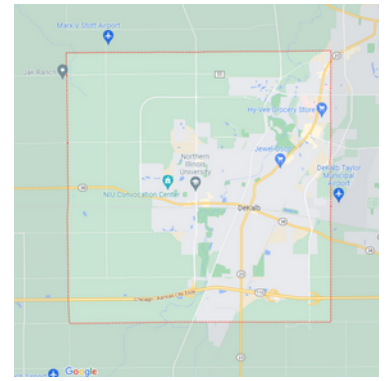




# DeKalb TOWNSHIP

Supervisor's Newsletter



## YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK - AN UPDATE FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

### Growing Service, Supporting Residents

Since 2021, the DeKalb Township Supervisor's Office has remained committed to expanding services that provide residents with a meaningful return on their tax dollars. By actively seeking out new opportunities and building strong partnerships with local organizations, we've been able to assist hundreds of residents who were previously underserved by township programs

### Doing More Without Raising Taxes

These improvements have come without adding to the tax burden. Through responsible budgeting, thoughtful evaluation of program costs, and leveraging community partnerships, we've expanded services while keeping the township's portion of your property tax bill low—less than 2% of the total. 🇺🇸 The graph on page 2 shows how your property taxes are distributed among local taxing bodies.

### Being Present in the Community

Just as important as expanding services is making sure people know we're available. That's why we've made a concerted effort to increase our visibility in the community—attending local events, collaborating with neighborhood groups, and staying accessible to residents. When people know what township government offers, they're more likely to get the help they need.

### Let's Stay Connected

I hope you've had a chance to benefit from our growing menu of services. We're always looking for more ways to serve you. If you've noticed an



unmet need in the community, have an idea for a township event, or simply want to learn more about what we offer—please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can continue building a stronger, more connected DeKalb Township.

*Mary Hess,*  
Township Supervisor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

THE TOWNSHIP  
OFFICE WILL BE  
CLOSED ON THE  
FOLLOWING DATES:

JUNE 19  
Juneteenth Holiday

JULY 4  
Independence Day

SEPTEMBER 1  
Labor Day

OCTOBER 13  
Columbus Day/  
Indigenous People's  
Day

NOVEMBER 11  
Veteran's Day

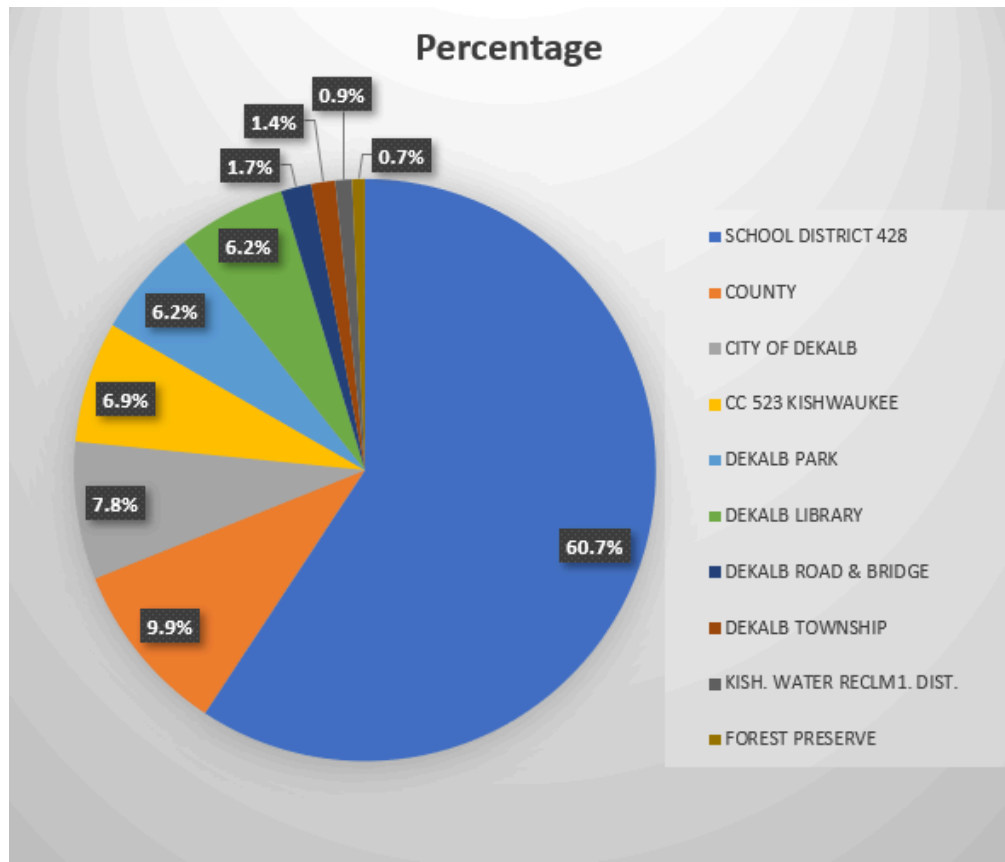
NOVEMBER 27 & 28  
Thanksgiving  
Holiday

DECEMBER 24  
Christmas Holiday

### BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings  
are held  
the 3rd Tuesday of  
the month (unless  
otherwise noted) @  
6 PM.

# YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK - BROKEN DOWN BY TAXING BODY



## COMMITTEE ON YOUTH

The DeKalb Township Committee on Youth is an advisory committee. With a focus on preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency, the committee reviews requests for funding and makes recommendations to the Township Board.. Applications are accepted four times per year. The grant application deadlines for the remaining fiscal year are June 30, 2025, September 1, 2025, December 1, 2025 & March 1, 2026. For more information, visit <https://dekalbtownship.org/committee-on-youth>

## ELECTRIC AGGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENT

On May 20, 2025 DeKalb Township Trustees approved a resolution to work with Dynegy Energy to provide electricity to Township residents located outside City limits. Residents will be able to select between the traditional production method at a rate of \$.09320/kWh or the green production method at a rate of \$.0958/kWh.

Residents will automatically be enrolled into the traditional program unless they request the renewable option. Rates for the program will go into effect in August of 2025 and will run through August of 2028. As a comparison, the new ComEd rate beginning in September will be \$0.10151.

Residents and businesses located outside City limits will begin receiving opt-out letters the week of June 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone not wanting to participate in this program will need to complete and return the opt-out card by no later than July 8, 2025. All parties with a ComEd account who do not submit the opt-out card by July 8th will be placed into the Dynegy program. There is no enrollment or switching fee, and parties may opt-out of the program at anytime. Please direct all questions about the Aggregation Program to Rock River Energy Services at 1-833-233-1787.

## GENERAL ASSISTANCE ANNUAL REPORT

At the DeKalb Township Annual Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>, DeKalb Township reported that in Fiscal Year 2024/2025, \$65,958.91 was disbursed for the benefit of residents who qualified for General Assistance, \$29,079.54 was disbursed to aid residents who were eligible for Emergency Assistance, and \$21,458.57 was awarded through other assistance programs.

# 2025 EVENTS YEAR-TO-DATE

## January

The DeKalb Township offered free advance care planning services in the form of Healthcare Directives. This offering was made possible through a collaboration with Northwestern Medicine. 16 residents completing their Healthcare Directives at no out-of-pocket cost.

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## February & March

The Township offered 3 AARP Smart Driver Courses between the months of February & March, serving 24 people.

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## April

The Township offered the last of 8 Medical Emergency Preparedness Sessions. A series of 8 sessions began in November and were held at locations throughout the community and via Zoom. In total, roughly 100 people participated. Presentations were provided by DeKalb Fire Department, Northwestern Medicine & Northern Illinois Hospice.

April also brought the return of the Senior Car Clinic-- a collaborative effort between the DeKalb Township, Kishwaukee College's Automotive Technology Program & DeKalb County TRIAD. In total, 31 vehicle safety inspections were completed.

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## May

The Illinois Tollway returned to the Township for an I-PASS On-demand event, serving 183 locals.

Our Spring Shred & Recycle event, co-hosted by the Sycamore Township, was held in at the Kishwaukee Family YMCA. Residents brought their sensitive documents for destruction and dropped off small electronics and used shoes for donation. 110+ were served.



ABOVE: Medical Emergency Preparedness Presenters & Facilitators pose for a photo at Barb City Manor.



ABOVE: AARP Course photo, taken at DeKalb Township.  
BELOW: DeKalb Township Staff & Board Members Smile for a photo at the Spring Shred & Recycle Event.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## June

**9 & 10 - AARP Smart Driver Course**  
9 AM - 1 PM @ DeKalb Township

## July

**9 & 10 - AARP Smart Driver Course**  
12 PM - 4 PM @ DeKalb Township

## August

**12 - Vision & Hearing Screening,  
Blood Pressure & Glucose Checks**  
10 AM - 2 PM @ DeKalb Township

**21 - Wise & Well Senior Summit**  
10 AM - 4 PM @ NM Kishwaukee Hospital

## September

**17 & 18 - AARP Smart Driver Course**  
10 AM - 2 PM @ DeKalb Township

**20 - Tire Recycling Event**  
9 AM - 12 PM @ DeKalb Township

## October

**4 - Fall Shred & Recycle**  
9 AM - 11 AM @ Kishwaukee Family  
YMCA

**8 - I-CASH**  
2 PM - 6 PM @ DeKalb Township

*For an up-to-date event schedule, visit  
<https://dekalbtownship.org/events>*

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the results of the 2025 Consolidated Election were certified, and on May 19<sup>th</sup>, the following three individuals were sworn into office for the first time. LEFT: **Trustee, Katherine McLaughlin**, said, "over the last few years I've been following our local government much closer and think the DeKalb Township has really started transforming and doing a wonderful job [of] serving the community. I found out there would be a need for a new trustee...and became excited for the opportunity." MIDDLE: **Clerk, Joan Protanto** expressed, "Community service and supporting others in need--especially during difficult times was a focus of my upbringing...I [have] witnessed how quickly the township could respond and assist when a local crisis [transpires]... Serving as clerk will help me to support the board as well as township staff in ensuring that community needs are served by people living locally and invested in making a difference." RIGHT: **Trustee, Greg Akers** stated, "I was simply looking for meaningful ways to volunteer...and someone suggested...this role. What truly inspires me about serving on the township board is the opportunity to help those who might feel overlooked... I believe everyone deserves to be seen and assisted, regardless of their background, circumstances, or resources... I'm eager to contribute to a township that extends compassion and practical help to all its residents."



# CEMETERY HIGHLIGHTS



DeKalb Township's Elected Officials. ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: Katherine McLaughlin, Rich Dyer, Nancy Bradlo, Dale Thurman, Mary Hess, Greg Akers, Joan Protano, Craig Smith



It's been a busy year for the DeKalb Township Cemeteries! In May, the City of DeKalb gave the DeKalb Township the "Green Light" on a special-use permit that will allow for the expansion of the historical & picturesque, Oakwood Cemetery.

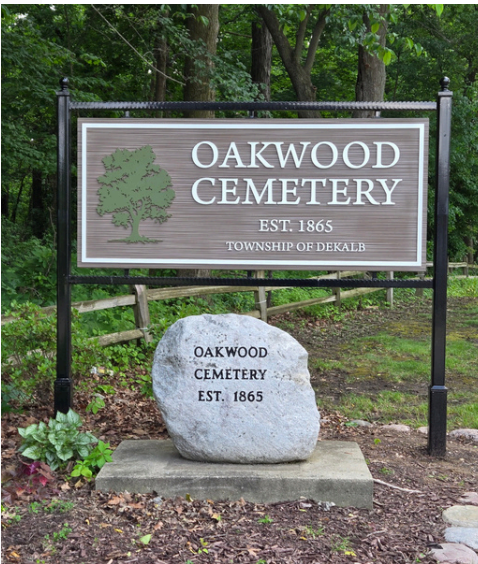
The expanded section of the cemetery is novel, in that it will provide residents with alternative burial options that are both eco-friendly and budget-friendly. The space will feature a walking path, benches, and a variety of flora, making it a truly peaceful location for honoring the deceased.

This project was made possible through a generous donation from long-time DeKalb Resident, Gretchen Moore (*shown center left*), who was present at the March 18<sup>th</sup> DeKalb Township Board Meeting at which she presented her gift.

Additionally, new signage (*shown bottom left*) was installed at both Evergreen & Oakwood Cemeteries earlier this month. The signs were designed with the time and talents

of local resident, Jane Levinsky to whom the Township would like to express its gratitude.

For information about cemetery burial records or burial options, please contact Supervisor, Mary Hess at (815) 758-8282 or [supervisor@dekalbtownship.org](mailto:supervisor@dekalbtownship.org).



# RECOGNIZING SERVICE



The DeKalb Township recognized former Township Clerk, Andrew Tillotson (*left*), former Township Trustee, Lisa King (*center*), and former Township Trustee, Chad McNett (*right*) for their service to our community during the swearing in ceremony which was held on May 19th.

## DEKALB TOWNSHIP AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY...



**ABOVE:** Supervisor Hess visits with a Car Clinic attendee (*left*). Supervisor Hess & Township employee, Tiffany Martin participate in the DeKalb Community Poverty Simulation (*center*). Supervisor Hess & Township employee, Casey Bachochin pack meals for families in need. **BELOW:** Committee on Youth Members volunteer alongside Supervisor Hess at Fun Jam in the Park (*left*), Township Employee Kim Barrios works at the the Senior Car Clinic (*Center*) & interprets (spanish/english) for City Manager, Bill Nicklas & fire victims during a meeting (*right*).



ELECTED TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS



2323 S. 4<sup>TH</sup> ST.  
DEKALB, IL 60115  
DEKALBTOWNSHIP.ORG  
OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-4:30, M-F

**Office of the Supervisor, Mary Hess**  
815-758-8282

**Office of the Assessor, Rich Dyer**  
815-758-5454

**Office of the Highway  
Commissioner, Craig Smith**  
815-758-5658

**TRUSTEES**  
DALE THURMAN  
NANCY BRADLO  
GREG AKERS  
KATHERINE MCLAUGHLIN

**CLERK**  
JOAN PROTANO



*Se habla  
el espanol*



DeKalb  
TOWNSHIP

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