

DANBY TOWNSHIP

2026 Winter Newsletter

Supervisor

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From The Supervisor 's Desk

Danby Township has had zoning regulations in place since May 31, 2001.

- If you started a home business on or after May 31, 2001, you must have obtained a Special Use Permit from the Planning Commission. Operating without one is a violation and may result in a zoning violation ticket.
- If you receive a notice from the Zoning Administrator, do not ignore it – as it may result in additional violations and/or fees.
- Living in a camper year-round is not allowed under current zoning rules. If a special need arises, please call the zoning administrator to get more details.
- If you have zoning questions, please reach out to the Township Zoning Administrator.

Did you know? Once a resident reaches age 18, registering to vote and updating their address are their responsibilities, not someone else's. This can be done through the Secretary of State or their local clerk. Taking ownership of these civic duties is an important part of adulthood and citizenship. This used to be taught in government class way back when I was in school many years ago.

Cemetery rule changes took effect November 1, 2026, including a prohibition on pets within the cemetery. Thank you for helping preserve the dignity and respect of this sacred place and those interred there.

Service to your township is important. If you're interested or have questions about Township government, please visit our website at www.danbytwp.org or call your Township Supervisor at 517-994-8086.
Daniel Platte, Danby Township Supervisor

Zoning

For safety reasons and future compliances, the Township Zoning Ordinance regulates various uses of land. This is performed with setback regulations, applications, permits, review process, parking, definitions, private roads, variances and other specific information and regulations.

All new construction requires a zoning permit except storage buildings under 200 square feet; however, those buildings must also meet accessory building setbacks. Agriculture buildings also require a zoning permit and there are minimum setbacks from lot lines and the street right of way. Zoning compliance applications or home business applications and other information are available on Danby's website at www.danbytownship.org. Zoning applications for construction are also within the bulletin board on the outside wall of the Township Hall.

Please Contact the Zoning Administrator for any questions or to request an application. Please do not google zoning questions due to AI changes and updates that may not accurately represent Danby's current ordinance.

Treasurer

Tax payments can be made by dropping in the "black" drop box at the hall; mailing to P.O. Box 566, Portland 48875; Online: at danbytownship.org then follow the link under Departments/Taxes, by phone to 517- 225-1890 with the parcel # (**excluding the preceding "34"**), or in person on Wednesday December 30, 2026, at Danby Hall.

NEW: You can now also set up **automatic payments** to pay your taxes on a specific date(s) with a credit card or bank ACH during the ONLINE payment process and your taxes will be paid automatically on the date of your choosing until you remove this "set" option. If interested, please follow the instructions listed in the tax section on the website.

ACH is the cheapest online payment method with a minimum cost of \$3 for a \$1000 bill or less or \$6 for a bill from \$1000-\$5000 versus 2.8% plus \$.50 for use with a credit card. You can pay by ACH online or by phone. Additional fee information for these services can be found on the township website under the "Departments/Taxes" section, then hit the "updated payment options with online payment link".

To avoid late charges, The Treasurer needs tax payments to be in "hand" or processed online by 2/16/27!

Assessor's Office

A Message from the Assessor's Office

Winter Building/Zoning Permit Reviews

Toward the end of the year, the Assessor's Office field team will be out in the township reviewing building and zoning permits to determine the percentage of completion of new construction projects. These reviews help ensure accurate and

fair property assessments based on each property's status as of December 31 (Tax Day).

What to Expect During Field Reviews:

- Identifying the field team: Team members will wear bright-colored safety vests, carry iPads, and have identifying magnets on their vehicles whenever possible.
- Assessor's vehicle: The Assessor's personal vehicle has license plate 2H3ART. Because it has an aluminum body, magnets will not attach.
- Property visits: Most reviews require only exterior photographs. If a closer look is necessary, a team member will knock on your door, introduce themselves, and explain the purpose of the visit.
- **Property owner letters:** Owners with new construction will also receive a letter requesting additional information about the project's current status, interior construction, and overall percentage of completion.

Your cooperation in providing information and allowing these reviews is greatly appreciated. These efforts help maintain accurate property records and ensure fair and equitable assessments throughout the township.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Heather Hoffman, MAAO

Danby Township Assessor