



NEWSLETTER

GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP



DPW BUILDING UPDATE

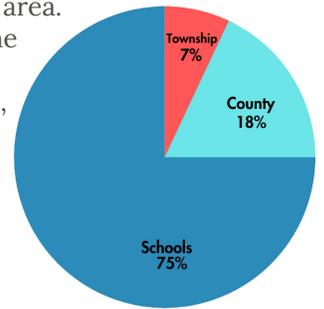
Township officials voted recently to approve the bidding of a new 20,000 square foot DPW building at a cost not to exceed \$3.9 million. The project came as a recommendation from the Utilities Committee following an independent needs assessment study conducted in 2022. The current building, built in 1980, has received four renovations over the years, but can no longer keep pace with the growing needs of a population that has doubled in size since its original construction. With increased storage capacity for DPW vehicles, equipment, supplies, and staff, the new facility will ensure that DPW staff are able to provide the most efficient services to residents and businesses.

Other departments including the Fire Department will benefit as well. Citing better access to water supply and greater efficiency in responding to emergencies, Interim Fire Chief Matt DeWitt said in a letter to the Board that construction of the building would “not only enhance the water department’s infrastructure but also make a vital investment in public safety.” Funds from the water and sewer account will pay for construction, meaning that no tax dollars will be used for this project. The earliest start date for the project will be August 2024 with a tentative completion date of May 2025. For more information, please visit gtwp.com.



WHERE DO YOUR TAXES GO?

Georgetown Township is pleased to be able to offer so many valuable services at the lowest tax rate in the area. Whether you have visited the Georgetown Library or GT Connections for a fun event, taken your family to a park, voted in a recent election, or utilized emergency services, your tax dollars have been at work.

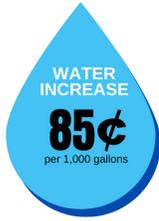


Georgetown Township collects taxes that are then disbursed to Ottawa County, local public schools, and the Township itself. The chart to the right shows where those tax dollars go.

Local Tax Unit Levy Rates



WATER & SEWER RATES



Water and Sewer rates will increase in January as recommended by an independent rate study. In order to address the increased cost of water and sewer services and the need for structural updates, the Board has approved an increase of \$3.70 to the Ready-to-Serve quarterly charge and an increase of \$0.85 (per 1,000 gallons) to the Water Consumption charge. The sewer rate will have an increase of \$3.50 to the Ready-to-Serve quarterly charge and an increase of \$1.30 (per 1,000 gallons) to the Consumption charge.

Georgetown Township purchases water from the City of Wyoming and sewage treatment services from the City of Grandville. Despite rising costs and rate increases in neighboring communities, Georgetown residents have not seen a rate increase since 2017. However, with ongoing maintenance costs and necessary structural upgrades, absorption of these cost increases is no longer feasible. “The DPW is proud to be able to provide these essential services at what continues to be the lowest cost in the area,” said Department of Public Works Director Joel Hanenburg. “This increase will help us to continue providing the same high-quality services while ensuring that critical infrastructure is properly maintained and our community’s needs continue to be met.” For additional information, including the fund rate study, please visit gtwp.com.

REMINDER:
Winter Tax bills
are due on
February 14

2024 Change of Assessment Notices will be mailed out in mid-February.

If you disagree with your 2024 Assessed Value, you can make an appointment to speak with the March Board of Review.

The Change of Assessment Notice will include the dates and times the March Board meets with residents.



Personal Property is not physical real estate (buildings or land), but refers instead to the assets (e.g. furniture, equipment, electronics, etc...) owned or leased by a business that operates in Georgetown Township. The Township will mail the 2024 Personal Property forms to businesses. The State of Michigan requires that business owners file these forms with the Township. If you operate a business within Georgetown Township limits, please watch for these documents! Be sure to file any and all paperwork with us before the due date in February.

Many business owners qualify for the Small Business Property Tax Exemption. However, the exemption can only be granted if you are eligible for it and apply for it. The State of Michigan is very particular about the exemption form and if it is sent to us incomplete, we cannot grant the exemption. The 2024 exemption form will be available starting in January. Please contact the assessing department if you have any questions regarding business Personal Property or the forms. Accountants are also an extremely helpful resource for business owners trying to navigate tax forms.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

THANK YOU to the following Township staff who reached a milestone in service to the community in 2023:

5 YEARS

Linda Healy
Brittany Nuland
Les Van Wyk

10 YEARS

Pam Burkholder
Thomas Keillor
Jeanne Knol
Richard Nawrocki
Grace Tiffany
Kim Veldkamp

15 YEARS

Frances Godley
Nicki Johnson
Deb Kadzban

20 YEARS

Jill Skelley

25 YEARS

Rod Deemter
Joel Hanenburg

EARLY VOTING

The next election for Georgetown Township residents will be the Presidential Primary on February 27. This election will include nine days of early voting. Voters will receive a mailing that details the early voting locations. As with all Presidential Primaries, voters must select which ballot style they want to vote on (e.g. Republican Candidates or Democratic Candidates). Georgetown Township will mail registered voters a Presidential Primary Ballot Selection form which must be completed and returned to the Township Clerk's Office in order to receive a ballot. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming election, please call the Township Office.



Early Voting for the Presidential Primary will take place on the following dates and times:

Saturday - Feb. 17, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sunday - Feb. 18, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Monday - Feb. 19, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Tuesday - Feb. 20, 2024:	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday - Feb. 21, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Thursday - Feb. 22, 2024:	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Friday - Feb. 23, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Saturday - Feb. 24, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sunday - Feb. 25, 2024:	7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

EXPERIENCE GEORGETOWN



GEORGETOWN LIBRARY

Did you know that the library offers access to millions of items and tons of fun and educational programming for all ages? Be sure to check us out at www.gtpl.org.

1/2-2/29: WINTER READING CHALLENGE
Take the Adult Winter Reading Challenge and read up to 32 books. The more books you read, the more entries for prizes. Stop by for a form.

1/15-2/2: VIRTUAL CALVIN JANUARY SERIES
Don't feel like driving to Grand Rapids for the January series? We will be streaming the series everyday at the library at 12:30PM.

3/16: CANDYLAND
Everyone's favorite board game comes to life with this life-sized version of Candyland. Earn candy as you make your way around the board. All ages are welcome!

JENISON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

In addition to the second Holiday Open House at the Jenison Museum on January 6 from 2-4PM, the Jenison Historical Association will host museum open houses on Tuesday, March 5 from 10AM-12PM and Saturday, March 15 from 2-4PM. The museum is located at 28 Port Sheldon in Jenison. Admission is free.

JHA will also present, in conjunction with Women's History Month, a presentation entitled *Women of Georgetown* at Georgetown Connections at 12:45PM and *A Victorian Lady from the Inside Out* program on Thursday, March 28 at 7PM at the Georgetown Township Library.



GEORGETOWN CONNECTIONS

GT Connections Transportation Services are meeting the transportation needs of those living in the township who are at least age 55 and/or have a disability.

Community Senior Center staff recently spoke to a 91-year-old client about her experience with the transportation service. "In good weather, I am comfortable driving myself to places that are a short distance from my home in Jenison," she said. But for times when the weather is not cooperating, and for further distance destinations, such as the weekly appointments that are a half hour from her home, she relies on Georgetown Transportation. She reports that the ride goes by quickly because of her interesting chats with the friendly drivers. "With each one I've met, I have made a new friend," she says with a smile. Knowing they will be on time, and keep her informed of the operating schedule means she can depend on having a ride when she needs one.

Call 616-457-1170 to learn how to become a transportation client.

FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

SAFELY DISPOSE OF SHARPS & MEDS



Have unused medication or used medical needles to dispose of? Here are some nearby locations for proper disposal:

UNUSED MEDICINE DROP-OFF

- **Meijer Pharmacy** M-F 8am-9pm, Sat 9am-7pm, Sun 10am-6pm
- **Hudsonville Dept. of Health** M-F 8am-5pm
- **Hudsonville City Hall** M-F 8am-5pm

SHARPS DISPOSAL

- **Ottawa County Dept. of Health** 616.393.5645
- **Resource Recovery Center** (6693 Roger Dr) T & Th 8am-4pm 1st Sat 8am-11am



REMINDER: Please keep snow and ice 3 feet away from fire hydrants

CONTACT US

Township Office

616.457.2340

GT Connections

616.457.1170

Fire Department

616.226.6019

Cemetery Office

616.226.6012

GT Public Library

616.457.9620

Township Board

board@georgetown-mi.gov

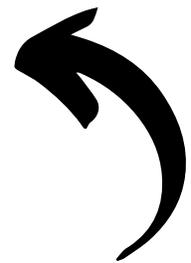
OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays-Fridays 8AM-5PM

1515 Baldwin Street
Jenison, MI 49428

STAY INFORMED

VISIT GTWP.COM TO FIND MEETING INFO, LEARN MORE ABOUT TOWNSHIP SERVICES, AND FIND UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



**SIGN UP FOR THE MONTHLY
TOWNSHIP E-NEWSLETTER!**

Wish to unsubscribe to this quarterly mailing? Visit www.gtwp.com to opt out