



Where Friendships Last Forever

Newsletter

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www.cityofswartzcreek.org

Winter

2025

A Message from the New Mayor, Nate Henry!

As I begin my term as Mayor, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the City's accomplishments under my predecessor. During Mayor Krueger's tenure, we saw the complete street reconstruction and water main replacement in the majority of Winchester Village. Street improvements and ditch repairs were completed in Winchester Woods, along with water main replacements on sections of Miller, Morrish, Bristol, and Seymour roads. Repaving was completed on sections of School, Maple, Grove, Raubinger, and Elms. Additionally, the Genesee Valley Trail was extended into Swartz Creek, starting on Dye Road and connecting Otterburn Park to Elms Park along the way. Trails were also constructed to provide safe routes to school, connecting residents on Bristol Road to Elms Elementary and linking Morrish to Fairchild along the creek.

Looking to the future, the City has been awarded a DNR Trust Fund grant of \$290,000 and \$283,000 in Congressionally designated spending. These funds will be paired with generous donations from the BeeMoreJentery group and a general fund contribution to construct a pavilion and make other improvements at Otterburn Park. The pavilion will be named in memory of past City Council member Jentery M. Farmer, to honor his spirit of volunteerism and love for his community. Other projects on the horizon include the completion of Cosmos in the Creek, a scale solar system model connecting Otterburn and Elms Parks; a push by the Downtown Development Authority to repurpose the historic former Methodist church on Morrish Road; and the completion of street reconstruction in Winchester Village, including the repair of Don Shenk Drive and Cappy Lane.

I'd like to close by thanking my fellow City Council members for their support. I serve with an exceptional group of people who care deeply about the City and its residents.

Find the community calendar and service information online at:
www.cityofswartzcreek.org

Office Hours: Monday 8am-6pm, Tues & Thursday 8am-430pm, Wednesday 8am-4pm, Friday by appointment

Call 911 For After-Hours Emergencies:

Do so for water and sewer problems such as water main breaks or sewer backups. Messages at the office are not checked on the weekends or after hours.

Swartz Creek Area Fire Department

I first want to thank all of you for your support of our traditional Christmas parade, which was held in early December. We are also very proud to have put our new engine into service, with its official Push-In ceremony at Station #2 on January 11th!



The winter months are a dangerous time of year for home fires. The thought of your home catching fire can be overwhelming, to say the least. Unfortunately, we often think about the things that could be destroyed in the process—family photos, keepsakes, clothes, valuables, etc. Statistics have proven that sleeping with bedroom doors closed can save lives and minimize the spread of fire, giving the fire department time to arrive and perform rescue and suppression tactics. It is also highly recommended to replace both your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors every 10 years.

While we think of all the things we should do, it's just as important to consider what NOT to do. Here's a list of things you should review and pass on to everyone in your household, just in case your house catches fire:

DO NOT open doors that are hot. Use the back of your hand to check it first. If it feels hot to the touch, use another way out.

DO NOT try to save personal belongings. Although some things are irreplaceable, your life is not.

DO NOT attempt to put out the fire unless you are properly trained. People have been injured or killed trying to fight fires without the proper knowledge or equipment.

DO NOT go back inside a burning building once you have left. Go to a neighbor to call 911.

DO NOT run if your clothes catch fire. STOP, DROP, and ROLL! Remember this from school? Better yet, let your kids show you how.

DO NOT try to save pets. Those that can get out will. Sadly, those that can't can be replaced.

Remember, your life is what's most important. Get out and stay out!

As always, thank you to the residents for allowing us to serve our community. We hope to return to some level of normalcy that will allow us to provide more community activities this year.

-Chief Plumb

Building Department

The City's Building Official is now Rick Oberlin. For building and trade permits, reviews, and questions, please call or stop by City Hall or Mundy Township Hall. As spring projects begin to take shape, please be mindful of the City's building and zoning expectations.

Permits: In accordance with the Michigan Building Code, the City of Swartz Creek requires a permit for the following: Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change the occupancy of a building or structure; or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, or convert any electrical, gas, mechanical, or plumbing system, or cause any such work to be done, shall first apply for and obtain the required permit. A permit is also required for demolition, re-roofing, standby generators, decks, and more.

Permits are not required for everything: There are many projects that do not require a building permit. If you are unsure, the best course of action is to call the City to find out.

Code Enforcement: To report structural issues, blight, or other nuisances, please call City Hall. While it is important for property owners to use their property in accordance with our freedoms, living in a city also comes with the responsibility of ensuring that neighbors are not impacted by nuisances or problems caused by property use.

Permits available [online](#) and at the City Offices including: Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical, Demolition, Zoning, and Right-of-Way.

Winter Reminders

- ⇒ There is **no parking on any city street from 2am-6am**. Please be mindful to only park on city streets where it is not prohibited. Keeping vehicles off the street permits winter maintenance. Violations will be issued to vehicles parking illegally.
- ⇒ **Property owners are responsible for clearing their sidewalks after snow and ice events!** Folks leaving town for the winter should make arrangements to have this done. Failure to do so can result in the clearing of the walkway by a contractor at the owners expense, and/or fines(\$\$\$)! Please keep the walks clear!
- ⇒ **Visit www.cityofswartzcreek.org for updates or like us on Facebook!**

What is the Mega Site?

The Mega Site, also known as the [Advanced Manufacturing District of Genesee County](#), is a ~1,000-acre site being developed south of the city in Mundy Township. The Flint & Genesee Chamber is leading this effort with the goal of attracting a large employer and significant investment to the site. We understand there is a great deal of uncertainty and concern regarding this matter.

Although some news articles have suggested that a potential domestic chip manufacturer may locate at the site, the City is not involved in this process. As such, we cannot verify any information about the site or dictate its usage or potential impact.

However, staff and city officials are actively working with our partners to prepare for such an eventuality. If activity is ultimately approved for the site, it will have a substantial impact on community infrastructure, services, the economy, and the overall character of the town. Should this occur, the City will make every effort to proactively address both the positive and negative impacts in order to maintain and enhance our quality of life.


Greetings & Happy New Year from your Metro Police Authority,

As we enter 2025, I'd like to offer a few important reminders. First, telephone and email scammers continue to be active, and these scams come in many different forms. Some examples include offers of help with your college loans, claims that you have an arrest warrant in another state or country, notifications that you've won a lottery, or even messages saying that a loved one is in an out-of-state jail and needs bail money. Others may claim there's a problem with your Amazon or bank account. Each of these scams aims to solicit money or personal and financial information under the guise of offering assistance or charging a service fee.

The best advice is to avoid answering calls or responding to emails from unknown or unverified sources. Let unknown callers leave a voicemail, which you can then evaluate to determine whether it's legitimate. Always check the email address of the sender to see if it matches the claimed source. And finally, never click on links within unsolicited emails.

Second, this is our busiest time of the year for traffic accidents. Please give yourself extra time when roads are bad, and drive safely.

-Chief Matthew Bade



City of Swartz Creek
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PLACE
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