

# PRIME MERIDIAN

magazine

DECEMBER - APRIL 2019



## GET ACTIVE

Polar Bear 5K Run/Walk  
Winter Wonderland  
Youth & Adult Activities



## CONNECT WITH NATURE

HNC Nature Programs  
Township Park Projects  
Lake Lansing Parks



## BE IN THE KNOW

New Solar Array  
PFAS NON-Detect in Meridian  
Township Receives Top Honors



A PRIME COMMUNITY

[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

Sign Up  
**NOW**  
[bit.ly/mtpronline](http://bit.ly/mtpronline)



Register for Activities and Youth Sports

## Dear Residents,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of our community these past 20 years. My husband and I raised our children here and are proud of the young adults they have become after being shaped by our world-class schools.

You placed your trust in me and in turn I worked hard and did my very best to protect your interests. From 1998 when I began serving on our Zoning Board of Appeals to address unplanned growth to the profound challenges we faced when I was sworn in as Treasurer in 2008 during the Great Recession, I have carefully examined every issue and sought to make the best decisions for our community.

I have immensely enjoyed helping to implement our Land Preservation Program, the first of its kind in Michigan, which has now placed over 953 acres into the public trust for permanent preservation. Ensuring Cornell Road remained one of only two Natural Beauty Roads in Ingham County was also one of the more rewarding efforts I undertook.

The most gratifying aspect of my service was helping our residents. From the simple act of publishing our Board packets and minutes on the Township's website to implementing electronic payments for our property taxes and water bills, I have looked for ways to make our government serve you better. Most importantly, I have always worked tirelessly to help our residents keep their homes and avoid foreclosure.

I'm also proud to leave Meridian in the strongest financial position of any community in Michigan as we have put a plan in place to fully fund our retirement systems within 10 years. This plan ensures that we're able to make good on our promise of a secure retirement to the employees who devote their careers serving our community and making it such a wonderful place to call home.

Our community is rich in culture and diversity, and is one of the most highly educated in our state. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve you the past two decades and humbled that our community chose me to serve as our next State Representative. I look forward to bringing this same passion and energy to building a brighter future for our state.

Sincerely,

**Julie Brixie, Township Treasurer**



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**SUNDAY**  
**DECEMBER 09**  
2 PM - 4 PM

**CHRISTMAS**  
**IN THE VILLAGE**

**HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH SANTA**  
**WATCH THE ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING**

**VISIT THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS**  
**TAKE PART IN CAROLING**

**SATURDAY  
JANUARY 26**  
10 AM – 3 PM

# Winter Wonderland

HARRIS NATURE CENTER

Embrace winter at Harris Nature Center's Winter Wonderland event on Saturday, January 26 from 10 am – 3 pm! Recreational dog sledders will be on hand to demonstrate dog sledding and introduce their dogs, while you warm up by the campfire. Children will have fun playing games in the Kid's Outdoor Activity Area. This year you can take silly photos using our seasonal "Face in the Hole" photo props.

Don't forget to stop in the building to meet children's book author Ron St. Germain and look for something special at the HNC Foundation Silent Auction. Get active on the trails with a winter hike or try out snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Bring your own equipment or use the Nature Center's cross country skis and snowshoes available for free.



The Winter Wonderland family-friendly event will continue with or without snow since many of the activities including the dog sledding demo can take place in any weather. Free

517.349.3866 | [facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](https://facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter)





# Harris Nature Center Ski & Snowshoe Rentals

## BY THE HOUR

\$5 / hour weekdays  
\$7 / hour weekends

## BY THE DAY

\$15 / day weekdays  
\$20 / day weekends

## Trail Classes

**CROSS COUNTRY SKI**  
SATURDAY AT 9:30 AM - 11 AM  
JANUARY 12  
FEBRUARY 2

**SNOWSHOE**  
SATURDAY AT 1 PM - 3 PM  
JANUARY 12  
FEBRUARY 2

PRICE: \$15 / PERSON  
\$20 / PERSON WITH RENTAL

## Equipment Rental Hours

MONDAY - SATURDAY  
9 AM - 4 PM

SUNDAY  
12 PM - 3 PM

During the Winter Wonderland event on January 26, skis and snowshoes will be available FREE.

3998 VanAtta Road  
Okemos, MI  
517.349.3866



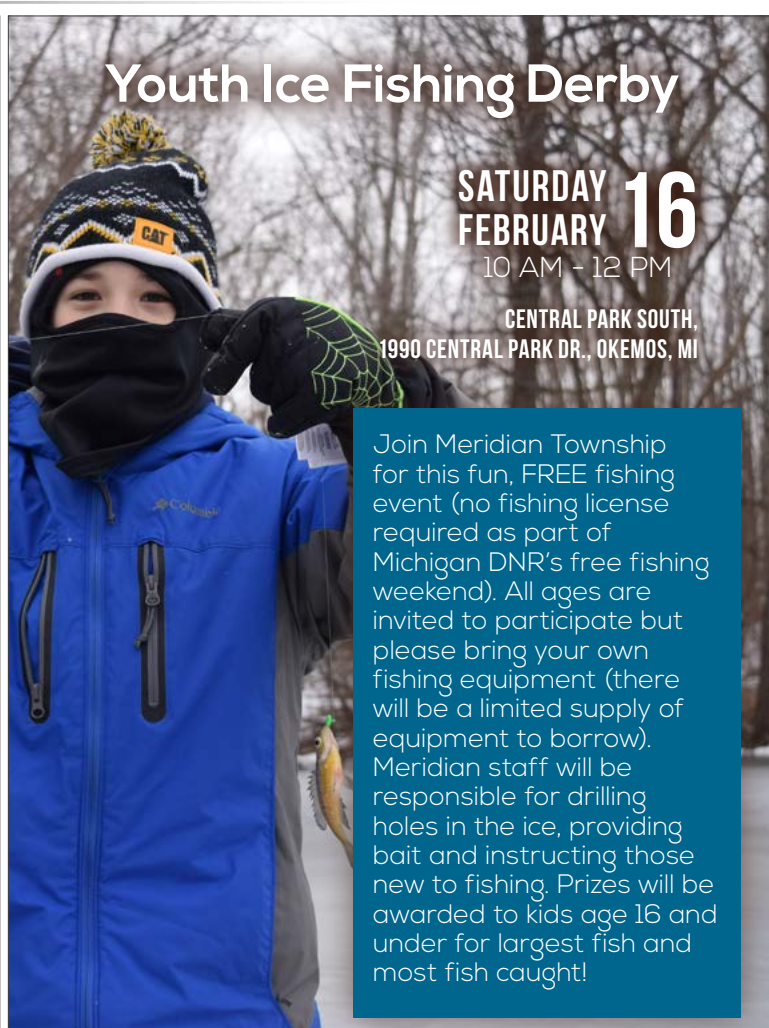
## Polar Bear 5K Run/Walk

**SUNDAY JANUARY 27**  
9 AM Start Time

MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI

Walk or run from the Township Municipal Complex through Central Park on our certified 5K course. Awards will be presented in numerous age divisions between 8 - 75 years of age.

\$20 pre-registration or \$25 on race day  
Register Online!



## Youth Ice Fishing Derby

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16**  
10 AM - 12 PM

CENTRAL PARK SOUTH,  
1990 CENTRAL PARK DR., OKEMOS, MI

Join Meridian Township for this fun, FREE fishing event (no fishing license required as part of Michigan DNR's free fishing weekend). All ages are invited to participate but please bring your own fishing equipment (there will be a limited supply of equipment to borrow). Meridian staff will be responsible for drilling holes in the ice, providing bait and instructing those new to fishing. Prizes will be awarded to kids age 16 and under for largest fish and most fish caught!

# PRIME EVENTS

## Get Active

Cut this page out or tear along the dotted line and hang on your refrigerator to save these Prime Events and Activities all year long.

## SAVE THE DATES



**SUNDAY 09 DEC** **CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE**  
MERIDIAN HISTORICAL VILLAGE  
2 PM - 4 PM **FREE**

Join Santa and the Friends of Historic Meridian for an old-fashioned Christmas in the Village! Historic buildings will be open and decorated for the holidays.



**SUNDAY 10 FEB** **CHINESE NEW YEAR**  
MERIDIAN MALL  
1 PM - 4 PM

Celebrate the Year of the Pig during the Greater Lansing Chinese Association's Chinese New Year Celebration. Enjoy dancing, traditional Chinese parade, games and more.



**SATURDAY 29 JUN** **CELEBRATE MERIDIAN FESTIVAL AND FOOD TRUCK RALLY**  
MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
10 AM - 10 PM

Celebrate Independence "Meridian Style" at our annual Celebrate Meridian Festival and Food Truck Rally event. Enjoy a day filled with amazing gourmet foods, live music, beer and wine tent, children's fun zone, pet adoption, car show cruise and of course FIREWORKS!



**SATURDAY 26 JAN** **WINTER WONDERLAND**  
HARRIS NATURE CENTER  
10 AM - 3 PM **FREE**

Enjoy a winter hike, try out snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, recreational dog sleds, campfire, fun kid's games in the Kid's Outdoor Activity Area and more.



**SATURDAY 16 FEB** **YOUTH ICE FISHING DERBY**  
CENTRAL PARK POND  
10 AM - 12 PM

Join Meridian Township for this fun, FREE fishing event (no fishing license required as part of Michigan DNR's free fishing weekend). All ages are invited to participate.



**SUNDAY 27 JAN** **POLAR BEAR 5K RUN/WALK**  
MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
9 AM START TIME

Walk or run through snowy Central Park on our certified 5K course. Awards will be presented in numerous age divisions from 8 - 75 years of age. Register Online!



**SATURDAY 27 APR** **SPRING RECYCLING EVENT**  
CHIPPEWA MIDDLE SCHOOL  
9 AM - 2 PM

Meridian Township is hosting a Spring Recycling Event and wants you there with your recyclables! The parking lot will hum with volunteers helping visitors unload their goods at collection stations. Admission is free and open to all! Some modest fees will apply for paint, TVs/monitors and items with Freon (air conditioners, refrigerators, dehumidifiers).

### Volunteers Needed for Spring Recycling Event

This event is not possible without the tremendous amount of support and time from our co-sponsors and volunteers. To become a sponsor or to volunteer, contact LeRoy Harvey, Recycling Coordinator at 517.853.4466



# PRIME ACTIVITIES



## Get Active

<b>01</b> SATURDAY DEC	<b>WINTER FARMERS' MARKET OPENING DAY</b> MERIDIAN MALL 10 AM - 2 PM	<b>02</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>MERIDIAN MOONLIGHT SLEDDING</b> NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK 6 PM - 9 PM
<b>09</b> SUNDAY DEC	<b>CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE</b> MERIDIAN HISTORICAL VILLAGE 2 PM - 4 PM	<b>03</b> SUNDAY FEB	<b>MERIDIAN SKATES</b> SUBURBAN ICE, EAST LANSING 5 PM - 6:20 PM
<b>21</b> FRIDAY DEC	<b>HOWL AT THE MOON</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM	<b>09</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>MOONLIGHT SKI AND SHOE</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 6 PM
<b>05</b> SATURDAY JAN	<b>MERIDIAN SWIMS</b> MERIDIAN ATHLETIC CLUB 6 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>10</b> SUNDAY FEB	<b>CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION</b> MERIDIAN MALL 1 PM - 3 PM
<b>12</b> SATURDAY JAN	<b>CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLASS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 9:30 AM	<b>10</b> SUNDAY FEB	<b>EXPLORE NATURE ON SNOWSHOES</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 2 PM
<b>12</b> SATURDAY JAN	<b>SNOWSHOE CLASS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 1 PM	<b>13</b> WEDNESDAY FEB	<b>13TH ANNUAL POLICE YOUTH CITIZEN'S ACADEMY BEGINS</b> 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
<b>18</b> FRIDAY JAN	<b>HOWL AT THE MOON</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM	<b>15</b> FRIDAY FEB	<b>HOWL AT THE MOON</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM
<b>19</b> SATURDAY JAN	<b>MOONLIGHT SKI AND SHOE</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 6 PM	<b>16</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>YOUTH ICE FISHING DERBY</b> CENTRAL PARK POND 10 AM - 12 PM
<b>25</b> FRIDAY JAN	<b>MERIDIAN SKATES</b> SUBURBAN ICE, EAST LANSING 8:30 PM - 9:50 PM	<b>23</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>MOONLIGHT SKI AND SHOE</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 6 PM
<b>26</b> SATURDAY JAN	<b>WINTER WONDERLAND</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 10 AM	<b>02</b> SATURDAY MAR	<b>OWL PROWL CAMPFIRE</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM
<b>27</b> SUNDAY JAN	<b>POLAR BEAR 5K RUN/WALK</b> MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX 9 AM	<b>09</b> SATURDAY MAR	<b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b> 2142 COMMUNITY CHURCH 8 AM - 11 AM
<b>28</b> MONDAY JAN	<b>ACTIVE SHOOTER PREPAREDNESS</b> MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER 2 PM	<b>17</b> SATURDAY MAR	<b>FAMILY SPECIAL: LUCKY SHAMROCKS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 2 PM
<b>02</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLASS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 9:30 AM	<b>22</b> FRIDAY MAR	<b>HOWL AT THE MOON</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM
<b>02</b> SATURDAY FEB	<b>SNOWSHOE CLASS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 1 PM	<b>26</b> TUESDAY MAR	<b>GARDENING WITH NATIVE PLANTS</b> HARRIS NATURE CENTER 7 PM

Dates and times are subject to change

Details available at [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)





For Information & To Sign Up  
**NOW**  
[bit.ly/mtpronline](http://bit.ly/mtpronline)



# YOUTH SPORTS

Meridian Township offers a variety of youth sports programs for ages 3 - 15. Each program encourages development of skills and self-esteem through physical activity and teamwork while creating friendships in a fun and safe atmosphere.

## HASLETT BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

**KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE**  
 \$55/PLAYER (\$75 AFTER 12/7)

**SEASON: JAN 12 - FEB 9**  
 CHECK ONLINE FOR AVAILABILITY

**2ND & 3RD GRADE**  
 \$55/PLAYER (\$75 AFTER 12/7)

**SEASON: JAN 7 - MAR 9**  
 CHECK ONLINE FOR AVAILABILITY

## HASLETT T-BALL LEAGUE

**KINDERGARTEN**  
 \$45 (\$65 AFTER 3/15)

**SEASON: APRIL 10 - MAY 22**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAR 15

## OKEMOS/HASLETT BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

**1ST & 2ND GRADE**  
 \$60 (\$80 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: MAY 7 - JULY 2**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

**3RD & 4TH GRADE**  
 \$70 (\$90 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: MAY 6 - JULY 1**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

**U12 BASEBALL 12 OR UNDER**  
 \$130 (\$150 AFTER 2/26)

**SEASON: APRIL 8 - JULY 5**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEB 26

**U14 BASEBALL 14 OR UNDER**  
 \$140 (\$160 AFTER 2/26)

**SEASON: APRIL 8 - JULY 5**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEB 26

**SOFTBALL 1ST & 2ND GRADE**  
 \$60 (\$80 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: MAY 6 - JULY 1**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

**U10 SOFTBALL 10 OR UNDER**  
 \$70 (\$90 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: MAY 7 - JULY 5**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

**U12 SOFTBALL, OKEMOS ONLY  
 12 OR UNDER**  
 \$130 (\$150 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: APRIL 30 - MID JULY**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

**U14 SOFTBALL, OKEMOS ONLY  
 14 OR UNDER**  
 \$140 (\$160 AFTER 4/12)

**SEASON: APRIL 30 - MID JULY**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APR 12

## HASLETT/OKEMOS SOCCER

**KINDERGARTEN**  
 \$50 (\$70 AFTER 2/15)

**SEASON: APRIL 8 - MAY 18**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEB 15

**1ST GRADE**  
 \$50 (\$70 AFTER 2/15)

**SEASON: APRIL 8 - MAY 18**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEB 15

**2ND - 8TH GRADE**  
 \$60 (\$80 AFTER 2/15)

**SEASON: APRIL 8 - MAY 18**  
 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEB 15

## SPORTIES FOR SHORTIES

### WINTER CLASSES

**TUESDAYS: FEBRUARY 5 - 26**

**11 AM - 12 PM**

**THURSDAYS: MARCH 7- 28**

**10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

\$40/SESSION - MAC MEMBER

\$60/SESSION - NON - MAC MEMBER

LOCATION: MICHIGAN ATHLETIC CLUB

2900 HANNAH BLVD, EAST LANSING

TO REGISTER:

CALL THE MAC AT 517.364.8888

## GOLF (JUNIOR CLINICS, COACHING AND PLAY PROGRAM)

**MERIDIAN SUN GOLF COURSE**

**1018 HASLETT ROAD, HASLETT**

**AGES 7 - 10**

**SEASON: JUNE 20 - AUGUST 8**

\$149

INSTRUCTION, PRACTICE AND PLAY: 8:30 - 11:30 AM

**AGES 11 - 17**

**SEASON: JUNE 19 - AUGUST 7**

\$149

INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICE: 8:30 AM - 10 AM

GOLF PLAY: 10 AM - 12 PM

## THREE DAY GOLF CAMPS

**AGES 11 - 14** 12 PM - 1:30 PM

**CAMP I: JUNE 18 - 20**

**AGES 7 - 10** 2 PM - 3:30 PM

**CAMP II: JULY 16 - 18**

\$125

## TEE FOR TODDLERS

**AGES 3 - 6**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [BIT.LY/MTPRONLINE](http://BIT.LY/MTPRONLINE)

All programs are subject to change



# ADULT SPORTS

For Information & To Sign Up  
**NOW**  
[bit.ly/mtpronline](http://bit.ly/mtpronline)



## KICKBALL LEAGUES

SESSION I STARTS MAY 10

FRIDAY NIGHTS

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: APRIL 26

SESSION II STARTS JULY 22

MONDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY LEAGUES

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JULY 12

\$220/TEAM (MIN OF 9 PER TEAM)

## SOFTBALL

MONDAY: COED RECREATIONAL

MAY 6 - JULY 25

TUESDAY: MEN'S RECREATIONAL (CLASS F) DEADLINE TO REGISTER: APRIL 26

WEDNESDAY: COED RECREATIONAL

THURSDAY: COED RECREATIONAL

TEAM ENTRY FEE: \$295

UMPIRE FEE: \$15/GAME

PLAYER FEE: \$20/PLAYER

## SAND VOLLEYBALL

SESSION I STARTS MAY 7

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND THURSDAY LEAGUES

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: APRIL 26

SESSION II STARTS JULY 22

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND THURSDAY LEAGUES

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JULY 12

12 MATCH (36 GAMES)

\$125/TEAM

## PICKLE BALL

OPEN DAYS OF PLAY BEGIN MAY 6  
 BRING OWN EQUIPMENT

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

9 AM - 11 AM

LOCATION: HILLBROOK PARK

TUESDAY, THURSDAY

5 PM - DUSK

LOCATION: HILLBROOK PARK



## GOLF AT MERIDIAN SUN GOLF COURSE

1018 HASLETT ROAD, HASLETT

### WOMEN'S "NIGHT OUT" CLINICS

SESSION I: TUESDAY NIGHTS

\$129

MAY 7 - JUNE 11

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: MAY 3

SESSION II: TUESDAY NIGHTS

\$129

JUNE 18 - JULY 23

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JUNE 14

"GETTING STARTED" FOR NEW GOLFERS  
 INCLUDES BEVERAGES AND SNACKS

6 PM - 7 PM

"ON MY WAY" SOME GOLF EXPERIENCE  
 INCLUDES 8 PM BEVERAGES AND SNACKS

7 PM - 8 PM

### WOMEN'S "NIGHT OUT" LEARNING LEAGUE

SESSION I:

\$125

MAY 6 - JUNE 18

6 PM - 9 PM

SESSION II:

\$125

JUNE 25 - AUGUST 6

6 PM - 9 PM

### COED GOLF CLINICS

### COUPLES NIGHT OUT DROP-IN SCRAMBLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [BIT.LY/MTPRONLINE](http://BIT.LY/MTPRONLINE)







# MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864

[meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com](http://meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com)

**Open Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

## BECOME A MEMBER!

Meridian Township helps continue active lifestyles through retirement years by providing outstanding programs for the Senior Community. The Meridian Senior Center has been a social hub for adults age 55 and older since 1995. Become a Member and enjoy a wide range of activities from yoga to board games and special programs with guest speakers. \$15 annual membership.

## NEUROPATHY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

RSVP BY: MONDAY JANUARY 14

Peak Performance Physical Therapy will be on-site at the Meridian Senior Center for a Free Presentation on Neuropathy. The presentation will include different types of neuropathy, how it affects the body and treatment options.

11:30 AM

FREE

## HOT COCOA BAR SOCIAL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

RSVP BY: MONDAY JANUARY 21

Come warm up with a Hot Cocoa Buffet: hot cocoa, syrups, toppings, whipped cream and marshmallows.

1 PM

FREE

## INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER

The Meridian Senior Center is closed for all major holidays and when Okemos Public Schools cancel due to inclement weather. Please be sure to check your local TV and radio stations before heading out in questionable weather.

**CALL 517.706.5045 TO REGISTER FOR SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES OR TO BECOME A MEMBER**

## ACTIVE SHOOTER PREPAREDNESS

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

RSVP BY: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23

Meridian Township Police Sergeant, Ed Besonen is a member of the Ingham Regional Special Response Team and an instructor for the Meridian Township Police Department teaching defensive tactics, civil disturbances response, verbal defense and influence and response to active violence incidents. This presentation will focus on options for civilian response to incidents of active violence, as well as general awareness principles.

2 PM

FREE

## VALENTINE'S SPAGHETTI DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

5 PM  
COST: \$5 SENIOR CENTER MEMBERS  
\$8 NONMEMBERS PER PERSON

Please RSVP no later than Thursday, February 7

## 50 PLUS FITNESS WORKOUT GROUP

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

MERIDIAN MALL FOOD COURT

\$1 PER CLASS

SIGN UP ON-SITE

Keeping our bodies flexible and strong are key components to healthier, happier retirement living. The 50 Plus Fitness Workout Program engages approximately 50 people each program day of varying ages from 50 - 94 for hour-long balance and stretching activities. Participants work at their own pace. Not only will your body be happier, but you will enjoy the many social benefits as well! [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com)



# TOWNSHIP PARKS

Connect with Nature

## 2018 Completed Township Park Projects

### NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK PAVILION

A new pavilion was recently added to North Meridian Road Park funded by a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. This grant also paid for an accessible picnic table and a barbecue grill.

Located at 5191 N. Meridian Road, this 60-acre park is a popular four-seasons park. In winter, families love going down the sledding hill, hiking and cross-country skiing along the two miles of nature trails. New trail signs were added this year.

Expansion of the parking lot is planned for 2019.



North Meridian Road Park Pavilion

### TOWNER ROAD PARK

Meridian Township acquired a 24-acre parcel in 2005 for the purpose of creating a sports facility to accommodate a deficiency of athletic fields in the northern portion of the community. Construction of the park began in 2017 and was completed in 2018. The development cost was \$1,900,000 funded by the Meridian Township Park Millage.

Located at 2055 Towner Road in Haslett, Towner Road Park includes two multi-use athletic fields for lacrosse, football and soccer; two multi-use ball fields for baseball, softball and kickball with dugouts; six pickle ball courts, a large pavilion, restroom building, 1/3 mile paved loop walking trail and paved parking lot.



Towner Road Park Ribbon Cutting

## Haslett Beautification Project Enhances Corridor

A project three years in the making is about to unfold in Meridian Township. Haslett Beautification Association (HBA) will be installing a sculpture by local metal artist Michael Magnotta. It will be the centerpiece of the revitalization of a vacant piece of Township property bordered by Marsh Road, Lake Drive and Reynolds Road. Since Meridian Township approached HBA in 2015, the Association has been hard at work developing a plan for the triangular shaped lot. A community-wide contest resulted in the engagement of veteran landscaper Bradford Meehle of Haslett who designed an attractive gateway through Haslett. The first phase of his plan will be the planting of a four seasons garden at the south end of the property next Spring.

The centerpiece of the garden will be a metal sculpture of three sailboats created by Mike Magnotta, who was inspired to create this piece by the beauty of Lake Lansing. Mike's work has been displayed throughout the state.

The sculpture for HBA was supported in part by a grant from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. When the garden is planted, a formal dedication will take place. The property will become the Donald Lillrose Memorial Garden named after lifelong Haslett resident Don Lillrose. Don was a strong supporter of Meridian Township and HBA, giving his time and financial resources to make this area an attractive one for all residents.



# Central Park Improvements in 2019

Central Park is located in the center of the Township connecting the Haslett and Okemos communities together as one. We are excited to announce that in 2019 several improvement projects are expected that include greater accessibility, transportation and improved fresh food delivery.

## GATEWAY FOOTBRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND NEW RESTROOM FACILITY

This Meridian Historical Village project is being funded by a \$150,000 grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund together with a \$150,000 local match from the Park Millage for these two projects.

## CENTRAL MERIDIAN REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTOR

This nearly half-mile paved trail and accessible fishing platform is being funded through a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund in the amount of \$272,500 and a \$122,500 Park Millage local match. This trail will begin at the Historical Village and run west through Central Park connecting to an existing paved trail in Central Park South. This trail will eventually connect to a new trail from MSU to Lake Lansing. These trails will augment the existing pathway system that traverses Meridian Township.

## SMALL DOG PARK

Construction of the small dog park is currently underway with a target opening before the holidays. The off-leash dog area will be at the entrance to Nancy Moore Park. Please visit [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us) for rules and regulations.

## LARGE DOG PARK

This park is in the planning stages in Central Park South and is being designed in unison with the Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector. This park is slated to open in the summer of 2019, once the trail project is completed.

## MARKETPLACE ON THE GREEN FARMERS' MARKET RELOCATION PROJECT

This project will move the existing Meridian Farmers' Market across the street along Central Park Drive. It will create a new hub for recreation, fresh food and social gathering, while sharing existing paved parking with Meridian Mall. The easier access for visitors will make our already successful market even a more desirable place to visit! This project includes a pavilion, restroom, office for food assistance management, gathering plaza, music stage and playground. Artificial ice will provide opportunities for ice skating in the winter months, as well as during special events throughout the year! Construction will be completed in 2019.



DECEMBER  
1 & 15

JANUARY  
5 & 19

FEBRUARY  
2 & 16

MARCH  
2 & 16

APRIL  
6 & 20

Meridian Mall JC Penney Corridor Between Center Court and JC Penney  
1982 W. Grand River, Okemos, MI

[facebook.com/MeridianTownshipFarmersMarket](https://facebook.com/MeridianTownshipFarmersMarket)

10AM  
TO 2PM



For Information & To Sign Up  
**NOW**  
[bit.ly/mtpronline](http://bit.ly/mtpronline)



Contact the Harris Nature Center with questions

# HARRIS NATURE C E N T E R

## CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLASS

**SATURDAY 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM**  
**JANUARY 12** PRICE: \$15/PERSON WITH YOUR EQUIPMENT  
**FEBRUARY 2** \$20/PERSON WITH OUR EQUIPMENT

Glide through a winter wonderland and experience Michigan's snow covered wild places. The class includes tips from an expert instructor on staying warm in the cold, basic skills such as gliding, turning, going up and down hills and guided skiing on park trails. Dress for outdoor activity. Ski rentals are available and must be reserved ahead of time. Class is dependent on snow coverage. Classes taught by Guest Naturalist, Jackie Blanc.

## SNOWSHOE CLASS

**SATURDAY 1 PM - 3 PM**  
**JANUARY 12** PRICE: \$15/PERSON WITH YOUR EQUIPMENT  
**FEBRUARY 2** \$20/PERSON WITH OUR EQUIPMENT

Learn to snowshoe and nothing will stop you from missing out on those winter walks! This class includes tips from an expert instructor on staying warm in the cold, shoeing techniques and guided shoeing on park trails. Dress for outdoor activity. Snowshoe rentals are available and must be reserved. Class is dependent on snow coverage. Classes taught by Guest Naturalist, Jackie Blanc.

## CHIPMUNK STORY TIME

**THURSDAY 10 AM - 11 AM** PRICE: \$3/CHILD/SESSION  
**JANUARY 17** ANIMALS ARE SLEEPING  
**FEBRUARY 14** VALENTINE FRIENDS  
**APRIL 18** COUNTING NATURE

Story time comes alive as children interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends. Stories are followed by a craft, games or a walk. Open to preschool and elementary aged children.

## HOWL AT THE MOON

**FRIDAY EVENINGS** PRICE: \$3/PERSON/WALK  
**JANUARY 18 7 PM** MARCH 22 8 PM  
**FEBRUARY 15 7 PM** APRIL 19 8:30 PM

Enjoy the full moon while taking a guided walk through the nighttime woods. Dogs on a non-retractable leash and flashlights are welcome. Meet in the parking lot.

## MOONLIGHT SKI AND SHOE

**SATURDAY 6 PM - 9 PM** PRICE: \$10/PERSON WITH OUR EQUIPMENT  
**JANUARY 19** (INCLUDES HEADLAMP)  
**FEBRUARY 9** \$3/PERSON WITH YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT  
**FEBRUARY 23** \$2/ADDITIONAL HEADLAMP

Swoosh along the moonlit trails as you ski or snowshoe through the sparkling snow. On these nights only, the nature center will be open for evening skiing and snowshoeing. Headlamps and flashlights are recommended. Cross country ski and snowshoe rentals include headlamps and are available at the nature center. You must reserve equipment and a participation time.

## WINTER WONDERLAND

**SATURDAY JANUARY 26** 10 AM - 3 PM  
 SEE PRIME EVENTS PAGE FOR DETAILS  
 Embrace winter with this family-friendly outdoor event!

## PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS WITH RON ST. GERMAIN

**WEDNESDAYS 6:30 PM - 9 PM** PRICE: \$60/4 - DAY SESSION  
**FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20 AND SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9 10 AM - 1 PM**  
**APRIL 3, 10, 17 AND SATURDAY APRIL 6 10 AM - 1 PM**

Whether your camera is an old one from the closet or the newest technology, this class will familiarize you with all of its buttons and functions. You will learn the basics in a fun and easily understood way.

## EXPLORE NATURE ON SNOWSHOES

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10 2 PM PRICE: \$10/PERSON WITH OUR EQUIPMENT  
\$3/PERSON WITH YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT OR WALKING

Break the winter monotony with a walk in nature using snowshoes. You'll stretch your legs and breathe fresh air as a naturalist describes the signs of winter wildlife and how they survive a Michigan winter. You can also opt to walk without snowshoes. Bring your own snowshoes or borrow ours (extra fee). Our snowshoes are limited. The use of snowshoes is dependent on snow coverage and the walk will be held regardless of snow conditions.

## OWL PROWL CAMPFIRE

SATURDAY MARCH 2 7 PM PRICE: \$3/PERSON OR \$7/FAMILY

A hoot in the distance and the flap of a wing in the night air let you know that you are not alone. Owls are active this time of the year, trying to find a mate, building a nest and protecting their eggs. Enjoy a campfire while learning about owls and then join a naturalist for a guided owl walk.

## FAMILY SPECIAL: LUCKY SHAMROCKS

SUNDAY MARCH 17 2 PM PRICE: \$3/PERSON OR \$7/FAMILY

Why does Mother Nature love St. Patrick's Day? Because she always wears green! This St. Patrick's Day, spend time in nature, learn about the history of the holiday, enjoy special activities and take a guided walk to search for lucky shamrocks.

## NATURE TOTS

AGES: 4 YEARS AND UNDER PRICE: \$50/8 - WEEK SESSION

MONDAYS MARCH 18 - MAY 13 (NO CLASS ON APRIL 1)

9 AM - 10 AM OR 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Children 4 and under (accompanied by a parent or other adult) can toddle into their first nature experiences. Each week is themed and includes circle time, a nature walk, hands-on activities and a craft facilitated by a naturalist.

## GARDENING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

TUESDAY MARCH 26 7 PM - 9 PM PRICE: \$15/PERSON

Spring is here! Time to think about your garden and learn how to make gardening easier by adding native plants! They thrive in Michigan, have beautiful flowers and attract birds and butterflies to your garden. These native beauties can be added to an existing garden or form the foundation for a new one. Join Vern and Sue Stephens, owners of Designs by Nature, to learn about designing and maintaining a native garden. Please register ahead.

## PRESCHOOL SCIENCE EXPLORATION

AGES: 4 AND 5 YEAR OLDS PRICE: \$3/CHILD/CLASS

THURSDAY APRIL 4 1 PM - 2 PM

TERRIFIC TURTLES

Curious preschool children explore nature through hands-on science activities and discovery walks with a naturalist guide.

## BIRD WATCHING IN OUR PARKS

SUNDAY APRIL 14 9 AM

EASTGATE PARK

SUNDAY APRIL 28 8 AM

NANCY MOORE PARK

MEET IN THE BACK PARKING LOT

PRICE: FREE

Meridian Township Parks has partnered with the Capital Area Audubon Society to lead bird watching walks in our parks this spring. Join an Audubon volunteer to explore these parks in a series of bird watching walks. Meet in the parking lot of the park listed and bring your own binoculars.

## EXPLORE NATURE OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY APRIL 14 12 PM - 4 PM PRICE: FREE

In association with the MSU Science Festival, the Harris Nature Center is offering participants a chance to explore nature in our Nature Exploration Area. Pick up an activity sheet in the nature building and then have fun with the activities at the Turtle Sculpture, Log Jam, Sticks and Stones, Spider Web, MI Fossil Dig and Beaver Lodge features. Find out more about the MSU Science Festival at [www.sciencefestival.msu.edu](http://www.sciencefestival.msu.edu).

## HNC STEWARDSHIP MORNINGS

SATURDAYS APRIL 27 PRICE: FREE

9 AM - 11 AM

Every day is Earth Day at the Harris Nature Center! We need your help to keep our park and trails healthy and safe by removing invasive plants, maintaining habitat areas, identifying/repairing troubled trail areas and gardening around the building. You can volunteer just one morning or become a regular steward by participating every month. Please contact us at HNC. Your help is NEEDED!

## ANIMAL BABIES CAMPFIRE

SATURDAY APRIL 27 7 PM PRICE: \$3/PERSON OR \$7/FAMILY

The best part of spring is the arrival of all the animal babies! Learn more about your favorite furry and feathery babies, while you spend time around the campfire, roast marshmallows and take a guided walk with a naturalist.

## SPRING WALKABOUT

SUNDAY APRIL 28 2 PM PRICE: \$3/PERSON OR \$7/FAMILY

The temperature may still be cool, but signs of spring are everywhere! The early wildflowers are beginning to show and animals are very active as they gather food for their young. This is a great time for a guided walk in the early spring woods.

## REGISTER FOR SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Visit [bit.ly/mtpronline](http://bit.ly/mtpronline) or contact the Harris Nature Center by phone or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us). Registration forms are also online at [meridian.mi.us/HNC](http://meridian.mi.us/HNC).

# INGHAM COUNTY PARKS

Over 530 acres of natural recreation area, woods and trails make Lake Lansing Park North a bounty of year round outdoor activity.



Ingham County Parks has the largest hidden gem within Meridian Township: Lake Lansing connected by Lake Lansing Park North and Lake Lansing Park South located in Haslett, MI.

1

## ACCESSIBLE SIDEWALK ADDED TO LAKE LANSING PARK SOUTH

We are proud to announce that a new ADA compliant sidewalk has been installed at Lake Lansing Park South, as a result of a collaborative effort between Meridian Township, Ingham County Parks and the Friends of Ingham County Parks. In September of 2018 construction began on a new accessible pathway at Lake Lansing Park South. Monies for this new Ingham County Parks pathway were a result of the Meridian Township 175th Anniversary "Fun in the Sun Day" event in June of 2017, which raised \$5,000 for the accessible pathway. Friends of Ingham County Parks matched the donation to make this project a reality in October 2018.

2

## BIKE FIX STATIONS LAKE LANSING BOAT LAUNCH AND HAWK ISLAND COUNTY PARKS

Ingham County Parks announced that two Bike Fix Stations are now installed and in service thanks to the Friends of Ingham County Parks, who in collaboration with the Parks Department, local bike stores Scooter Holt Pro Cycle and Denny's Central Park Bicycles, sponsored and installed bike repair stations at Lake Lansing Boat Launch and Hawk Island. The bike repair station at Lake Lansing Boat Launch also commemorates the long service of John Veenstra, promoter of local trails and former Park Commissioner.

3

## 2019 ANNUAL PARK PASSES AVAILABLE

Annual 2019 passes for Ingham County residents are available for \$32. 2019 annual passes are valid from purchase date until December 31, 2019. Non-Ingham County residents passes are \$42. Annual passes are available at all park gatehouses and in the parks office at 121 E. Maple Street, Mason.

There is a daily per vehicle entrance fee year-round of \$3 for Ingham County residents and \$5 for non-residents at Burchfield Park, Hawk Island, Lake Lansing Park-North and Lake Lansing Park-South. No vehicle entrance fees will be collected one hour prior to the Friday night Band Shell concert at Lake Lansing Park-South.

## Cross Country Ski Rentals at Lake Lansing Park North



**FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
10 AM - LAST RENTAL IS 1 HOUR  
BEFORE SUNSET**

**\$7/HOUR FOR ADULTS  
\$5/HOUR CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER**

Cross country ski through the majestic, snow capped forests at Lake Lansing Park North. Please note the trails at Lake Lansing Park North are not groomed or illuminated.

Ingham County Parks offer year-round activities for its visitors and residents. More than 1,200 acres of out-standing Ingham County parkland are devoted to sports and recreation. Most Ingham County Parks remain open year-round, call 517.676.2233 for winter hours. Your Ingham County Parks can make any day of the year a play day!

### Annual Pass \$32

Ingham County residents can purchase annual passes at all gatehouses.





# TOWNSHIP INFORMATION

Be in the Know

Cut this page out or tear along dotted line to keep handy for important information you should know and handy quick reference contact sheet.



## MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ 517.853.4000

📅 M-F 8 am-5 pm

📘 facebook.com/MeridianTownship

## MANAGER WALSH'S OFFICE

☎ 517.853.4254

✉ walsh@meridian.mi.us

## CLERK'S OFFICE

☎ 517.853.4300

🌐 meridian.mi.us/Elections

## TREASURER'S OFFICE

☎ 517.853.4140

🌐 meridian.mi.us/Taxes

## ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

☎ 517.853.4400

## BUILDING DIVISION

☎ 517.853.4500

## PLANNING DIVISION

☎ 517.853.4560

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

☎ 517.853.4568

## HUMAN RESOURCES

☎ 517.853.4210

## HUMAN SERVICES

☎ 517.853.4204

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

☎ 517.853.4440

## EMERGENCY WATER & SEWER SERVICES

☎ 517.349.0010

For all water or sewer emergencies, please call our on-call number 517.349.0010, 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. Between 8 am - 5 pm, office staff will take your call. Between 5 pm and 7 am, you will reach an on-call pager; leave a message, including your name, address, phone number and a brief description of the problem. You will receive a return phone call and someone will respond.

Please call the Township before you call a plumber. If the problem is the Township's responsibility, we will correct it and you will save the cost of a plumber. **The Township does not reimburse plumber expenses, unless the Township authorizes the expense in advance.**



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Central Fire Station #91  
5000 Okemos Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ 517.853.4700

📅 M-F 8 am-5 pm

📘 facebook.com/MeridianTwpFD



## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Public Safety Building  
5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ Main Line: 517.853.4800

📅 Office Hours M-F 8 am-5 pm  
Building Open 24/7

📘 facebook.com/MeridianTwpPD



## HOMTV

Municipal Building, Administration Wing  
5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ 517.349.1232

📅 M-F 8 am-5 pm

📘 facebook.com/homtv 🐦 @homtv

🌐 homtv.net



## PARKS & RECREATION

Service Center  
2100 Gaylord C Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840

☎ 517.853.4600

📅 M-F 8 am-5 pm

📘 facebook.com/MeridianTwpParksRec



## MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

4000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864  
Entrance off of Kinawa Drive

☎ 517.706.5045

📅 M-F 9 am-4:30 pm

📘 facebook.com/meridianseniorcenter



## MERIDIAN HISTORICAL VILLAGE

5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ 517.347.7300

📅 Saturdays, May-Oct 10 am-2 pm

📘 facebook.com/  
MeridianHistoricalVillage



## HARRIS NATURE CENTER

3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos, MI 48864

☎ 517.349.3866

📅 Hours vary

📘 facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter

## Public Service Applications

Help Meridian Township grow as a Prime Community by becoming a public servant! Meridian Township has numerous Boards and Commissions and various volunteer opportunities residents can take part in. If you have an interest in local parks, businesses, community planning, the environment, transportation, etc., there are almost 20 different public service opportunities to serve.

**Become civically engaged and take an active part in your community by filling out a public service application form at [meridian.mi.us/BoardsCommissions](http://meridian.mi.us/BoardsCommissions)**

## Road Kill in Meridian

If you see a dead deer in Meridian Township on or near a roadway please contact:

**MI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
517.614.9602**

If a dead animal is blocking the road you can call:

**INGHAM COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT  
517.676.9722**

Please note they will only move the dead animal to the side of the road, not remove it.

**Check the Township website for dates the offices are closed.**

## Automatic Tax Payments

Interested in avoiding long lines on tax day or the risk of forgetting to pay your property tax? To enroll in Meridian Township's automatic bill payment plan, simply fill out the Automatic Bill Payment Enrollment Form located on the Meridian Township website [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us). The form must be submitted at least two weeks before the due date. Once enrolled, Meridian Township will initiate an ACH withdrawal from the taxpayer's account.

**Visit [meridian.mi.us/taxes](http://meridian.mi.us/taxes) for payment options and tax questions.**

## Meridian Recycling Center Hours

A large variety of recyclables are accepted, including all paper/books, Styrofoam, glass (sorted by color), plastics, metal, electronics (fee), household batteries (fee) and more. Compactable, non-compactable and yard waste are accepted for a fee.

**MERIDIAN RECYCLING CENTER AND TRANSFER STATION**

**5976 E. Lake Drive, Haslett  
517.703.4498  
[reclaimedbydesign.com](http://reclaimedbydesign.com)**

**Winter December 1 – March 31**

<b>Mon and Fri</b>	<b>2 PM - 5 PM</b>
<b>Tues, Wed, Thurs</b>	<b>10 AM - 5 PM</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10 AM - 4 PM</b>



## Snow Removal

**Meridian Township's snow removal ordinance requires residents to clear the snow and ice from the sidewalks along their property within 24 hours following a snow fall.**

**If more than 2 inches of snow or ice remain after that first 24 hours, the owner will be notified by the Township that it must be cleared. Owners will then have an additional 24 hours to clear the snow or ice. If it is not cleared within the second 24 hour period the Township will remove it and bill the home owner. This payment must be made within 30 days of receiving the bill.**

**This process is put into place to ensure that the snow (or ice) is removed and the ordinance is enforced to ensure the safety of residents.**

**Residents who will be out of town are expected to make arrangements for snow removal.**

## Legal Notices

Meridian Township provides public notices to comply with requirements mandated by state law.

Legal notices advise residents of upcoming meeting dates, public hearings, minutes postings and proposed ordinance changes.

**[meridian.mi.us/legalnotices](http://meridian.mi.us/legalnotices)**

## Sign Up For eNotifications

 Visit [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

 Sign up for email notifications

 Visit our intuitive calendar

 Register for HNC programs

**SIGN UP HERE [meridian.mi.us/eNotify](http://meridian.mi.us/eNotify)**



# MERIDIAN Cares

MERIDIAN.MI.US/MERIDIANCARES

As of November 1st, the Meridian Cares team has exceeded their goal of raising \$10,000 for the Emergency Needs Fund by raising \$10,356.19 and still counting.

To help accomplish their goal the Meridian Cares team participated in several fundraising efforts including the Strike Out for a Cause Bowling event and the Karaoke Benefit Night at Old Chicago.

Meridian Cares also collected over 40 bags of nonperishable food items and toiletries. Items donated by Meridian Township staff and were delivered to the local food banks in early November.

At the end of 2018 the Meridian Cares funds will be split into three different ways to help the residents of Meridian Township:

- **Provide funding for CATA bus passes**
- **Help fund food baskets**
- **Dedicate a majority of funds towards the Meridian Cares general fund helping residents with emergency needs**

Through the Meridian Cares Emergency Needs Fund, the team is able to help seniors, families and children with emergency needs in Meridian Township. They help families stay warm in the winter when facing shut off notices, help families keep their homes when facing eviction notices and help provide funds necessary for emergency transportation services if needed. To show support and help the Meridian Cares team, donations to the Emergency Needs Fund is extremely appreciated.

Financial contributions can be made in person or by mail to the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864. Checks can be made payable to Meridian Township c/o Meridian Cares.

**Online donations are also accepted at [www.meridian.mi.us/MeridianCares](http://www.meridian.mi.us/MeridianCares)**

## CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 31

NANCY MOORE PARK PARKING LOT  
1960 GAYLORD C. SMITH COURT, HASLETT

Trees should be free of wire, metal bracing or nails and must not be in a plastic bag. Please, no wreaths.

For more information, please call  
517.853.4440

## Extreme Cold Could Mean Water Issues in Your Home

### AVOID FROZEN PIPES AT HOME

- Check around the home for areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas. Look in the basement, crawl space, attic, garage and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Both hot and cold water pipes in these areas should be insulated.
- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals out of reach of children.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe, even at a trickle helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

### TO THAW FROZEN PIPES

- If you turn on a faucet and only a trickle comes out, suspect a frozen pipe. Likely places for frozen pipes include against exterior walls or where your water service enters your home through the foundation.
- Keep the faucet open. As you treat the frozen pipe and the frozen area begins to melt, water will begin to flow through the frozen area. Running water through the pipe will help melt ice in the pipe.
- Apply heat to the section of pipe using an electric heating pad wrapped around the pipe, an electric hair dryer, a portable space heater (kept away from flammable materials) or by wrapping pipes with towels soaked in hot water. Do not use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove or other open flame device.
- Apply heat until full water pressure is restored. If you are unable to locate the frozen area, if the frozen area is not accessible or if you cannot thaw the pipe, call a licensed plumber.
- Check all other faucets in your home to find out if you have additional frozen pipes. If one pipe freezes, others may freeze, too.

**For all water or sewer emergencies, please call on-call number 517.349.0010, 24 hours a day/7 days a week**

## PFAS Test Shows NON-Detect in Public Water Supply

### Meridian and East Lansing Receive a Clean Bill of Health

As part of a new statewide initiative to test drinking water from all schools, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) recently tested the East Lansing – Meridian Water system for a group of manmade chemicals called per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The results show that no detectable levels of PFAS were found in the water.

The East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority (ELMWSA) provides drinking water to the public water supplies for the City of East Lansing and Meridian Township. ELMWSA's water was tested by AECOM, MDEQ's contractor.

On August 27, 2018, ELMWSA received notification from MDEQ that the water supply tested by the State of Michigan was a NON-Detect at the set detection limit of 2 parts per trillion (ppt). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lifetime Health Advisory (LFA) for PFOS and PFOA is 70 ppt. The test results can be found on the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team website, [www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse](http://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse).

It is not uncommon to find low levels of PFAS in drinking water supplies, as PFAS can be found in fire-fighting foams, stain repellants, nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, food wrappers and many other household products. They do not break down in the environment and move easily into water.

ELMWSA, the City of East Lansing and Meridian Township are committed to providing customers with quality drinking water. ELMWSA is working closely with MDEQ to maintain water quality.

The Meridian Township Fire Department currently uses F-500 foam for firefighting. This type of foam does not fall under PFAS foam that needs to be eliminated. Most foam products over the past few years has eliminated environmental hazards such as PFAS.

For health-related questions, contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at 1.800.648.6942 or visit one of the websites below.

#### Additional Resources:

State of Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) [www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse](http://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse)

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ASTDR) [www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas)

United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) [www.epa.gov/pfas](http://www.epa.gov/pfas)

## Meridian Becomes Redevelopment Ready Certified

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), along with several other organizations, is working hard to attract new business growth around Michigan. The Redevelopment Ready Communities® (RRC) program is a voluntary, no-cost program through MEDC that assists local municipalities in establishing a sound foundation for redevelopment and investment to occur in their communities.

On the heels of adopting the 2017 Master Plan, Meridian Township enrolled in the RRC certification process. After working toward RRC certification since March 2018, the Township succeeded in accomplishing the requirements as laid out in the RRC Best Practices, becoming the 29th Michigan community certified under the statewide RRC program.

On November 16th at Okemos Elevation – a new mixed use development project in Okemos, the Township was formally recognized for their hard work and dedication to having a vision for the future and the fundamental practices in place to get there. Certification is a formal recognition that a community has removed barriers and streamlined processes to be more competitive in today's economy.

While the MEDC states that approximately 225 municipalities are enrolled in the RRC process, there are only 29 certified communities and Meridian is the first Township in the state to become certified. This certification allows the Township and developers to compete for state funded grants and loans for which it otherwise wouldn't be eligible.

## Join the Crowd (Funding)!

Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department is excited for the new Farmers' Market relocation project to become a reality at the Meridian Mall along Central Park Drive. This new space will provide expanded parking utilizing existing infrastructure. Even though final planning for construction is underway, fundraising efforts continue. This is your opportunity to share in the excitement for the development of this new community space that will also include artificial ice for winter use as well as for special events throughout the year! Your participation is needed to help us reach our goal! If we are able to raise \$50,000 in 60 days, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) will match it with another \$50,000. Please go to the Meridian Township Website at [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us) for additional information and to pledge!



## Meridian Township Installs New Solar Array

In 2017, the Meridian Township Board adopted a resolution of support for the Paris Climate Accord and Meridian Township Climate Sustainability Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Township by 80%. The Climate Sustainability Plan provides a framework for continuing Meridian Township's legacy of environmental stewardship. This plan requires many actions related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, recycling and waste reduction, transportation and water management.

### Implementation of this plan will enable the Township to:

- Contribute to the worldwide efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions.
- Make our community a more sustainable, resilient, affordable and vibrant place to live.
- Make our Township government operations more energy and resource efficient and better prepared to deal with the impacts of climate change.

### Plan objectives include:

- Achieve significant energy and water cost savings in Township facilities and vehicle fleet.
- Obtain 50% of electricity used for Township operations from renewable energy sources by 2025 and 100% by 2035.
- Reduce the amount of materials sent to landfills by 10% within the next five years.

The first step toward obtaining renewable energy for Township facilities was the installation of a solar array at the Township Municipal Building in October 2018. Modeled after a similar solar system at Okemos High School, on average, it will produce 20,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity annually, providing about 8% of current electrical needs at the Municipal Building. The total system cost was approximately \$50,000 but will save over \$143,000 and serve as a model for green energy. Solar production can be viewed at [bit.ly/solarmonitor](http://bit.ly/solarmonitor).

### Township Solar Array Facts:

A solar array is made up of photovoltaic solar panels that absorb sunlight as a source of energy to generate electricity.

- System Size: 20 KW
- System Type: Ground mounted
- System Components: 56 Solar PV Panels, rack, 2 DC/AC Inverters
- Pollution Reduction: In addition to keeping 548 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere over 25 years, the system will save 13.4 million gallons of water otherwise used by burning fossil fuels such as coal or natural gas

Over its lifetime, this solar array will help reduce Meridian Township's carbon footprint by 548 tons which is equivalent to:



**Planting 12,768 trees**



**Driving reduced by 1,096,000 auto miles or 55,896 gallons of gasoline**



**Recycling 1,732 tons of waste**



**Displacing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the annual electric use of 62 homes**



**Burning 267 tons of coal**



**And we will help avoid using up to 13,358,000 gallons of water by thermoelectric powerplants**



## Meridian Police Services Continue for Williamstown Township

Ever see Meridian Township Police patrolling the Williamstown Township area? There is a reason why and this December marks the fourth consecutive two-year contract the Meridian Township Police will provide law enforcement services for Williamstown Township. In 2010, the Ingham County Sheriffs Department reduced deputy services to rural areas which led to Williamstown Township collaborating with Meridian Township for police services to their area.

Through December 2021, Meridian Police will continue to provide police patrol services, emergency and nonemergency response services to all dispatch calls, and additional police services, including without limitation the enforcement of applicable state statutes and regulations and Williamstown ordinances.

The renewed contract is from 2019 – 2021. Williamstown Township will pay Meridian Township \$225,217 in 2019, \$229,721 in 2020 and \$234,316 in 2021 plus \$58.41 per hour, outside the 80 hours of weekly patrol for emergency and nonemergency responses.

The current contract establishes a cost for service of \$216,723. The increased cost from 2018 to 2019 is 4%.

Meridian Township will provide and maintain at its expense motor vehicles to be used for police protection and patrol within Williamstown Township and any and all uniforms, weapons, radios and general police equipment to be used by Officers assigned to duty in Williamstown Township, including insurance.

Williamstown Township stated they continue to be pleased with the law enforcement services being provided by Meridian.



## Police Body Cameras & Car Cameras

In 2015 the Meridian Township Police Department partnered with the East Lansing Police Department to apply for the U.S. Department of Justice Body Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program Competitive Grant for new police worn body cameras. The new cameras were in addition to the car cameras already being used. The grant provided \$25,000 of funding with a Township match of \$25,000 for each officer to have a body camera while on duty.

Since MTPD was already using the L-3 system for their vehicle cameras they tested the L-3 body worn cameras. These cameras underperformed and it was determined the system would need to be replaced.

The Township made the decision to consolidate all three camera systems; the in car camera, the Taser mounted camera, and the body worn camera, into one system. Axon offered a camera system which fit the needs of the department and was the vendor chosen for this endeavor. At the beginning of 2018 each officer was issued a body worn camera and trained on how to properly use the new recording system.

The department's three cameras operate independently but can be synced together. While on patrol if the overhead lights of the police car are activated, both the car camera and the body camera begin recording. Either camera can be activated with the push of a button.

By having the multiple cameras recording at the same time, Township police are able to watch footage of an incident from multiple angles. This allows for a more accurate analysis of each incident. After the officers return to the station, the car cameras connect wirelessly to a server at the police station. This allows footage to start downloading right away.

With the new Axon system the Meridian Township Police department can now store a majority of their footage using cloud base technology. In previous years camera footage was transferred to CD's, taking a longer time to archive footage. Today the new system allows for faster transfers and provides an easier method of keeping evidence.

Since the switch to the new Axon system, the Meridian Township Police Department has found it to be more user friendly a more efficient way to keep and review and store footage.



# TOP 10 Holiday Safety Tips:

As you prepare to celebrate the holiday season, the Meridian Township Police Department provide safety tips for holiday shopping. Here are Top 10 Safety Tips.

- 1) KEEP ALL CAR DOORS LOCKED AND WINDOWS CLOSED**  
while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- 2) NEVER LEAVE YOUR CAR UNOCCUPIED**  
with the motor running or with children inside.
- 3) DO NOT LEAVE PACKAGES OR VALUABLES ON THE SEAT OF YOUR CAR**  
lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- 4) KEEP A SECURE HOLD ON YOUR PURSE**  
handbag and parcels. Do not put them down or on top of the car in order to open the door.

## AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE (ATM)

- 5) CHOOSE AN ATM THAT IS LOCATED INSIDE THE MALL OR WELL-LIGHTED LOCATION,**  
if you must use an ATM, withdraw only the amount of cash you need.
- 6) PROTECT YOUR PIN**  
shield the ATM keypad from anyone who is standing near you.
- 7) DO NOT THROW YOUR ATM RECEIPT AWAY AT THE ATM LOCATION.**

## SHOPPING

- 8) SHOP DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS**  
whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- 9) AVOID CARRYING LARGE AMOUNTS OF CASH**  
if you do carry cash, keep it in your front pocket.
- 10) BEWARE OF STRANGERS APPROACHING YOU**  
for any reason. At this time of year, "conartists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

For more personal safety and shopping safety tips, visit [meridian.mi.us/PoliceCrimePrevention](http://meridian.mi.us/PoliceCrimePrevention)

## ACTIVE SHOOTER PREPAREDNESS

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER

2 PM

FREE

RSVP BY: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Meridian Township Police Sergeant Ed Besonen has worked with the Department since 2006. During that time, he has worked road patrol, as well as 2.5 years as an Investigator. Sgt. Besonen is an instructor for the Department, teaching the officers skills such as defensive tactics, response to civil disturbances, Taser, Verbal defense and influence and response to Active Violence Incidents. He has also been a member of the Ingham Regional Special Response Team since 2014. This presentation will focus on options for civilian response to incidents of Active Violence, as well as general awareness principles.

## 13TH ANNUAL POLICE YOUTH CITIZENS' ACADEMY

WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 13

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

The Academy is comprised of students from area high schools and is modeled after the very popular Citizens' Academy that Meridian Township Police Department hosts in the fall.

During the seven week course, students will receive instruction in areas such as: Use of Force, Crime Scene Investigation, K-9 Operations, Traffic Enforcement, and Alcohol Enforcement. In addition to classroom instruction, students will be given the opportunity to interact with and use many of the tools law enforcement personnel utilize every day. Students will observe K-9 detection and apprehension activities, use "Fatal Vision" goggles to observe the effects of alcohol on coordination, see various non-lethal weapons and training aids (PepperBall, Taser, Simunitions), dust surfaces for latent fingerprints, and engage in scenario-based decision making on the Firearms Training Simulator.

This program helps foster positive relationships between officers and students and provides an increased knowledge of police work. If you have questions or wish to enroll in the Academy, please contact Sergeant Scott Dawson.



**SERGEANT SCOTT DAWSON**

Police Department

📞 517.853.4800

✉️ [policeacademy@meridian.mi.us](mailto:policeacademy@meridian.mi.us)





## Lucas Chest Compression Device

For several years the Meridian Township Fire Department has worked with local fire departments to help better the residents in the metro area. In 2014, the East Lansing Fire Department applied for funding through the Competitive Grant Assistance Program (CGAP) Grant on behalf of several metro Fire Departments, including Meridian Township.

The intent of the applications was to help fund active violence training and specialized equipment. As a result of the grant funding, Meridian Township was able to receive four Lucas Chest Compression Devices, one for each ambulance in the Township. Each device is \$15,000, saving the Township around \$60,000 total in equipment costs.

The Lucas Chest Compression Device performs CPR compressions consistently. It can sense the depth of the patient's chest and pushes two inches deep. It can maintain the rate of 100 beats per minute and can run steadily for up to 45 minutes.

Since receiving the Lucas Chest Compression Devices, Meridian Township Fire Department has seen much success when helping residents who go into cardiac arrest. The return of spontaneous circulations in patients has gone up from 3% to 5% since using these devices. The average EMS provider can perform CPR manually for roughly two minutes before needing to switch with another provider. This device allows Township EMS providers to perform other lifesaving procedures while caring for the patient.



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
WITH MERIDIAN PROFESSIONAL  
FIREFIGHTERS UNION  
LOCAL 1600 & LOCAL  
BOY SCOUT TROOPS

ALL YOU  
CAN EAT!  
**\$5**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9**  
**8 AM - 11 AM**

All you can eat pancakes and sausage for \$5 donation!

All proceeds will go to the MDA and our local Scout Units' Campership/Scholarship Fund

2142 COMMUNITY CHURCH 2600 BENNETT RD, OKEMOS



## TOP 10 FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR WINTER

Did you know house fires occur more in the winter than any other season? Here are Top 10 Fire Safety Tips to help protect your family and prevent a fire from taking place in your home.

### 1) HAVE YOUR FURNACE CHECKED

Having a properly working furnace will not only help your family stay warm, but will keep your family safe from components that may not be working properly.

### 2) CHECK YOUR CHIMNEYS AND VENTS

Having your chimney checked and cleaned before the winter season will help prevent creosote from starting unwanted fires.

### 3) TEST SMOKE AND CO2 ALARMS

Make sure the batteries in your smoke alarm will last through the winter season.

### 4) COVER YOUR FIREPLACE WITH A SCREEN

Placing screens in front of a fire place prevents sparks from flying into your home. Remember to keep children and pets at least three feet away from a burning fire.

### 5) BEWARE OF SPACE HEATERS

Avoid placing space heaters near curtains, table cloths or other loose fabric. Use a space heater with an automatic shut off, in case the temperature reaches a dangerously high heat.

### 6) CHECK EXTENSION CORDS

Never overload your extension cord. Check to see if the cord is damaged in any way and never use an extension cord in replace of permanent wiring.

### 7) PRACTICE SAFE CHRISTMAS TREE USE

If you use live trees, make sure it is a fresh tree. Trees that shed needles are drier and can put your home at a greater fire risk. Don't place your Christmas tree close to a heat source and keep holiday candles at a safe distance.

### 8) PRACTICE SAFE COOKING HABITS

Stay in the kitchen while food is cooking and keep the cooking range free of clutter. Always keep a fire extinguisher close by.

### 9) PLAN AN ESCAPE ROUTE

Create a plan so everyone in your family knows the safest way to get out in case of fire and where to meet once outside.

### 10) CLEAR SNOW FROM FIRE HYDRANTS

Help local firefighters by clearing snow three feet away from fire hydrants. This allows Firefighters faster access to hydrants in the case of an emergency.

# Township Receives Top Honors and High Recognition

We're proud to announce these achievements as they represent part of our Prime Community vision, which is to achieve and maintain a welcoming community with the highest quality of life for our residents.



## WATER MANAGER RECEIVES HIGHEST AWARD



Congratulations to East Lansing and Meridian Township Water Manager, Clyde Dugan on receiving the George Warren Fuller Award!

Clyde will be recognized at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Denver in June 2019. The award is based upon an individual's entire career in the water supply field. A Fuller Awardee gains lifetime respect and recognition from professionals working in the drinking water field, including operators, managers, consultants, regulators, product manufacturers, etc.

Clyde is being recognized for his dedicated and faithful service through his work with the Lansing Board of Water and Light and the East Lansing Meridian Water and Sewer Authority; for ensuring safe and adequate water supplies to the communities where his efforts have had impact, for the support and leadership he has provided to the AWWA and its members, for his commitment to continual improvement of member value to the Michigan Section and for his mentoring of those who follow in his footsteps in the water industry.



## GREEN COMMUNITIES SILVER AWARD

In September, Meridian Township received the Silver Award in the Michigan Green Communities Challenge from the Michigan Green Communities Network. The award recognizes local governments in the state of Michigan for their environmental initiatives.

Meridian Township was received this award for its broad and long-term commitment to the environment through improvements in energy efficiency, a commitment to renewable energy, watershed protection, and development of a Greenspace Plan and Land Preservation Program. The Greenspace Plan is structured to preserve and enhance the community character by establishing a greenspace system that incorporates wildlife corridors, natural preserves, scenic roadways, key waterways, wetlands, upland buffers, agricultural lands, and pathways that link parks, schools and other community resources.

[bit.ly/GreenspaceProtectionPlan](http://bit.ly/GreenspaceProtectionPlan)  
[migreencommunities.com](http://migreencommunities.com)

The award was presented to the Meridian Township Board during their Meeting on Tuesday, October 16.



**Photo includes Tom Frazier, Legislative liaison for the Michigan Townships Association and members of the Meridian Township Board**



## HOMTV WINS 1ST PLACE NATIONAL AWARD



**Photo includes Deborah Guthrie, Communications Director and Brandie Yates, Executive Producer of HOMTV**

Congratulations to HOMTV on receiving a first place national Hometown Award in Overall Excellence in Government Access from the Alliance for Community Media (ACM)!

ACM represents over 3,000 Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) access organizations and across the country. The Hometown Media Awards honors and promotes community media and local cable programs that are distributed on PEG access channels.

Overall Excellence in Governmental Access is awarded to an organization who provides programming that addresses community needs, develops diverse community involvement, challenges conventional commercial television formats and moves viewers to experience television in a different way.

HOMTV is Meridian Township's award winning Government Access Channel providing residents with gavel-to-gavel coverage of Township meetings, daily news and more. Watch HOMTV on HOMTV.net and Comcast Channel 21.

[bit.ly/HOMTVOverallExcellence2018](http://bit.ly/HOMTVOverallExcellence2018)



5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos, MI 48864



## ECRWSS CAR-SORT POSTAL CUSTOMER

# HOMTV

**THURSDAY**  
**JANUARY 24**  
6 PM - 8 PM

## Golden Tape Awards Ceremony

Community Invited to Red Carpet Event at Studio C!

On Thursday, January 24 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, HOMTV will host its annual Golden Tape Awards Ceremony and Intern Appreciation Event at Studio C! to celebrate the commitment and hard work of the 2017 - 2018 HOMTV Interns. Over the years, HOMTV's Internship Program has been recognized as an established and exemplary hands-on training program to retain and foster talent.

For the first time, HOMTV is inviting the community to show their support and celebrate the interns as they showcase their work. Attendees will receive star treatment by walking the red carpet to an "Academy Awards" style ceremony hosted by Wharton Center's Bob Hoffman as Master of Ceremonies. Guests will enjoy entertainment, hors d'oeuvres and media professional guest speakers.



Each year, HOMTV Interns continue to be a valuable asset to the Meridian Township community, volunteering around 14,000 hours as production crew and on-air talent for nearly 90 official Township meetings and over 600 HOMTV programs, as well as producing more than 1,000 stories and PSA's.

**Those interested in attending or becoming a sponsor of the ceremony, please contact HOMTV Executive Producer Brandie Yates at [yates@meridian.mi.us](mailto:yates@meridian.mi.us).**