Town Of DeWitt Newsletter

March 2nd, 2026



Introducing Supervisor Max Ruckdeschel

As Town of DeWitt Supervisor, I serve as the town's chief financial officer and run our town board meetings. I was first elected to supervisor last fall, after serving four years on the town board. My goals as your new town supervisor include investing in our water and sewer infrastructure and communicating better with town residents about what is going on at town hall. It's only been two months, but we have some progress I would like to share.

First, I am happy to share that we have received a $5.7 million capital grant from Governor Hochul to complete a major water project that will upgrade our Maple Drive pump station and build a new water storage tank. This will improve water pressure and quality, and provide redundancy in our system in case of breaks or pump failures. Construction is set to begin this spring!

Second, please enjoy our new Town of DeWitt newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to keep town residents informed on what's happening in their local government.



We will also keep you up to date with upcoming Town of DeWitt events. We hope you find the newsletter informative and useful. Please contact supervisor@dewittny.gov if you have any comments or suggestions.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Resident Information

Community and Events

Projects

Staffing Highlights

Resident Information

Water

water@dewittny.gov
315.446.3910 Ext. 4

The Town of DeWitt Water Department plays a vital role in protecting public health and supporting daily life in our community. We buy treated drinking water from our suppliers and are responsible for delivering that water safely and reliably to homes, businesses, schools, and fire hydrants throughout the Town.

The Water Departments primary responsibility is to maintain the infrastructure that moves water from the point of purchase to your tap. This includes water mains, valves, hydrants, storage tanks, pump stations, and water meters. Our staff works year-round to inspect, repair, and upgrade these components to ensure consistent pressure, dependable fire protection, and uninterrupted service.

Water quality remains a top priority. Even though the water is treated by the supplier before it reaches our system, the Town is responsible for maintaining proper disinfectant levels (such as chlorine) within the distribution network and conducting regular sampling in accordance with state and federal regulations. These tests ensure the water remains safe as it travels through miles of underground piping. We work closely with the Onondaga County Health Department and the New York State Department of Health to remain fully compliant with all drinking water standards.

The Water Department also responds to water main breaks, service leaks, pressure concerns, and other emergencies. In addition, we manage capital improvement projects, which currently includes mass meter upgrades throughout the whole Town as well as pump station and water tank upgrades. Long-term planning is essential to maintaining aging infrastructure and ensuring the system remains reliable for future generations.

As part of the Town-wide meter upgrade project, residents are asked to be on the lookout for a letter from VEPO Metering regarding scheduling an appointment to have your water meter changed, and to please contact the water department if you need assistance with scheduling.

Financial oversight is another key responsibility. Water rates are established to cover the cost of purchasing water, maintaining infrastructure, meeting regulatory requirements, and funding necessary improvements. The system operates with accountability and transparency to ensure that revenues are used responsibly for water-related services.

In short, the Town of DeWitt Water Department serves as the steward of your community's water delivery network. From ensuring safe drinking water to maintaining fire protection and planning for the future, the Town's role is to provide reliable, compliant, and efficient service that supports the health, safety, and quality of life of all residents.

Assessor's Office

assessor@dewittny.gov
315.446.3910 Ext. 8



Assessment administration in the Town of DeWitt is the primary responsibility of the Town Assessor.

Commissioned by the State of New York, the Town Assessor is responsible for locating, listing, and valuing all taxable and non-taxable properties within the Town's municipal jurisdiction. In addition to these duties, the Town Assessor is responsible for the following:

· Maintains current tax maps and inventoried property record cards for each parcel of land within town boundaries.
· Receives complaints on real property assessments and assists the Board of Assessment and Review during Grievance Day proceedings.
· Attends the public examination of the Tentative Assessment Roll at times prescribed by law.

· Completes and publishes the Final Assessment Roll for the purpose of ad-valorem tax allocations and levy.
· Makes changes in assessments in accordance with New York State Real Property Tax Laws and as directed by the Board of Assessment Review.

· Administers Small Claims petitions and Supreme Court certiorari cases as result of real property assessment litigation.
· Prepares reports of assessment activities as required by the appointing authority or the New York State Office of Real Property Tax Services.

· Calibrates total assessed and taxable values for tax rate computations.

· Provides school districts within the assessing unit with compiled information related to local assessments and their taxable status.
· Reviews and makes determination with respect to applications for real property tax exemptions
.
· Supervises and trains appraisal staff members in the technique of appraisal and assessments.

A summary of the services provided by the Assessment Department include
· Assessment of all property located in the town and annual notification of new assessments.
· Assessment review when necessary.
· Appraisal of new or partial constructions resulting from building permits.
· Collection and inventory of data on property transfers and subdivisions.

In addition to these services, the Office of Town Assessor also:
· Maintains current and historical files for all properties in the town.
· Provides property and sales data to government entities, real estate organizations, and the community at large.
· Processes all property transcripts, as well as monitoring their transfers and market trends.
· Informs and educates the public through various means of communication.
The staff of the Assessment Department in the Town of DeWitt continues to dedicate the utmost of capability and knowledge to achieve better services to our taxpaying community; thus, insuring the fair and equitable assessment distribution of all real property in the Town of DeWitt.



Town Clerk

Clerk's Corner

Angela Epolito, RMC
DeWitt Town Clerk/Tax Receiver
clerk@dewittny.gov
315.446.3910 Ext.2

The Town Clerk's Office is proud to serve as a central hub of service, information, and support for residents of The Town of DeWitt. Our office is committed to providing professional, accessible, and responsive service to the community.

You may have noticed some new faces in the office. Nate serves as our Deputy Town Clerk, along with Ben and Sara, who recently joined as Clerk II's. Together, our team works every day to ensure residents feel welcomed, informed, and well served.

Our office assists residents with many essential services, including issuing marriage licenses, dog licenses, and handicap parking permits, as well as processing passport applications and notary services. We also serve as the Town's centralized cash collections office, accepting payments for property taxes, water bills, Planning & Zoning, and Parks and Recreation fees—providing a convenient, one-stop location for Town business.

In the Clerk's Office, we are focused on transparency and communication. We maintain the Town's official records and have implemented an agenda management software so residents can view Town Board agendas and minutes online anytime. Our YouTube channel allows residents to watch meetings at their convenience, and we maintain an online list of licensed peddlers and solicitors so residents can verify who is authorized to solicit in Town. In partnership with the Supervisor's Office, we are also working to implement a mass notification system to provide timely updates directly to residents.

It is our privilege to serve the DeWitt community. Whether in person, by phone, or online, our team is here to help.

Highway

highway@dewittny.gov
315-437-8331



The Highway Department will begin:

- Filling in potholes (on Town of DeWitt roads only)
- Road sign maintenance
- Road sweeping
- Tree trimming for line-of-sight hazards on Town of DeWitt roads only
- Water break restoration repairs for topsoil & blacktop.

Brush:

Pick up services will start in April. Please follow the schedule for your area. Schedule can be found at https://www.dewittny.gov under Seasonal News.
Please be mindful of the placement of your brush piles not by road signs, fire hydrants, gas or water main shutoffs, catch basins, or drainage pipes, or in the road that could impede traffic.
Please be considerate of your neighbors.

Asphalt Repairs:

Permanent repair to asphalt caused by snowplowing and water/sewer repair activities are completed when the blacktop plants open and weather permitting. We do not repair damage caused by your private snowplow contractor.

Lawn Repairs:

Highway crews will be repairing damage to lawns caused by the town snowplows and water/sewer repair activities. Please be patient, we will get to all the areas that need repair. For the repair to be successful, please water the restored area. Please do not tamper with orange cones or barrels.
We do not repair damage caused by your private snowplow contractor.

Catch Basin Repairs:

Catch Basins will begin being repaired throughout the Town of DeWitt.
Please do not tamper with orange cones or barrels.
If you happen to notice a catch basin that has collapsed, cover grate missing, or damaged. Please call the Highway Office. Then they will be reviewed for repairs.

Who fixes Potholes?

We do not maintain NYS or Onondaga County roads.
If you have any concerns or complaints about the NYS State DOT.
New York State Roads (such as Erie Blvd, Genesee St, Carrier Circle, 481 and 690 to name a few) can be reported to 1-800-POTHOLE (1-800-768-4653).
or
Onondaga County Road:
Onondaga County Roads (such as James St., Franklin Park Dr, Kirkville Rd and Jamesville Rd to name a few) can be reported to (315) 435-5452.
For a complete listing of the New York State & Onondaga County Roads, that are within the Town of DeWitt, please visit the Town of Dewitt website. https://www.dewittny.gov

Planning and Zoning

plan_zone@dewittny.gov
315.446.3910 Ext. 3



The Department of Planning and Zoning is responsible for land use planning, environmental planning, development reviews, and code enforcement in the Town.

Department planners review proposed development projects, coordinate with applicants, consult with county and state agencies as necessary, and work closely with the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to guide projects through the review process. In addition, a Department staff member serves as Secretary of both boards. The Department also works with the Town Board and Planning Board to make updates to the Town Code.

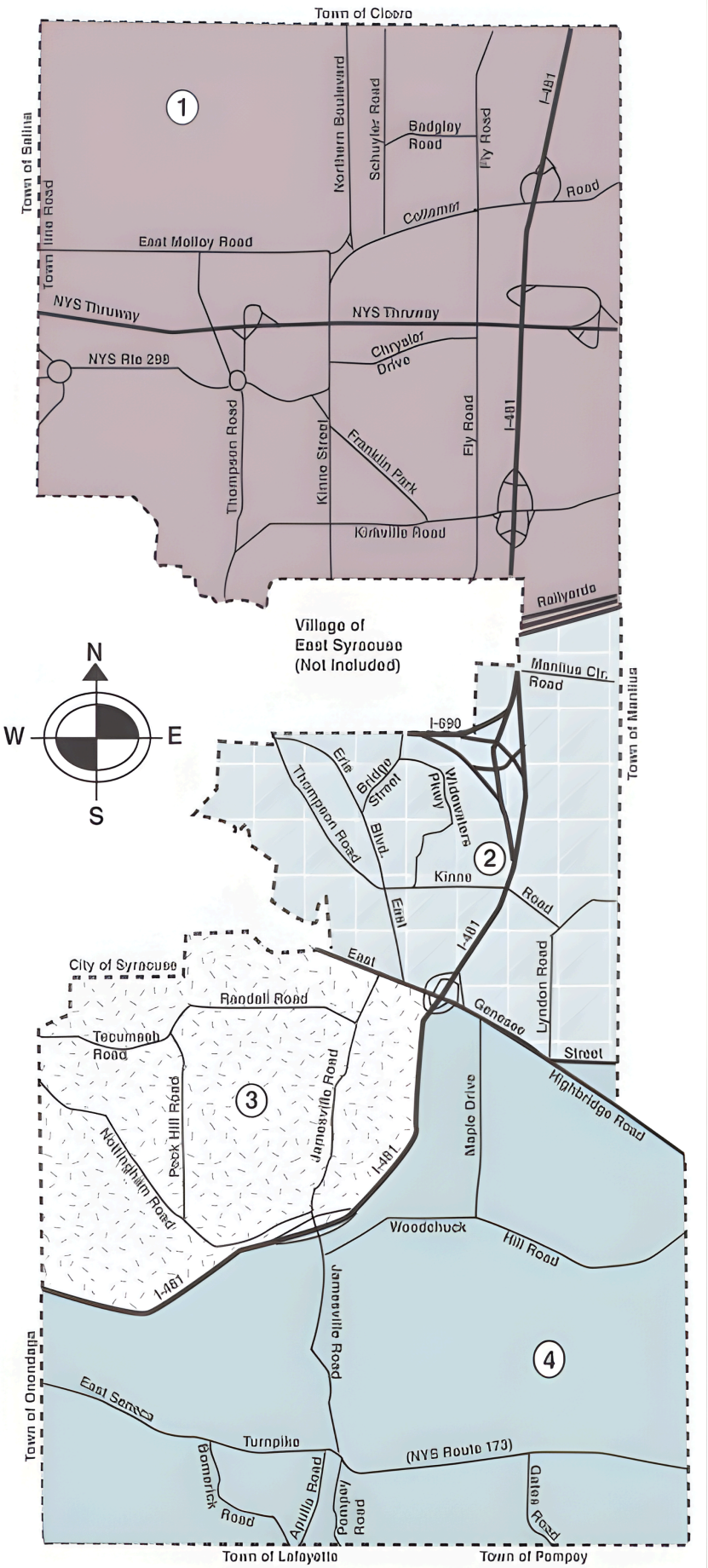
The Department is responsible for enforcing the DeWitt Town Code and New York State Codes. Code officers review construction drawings, issue residential and commercial building permits, conduct building and site inspections, and investigate and respond to complaints. Code officers also respond to 911 emergency calls when needed to assess structural damage to buildings.

Environmental planning and program management includes the Town's programs for street trees, deer culling, and Emerald Ash Borer, as well as participation in NYSERDA programs such as Climate Smart Communities. A Department staff member serves as liaison to the DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission and the DeWitt Tree Committee.

In addition, the Department is responsible for implementing and maintaining several Town plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Plan, Deer Management and Education Plan, and Urban Forestry Management Plan.

In 2025, the Department initiated a file digitization and record management project. Using Laserfiche, the Department is scanning project and permit files to make historical information more easily accessible and to facilitate more efficient research for project and permit reviews.

Yard Waste Collection Map



Yard Waste Collection Schedule By Area

Area 1



Week of:

April 6th (First Week of April)

May 4th (First Week of May)

June 1s (First Week of June)

July 6th (First Full Week of July)

August 3rd (First Week of August)

August 31st) (First Week of September)

October 5th (First Week of October and Last of the Year)

Area 2



Week of:

April 13th (Second Week of April)

May 11th (Second Week of May)

June 8th (Second Week of June)

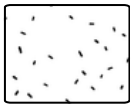
July 13th (Second Week of July)

August 10th (Second Week of August)

September 7th (Second Week of September)

October 12th (Second Week of October and Last of the Year)

Area 3



Week of:

April 20th (Third Week of April)

May 18th (Third Week of May)

June 15th (Third Week of June)

July 20th (Third Week of July)

August 17th (Third Week of August)

September 14th (Third Week of September)

October 19th (Third Week of October and Last of the Year)

Area 4



Week of:

April 27th (Fourth Week of April)

May 25th (Fourth Week of May)

June 22nd (Fourth Week of June)

July 27th (Fourth Week of July)

August 24th (Fourth Week of August)

September 21st (Fourth Week of September)

October 26th (Fourth Week of October and Last of the Year

Leaf collection is a separate service, and is conducted during November and December

Recreation

Recreation focuses on "building community" by providing comprehensive programs, activities, and facilities designed to enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages. It manages numerous local parks and specialized facilities, offering everything from youth summer camps to senior fitness classes.



Key Community Services & Programs

Youth & After-School Programs: DeWitt is one of the few local municipalities offering before and after-school programs for children in grades K-6. It also hosts a popular Summer Day Camp for over 200 children annually, featuring arts, sports, and field trips.

Specialized Youth Support: The People In Action (PIA) program provides tutoring and recreational opportunities specifically for residents with limited resources or those whose primary language is not English.

Adult & Senior Activities: Adults can participate in exercise programs, defensive driving, and watercolor painting classes. For seniors, the department offers fitness classes, bowling, card games, and social lunches.

Food Support: The department manages the Food ene program, helping families save on grocery bills by providing quality food at affordable prices.

Looking Ahead to Summer:

In addition to our traditional summer camp, we will be offering a wide variety of specialty camps and programs for all ages and interests. Sports-focused options will include basketball, soccer, volleyball, and multi-sport opportunities designed to build skills, confidence, and teamwork in a fun, supportive environment.

Our soccer programs will be led by experienced local coaches, including JD Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach Matt Murphy and Jalique Huntley (JD '19, current JD Boys Assistant Coach), who will help guide players through skill development, drills, and game play appropriate for their age level.

We will also offer engaging theatre programs, including productions such as Annie Jr. and The Addams Family, where participants will work on singing, acting, and dancing while preparing for a live performance. Creative campers can look forward to hands-on experiences like Fine Art Fun with Mrs. Gleasman, where young artists will explore a variety of materials and techniques, as well as LEGO Camp and other interactive programs that encourage imagination, problem-solving, and creativity

Additional enrichment opportunities will include digital learning and gaming camps and other unique experiences that allow campers to explore new interests and talents.
For registration details, availability, and program costs, **please visit: townofdewitt.recdesk.com**

Town of DeWitt Farmers Market

Dates: Farmers Market every Wednesday, June 3- October 7

Time: 3 pm to 7 pm

Location: Carrier Park parking lot
Support local farmers, crafters, and bakers. Special themes each week, more info coming soon.

If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact the Recreation office at 315-446-3910 ext. 9

Summer Day Camp (6-Week Program)

Campers will enjoy swimming, art, science, sports, games, nature activities, music, drama, and weekly field trips included in the program.

Dates: June 29 - August 7 (Choose the weeks that work best for you!)

Time: 9 AM - 3 PM
Extended Care Available: 7:30-9 AM and 3-5 PM

Location: Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School

Who: Campers entering Kindergarten-8th Grade
Resident Registration Opens: Monday, March 2

Non-Resident Registration Opens: Monday, March 16

Celebrate America's 250th at Carrier Park

Join us on Wednesday, July 1st, from 5 to 9 pm for a historic milestone: the 250th anniversary of America! Bring the whole family for an evening packed with:

Market: Shop and support vendors honoring our nation's heroes.

Family Fun: Activities and entertainment designed for kids of all ages.

A Band-TBA More info to come!

Grand Finale: A spectacular fireworks display to light up the night sky!

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime celebration at Carrier Park

Senior Fair - Our First Ever!

This free event will feature a variety of local organizations offering resources, demonstrations, and information for seniors, caregivers, and families.

Confirmed participants include representatives from Onondaga County Department of Adult and Long-Term Care Services, Loretto, Brookdale East Side, the Alzheimer's Association, Upstate New York Poison Center, Community Living Advocates, and so many more! Door prizes will also be available. All are welcome.

Date: Thursday, April 16

Time: 11 AM - 2 PM

Location: DeWitt Town Hall

AAA Defensive Driving Class

A great opportunity for new drivers, those looking for a refresher, or anyone interested in potential insurance savings.

Date: Friday, April 24

Time: 9 AM – 3:30 PM (30-minute lunch break)

Location: DeWitt Town Hall

Game On Sports Camp (NEW Partnership Program)

This high-energy program, in partnership with Salt City Sports Syracuse, focuses on skill-building, teamwork, and fun through a variety of sports. Camp runs rain or shine to keep kids active and engaged all summer long.

Dates:
Week 1: June 29 - July 2
Week 2: July 6 - July 9
Week 3: August 24 - August 27
Week 4: August 31 - September 3

Time: 9 AM – 3 PM

Extended Hours Available: 8 AM – 4 PM

Location: Carrier Park - Newly Renovated Super Field

Who: Campers entering Grades 1-8



Thank you for reading!

parks community business

We encourage residents to stay connected:
Town Website: www.dewittny.gov

Agendas & Minutes: https://dewittny.portal.civicclerk.com/

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@TownofDeWitt

View, Pay, Print Tax Bills and Receipts: https://onondaga.go2gov.net/faces/search.jsp

Peddlers & Solicitors Listing: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/dewittny/departments/town_clerk/peddlersandsolicitors.php

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TownofDeWitt

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