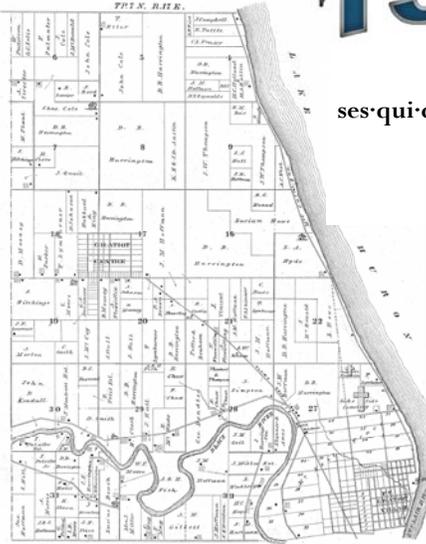


MAP OF  
FORT GRATIOT  
TOWNSHIP



# 150th Anniversary

1866 — 2016

ses·qui·cen·ten·ni·al ~ WE'RE EXCITED TO CELEBRATE OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL ~ seskwāsen 'tenēal  
Join us for festivities June 25, 2016. Details will be released soon. Save the date!

## Important Election Dates. Polls open from 7AM-8PM.

- ⇒ Presidential Primary is Tuesday, March 8
- ⇒ Tuesday, May 3; PHASD Bond Proposal and BWATC Millage Request
- ⇒ Primary, Tuesday, August 2
- ⇒ General, Tuesday, November 8
- ⇒ Our clerk's office will be open the Saturday before each election from 10AM-2PM for absentee voting. Absentee ballots must be requested in person or by mail. In order to be counted, the ballot must be returned by the close of the polls on election day. Contact Clerk Robert Crawford for eligibility requirements.
- ⇒ To check registration, call our office or visit [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote) or scan



**Blue Water  
Cruise Weekend**  
Friday, June 24 &  
Saturday, June 25  
**Scarecrow Saturday**  
Saturday,  
September 24

**Burning permits are issued annually. After you complete the form, you simply have to keep your copy available while you are burning. You do not have to call each time you burn. Contact (810) 385-5666 if you have any questions.**

**Blue Water Area Transit Ballot Proposal**  
May 3rd~0.6214 mil, 4 Year Millage Renewal  
(Home taxable value of \$50,000=\$31.07/year)  
2015 Fort Gratiot Rider Stats: 408,418 Total Trips  
54,266 Trips for Seniors  
90,414 Trips for the Disabled  
19,253 Vehicle Hours of Service  
256,380 Miles Traveled



## WEEDS & NOXIOUS WEEDS ORDINANCE NO. 202 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Sec. 12-273. DUTY OF OWNER.** It shall be unlawful for the owner of any parcel of land to allow or maintain on any portion of such lot or land the growth of any noxious weeds or weeds, or the accumulation of dead weeds, grass, or brush which may create a condition detrimental to public health. The owner shall cut and remove or destroy all noxious weeds and weeds as often as necessary to prevent such weeds from going to seed or exceeding ten inches in growth, and shall prevent the accumulation of dead weeds, grass, or brush.

**Sec. 12-274. NOTICE; ALTERNATIVE NOTICE BY PUBLICATION.** (a) The township shall notify the owner of any parcel of land found to be in violation that they shall have ten calendar days to remedy all unlawful conditions as defined in section 12-272. Failure to remedy the violation within ten calendar days shall be a municipal civil infraction and, in addition, shall be cause for the township to enter the property and remove the prohibited growth without further notice, and the owner of the property charged pursuant to section 12-276.

(1) The township shall notify the owner of the parcel of land found to be in violation personally by regular mail, and;

(2) The township shall post notice in a conspicuous location on the property in question. Notice shall include the date and time said notice is posted upon the property and the date by which the violation must be remedied.

(b) In lieu of the notice by section 12-274 (a), the township may publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county during the month of March, or in the spring edition of the township newsletter, that weeds and noxious weeds not cut by June 1 and maintained through November 30 of that year will be cut by the township, and the owner of the property charged pursuant to section 12-276.

(c) When there has been no recorded transfer of ownership on a parcel of land, the initial notice may serve as the only notice for that year for any subsequent offense. The township may cut weeds as many times as is necessary and the owner of the property charged pursuant to section 12-276.

Fort Gratiot Township Administration Offices ~ 3720 Keewahdin Road, Fort Gratiot Michigan 48059

Open Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM ~ (810) 385-4489

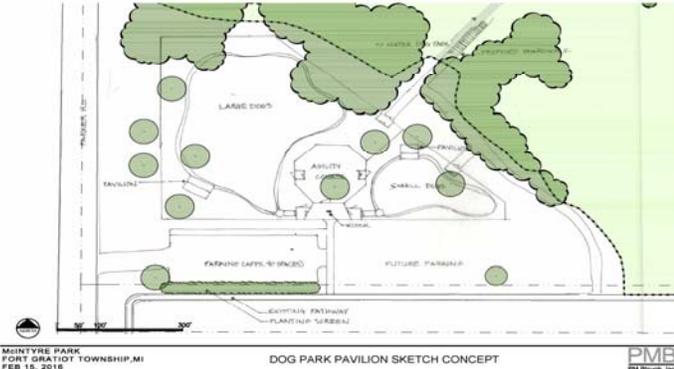
Fire Non-Emergency: (810) 385-5666 ~ Sheriff Non-Emergency: (810) 985-8115

Find us on the Web at: [www.fortgratiottwp.org](http://www.fortgratiottwp.org) and [www.facebook.com/fgtwp](http://www.facebook.com/fgtwp)  
Our website is updated frequently and the Facebook page is a great resource for current happenings. If there is something you'd like to see added, please contact  
Jorja Baldwin at (810) 385-4489 x1100 or [jbaldwin@fortgratiottwp.org](mailto:jbaldwin@fortgratiottwp.org),  
and listen for us with Paul Miller on WPHM 1380!



**Fort Gratiot PetSafe Dog Park at McIntyre Park**

Last year, with a little help from our friends...and their friends...and their friends' friends...we won \$25,000 to go toward the construction of a dog park that will be open to all! Many thanks to all who shared the posts and kept people voting. This picture is a preliminary drawing of Phase 1 of the project. We will break ground this spring and, at a minimum, will have fences and parking in this year. Follow our progress on Facebook and our website.



DTE Energy is almost complete with a 3 year Reliability Improvement Plan that should improve the non-weather related outages we have been experiencing. While we have seen an increasing amount of outages over the past 20 years, some areas of the Township have suffered an unreasonable amount of outages over the past two years. Some of these outages have been short (less than an hour) but some have been over 8, and up to 24 hours long. The Township has opened the hall as a warming or cooling station for a few of these outages. Following several complaints to the MPSC, in July, 2015, we were put in contact with a DTE representative who has facilitated two community meetings and has kept in contact with the Township about the upgrade progress. Upgrades to three of the four circuits fed by the Parker Road Substation are complete. The last circuit in the southwest corner of the Township is scheduled to be complete by the end of March, 2016. Tree trimming and removal will continue through May. The Township may consider adopting a tree planting and maintenance ordinance to help prevent future tree-caused outages. If you have any questions about the upgrades, leave a message at (586) 412-3064, or visit our website at [fortgratiotwp.org/dte/](http://fortgratiotwp.org/dte/)

***Refreshers and reminders on trash, yard waste and recycling!***

**Recycling is now a weekly service. Items must be out by 7 AM on the day of pickup and containers put away the same day. Items should not be put out earlier than 7 PM the night before the pickup day. Every effort should be made to contain your items neatly and orderly. Recyclables can be put in your container all together with large cardboard bundled on the side.**

**Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste**

**Yard Waste Pickup Begins**

**Tuesday, April 12 & Wednesday, April 13.**

**Yard Waste Ends Tuesday, November 22 & Wednesday, November 23.**

***All Services Will be Delayed by One Day:***

**Memorial Day—Week of May 30**

**Independence Day—Week of July 4**

**Labor Day—Week of September 5**

**What are the rules for Bulk and Metal item pickup?**

One bulk item is permitted per household per week; i.e. mattresses, box springs, couches, chairs, tables, etc., and will be picked up during regularly scheduled trash pickups. Metal items are picked up on Tuesdays only, and must be called into Marcotte no later than 3PM Monday. Freon items must be tagged for pickup. Contact Marcotte at (810) 985-9818 for more details or to schedule a pickup.

**What items are considered unacceptable in the trash?**

Items considered unacceptable for pickup include: tires, building materials, shingles, brick, concrete, stone, ceiling tile, Freon, animal carcasses or waste and human waste.

**ACCEPTABLE CONTAINERS**

Residents are responsible for obtaining their own bags and/or containers for all programs. Following are the accepted containers, sizes and amounts, most of which can be purchased at most stores or through Marcotte.

**Recycling:** Marcotte container, clear plastic bags or in a bin with no lid. This can be a storage type tote or the bin specifically marked with the word "recycle" or the recycle logo. There is no maximum.

**Yard Waste:** Paper bags or 33 gallon cans with no lids marked with an "X" with a All branches must be tied and bundled with string or twine, 3" maximum diameter. Maximum 10 bags or cans per pickup.

**Trash:** Trash bags or 30 gallon trash containers, maximum 10 bags or cans per pickup.

**Keeping you informed...**Fort Gratiot Township has teamed up with the St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to bring to you a new way to get up-to-the-minute information about our area called WINS—Warning Information Notification System. In addition to receiving emergency notifications, Fort Gratiot will be using the system for general information regarding parks, events, tax bill notices, newsletters, office closings, meeting reminders, election info etc.. You can be notified by receiving a phone call to a landline or cell phone, text message, email or any combination. You will need access to a computer to get setup. If you are interested in the program and need assistance with the setup, you can make an appointment by calling Supervisor Jorja Baldwin at (810) 385-4489 x1100. Visit [fortgratiotwp.org/wins/](http://fortgratiotwp.org/wins/) for more info, to signup or login.

**We accept credit card payments online or in person!** Payments may be made in person, by mail, or by being placed in the after-hours drop box by check or cash. Credit card payments can be made in person or online, but cannot be accepted over the phone. All payments placed in the drop box on the due date are considered on time. Payments sent via mail are considered on time if postmarked on or before the due date. To pay online, visit our website and look under "Quick Links" on the left. There are several screens to verify your information before you are charged, including the screen showing the credit card fee. For all credit card transactions the fee is 3% of the transaction, with a minimum fee of \$2.00. The fees go directly to the credit card company. You will receive a confirmation email from [support@pointandpay.com](mailto:support@pointandpay.com) with a confirmation number and the transaction details. Contact Treasurer Judi Reynolds if you have any questions or concerns.

*All monthly meetings begin at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall unless otherwise posted. Minutes and agendas are posted on our website and in the office. Meetings may be cancelled due to a lack of items/quorum.*

**Board of Trustees—1st & 3rd Wednesdays**

**Planning Commission—2nd Tuesday**

**Parks Commission—3rd Monday**

**Zoning Board of Appeals—3rd Tuesday**