally dependent on the property values. The Township's next highest source of revenue comes from State Revenue Sharing (to pay for State-mandated services and programs) and that was cut by over \$11 million in direct payments. Now, after 16 years and significant new developments, we have clawed our way back to 2007 taxable values. That means that during the past 16 years, the Township was operating with less revenue than prior to 2007, while our population, expenses, and calls for service increased! Despite the significant reduction in revenue over the past 16 years, we have NOT cut services, we started paying down substantial unfunded liabilities and even added new services! All without an increase in taxes! A good portion of the credit belongs to the employees of the Township for their help in cost reduction efforts and finding ways to do more with less. However, we have significant deferred capital improvements that will need to be made as we move forward. As always, our goal is to make these improvements without raising taxes.

Who is responsible for subdivision streets in Michigan Townships? What can Grand Blanc Township do to help get our streets fixed? What if we don't fix our subdivision streets? These are the same questions that Township officials throughout the State face on a regular basis. First, the Township Board is very concerned about the state of many of the subdivision streets in Grand Blanc Township. While the County Road Commission owns and is responsible for maintaining all PUBLIC streets, roads, ditches, bridges and rights-of-way in townships, their condition affects our quality of living. Genesee County Road Commission receives all funding from State and Federal governments for our streets and roads....

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Police

POLICE CHIEF RENYE

Summer means warm weather, graduation parties, family get-togethers, concerts, trips up north, and many more outdoor activities. These all equal more travel on our roadways. To keep you, your loved ones, and others on our roadways safe, while you travel to and from your destination, we want to remind you of the following:

- Look twice to save a life. Warm weather brings more motorcycles.
- Drive sober or get pulled over. Please don't drink alcohol and/or use drugs while operating a vehicle. Have a designated driver!
- Wear your seatbelt. Seatbelts increase your chances of survival and/or serious injury when involved in an accident.
- Don't text and drive. Distracted driving is the leading cause of car accidents in the US.
- Watch your speed. The faster you travel the more stopping distance is required and your reaction time is lowered.



Parks & Rec

SENJA LIIMATTA

We'd love to see you at one of our upcoming events! Please head to our website, parks.gbtgov.com, to purchase tickets online.

Summer Luau

Friday, August 11th 6pm

The party kicks off with dinner being served. The tiki bars will be open all night with specialty luau themed cocktails, beer & wine. We will have lawn games, raffles, a performance by the Polynesian Dancers of Michigan, and a dance floor to keep the party going all night long.

3rd Annual Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 14th

Activities for Ages 0-12

This event is a family friendly trick-or-treat extravaganza with fall themed carnival games, inflatables, a petting zoo, face painting, hayrides, and crafts.

Mark your calendar!



Our annual National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Grand Blanc Township Police Department.

The Ally Challenge Golf Tournament is August 23-27th. Expect traffic delays along Saginaw Street near Cook Road.



New Water Regulations

JEFF SEARS

Michigan's drinking water regulations now require public water supplies to maintain an inventory of water service line materials in their distribution systems. Through thorough research, we know that lead service lines have never existed in our community, but we are still required to physically verify over 300 water services throughout our community. To complete this, Township Staff will be using a hydro-excavating method at randomly selected properties to uncover water services and document their material. Additionally, a survey will be sent out to those properties asking for your help in verifying internal plumbing materials. Please look out for more information in the future.

Summer Fire Safety

FIRE CHIEF BURDETTE

Kids Flag Football

REGISTRATION CLOSES AUG. 6TH

Divisions: K-1st, 2nd – 3rd and 4th-6th Graders

Practices begin the week of August 14th

Games: September 9th – October 21st

Register online at parks.gbtgov.com

One of the more popular questions we receive this time of year is about outdoor burning. Outdoor burning can be restricted at any time by the fire department and is the burning of brush, including logs, tree limbs, and clean lumber. Burning of leaves or grass clippings is prohibited. You can find guidelines and rules at twp.grand-blanc.mi.us/262/Outdoor-Burning-Guidelines.

Campfires, also known as a recreational fire, is open throughout the year and consist of burning dry seasoned firewood only for pleasure, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes. You do not need a permit for a campfire. Campfires must not exceed 3 feet wide by 2 feet long and must be extinguished by 1 AM. Additionally, campfires must not be left to smolder overnight. A standard garden hose connected to a water supply must be present or a fire extinguishing agent must be readily available. Fires shall not be located within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material.

Senior Center

MISTY MOEN

Daily Lunch Program

Residents 60 years and older can sign-up for the Senior Center's daily lunch program. Suggested donation of \$3.00 per meal. Must reserve by noon the business day prior.

Available Support Groups

Grief: 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m.
Alzheimer's: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
Caregiver: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
Parkinson's: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Medicare Open Enrollment

Did you know each year from October 15 through December 7 is the annual Medicare Open Enrollment period? During this time, you can make an individual appointment to meet with one of our Medicare specialists to see if there are better options for your medical coverage. Call the senior center at 810-695-3202 to schedule your appointment!

Monthly newsletters are available online at parks.gbtgov.com or you can pick one up at the Senior Center!

Continued From the Supervisor...

The funding they receive is allocated to the various Townships based on a formula using population and road miles. Unfortunately, due to the lack of State and Federal funds, subdivision streets have never been fully funded for the cost of replacement or paving. In the past year, the County Road Commission has instituted a fund that will pay 10% of the cost of paving a subdivision if the Township will pay 10% as well. The pot of money is limited each year and is on a first-come first-served basis.

The Township Board is concerned about the high cost that is passed onto residents for repaving and rebuilding of subdivision streets. As the cost of all construction rises, road building costs are becoming out-of-reach for many homeowners and subdivision projects. One solution is to find more funds from County, State and Federal sources that would be devoted to subdivision streets. Without repaving, the streets will continue to get worse and more expensive, as well as have a negative effect on home resale values. Please pass along your ideas and thoughts on this issue. We are in the process of working with an exploratory committee made up of residents from around the Township to review all possible solutions to this ongoing issue. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you!

Do you have a leak?

Water customers should check their properties on a regular basis for unintentional water use that can drive up their utility bill. A toilet with a small undetected leak can triple a quarterly bill and a water-generated back-up sump pump that has engaged without the homeowner knowing can result in a devastatingly high bill!