

Welcome to the Rural Community of Williamstown Township

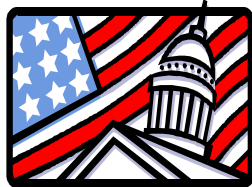


Who's Who In Township Government

Williamstown Township Board is comprised of seven elected officials. The Board members are responsible for coordinating the activities of the Township commissions, boards, and committees that operate to maintain the goals of the Township and provide services and regulations for the residents. The Board makes all final decisions concerning the township.

Elected Officials:

Supervisor – Mickey Martin
Clerk – Ernie Gaffner
Treasurer – Janet Eyster
Trustee – Robert Hayes
Trustee – Frans Wilbrink
Trustee - Rick Williams
Trustee – Martin Wright



Boards, Commissions, Committees:

Board of Review
Construction Board of Appeals
Zoning Board of Appeals
Planning Commission
Communication Commission
Cemetery Committee
Compensation Committee
Historical Committee
Parks & Recreation Committee
Transportation Committee
Environmental Task Force



VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME FOR COMMITTEES. IF INTERESTED
PLEASE CONTACT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR MICKEY MARTIN.

How to reach us:

Williamstown Township
4990 North Zimmer Road
Williamston, MI 48895-8180
Telephone: (517) 655-3193
Fax: (517) 655-3971
Website: williamstowntownship.com

Office Hours

TUESDAY – THURSDAY – FRIDAY
10am – 4pm
WEDNESDAY 1pm – 7 pm

Where Do I Vote?

Precinct One: registered voters living **East** of Zimmer Road vote at the Williamstown Township Hall at 4990 N. Zimmer Road.

Precinct Two: registered voters living **West** of Zimmer Road vote at St. Katherine's Episcopal Church at 4650 Meridian Road.

Photo ID required for all voting.

REPRESENTING OUR TOWNSHIP

US SENATOR CARL LEVIN
US SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW
US REP MIKE ROGERS – DISTRICT 8
MI STATE SENATOR GRETCHEN WHITMER – DIST 23
MI STATE REP BARBARA BYRUM – DISTRICT 67
MI STATE REP MARK MEADOWS – DISTRICT 69
INGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONER RANDY SCHAFER

SERVICE VENDORS FOR THE TOWNSHIP

DTE & CONSUMERS - (ELECTRICITY)
CONSUMERS - GAS (LIMITED AREAS)
VERIZON – (PHONE)
FREEDOMNET – (WIRELESS INTERNET)
BROADSTRIPE – CABLE (LIMITED AREAS)
WASTE MANAGEMENT & GRANGER – (TRASH)

What about Taxes?

Real property (i.e. residences and vacant land) and personal property (i.e. business equipment, fixtures, etc.) taxes are collected twice per year. Summer tax bills are mailed on July 1 and payment is due by September 14. Winter tax bills are mailed on December 1 and payment is due by February 14. State law requires that 1% interest be collected for each month or portion of a month when summer taxes are paid after September 14. A 3% penalty must be charged for taxes paid after February 14. On March 1 all unpaid real property taxes must be sent to the Ingham County Treasurer for collection (additional fees are charged by the county for late payments.) Personal property taxes can still be paid at the Township hall after March 1, but penalty and interest charges will continue to apply.

Township Services & Resources

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

A quarterly newsletter is mailed out with the tax and/or assessment statements to all Township residents in December, February, April and July. The newsletter provides a calendar of events, staff changes, updates on Township news and other important information. In addition, the newsletter and periodical updates will be available on the Township website at: williamstowntownship.com

TOWNSHIP PARK

Williamstown Township Community Park is a beautiful 132-acre park located approximately 3 miles west of downtown Williamston off Grand River Ave. The park lies on the banks of the Red Cedar River and currently has a sledding hill, nature trails, wildflower prairie, two soccer fields, a baseball field, dog walk, an informational kiosk and a parking area (includes port-o-john facility.) Bring the family and enjoy the great outdoors at your Township park!

TOWNSHIP HALL SERVICES

Community Room Rental: Two rooms with a kitchen are available to rent for Township residents or businesses. Reservations and rental fee required.

Outdoor Pavilion: Located on the Township Hall grounds, the Pavilion and baseball diamond may be used at any time, or reserved to guarantee availability, at no charge. No alcohol permitted.

Township Drop Box: a drive up box located on the west end of the front drive can be used for any Township information you wish to give us including tax payments and absentee ballots.

Postal Drop Box: the drive up box is located on the front drive west of the Township Hall. Postal pick-up time is approximately noon each day Monday through Saturday.

Copy and FAX machines: available for nominal fee.

Notary Service: Free to residents.

Recycling: available the second Saturday of each month 9am to 3pm behind the Township Hall. See our website for list of acceptable or non-acceptable items.

Fire and EMS Services (NIESA): residents are serviced for fire and medical emergencies through the Northeast Ingham Emergency Services Association. See numbers to follow.

Williamstown Township has 2 cemeteries and a columbarium that we maintain which our residents can purchase burial spaces in. Please call the Township office for current prices or to set up a meeting with the Sexton to view available areas.

FIRES AND BURNING

The Township has an ordinance regulating burning. Permits are required for all open burning. Campfires are allowed in all areas of the Township with requirements for size, location, time and other restrictions. Residents must apply for their initial permits at the Township Office. Please contact the Township office for complete information or visit our website at williamstowntownship.com.

FIRE AND AMBULANCE

911

EMERGENCY POLICE

911

Meridian Twp Police: 332-6526
(Contract services to Williamstown Township)

Township History

The first white settlers in Williamstown Township were Hiram and Joseph Putnam, who arrived in 1834 and built a small log cabin on the north bank of the Red Cedar River. In 1839 the Williams brothers purchased the Putnam land and built the second house in the area. Williamstown Township was originally organized as Phelpstown on March 22, 1839. The name was changed to Williamstown on February 17, 1857. In 1871, the City of Williamston parted from the Township and incorporated. Summit Cemetery, located on Beeman Road, was formed in 1860 with an initial purchase of a three-acre parcel for \$100.



Historical Buildings

There are several buildings located in the Township that have both local and national historical significance. For more information on local history, contact the Township Historical Committee or visit the Williamston Depot Museum in downtown Williamston.

ST. KATHERINE'S CHAPEL 4650 MERIDIAN ROAD

In 1965, the American Historic Survey chose St. Katherine's Chapel as one of three historic buildings in the state recognized by measured drawings. The other two buildings were the Olds Mansion and the State Capital building. Built in 1887 by John Harris Forster and his father-in-law, John Mullet, St. Katherine's was named for Forster's only child, "Kittie", who died at age six. Kittie and her family are buried in the little graveyard by the chapel. Forster and Mullet surveyed most of Michigan. The two men decided they wanted to live "on the Meridian" and they took up land there to retire, Forster on the north side of Grand River and Mullet on the south side.

CROSSROADS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 5491 NORTH ZIMMER ROAD

Located at the midpoint of the Township, this church was first named Williamston Center United Methodist Church. The Greek revival structure was constructed in 1877 at a cost of \$1500. In 1984 an historical marker was erected, making it one of only four Lansing-area churches to gain Historical Site status. This congregation recently merged with a Bell Oak church and adopted their new name.

**NORTH BRANCH SCHOOL
985 SHERWOOD ROAD**



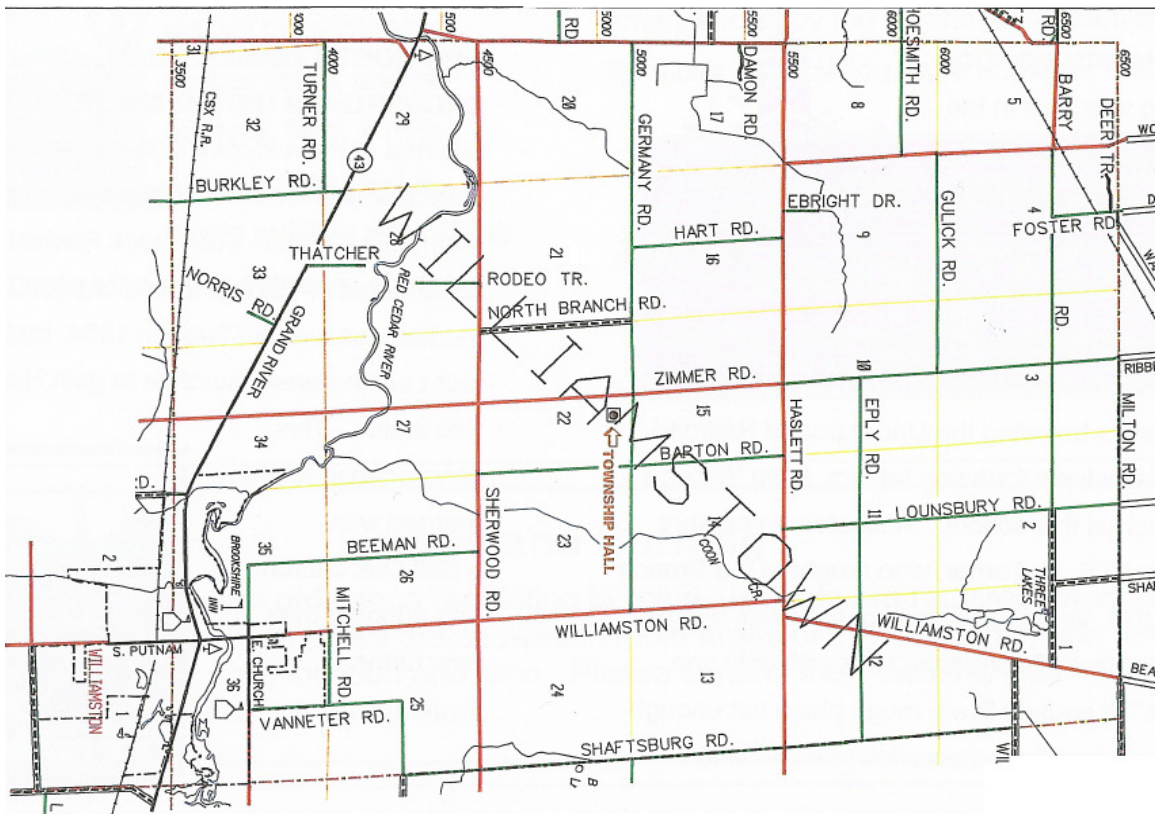
This building was built in the late 1850's or early 1860's in a neighborhood of strong abolitionist sentiment. The area and the school in particular came to be known as "Little Africa." Under the school floor a secret room provided a hiding place for slaves traveling the Underground Railroad. Love Williams, one of Williamston's founding fathers, taught French at the school. F.N. Turner also taught at the school and in 1878, he wrote in his memoirs, "It was a large, unruly school, but I finished the year with only one knockdown." In the 1960's the school fell into disrepair and the Township proposed to demolish the building. Local residents organized to save the old school and established "The Friends of Historic Williamstown" which later became the Williamstown Township Historical Committee. The committee is currently restoring Branch School. For volunteer information please contact Steve Eyke at 655-3616.

Community Services

RCRA (Red Cedar Recreation Association) 655-2170
 Williamston Chamber of Commerce 655-1549
 Williamston City Hall 655-2774
 Williamston Community School 655-4361
 Williamston Community Enrichment 655-7510
 Williamston Community Pool 655-7510
 Williamston Library 655-1191
 Williamston Senior Center 655-5173

Annual Local Events

Williamston XMAS Light Parade
(1st Saturday in December)
 Farmers Market *(Thursday 2-6 pm,
 May 19 thru Oct 13, 2011; Next to City Hall
 in Williamston)*
 Red Cedar Jubilee
(3^d week of June)



Williamstown Township, 4990 North Zimmer Road Williamston MI 48895¹