

*A Community in Motion***GRAND BLANC
TOWNSHIP**

A Message From Supervisor Bennett

SCOTT BENNETT

Grand Blanc experienced an unthinkable tragedy on September 28th. But as we grieve and heal, we have united around the idea that we are truly better together. That isn't just our mantra, it's also our way forward. Thanks to our community, neighbors and fellow Michiganians, we've shown that when we stand together with empathy and strength, we can overcome anything.

My wife and I love the community we call Grand Blanc Township. It's where we've built our lives, raised our family, and shared in the joys and challenges that come with being part of something bigger than ourselves. It's where we were called to serve.

Today our hearts are broken for the victims of this horrific violence and for their families and friends. There are no words that can take away the pain or make sense of what has happened, but together we are finding the strength to heal.

We are deeply grateful to our neighbors and fellow Michiganians who have reached out, offered help, and stood by us when we needed it most. You've reminded us that even in the darkest moments, we are not walking this difficult road alone.

When chaos surrounded us, the Michigan DNR and Grand Blanc Township Police, Fire and other Township employees quickly acted. First responders from the City of Grand Blanc AND 37 other departments across Michigan came to our aid. Personnel from Bloomfield Township manned our fire stations in the days afterward so our team could rest. Federal, state and local law enforcement partners, including the FBI and ATF, and our federal, state and local leaders, reached out immediately and continue to work with us.

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Upcoming Events

YETI DASH

December 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

Bicentennial Park

Sign up for our one-mile fun run/walk and be the first to see our holiday light displays! Register online at parks.gbtgov.com.



HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

December 5th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Bicentennial Park

Stroll over a mile of lighted trails, visit with Santa, warm up by our fire pits, and enjoy complimentary hot cocoa and cookies at our 7th Annual Tree Lighting. Santa will arrive around 6:20 p.m. to light our tree, with a fireworks display to immediately follow.



HOLIDAY WALKING NIGHTS

December 9th, 13th, 19th, 21st, and 22nd, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Bicentennial Park

Walk through our holiday light display! Each night has a unique theme with different elements, including holiday characters, a scavenger hunt, fun giveaways, and more. Check the Park's Facebook page for more information on each night's theme: Facebook.com/gbparksandrec



DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

February 5th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Grand Blanc Senior Center Banquet Room

Make lasting memories with your daughter at our annual Daddy Daughter Dance! Tickets include dinner, drinks, dessert, crafts and special appearances from princesses.

Snow Removal

ALLEN COOLEY III, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Grand Blanc Township operates a fleet of six trucks equipped with snow and ice removal equipment to manage snow removal across 106 miles of residential streets, with major roads maintained by the Genesee County Road Commission. Snow removal efforts usually commence once streets accumulate 4 inches of snow, although trucks may be dispatched sooner during blizzard conditions. For smaller snowfalls, the strategy involves "cutting the edges," which means clearing only the middle of

streets to reduce plow times. For larger accumulations, two trucks work together to clear the entire roadway. Plow trucks only operate on weekends during major snow events or emergencies. We receive a limited allocation of salt each year, so it is sparingly applied to intersections, hills, and dangerous curves. Some cul-de-sacs are plowed after larger trucks have passed, as smaller pick-up trucks are needed for their efficient cleaning. Rest assured, these areas are not forgotten, but require additional time to complete.

You can help our snow plowing crew by:

- Keeping roads clear. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE ROAD! We are forced to leave a lot of snow around vehicles parked on the road. Trash and recycling bins should be placed in your driveway a few feet away from the road to avoid accidents and messes.
- Giving us plenty of room to work. It's Michigan law to leave at least 200 feet between you and a snow plow when you're on the road. That's around 13-16 car lengths away! These trucks do not stop quickly or maneuver easily, which is why it's important they have lots of room to work.
- Not shoveling snow into the road. We know how frustrating it is when snow from the plows end up in your driveway. Please refrain from shoveling snow from your driveway back into the street; instead you can try clearing the curb area before your driveway to avoid shoveling twice.

Thank you for your patience as drivers work diligently to clear all residential streets, sometimes working through the night. If you have any questions, feel free to call our DPW office at 810-424-2600 ext. 2903.



SHAKE YOUR MAILBOX

Will your mailbox withstand everything thrown at it this winter season? Shake your mailbox and post to check for loose screws or a rotten post. The force of heavy snow coming off plows can cause damage to insecure mailboxes. Tighten any loose screws and replace rotten posts before heavy snowfall this year!



A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR BENNETT CONT.

And we honor our heroes. Church members who confronted the suspect to save others, some even losing their lives. Police officers and firefighters who rushed towards danger, pulling victims to safety through heavy smoke and confusion. Their courage reminds us what true service and sacrifice look like and the power of standing together in the face of darkness.

The strength of Grand Blanc Township and all who stand with us is found in our unity. As the great phrase on most of our coins and paper money says, “E pluribus unum”—out of many, one. We come from very diverse and different backgrounds, beliefs, religions and experiences, yet we share one home, one community and one purpose. Let’s honor those taken from us by how we choose to live our lives going forward—with compassion, kindness, and respect for one another.

This is a historical moment for our community. Grand Blanc Township will not be defined by this horrific act of violence, but by how we come together. We will be defined by our compassion, our unity, and how we care for every person who has been touched by this tragedy.

At our Better Together Community Reflection, I shared this promise: We will walk this difficult road with every family affected. Not just today. Not just tomorrow. But for the long term. We are stronger when we carry one another.

We know many people need help right now. Some need counseling. Others cannot work. Many are facing medical bills and long recoveries. To help, several foundations are joining together to support the Grand Blanc Victims Compassion Fund, including the Mott Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, and the ELGA Foundation. These organizations--and all who contribute--are helping ensure no one walks this journey alone in the days and months ahead.

Let’s remember the truth that has carried Grand Blanc through every challenge: We ARE better together. Together we will heal, rebuild, and continue to move forward. Thank you and God bless our families, our first responders, the entire Grand Blanc community, our neighbors and our fellow Michiganians.

Vacation Checks

The Grand Blanc Township Police Department wishes you a safe and peaceful winter season. If you’ll be away, consider requesting a vacation check of your home. Learn more about this complimentary police service and request a vacation check online by visiting our website at grandblancwtpmi.gov/vacationcheck.

Generator Safety

During winter weather events or power outages, residents using portable generators are strongly advised to operate them outdoors and away from windows, doors, and vents to prevent carbon monoxide exposure. Generators should never be used inside a garage or enclosed area. Please check that your carbon monoxide alarms are working.

We have partnered with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS) and MI Prevention to help reduce carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. This initiative includes a free carbon monoxide prevention kit available to the Grand Blanc community. If you are a Grand Blanc resident with a portable generator and interested in receiving the kit, please stop by either fire station.