

Welcome to the Charter Township of Washington

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Staff of the Charter Township of Washington, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the community and your new home!

This information is your roadmap to the services, programs, and contacts you will need here in Washington Township.

Please take an opportunity to review and then place by your phone for future reference.

Washington Township has many attributes that make it desirable place to live with clean and safe neighborhoods, beautiful natural surroundings, and economic opportunities. We have (3) great school systems located in our township, the largest being Romeo Community Schools. We have a great Tri-Community Parks and Recreation Department, Star Transportation, and Library. We are excited that you have chosen to join us!

Please reach out to me anytime if I can be of service, my goal is to represent your concerns.

Sebastian 'Sam' Previti
Supervisor



Cell: (586) 651-2656
Email: PrevitiS@WashingtonTwpMi.org
www.WashingtonTownship.org



Washington Twp. Hall

57900 Van Dyke - Washington, MI 48094
Phone: (586) 786-0010

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sebastian 'Sam' Previti.....Supervisor
Stanly Babinski.....Clerk
Mike Nicley.....Treasurer
Dennis Stevenson.....Trustee
Gary Kopp.....Trustee
Cindy Olsen.....Trustee
Daniel Detkowski.....Trustee

TWP. OFFICE DIRECTORY DIAL (586) 786-0010

And the extension listed below:

Supervisor's Office.....6
Sam Previti *Previtis@washingtontwpmi.org*
Clerk's Office.....5
Stan Babinski *babinskis@washingtontwpmi.org*
Treasurer's Office.....4
Mike Nicley *nicleym@washingtontwpmi.org*
Assessing Dept.....3
Patty Rappuhn *rappuhn@washingtontwpmi.org*
Dept of Public Works.....2
Rich Amormino *amormino@washingtontwpmi.org*
Building Department.....1
Dave Hajski *hajskid@washingtontwpmi.org*
Planning & Zoning.....6
Dana Berschback *berschbackd@washingtontwpmi.org*
Fire Department.....(586) 781-6161
Brian Tyrell, Fire Chief *tyrellb@ctwfd.org*
Macomb County Sheriff
Emergency.....911
Non-Emergency.....(586) 469-5151

Welcome to the Charter Township of Washington



Local Guide & Directory

Washington Township Municipal Hall
57900 Van Dyke – Washington, MI 48094
(586) 786-0010
www.WashingtonTownship.org

ASSESSING

(586) 786-0013

Email: assessing@washingtontwpmi.org

The Board of Review does meet 3 times a year. To have an in person meeting, or to write a letter to them, about a specific issue that concerns you; March is the meeting you need to attend to be heard and/or to keep your appeal rights open. The July and December Boards of Review are to fix errors of mutual mistake, clerical errors and exemptions that were missed at the beginning of the assessment year process.

PLANNING & ZONING

(586) 786-0011

Email: BerschbackD@washingtontwpmi.org

The Planning Department reviews site development plans to insure compliance with the zoning and other general ordinances of the Township. Plans are reviewed for building setbacks, flood plain violations, and height limitations, parking accommodations and site density as well as many other items. The Planning Department also supports the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

BUILDING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

(586) 786-0018

Email: HajskiD@washingtontwpmi.org

The Building Department is responsible for inspecting any construction that a permit is taken out for in our Township. This includes any building, plumbing, heating, or electrical work that is done in Washington Township. If you are unsure that a permit has been taken out or if a permit is required, please contact us.

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

(586) 786-0012

Email: DPW@washingtontwpmi.org
After Hours Emergency (586) 623-7273

The DPW team oversees approximately 90 miles of water main & 70 miles of sanitary sewer. Personnel maintain the pipes, two pumping stations (water), six pressure reducing valves (water), & five lift stations (sewer). Billing is provided for over 6,500 water and/or sewer accounts that include residential, commercial and industrial. Recently, the department has upgraded the meter-reading technology to radio remote reading capabilities. This provides customers with historical water usage data when requested.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

(586) 786-0014

Email: Treasury@washingtontwpmi.org

THE PAYMENT PROCESSING CENTER ADDRESS

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
TAX PROCESSING CENTER
PO BOX 94627
CLEVELAND OH 44101-4627

Taxes are due and payable:

Summer: July 1st - September 14th of current year
Winter: December 1st - February 28th of following year

CLERK'S OFFICE

(586) 786-0022

Email: elections@washingtontwpmi.org

The Clerk is the official keeper of the Township records. In addition to those items required by law, the Clerk's office prepares the agendas for all regular board meetings & any special board meetings & further prepares the minutes of each board meeting. The Clerk can also register residents to vote and accepts applications for poll workers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Web: www.WashingtonTownship.org

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of Each Month
6:30 p.m. at Township Hall

PLANNING & ZONING MEETINGS

Zoning Board of Appeals

1st Monday of Each Month

6:30 p.m. at Township Hall

Planning Commission Meetings

2nd Thursday of Each Month

6:30 p.m. at Township Hall

Dates subject to change, check website for updates

ROMEO DISTRICT LIBRARY

Web: RomeoDistrictLibrary.com

Two Locations to Serve You!

Graubner Library	Kezar Library
65821 Van Dyke	107 Church Street
(586) 752-0603	(586) 752-2583

GARBAGE-RECYCLE-YARD WASTE



New waste hauler beginning October 3rd

Visit our website washingtontownship.org or prioritywaste.com for more info.

Pick up days will remain the same.

You may continue using your current bins.

Bulk items included.

Questions: Call 586-228-1200

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Can be found at the following web address:

https://www.washingtontownship.org/i_want_to/local_businesses.php

ROMEO-BRUCE-WASHINGTON PARKS & RECREATION

(586) 752-6543

Web: rwbparksrec.org

We have 2 Community Activity Centers that each house a Senior Center & Fitness Center. Plus we have a long standing agreement with the schools to use their Gyms, Rooms & pools when they are available for the community. We run programs & special events year round. Currently maintain 7 Community Parks & the community uses the 6 playgrounds at the RCS Elementary Schools as additional parks. Together our local parks & schools have over 26 athletic fields: Baseball, Softball & several Soccer & practice green space for a multitude of activities.

ROMEO-BRUCE-WASHINGTON STAR TRANSPORTATION

(586) 752-9010

- Eligibility: All residents & 60 years of age or older, or under 60 years of age & have a disability that prevents you from operating a vehicle.
- What STAR Does: Take passengers for any transportation request. STAR travels outside the townships for personal medical appointments.
- Business Hours: STAR operates Mon - Fri, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, closed on most Holidays.
- Schedule a Ride: Call STAR at (586) 752-9010 by 12:00PM at least two working days in advance. STAR will take reservations for Medical appointments up to 1 month in advance, and all other appointments up to two

Ordinance Enforcement: Processing of Complaints

The Washington Township Building Department enforces ordinance complaints. When there is a complaint, the following procedure shall apply:



1. The Enforcement Inspector receives a copy of the complaint. When filing a complaint with the Washington Township Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department, it must be in writing. The Building Department accepts faxed, mailed, e-mailed or hand delivered complaints. Include the address of the violation and the name of the person making the complaint with phone number for any follow-up questions or status report. The complainant may also include their address with permission to enter their property to view the reported violation.
2. The Enforcement Inspector views the property for non-compliance in a timely manner. Please note that ordinance enforcement is one of the many duties of the Enforcement Inspector.
3. The inspector may contact the complainant or violator on site. A violation may be issued.
4. Results of the inspection are noted and given to the department office clerk. Results are entered into the Code Enforcement Process System.
5. A violation may be mailed to the property owner giving a time limit to complete the correction. *(continued)*
This may range from 3 to 30 days, depending on

the severity of the violation and weather conditions.

6. Follow-up inspection of the site is performed shortly after the allotted period of time. If a violation is not corrected, a second notice is mailed. If the violation remains uncorrected, a letter is sent stating court action to follow if not resolved.

7. If violation is satisfactorily corrected, the complaint is then closed. (Note: future repetitive non-compliance may result in the immediate issuance of a Court Appearance Ticket.) If violation is not corrected, a Court Appearance Ticket is issued.

8. Court date set.

9. At court date: township prosecutor may issue time extension with follow-up court date, or judge rules and assesses possible probationary periods, fines, and/or penalties. (Note: jail time is a possible outcome.)

10. Emergency complaints involving health, safety and welfare have immediate priority.

Ordinance enforcement may be a lengthy process, but the end result promotes a high level of property maintenance, according to township law.

Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department provides the following informational hand-outs:

**Pools
Hot Tubs
Decks
Garages
Sheds
Fences**

Please note: The Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department cannot intervene in contractual, monetary or warranty issues. The scope of the department's authority is only to ensure that installations and/or repairs are made in accordance with applicable codes.

Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department of Washington Township

Violations • Permits • Complaints



Building Department

57900 Van Dyke Ave, Washington, MI 48094

(586) 786-0010

Email: bldginspect@washingtontwpmi.org

**INSPECTORS OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm, except holidays.**

**Did you know...
these are violations of township ordinances?**

The Washington Township Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department would like all citizens to be aware that the following violations could result in court action and possible fines:

1. Parking of unlicensed, inoperable or junk vehicles anywhere except inside of an enclosed structure.
2. Parking of recreational vehicles, including campers, motor homes and all types of trailers, anywhere in the front yard or required side yard setback.
3. Parking on grass.
4. Parked vehicles blocking right-of-way sidewalks.
5. Not clearing right-of-way sidewalks within 24-hours after snowfall.
6. Signs placed in the right-of-way, between the streets and the sidewalk.
7. Driveway approach or sidewalk replacement in the right-of-way without a permit.
8. Fences, sheds, garages, additions, hot tubs, pools and decks erected without obtaining a permit from the Building Department.
9. Structural changes and re-roofs with tear-off done without a permit. (Note: a third roof is not allowed on existing structures.)
10. Electrical, plumbing and mechanical (heating/cooling) work performed without a permit.
11. Overgrown grass, brush and weeds over 6 inches.
12. Debris around exterior property.
13. Firewood stored less than six (6) inches above the ground. *(continued)*

14. Stagnant water on property or grade work, landscaping, construction or concrete work that allows water from one property to impact an adjacent property.

15. One address or premises harboring more than four animals (dogs and/or cats). Check with the building department for animals that are prohibited.

16. Trash put out for pick-up before 7:00 p.m. of the day before scheduled pick-up. Containers must be removed after scheduled pickup.

17. Allowing rodent harborage by intentionally or unintentionally creating conditions that provide rodents with food and a place to nest. (For more information on keeping your neighborhood rodent-free, read the section that follows.)

Help for keeping your neighborhood rodent-free

Rodents are a problem that could impact an entire neighborhood. Please be part of the solution by:

1. Keeping garbage bags with foodstuffs enclosed in covered containers that have no holes. Plastic bags are not rodent-proof.
2. Keeping firewood and other natural materials properly stored at least six inches above the ground.
3. Cleaning up animal droppings daily.
4. Clearing vegetation from below decks and replacing ground cover with a thin layer of Visqueen plastic or weed fabric, covered with pea stone.
5. Not leaving pet food outdoors or storing in a garage or shed.
6. Not allowing overgrowth of weeds, grass or brush.
7. Not leaving brush or rubbish piles on the ground - dispose of grass clippings properly. *(continued)*

Without food and a place to nest, rodents will move away from the area. Proper cautious applications of poison are also effective means of eliminating rodents; please read the label and follow directions.

Questions and Answers about Permits

Q - *For what type of work is a permit required?*

A - Permits are required for the following work:

- Decks
- Fences
- Pools
- Sidewalks and approaches
- Hot tubs and spas
- Additions and sunrooms
- Sheds and garages
- Roof: tear-off and replace
- Furnaces
- Air conditioners
- Hot water heaters
- Porches
- Electrical work
- Work in the right-of-way (Macomb County Department of Roads or Michigan Department of Transportation)
- Structural home renovations
- Signs (permanent and temporary). Signs are not allowed in the right-of-way.

Q - *I have my permit, now what do I do?*

A - All permits require an inspection. Inspections need to be called in to the Inspection Line at (586) 786-0018. It is the permit holder's responsibility to ensure that inspections are called for, made and approved. Failure to call in a request for inspection in a timely manner may result in forfeiture of bonds and/or violations.

Q - *When will my inspection be made?*

A - During regular hours Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Q - *For how long is my permit good?*

A - Permits expire 12 months from the date of issuance. Work must start, however, within six months of obtaining the permit.

Calculating Your Property Tax Bill

Your individual property taxable value is multiplied by your tax rates which include school, city and county millages.

There are three values that directly relate to your individual property.

State Equalized Value (SEV)- This value represents 50% of estimated market value as mandated by the state law.

Capped Value (CV)- This value is computed as last year's taxable value minus losses, multiplied by the Rate of Inflation or 5%, whichever is lower, plus any additions.

Taxable Value (TV)- This value is the lower of either the SEV or CV for a property in a given year.

Proposal A was approved by voters in 1994. When a property is sold, Proposal A Mandates that the TV of that property is RESET to the SEV in the following year. The Twp. Assessing Office has **NO CONTROL** over this mandated increase. The actual sale price is **NOT** True Cash Value.

How are Property Taxes Calculated?

Property Taxes = Taxable Value / 1,000 x your millage rate



Important Links

State Tax Commission-

<https://www.michigan.gov/treasury/local/stc>

Michigan Tax Tribunal-

<https://www.michigan.gov/taxtrib>

Macomb County-

<https://www.macombgov.org/>

Washington Township-

<https://www.washingtontownship.org/>

How to prepare for the March Board of Review

Washington Twp. Assessing Department



Please read this important information. If you have any other questions, contact us at 586-786-0013 Mon-Fri 8A-5P or email us at assessing@washingtontwpmi.org

57900 Van Dyke
Washington, MI 48094

What do I bring? What do I say?

BRING:

Appropriate sale date. (verified sales only)

Photos

Estimates to fix home damages

Supporting evidence to prove your value



DO NOT SAY-

My taxes are too high

My property is not worth anything

My taxes are more than my neighbors



You must be prepared to justify and bring evidence that your appeal is valid. You have the burden of proof.

The Board of Review and Poverty Hardship decisions are good for 1 year only. Unless there is a physical loss to your property the assessment will go right back to where it was the next year.

What is the March Board of Review?

The board is comprised of residents that have knowledge of property values. The three residents are not employees as they are appointed by the supervisor. **The Board is available, at a specific time ONLY**, if you disagree with the values provided to you by your assessment notice.

Appointments are best. Residents can protest in-person or send someone to protest on their behalf with a letter showing that person can come in-place of them. Residents that are not available may appeal by letter which must be received by the last day the Board is scheduled to meet. The Board does **NOT** make decisions at the meeting. The Board's decision will be mailed to usually within 10 days but no later than the first Monday in June.

What the Board of Review CAN and CANNOT do

CAN

- They CAN hear appeals on the classification of the property.
- They CAN hear appeals and make changes to the assessed value.
- The Board CAN grant a Poverty Exemption.
- The Board CAN change the Taxable Value, if there is a loss to the property or the Assessed Value becomes lower than the previous year's Taxable Value multiplied by the current year's CPI.



CANNOT

- The Board CANNOT change the calculation for the Capped Value.
- The Board CANNOT discuss your tax bill.
- The Board CANNOT discuss or change values from prior years.
- The Board CANNOT hear appeals of Principal Residence Exemptions.
- The Board CANNOT cut a sale price in half. It is against the law; MCL Section 211.27 (5)
- The Board CANNOT change the millage rates.
- The Board CANNOT change any tribunal decisions.
- The Board CANNOT change the zoning of your property.

Disabled Veterans Exemption

In order to receive the exemption, the veteran must file the following with their local municipality.

*Affidavit Form 5107

*Copy of his or hers letter from the Veterans Affairs showing that you are 100% disabled

Below are the eligible requirements that the applicant must meet:

- The disabled veteran has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service and is entitled to veterans benefits at the 100% rate. He/She **MUST** attach a copy of the certificate from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.
- The disabled veteran is receiving or has received financial assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing.
- The veteran has been rated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs as individually unemployable.

If a disabled veteran who is otherwise eligible for the exemption dies, either before or after the exemption is granted, the exemption shall remain available to or shall continue for his or her un-remarried surviving spouse.

Principal Residence Exemption (PRE)

If you **OWN AND OCCUPY** your home as a principal residence, it may be exempt from a portion of local school operating taxes.

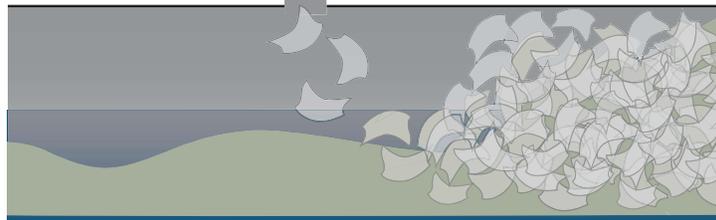


“Flushable” Wipes?

They clog our pipes



Things like “flushable” wipes, feminine hygiene products, and paper towels do not disintegrate like toilet paper. This means they cause blockages in sewer pipes. Keep our wastewater system flowing and dispose of these items in the trash.

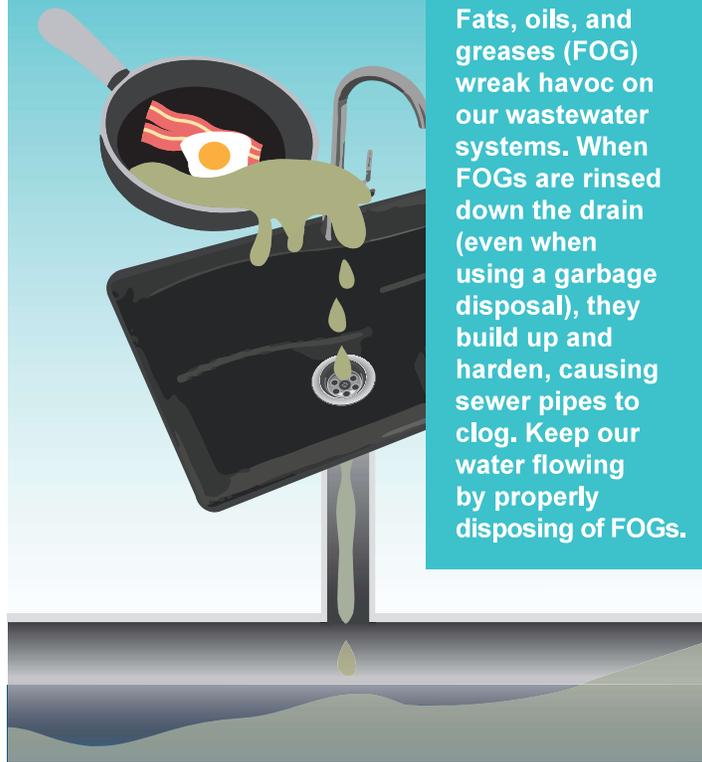


To keep it flowing, only flush:



Fats, Oils, and Greases

They gum up the works!



Fats, oils, and greases (FOG) wreak havoc on our wastewater systems. When FOGs are rinsed down the drain (even when using a garbage disposal), they build up and harden, causing sewer pipes to clog. Keep our water flowing by properly disposing of FOGs.

Properly dispose of fats, oils, and greases (FOG)

Put FOG in covered containers and cans for proper disposal. Wipe down pots and pans with a towel to remove any FOG. Scrape food and scraps into the trash when possible.



Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

When driving, yield to people in the crosswalk when lights are flashing.

When walking, push a button to activate the signal and wait for a safe gap before crossing.



Bike lanes



Only people riding bikes can use this space. Drivers can only enter this space when bike lane lines are dashed. A lane painted green indicates a potential point of conflict between auto and bicycle traffic.

Shared-lane markings (sharrows)



Bicyclists and drivers can use this space. While all roads – unless otherwise posted – are usable by motor vehicles and bicycles, shared-lane markings indicate that a lane has been designated as a preferred space for bicycle traffic.



When walking . . .

- Cross within a crosswalk when possible.
- Yield the right-of-way to motorists and bicyclists when crossing outside of a marked crosswalk.
- Allow ample time for a vehicle to yield prior to entering the street.
- Only enter the street during the “WALK” symbol when crossing at a signal.



When biking . . .

- Obey the same traffic signs, signals, and laws as a motorist.
- Signal when stopping or turning.
- Use a white front headlight and a red rear reflector or light at night.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians on sidewalks or crosswalks.



When driving . . .

- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians when turning at a signal.
- Share the road with bicyclists; they are legally allowed to ride on all roads.
- Leave at least 3 feet when passing bicyclists.

SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



For more information go to:
WalkBikeDriveSafe.org



Walking safety tips

Be seen: Stay visible, stay alert

Always...

- Look left-right-left before crossing a street and watch for turning vehicles.
- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.

Never...

- Assume drivers see you. Wait for them to stop and make eye contact before crossing a street.
- Walk after dark and in bad weather without bright and reflective clothing.
- Walk distracted, including talking or texting on your phone or listening to headphones.



Biking safety tips

Be safe: Follow the rules, be predictable

Always...

- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Ride with traffic, not against it, including on sidewalks and paths.
- Watch for turning vehicles at intersections and driveways.
- Use hand signals when you plan to turn, slow down, or stop.
- Wear a properly fitted helmet.

Never...

- Ride after dark without a white headlight, a red rear light, and bright and reflective clothing.
- Ride distracted, including talking or texting on your phone or listening to headphones.



Driving safety tips

Be aware: Slow down, look

Always...

- Watch for people who are walking and biking.
- Yield to people walking and biking when turning.
- Stop or yield to people within all crosswalks.
- Leave at least 3 feet when passing bicyclists.
- Obey the posted speed limit.

Never...

- Block or park in crosswalks and bike lanes.
- Pass a vehicle that is stopped for pedestrians.
- Drive distracted, including talking or texting on your phone or listening to headphones.
- Drive after consuming alcohol or drugs.

Follow pedestrian signals



Start crossing
You may begin to cross the street.



Don't start
Do not enter the street. If you have already begun to cross continue to the other side. The counter at the bottom tells you the time remaining to finish crossing.

STEADY



Don't cross
Do not enter the street. If you are in the street, get out.

Use hand signals

View from behind

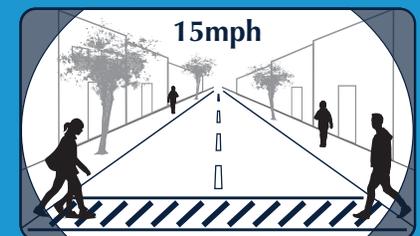


Stopping

Left turn

Right turn

Slow down to see more





This is another opportunity to leave an enduring memento with your own personalized bench or decorative tree in the Washington Township Memorial PATH WAY OF REMEMBRANCE.

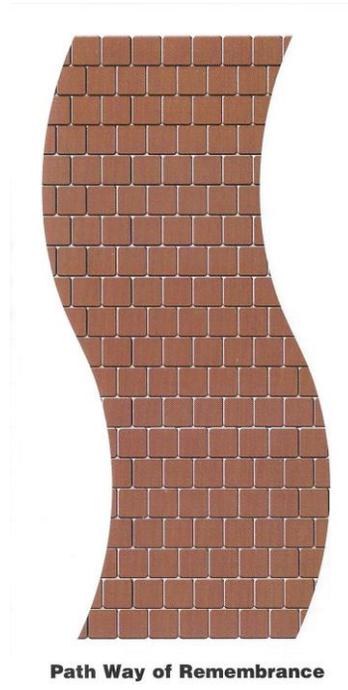
All proceeds will be used to maintain and enhance your memorial to the veterans and first responders who have served our country so bravely.

The memorial built on the municipal grounds, serves as a lasting reminder for all veterans, first responders and residents who visit.

Please help us by supporting this program and making a contribution to Washington Township history.

For more information please call Gary Kopp:
586-873-6906

FaceBook: Washington Township Veterans Memorial



Washington Township Memorial



The Washington Veterans Memorial





Farmland Preservation in Macomb County

Northern Macomb County has some of the highest quality farmland in the state. This area is experiencing significant population growth and loss of farmland. Michigan and as well as Macomb County are blessed with a diversified agricultural economy and Michigan is second only to California in the types of crops grown. Agriculture is the second largest industry in the state.

The townships of Armada, Bruce, Lenox, Ray, Richmond, and the County of Macomb have recognized the importance of agriculture and the need to develop a program similar to successful land preservation programs in other states. This is why the Macomb Agricultural PDR Committee was formed.

PDR stands for "purchase of development rights" and allows a landowner the option to preserve his/her property as farmland. In such a program, a landowner is paid the fair market value of the development rights of his/her property and an easement restricts residential, commercial or industrial uses from being built on the land. The value of the development rights is generally calculated as the difference between the development value and the agricultural value of the land.

"Help us in preserving farmland in Macomb County."

... the
**Macomb
Agricultural
PDR Committee.**



The message the PDR Committee hopes to spread is "We have a plan and you can help."

Mission Statement

Mission Statement: To promote sustainable growth and development while preserving productive farmland. Taking into account the rights of landowners and the need to preserve our natural resources.

Your Help is Needed

Funding: Macomb County is competing with several other counties in the state for farmland preservation funds. An important part of the application process is the interest and funding support of the local units of government and the residents.

Your donation is appreciated...

**100% of your
donation goes to
preservation
of farmland
and is
tax deductible**





To make a donation or to get additional information on farmland preservation:

(please choose from the following)

1. Enclosed is my check in support of your efforts.
2. Please contact me regarding questions I have about your program.
3. Please contact me regarding addressing my church group, club, etc.
4. I am a landowner and would like to know more about the program and application procedure.

**Macomb Agricultural
PDR Committee
64255 Wolcott Road
Ray, MI 48096
586.749.5171**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Committee Membership

Executive Committee:

**Vern Kulman, Chairman - 586.784.5196
Richmond Township**

**Ken DeCock, Vice-Chair - 586.634.4616
Armada Township**

**Charley Bohm, Secretary - 586.749.5171
Ray Township**

**John Rhein, Treasurer - 586.727.3162
Lenox Township**

Members:

DJ Kehrig - Armada Township

Tom Rudich - Ray Township

Bob Szalka - Richmond Township

Mark Falker - Bruce Township

Karon Ottenbacher - Lenox Township

Paul Okoniewski - Bruce Township

Marilyn Rudzinski - MSU Extension

Commissioner Keith Rengert

HELPING TO PRESERVE PRODUCTIVE FARMLAND



Macomb Agricultural PDR Committee

*Armada Township
Bruce Township
Lenox Township
Ray Township
Richmond Township*

