



DELTA NOW!

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In This Issue

| | |
|---|---|
| Brewer Named as Delta Township Trustee | 2 |
| Ginebaugh Takes Over as New Fire Chief | 2 |
| Expanding Water Trail Access Along the Grand River | 3 |
| Local Business Projects | 4 |
| What Does Flushable Mean? | 4 |
| Overnight Parking | 4 |
| Watch for These 2019 Township Projects | 5 |
| Comprehensive Land Use Master Plan Update | 5 |
| What Does Delta's Marihuana Ordinance Mean for Citizens | 5 |
| New Full-time Hires | 6 |
| 2018 Passport Processing Sets Record in Delta | 6 |
| Neighborhood Beautification Grant Opportunity | 6 |
| 2018 Community Award Recipients | 7 |
| Facade Improvement Grant | 7 |
| Tax Collection Data | 7 |

Brewer Named as Delta Township Trustee

The Delta Township Board is pleased to announce that Fonda Brewer was selected to fill the vacant Trustee position on the board. Trustee Brewer was appointed after the October 23 special Board meeting.

Trustee Brewer formerly served on the Waverly Schools Board of Education and is retired from the Michigan Education Special Services Association (MESSA) after a long career.

She has served on the McLaren Hospital Foundation Board, as Membership Chair for the LesMeres et' Debutantes of Greater Lansing and for Jack and Jill of America-Greater Lansing Chapter. Currently, she serves on the Foster Care Review Board for Region



2-2, is a member of Lansing Black Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Lansing Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Luncheon Ticket Committee, and is a member of New Mount Calvary Baptist Church where she serves on numerous committees.

Ginebaugh Takes Over as New Delta Twp. Fire Chief



Chief Gregory Ginebaugh assumed command as the new Delta Township Fire Chief on December 10, 2018. Ginebaugh, who last served as Deputy Chief for the Kentwood Fire Department, has over 25 years of experience.

The search for a new Fire Chief began in September 2018 after the resignation of Chief John Clark, with 46 qualified applicants. Candidates were narrowed to seven, where pre-questionnaires and interviews were con-



ducted with Ginebaugh selected as the final candidate.

Chief Ginebaugh served in many capacities in Kentwood including Fire Fighter, Fire Inspector, Fire Marshal, Lieutenant, Captain, and Deputy Fire Chief. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Lake Superior State University, is a certified Professional Emergency Manager, and graduate of the Executive Leadership Program for Fire Staff and Command at Eastern Michigan University.

Expanding Water Trail Access along Grand River

The State of Michigan is nationally known as the “Great Lakes State”, but many people are also aware of the thousands of miles of rivers within the state that provide water enthusiasts a variety of opportunities for recreation and leisure. Within the 3,000+ miles of coastline and river connections, water trails are becoming tourist destinations for outdoor enthusiasts, as well as families looking for adventures and site seeing. According to michiganwatertrails.org, a water trail is a “designated route along a lake, river, canal or bay specifically designed for people using small boats like kayaks, canoes, single sailboats or rowboats.” The trails are sometimes called “blueways” and are the aquatic equivalent of a hiking trail or “greenway.” Most water trails will feature well-developed access and launch sites near multiple points of interest that often include: historical landmarks, environmental points of interest, restaurants, hotels, and campgrounds.



Delta Township is centrally located along the Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail and over recent years it has seen many efforts to increase accessibility to river access for fishing, paddling sports, and also environmental conservation efforts. The Middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail spans from the Smithville Dam

upstream of Eaton Rapids, through downtown Lansing, to the Lyons Dam in Lyons, Michigan. Many different communities along this trail such as Eaton Rapids, Lansing, Grand Ledge, Portland, and more have invested time and finances to improving the quality of life for their residents.



For many years, the limited access to the Grand River in Delta Township existed at Grand Woods Park. With improvements planned for the Grand Woods access site, as well as the construction of two new ADA accessible canoe/kayak launches at Delta Mills Park and the Willow Canoe Launch, there will soon be three river access sites that will allow for paddle sport recreation as well as fishing. The paddle boat launch, which already exists at Grand Woods Park, will undergo improvements by Delta Township parks staff early this coming spring.

In 2016, Delta Township was awarded a grant in the amount of \$325,000 (50% matching funds) from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Trust Fund to construct a river access site which features an ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch on the Grand River near the western boundary of Delta Township. The property for this launch site was purchased by Delta Township from the Michigan DNR in 2009 and is located at 6507 West Willow Highway. Construction of the launch site was completed in the fall of 2018 and will conclude with the installation of an ADA canoe/kayak launch in the early spring of 2019. The

Willow Canoe Launch includes paved parking, an ADA floating boat launch, an able-bodied boat launch, a river viewing platform, and native wildflower landscaping.

In 2017, Delta Township was awarded a grant from the MDNR Trust Fund to

construct a river access site at Delta Mills Park – located at the corner of Webster Rd. and Old River Trail. The improvements to the park will include an ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch, an able-bodied boat launch, paved parking, access walkways, fishing platform, full-size basketball court,

and new playground equipment. Construction is slated to be performed in the summer and fall months of 2019.

The Delta Township Parks and Recreation Department will be tasked with maintaining and operating the 3 launch



sites and have already begun efforts to implement facility management methods, as well as possible partnerships to provide recreation programming with existing paddle sport businesses. The goal of providing more river access to the community is to allow people to recreate and enjoy nature without having to travel a great distance to do so. To learn more about the middle Grand River Heritage Water Trail visit the MGROW website at: www.mgrow.org/hwt/ or call Delta Township Parks and Recreation at 517-323-8555.

LOCAL BUSINESS PROJECTS

Now Open!

- Tropical Smoothie Café
- Klingman's Furniture
- Spadafore Equipment (leasing all 30,000 sf at 5400 Pierson Hwy to Top Shelf Brands)
- 4125 W St. Joe (former LAFCU – now leased to State of Michigan)
- Midwest Press & Automation
- T-Mobile (Lansing Mall)
- Horrocks seating/dining area
- Dance City
- Brew Café coffee shop

Projects Under Construction/ Renovation

- Hilton Garden Inn
- Popeye's Chicken
- Unclaimed Freight Furniture
- Buck's All Repair
- Air Lift (expansion)
- Sportsman's Warehouse
- U Break I Fix
- Cops & Doughnuts (expansion)
- Athletico
- Sport Clips
- Cintas
- Michigan Virtual
- Auto-Owners Insurance Expansion

What Does "Flushable" Really Mean?

Sewer utilities across the country are having a huge problem, and the problem is "flushable" products. Pre-moistened personal wipes labeled as "flushable" as well as other products like flushable toilet cleaning sponges and some women feminine products are creating an enormous problem. While these products may swirl down the toilet with ease, most do not disintegrate, creating serious problems as they work their way through aging sewage systems on their way to the treatment facility. These so-called "flushable" products cause pumps to jam, equipment to break or simply use more energy to operate. This can lead to sewage backups and potentially sewage backing up into a customer's basement.

Industry experts estimate these issues cost U.S. utilities between \$500 million and \$1 billion annually to clear clogs, unjam pumps, or replace equipment altogether. The number of manpower hours to alleviate these issues is also becoming extremely burdensome to sewer utilities. Other items, such as disinfectant wipes and facial cloths not meant to be flushed are also contributing to these problems.

Utilities across the country are trying to stress to their customers the message of the "3 Ps" meaning only flush pee, poop, and toilet paper. The wastewater industry has long considered toilet paper as the benchmark for any product that is labeled as "flushable", since toilet paper is flushed constantly and utilities do not see it causing problems. Why is toilet paper ok to flush while other so-called "flushables" are not? It rapidly loses strength when it gets wet. It breaks into pieces during the flushing action of a toilet and continues to break apart simply by moving through the sanitary collection system. It does not require the force of a mechanical device to break into pieces. It has short fiber lengths that are unlikely to re-rope or entangle with other mate-



rials. It is biodegradable and will not reduce the quality of biosolids. These qualitative properties of toilet paper should apply to any product that calls itself "flushable".

So, the next time you go to do the convenient thing and flush that product, help out your sewer utility and ask yourself, is this really "flushable"? Does it appear to have the same properties as toilet paper? If the answer is no, please don't flush it. Find another way to properly dispose the items or product. Who knows, you may just be saving yourself the burden of a plugged pipe or sanitary sewer backup into your basement.

Overnight Parking

Please note that no person shall park any vehicle, including a vehicle used for commercial or recreational purposes, or any trailer on either side of any highway, freeway, street, or roadway located within the township between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. of any day.

A person who violates the ordinance will receive a municipal civil infraction. The civil fine will be set from time to time by the Township Board by resolution. Current fines are set at \$15.

Watch for These 2019 Township Projects:

OLD RIVER TRAIL PATHWAY

Project Description:

- ½ mile pathway from Webster Road to Hunter's Orchard Park

Project Costs and Grants:

- MDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant of \$416,705
- DNR Trust Fund Grant \$298,500
- Estimated Township matching funds of \$284,795.

DELTA MILLS PARK CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH

Project description:

- ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch
- Parking lot and accessible trail
- Playground and basketball court improvements
- New fishing pier

Project Cost and Grants:

- DNR Trust Fund Grant of \$237,500
- Delta Township estimated matching funds \$362,500

OLD LANSING ROAD BIKE LANES

Project Description:

- 2.5 miles of bike lanes on Old Lansing Road from Waverly Road to Lansing Road
- Repaving of Old Lansing Road

Project Costs and Grants:

- MDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant of \$305,000
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant \$215,000
- Eaton County Road Commission (\$161,000) and Delta Township (\$264,500) estimated costs pending final design.

MOUNT HOPE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTOR PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT

Project Description:

- 10 foot wide shared use pathway connecting Ashford Manor and Pointe West subdivisions to the Mount Hope Park development

Project Costs and Grants:

- DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant \$62,300
- Estimated Township matching funds of \$195,700

Comprehensive Land Use Master Plan Update:

DELTA TOWNSHIP

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Delta Township's "Comprehensive Plan for Land Use" is intended to guide Township officials and citizens in making decisions about public facilities and the use of public and privately owned land. The Plan is a land use and infrastructure plan that sets forth local goals and objectives for future community growth and redevelopment. The Plan was last updated in 2013 and is due for its requisite 5-year review and update consistent with requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (Act 33 of 2008). The Planning Department has selected Mckenna to perform the update of the plan. The update will seek robust public input through public events, surveys, and other means. The update is proposed to be completed by the end of 2019. You can view the current plan from 2013 on the Delta Township website. Questions regarding the update may be directed to Planning Director Gary Bozek at gbozek@deltami.gov.

What Does Delta's Marihuana Ordinance Mean for Citizens?

On November 6, 2018, Michigan voters approved the Michigan Regulation

and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA) ballot initiative. The act provides for the recreational use of marihuana in Michigan by defining, regulating, and creating State-issued licenses for various "marihuana establishments." The MRTMA is different than the Medical Marihuana Act (MMFLA) passed in 2016.

On January 7, 2019, the Delta Township Board adopted ordinance number 19-105 prohibiting marihuana establishments in the Township. The Township ordinance does the following:

- It will prohibit the recreational marihuana establishments defined under the 2018 Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act from locating within Delta Township.
- It will affirm that Delta Township does not allow marihuana facilities that are considered eligible for a State operating license under the provisions of the State of Michigan's 2016 Medical Marihuana Facilities Act.
- It also affirms that caregivers remain eligible for licensure within the Township under the provisions of the 2008 Michigan Medical Marihuana Act.
- Further, it provides for violations, penalties, and mechanisms of enforcement.

Currently, the State of Michigan has not promulgated rules necessary for the MRTMA. The Township, much like many other communities, felt it was prudent to act quickly in order to avoid the Township from becoming the regulating agency if the State does not act in a timely matter to formulate rules and to exercise appropriate control of marihuana based businesses.

The ordinance does not preclude the Township from changes in the future once rules are promulgated and finalized by the State of Michigan. In addition, it does not change 2008 Caregiver provisions that currently are in effect related to the MMFLA.

Contact Us

Manager's Office
517-323-8590

Accounting
517-323-8510

Assessing
517-323-8520

Building
517-323-8530

Clerk's Office
517-323-8500

Engineering
517-323-8540

Parks and Recreation
517-323-8555

Planning
517-323-8560

Utilities
517-323-8570

Non-Emergency Numbers

Delta Twp. Fire Department
517-321-6622

Eaton County Sheriff's Dept.
517-372-8217

For All Emergencies Dial 911

Other Delta Services

Delta Twp. District Library
517-321-4014

Delta Twp. Enrichment Center
517-484-5600

Eaton County Satellite Office
Located in the lower level of the
Delta Twp. Admin. Building
517-816-8222

Clerk's Office Hours:
1st & 3rd Fridays of the month
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Treasurer's Office Hours:
2nd & 4th Fridays of the month
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

New Full-time Employees:



Rebecca Campbell
Community Services
Coordinator
Delta Township
District Library



Derrick Guyot
Paramedic/
Firefighter
Delta Township
Fire Department

2018 Passport Processing Sets Record



1,583 passport applications (1,257 adult and 326 minor) were processed during 2018, a nearly 10% increase over 2017's total of 1,436. This generated nearly \$69,000 in revenue for Delta Township. Revenue is derived from the U.S. Department of State mandated \$35.00 fees. Additional monies come from the 1,504 passport photos taken in the Clerk's Office.

Passport applications have seen a dramatic increase in the 12 years since Delta Township implemented being a Passport Acceptance Agency. This increase is driven by a variety of factors including the ease at Delta Township, the hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and a number of extended evening hour opportunities. Close proximity parking also adds to the convenience of using Delta Township as your Acceptance Agency. Additionally, the Department of State has significantly reduced the number of small post offices that

accept applications in an effort to improve service delivery to their passport customers.

Delta Township has five certified Acceptance Agents who are required to take an annual course and pass the associated test.

Neighborhood Beautification Grant Opportunity

Before:



After:



Again, in 2018 during the beautiful summer months, Delta neighborhoods took advantage of the Neighborhood Beautification Grant program offered through the Township to help improve the aesthetics of their residential areas.

Delta Township offers a grant program in which residential neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations can apply for matching funds for improving their identification and welcome signs to their neighborhood. Matching funds will be on a first come/first serve basis and typical grant awards will be \$500. It is part of the Township's goal to help create community identity, neighborhood involvement, and encourage and maintain the character of residential neighborhoods. Visit www.deltami.gov for more information or to fill out an application. If you have any questions, please call 323-8510.

2018 Delta Township Community Awards

Delta Township hosted the 13th Annual Delta Township Community Awards Event on October 25 at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West. Over 250 people gathered to celebrate the outstanding individuals, businesses, and organizations that were honored during the event.

The Township presented five awards this year including: Business of the Year, Community Organization of the Year, Young Person of the Year, Citizen of the Year, and the Township Legacy Award. The Young Person of the Year was also presented with a \$2,000 Scholarship sponsored by the Delta Side Business Association.

Photography provided by:
John Douglas Photography
<https://johndouglasphoto.com/>



Scott Thomas
Young Person
of the Year



Xavier DeGroat
Citizen of the Year

2018 Delta Township Community Awards Recipients



Janicé A. Vedder
Legacy Award



Kate McNerny
Chick-Fil-A Lansing
Business of the Year



Fr. David Pike
St. David's Episcopal Chr.
Community Organization
of the Year

Business Beat: Let Us Help You Give Your Business a Facelift

Businesses along the east end of the Saginaw corridor (Waverly to Elmwood) will now have an opportunity to apply for some financial assistance from a facade improvement program offered and funded by the Delta Township Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

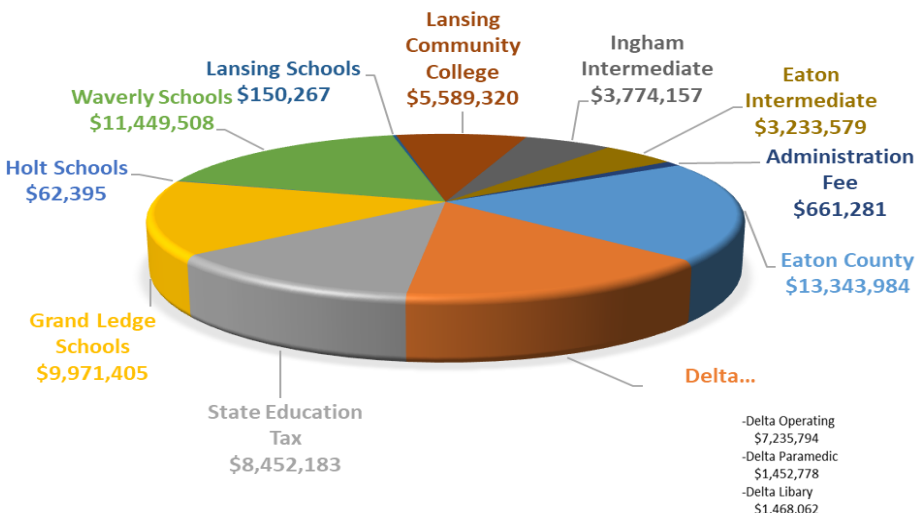
This program is part of an effort by the Township's EDC to improve the aesthetics of buildings along areas of the Saginaw corridor that have aged and/or fallen into disrepair and encourage improvements of those properties.

The Delta Township Economic Development Corporation meets quarterly and works to improve economic development in Delta Township. If you have any questions about this program, please call Economic Development Coordinator Ed Reed at 323-8560.

Tax Collection in Delta

The pie-chart below represents the taxes that Delta Township collects on behalf of all Taxing Authorities. In 2018, Delta Township was responsible for collecting approximately \$68,755,328 in property taxes and special assessments (Drain and street light assessments are not shown). Delta Township only retains approximately \$10,156,634 or 14.7% of the funds collected for General Operating, Paramedic, and Library purposes. The pie-chart illustrates where your tax dollars go.

Total 2018 Tax Collected





Delta Township
7710 W. Saginaw Hwy.
Lansing, MI 48917
517-323-8590 | www.deltami.gov



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Lansing, MI

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

The Delta Township Board has set a goal to improve ways to disseminate the Township's story. You are receiving this semi-annual update to communicate some of the positive happenings that have taken place over the past six months.

Delta Township Board



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Supervisor

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Clerk

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