



# Sumpter Township

Volume 1, Issue 2

September 2019

## Board of Trustees

John W. Morgan,  
Supervisor

Esther Hurst, Clerk

Kenneth Bednark,  
Treasurer

Don LaPorte, Trustee

Matt Oddy, Trustee

Tim Rush, Trustee

Don Swinson, Trustee



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## *From The Supervisor's Office.....*

**As part of the Tri-Community library agreement, Sumpter Township was to have a satellite library branch located in the Community Center. However, because of logistical problems with the building it was necessary to change our plans and the decision was made to construct a "state of the art" media center in the old hexagon building. Here residents would also be able to check out books from the main library electronically and return them at the local media center.**

**We are making great progress on the media center. The site is located directly across from the Township Hall in the hexagon building that once was home to the Water/DPW Department.**

**The Water/DPW Department has now moved their offices right next door into the old Township Hall. They have considerably more space in this building.**

**Construction on the new media center (satellite library branch) will begin this month with an expected completion date of November 1, 2019. In addition to the state of the art media center, this building will offer the ability to order books for check out and you may also return books here. The media center will have a children's area, copy machine and many computer stations. Once operating, if needed, we will of course, make "user friendly" adjustments to better serve our residents.**

**Reducing blight in our Township continues to be our goal and our ordinance department is working diligently to this end. Much progress is being made and the task remains formidable.**

**The leadership of this Township works closely with Wayne County departments to keep our roads and drains in good repair and functioning as they should. This is an on-going effort, but rest assured that the Township is fully aware of the problems and we work very hard to get as many man hours in Sumpter as we can. We will not let up on our efforts.**

**A reminder, ditches in front of your property are your responsibility to keep free of debris.**

**John W. Morgan, Supervisor**

## News from Your Clerk: Esther Hurst

The regular board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm through November. December 10th will be the only Regular Board Meeting held for the month. Planning Commission meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm.

### Important Number to Remember

Emergency: 911  
Dispatch: 734-461-6898  
Sumpter Police: 734-461-4833  
Republic Waste: 1-877-264-5544  
Wayne County Roads: 1-888-762-3273  
Wayne County Forestry: 734-941-1020

### Landfill Permits

Landfill permits are available at the Clerk's office. You must have a current driver's license with a Sumpter Township address. You will be able to take your non-toxic items to the landfill twice a month (not to exceed a five (5) cubic yard maximum per month). On January 1, 2019, all residents are required to wear a HIGH-VIZ vest and hard hat. Kits will be available to purchase at the landfill for \$25. The landfill is located at Clark & Oakville Waltz on Wednesdays from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm and Saturday mornings from 7:00 am until 12:00 pm.

### Large Trash Items

If you have large items to throw away (furniture, sink carpeting, etc.), you must call Republic Waste (877) 264-5544, for a "special pick-up", **before** setting it out at the roadside. Republic Waste will give you instructions on how you need to prepare your item for pickup.

### Garage/Yard Sale Permits

The Township of Sumpter requires that all residents wishing to host a garage or yard sale obtain a permit through the Clerk's office. The permit is valid for a four (4) consecutive day sale. Residents may hold a maximum of five (5) garage sales per year. The cost is \$2 for each permit, with thirty (30) days between each garage/yard sale.

### Sumpter Township Hall will be closed:

Monday, September 2, 2019  
Monday, October 14, 2019  
Monday, November 11, 2019  
Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29, 2019  
Monday, December 23, 2019 through  
January 1, 2020

### Business Licenses

In an effort to protect the health, safety, and welfare of everyone, Sumpter Township has revamped the business licensing program to include more inspections for commercial businesses. Businesses within our township that are classified as commercial businesses are now required to have four (4) inspections (building, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing), every other year. The process for businesses that are classified as home-based businesses has not changed. They are required to have one (1) building inspection annually.

### Recycling

The Recycling Center is open on Saturdays from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The center will be closed on holiday weekends, to see a current 2018-2019 calendar you can visit our website at [www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com). There is no fee to recycle except for the recycling of tires.

### Election Workers Needed:

If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, please stop by the Clerk's Office to fill out an application or visit our website at [www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com). Township hours are Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

**SUMPTER SENIOR CENTER  
2350I SUMPTER ROAD  
734-461-9373  
HOURS: 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

- Free and low cost transportation & travel
- Weekly shopping & errands to Belleville
- Daily lunch served at 11:45
- Focus Hope/TEFAP food available to qualifying individuals
- Technology Assistance, WIFI
- Exercise Room
- Upholstery class, Quilting, Bible Study
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise free to members
- Cardio Drumming Class Free to members
- MICAFAE
- Foot Doctor
- Loan closet equipped with: walkers, bath chairs, canes, diabetic lancets, etc. call 734-461-9373 for more info.

**WAYNE COUNTY NUTRITION  
SENIOR DINING**

Enjoy a hot, well-balanced meal, with friends Monday thru Friday 11:45 am. Call 734-461-1186 to RSVP. \$3.00 suggested donation for persons 60 years or older. \$5.00 for guests.

For Meals on Wheels call Wayne County @ 800-851-1454 or 734-326-5202

**A BIG Thank you to Sumpter Seniors Quilters for your endless endeavors on caring for others!**

**Mission Statement (Condensed)**

It is the expressed mission of the Sumpter Township Senior Center to do all within its restraints of time, funding and manpower to:

Provide a safe and enjoyable environment wherein seniors may congregate.

Act as a liaison between area seniors, social service agencies, Wayne County and Sumpter Township Administration. Create activities promoting health, recreation and education socialization.

**UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS**

Upholstery classes Wednesdays  
September 13-15 rent a table to sell your treasures \$10.00  
Monthly lunch trips to various Detroit area restaurants  
Canterbury Village  
Christmas Party December 10

**COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS**

Tuesdays at 6:30 Cardio Drumming  
Craft Show November 2  
Rummage and Treasure Sale September 13, 14 and 15

**WIC office open Tuesday,  
Wednesday & Friday**

**Senior Advisory Board Members**

Karen Mickens  
Margaret Rochon  
Barbara Thomason  
Joe Wilson

Liaison: Esther Hurst

**Senior Center Specialist:**

**Maryann Watson**  
734-461-9373

In Partnership with: **SMART** and **The Senior Alliance** - phone number 734-722-2830

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm for our meetings. We meet at the Parks and Recreation building located at Graham Park. We are always looking for additional members. You can find our volunteer application in the Clerk's office if interested.

Sumpter Township has two parks for the citizens to enjoy and to bring family and friends out for whatever pleasure they may have. Rentals of pavilions information can be obtained in the Clerk's office.

Banotai Park and Graham Park will be closing on October 20, 2019 for the year.

Graham park located on the corner of Sumpter and Wear Roads is named after police officer Roy Graham who lost his life in the line of duty.

Banotai Municipal Park is located at the corner of Wear and Sherwood Roads. This park is named after Marvin L. Banotai, a past Supervisor and lifetime resident of Sumpter Township, who is now deceased.

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Committee works hard in upgrading these parks for the benefit of the citizens of Sumpter Township.

We are in the stages of planning our events in 2019 which the dates and the events are as follows:

September 15, 2019-25th Don Rochon Memorial Car Show and Swap Meet  
at Sumpter Township Fairgrounds 9:00 am—3:00 pm  
All Sunday's in October-Turkey shoots-October 6, 13, 20 and 27  
December 11, 2019-Children's Christmas Party

We hope to see the Township residents at all of our events.

Sharon Pokerwinski  
Sumpter Township Parks Administrator  
On behalf of the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission

**We're on the web**  
**[www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com)**

**SUMPTER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
23501 SUMPTER ROAD  
734-461-4833**

We are happy to announce that Sumpter Township is now recognized by the National Weather Service as a Storm Ready Community! June, 2019 we passed our audit by the National Weather Service, Michigan State Police and Wayne County Emergency Management! This is a MAJOR enhancement of the Townships Emergency Operations Plan. Sumpter Township can be proud of this achievement as we are one of two townships in Michigan to obtain this certification!

We have always said that “Government’s main responsibility is public safety”! To quote Chief Luke when I brought this program to him “More is better when it comes to public safety”.

Here are just a few things that we had to do:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and Emergency Operations Center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecast and to alert the public
- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises

We have 38 NWS trained SKYWARN spotters consisting of our first responders, employees and residents! Most of these spotters participate in our text message group that allows us to make them aware of severe weather watches, warnings and deployment when needed. Unless there is a demand for further SKYWARN training the next class will be in April 2020. Our next seminar will be Severe Winter Awareness. Severe winter weather can be just as deadly as severe weather during the summer! This class will be in October 2019, the date to be determined. If anyone has any questions or would like to get involved please contact us or visit: [weather.gov/stormready](http://weather.gov/stormready).

Public Safety Director Eric Luke  
Trustee Tim Rush



## NEWS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Reading your water meter, which is located inside your home, and keeping track of how much water your household uses will help identify any unusual water usage. In just 10 minutes you can search your home for leaks and crack down on any water waste. Worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, an overset humidifier, a leak in your water heater and leaking showerheads all are easily correctable and can save on your water bill.

It's important that our customers receive accurate bills for the amount of water consumed by their household. Thus it is imperative that when the Township Water Department leaves a notice at your property requesting access to our metering equipment, that an appointment be promptly scheduled with the water billing department at 734-461-6201 ext. 2242.

In the event of a fire, help the firefighter easily find the fire hydrant nearest your home. Does it get buried under a pile of snow in the winter or covered with overgrowth during the summer? Our DPW crews are at work trying to keep the hydrants uncovered during all seasons but various job responsibilities limit the time required for this task. The Township Fire Department and DPW are encouraging residents to "adopt-a-fire-hydrant" near your home to keep clear from snow and overgrowth. This will help ensure hydrants are visible and speed the response time in case of a fire.

Sumpter Township water department is working with GLWA and MDEQ routinely testing the Township water to insure that a high quality product is delivered to your homes.

To our sewer customers: the Environment One grinder pump is capable of accepting and pumping a wide range of materials. However, certain materials can cause damage to your pump and might result in you being charged with costly repair bills. Please **DO NOT** introduce these materials plus any similar materials into your system:

**Kitchen grease, glass, cotton swabs, metal, aquarium gravel, seafood shells, personal/cleaning wipes and sponges, plastic objects (toys, utensils, etc.) sanitary napkins or tampons, diapers, socks, rags or cloth, disposable toothbrushes, kitty litter, cigarette butts, syringes, latex/vinyl items and dental floss.**

Caution: Kitchen garbage disposals do not keep grease/oil out of the plumbing system.

In addition you must never introduce into any sewer: **Explosives, flammable material, strong chemicals, gasoline, lubricating oil and/or grease.**

**In periods of disuse:** If your home is left unoccupied for longer than a couple of weeks, perform the following procedure on your grinder pump system. **PURGE** the system by running clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Immediately turn off the water and allow the grinder pump to run until it shuts off. **DO NOT DISCONNECT THE POWER TO THE UNIT.**

**IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A BROWN OUT OR POWER OUTAGE, SHUT OFF YOUR GRINDER PUMP UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED AND USE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE DURING SUCH TIMES.**

## News From Your Sumpter Township Treasurer's Office

**A message from the Sumpter Township Treasurer, Kenneth Bednark:**

It is an honor to serve our community. Since taking office last November, I have been working diligently to update and improve the Treasurer's office along with representing resident's interests as a voting board member. My staff and I have made much progress updating the office and wish to share some of the highlights with you, as well as, inform you of important tax dates. We stand ready to assist you with your questions and needs. Our office is open daily from 8:30am to 4:30pm with extended business hours on Township Board Meeting nights (the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month) until 7pm. We have new computers for our workstations and new receipt printers that will give you a receipt when you make a payment. Our office has also acquired a bank quality bill counting machine with fraud protection. Our staff will be attending training sessions in the next few months that will enable us to serve you even better!

**\*Our new primary bank is Comerica Bank and we are implementing new processes\***

ACH payments for water bills only (auto pay), in office credit card processing (customer paid fee will apply). We project implementation in time for Winter Tax Collection Season. We are investing the Township money to make a substantially higher return on our accounts with our new banking decisions. Comerica bank has also allowed us to significantly reduce our Township banking fees. We will soon acquire an automated check processing machine that will make checks clear the bank faster and allow us to put your money to work more quickly.

**\*Property Tax Collection Information\*** We are now accepting partial payments on property taxes. Please note: we will not be sending you a new bill to let you know of your outstanding balance. It is **your** responsibility to make sure your complete bill is paid. Summer taxes are due September 16, 2019. Winter tax bills will be mailed out December 1, 2019. The last day to pay all property tax bills at the Township level is February 28, 2020. Afterward, they must be paid at Wayne County and they will levy additional fees. To avoid problems, we encourage you to not wait till the last few days to pay your bill! For your convenience the office will also be open on December 31, 2019 to make payments from 9am to 5pm.

**\*We have a new secure 24/7 depository\*** Payments can be dropped off anytime even if the office is closed. Your payment will be processed no later than the next business day. The drop box is located outside the front door of the township building. If you would like a receipt for your payment, please include a self-addressed and stamped envelope and we would be happy to send your receipt.

**\*Please provide us a valid phone number to contact you if we need\*** A phone number could be needed if you mail in a check that needs to be corrected somehow (missing signature, courtesy box and legal line not matching)

**Contact us with any questions; we are happy to help!** Treasurer Kenneth Bednark, Deputy Treasurer Wendy Snook, Treasurer's Clerk Erica Campbell. Please direct all correspondence to the Treasurer's Clerk: 734-558-0193 email: [ecampbell@sumptertwp.org](mailto:ecampbell@sumptertwp.org)

## NEWS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Hello Township Residents,  
Sumpter Township Fire Department wants to remind you of some important reminders for the upcoming Fall season.

With the weather becoming cooler, performing routine maintenance on your furnace will help prevent any safety issues you may encounter. Also, having your chimney cleaned will help prevent chimney fires.

Maintaining your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors is very important! By changing the batteries along with updating any outdated detectors will help save lives in the event of an emergency. It is recommended to change the batteries every six months. Testing your detectors on a monthly basis will determine if it's working properly. If in the event that your detector is not working properly replace with new and discard the old. Also proper placement will help in the event of a fire. Smoke detectors that are hard wired with lithium batteries can last up to ten years. Carbon monoxide detectors can last between five and seven years.

Please make sure your address is visible from the road in case of an emergency. Life signs are available for purchase at the township hall for twenty dollars.

Our annual Chicken broil will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 12-5pm. Tickets will be available for sale from any firefighter and at the township hall. Meals will include half a chicken, corn on the cob, coleslaw, dinner roll and a drink. There will be a 50/50 raffle and door prizes.

### **THERE IS NO OPEN BURNING IN SUMPTER TOWNSHIP!**

Thank you for your continued support and as always be safe!

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP  
23480 SUMPTER ROAD  
BELLEVILLE, MI 48111**



**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENT  
BELLEVILLE, MI 48111**