



WINTER EDITION 2023

[www.GreenGardenTownship.com](http://www.GreenGardenTownship.com)



## *A Message from the Supervisor Don Murday*

Greetings, and welcome to the very first newsletter from Green Garden Township. Our intention is to have this newsletter published at least twice annually, so that residents can be informed as to the initiatives of Township Officials. Please see the insert inside this newsletter containing all the Township Officials names and info.

There are many changes afoot in Green Garden. The Township has a new, informative website

which we are building out. The new website, found at [www.GreenGardenTownship.com](http://www.GreenGardenTownship.com), allows us a great opportunity to spread news and events to all residents on a real time basis. It contains information and documentation about what the Township is doing for you. One of the current initiatives is to provide information similar to a police blotter so residents are informed as to criminal activity in the Township. We also intend to publish and deliver this newsletter on a periodic basis - another way to keep the community informed.

We also enlisted the services of a payroll company and accountant to assist in the financial workings of the Township. An annual audit is provided by another accounting firm. These third parties make sure we are complying with all local, county, state and federal law.

The Township is currently in the process of renovating our Town Hall. Everything from the septic system to HVAC to a new paved parking lot is being examined. The Township also applied for, and was granted, \$58,000 in federal monies to assist in these efforts.

And lastly, the Township has entered an agreement with Will County to offer discounted rides through Will Ride. This offer is specifically for disabled residents and the elderly (over 60 years of age), and solely for transportation to medical appointments. The application to request these services is on the Township website.

As you can see, these are exciting times for the Township. Much is changing. On behalf of all the elected officials, we are honored to serve you, the residents of Green Garden Township, and wish you and your families a Happy and Healthy 2023.

# Highway Department

- Green Garden Township Road District is responsible for over 68 miles of road to maintain. The road district is also responsible for maintain and improving road ditches and street lights.
- Our staff is comprised of 2 full time employees and a small part time staff. The part time staff is used for snow plowing and bigger jobs as needed.
- Looking back this year Green Garden has had several road improvements. One mile of Stunkele and 1.5 miles of Dralle roads were converted from tar and chip to pavement. Canterbury Lakes phase 1-4, Derby Glen Waterford Estates Subdivisions were resurfaced with pavement. Dralle Road east of Rt. 45 was improved from gravel to pavement. 5 miles of the Tar and chip was resealed.
- As the weather turns colder and the snow season approaches. This would be a good time to check your mail box for sturdiness. Mailboxes with rotten post can break when the heavy snow hits them during snow plowing.
- When snow is imminent and you need to put your garbage receptacles near the roadway for pick ,leave enough room for the snow plows to clear the road.
- Also, we ask residence to be patience and drive safely during the days and times when there is snow and ice on the roads.
- Please report any hazardous conditions to the road district. Myself and our staff our happy to serve and respond to any traffic emergences or hazards.



# Happy New Year from the Assessor's Office

I have truly enjoyed talking and working with residents, appraisers, mortgage loan officers, builders, realtors, county representatives and so many others over the past year.

The Green Garden Township Assessor's office has worked hard in 2022 to provide property building information (square footage, year built, etc.) so comparable information is now readily available online for most properties on the Will County SOA website at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com). You can review building, assessment and tax information on Green Garden Township properties by entering either the property address or PIN#.

For those whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting or talking to yet, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Assessor's office either via email at [ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com](mailto:ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com) or calling the office at 708-607-0006.

The Assessor's office is located at 10808 W Monee-Manhattan Rd, Monee. Since the Assessor's office does not currently employ staff, our office hours are strictly by appointment only. Email is preferred, as this is the best way to reach the Assessor directly or call 708-607-0006 to leave a message with your name, address, pin (if you have that information) and details on your question or issue.

You may also visit the Assessor's area on the Green Garden Township website at [www.greengardentownhip.com](http://www.greengardentownhip.com) for additional information.

Please review the information below which may provide answers to many assessment related questions.

## Who do I contact for questions on my tax bill?

The Assessor is often asked about Tax Bills. Assessors are only responsible for the assessment equity within our township. For questions on your tax bill or payment related issues, please contact the Will County Treasurer's office online at [www.willcountytreasurer.com](http://www.willcountytreasurer.com) or call 815-740-4675.

## What property tax relief is available to property owners?

Owner-occupied residences may be eligible for numerous exemptions, which reduces their equalized assessed values. These exemptions may include:

- General Homestead Exemption
- Homestead Improvement Exemption
- Disabled Persons Homestead Exemption
- Senior Citizens Homestead Exemption
- Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption
- Disabled Veterans
- Disabled Veterans Standard Homestead Exemption
- Veterans Assessment Freeze
- Returning Veterans Standard Homestead Exemption

Exemption application forms and detailed information on exemptions can be found on the Will County Supervisor of Assessments website at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com) or you may contact the Green Garden Township Assessor's office via email at [ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com](mailto:ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com) or call at 708-607-0006.

## My Assessed Value has decreased, so why have my taxes increased?

Local government spending plays the most significant role in whether or not your taxes increase or decrease. If Taxing Districts increase their spending, the tax rate will often increase to cover their expenditures. Therefore, even if your assessed value goes down, your taxes can go up. Conversely, if taxing districts decrease spending, your taxes may decrease even if your assessment goes up.

## Why did residential property owners receive a 2022 reassessment notice last August?

Most taxpayers did receive a reassessment notice in August, 2022 as a result of a factor that was determined by the Will County Supervisor of Assessments (SOA) and the State of Illinois. Those increases were based on the median sales amount for the prior 3 years (2019, 2020 & 2021). Some of these increases occurred due to the existing seller's market where often bidding wars between buyers and sellers determined the sales price.

## Will there be an assessment increase in 2023?

This home sales market trend continued through 2022 (using the last 3 years of 2020, 2021 & 2022). Therefore, there is an expected factor increase for 2023 as it reflects the estimated amount determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue and the Will County Supervisor of Assessments.

## If I feel my assessed value maybe too high, do I have any options other than filing a formal Board of Review Appeal with the county?

Yes, the Green Garden Township Assessor's office provides an optional method for appealing the assessed value on your land or structures.

Referred to as a SOFT APPEAL, this option allows the taxpayer to work directly with the Township Assessor's office in confirming or determining the assessed value of residential portion of properties.

The Soft Appeal process is open to all residents from mid January through mid May each year. When completed early enough (typically within the first 6 months of the year), the Assessor has the ability to make justified and approved adjustments to that year's assessed values.

For instructions and Soft Appeal form, please visit the Green Garden Township website at [www.greengardentownship.com](http://www.greengardentownship.com) – under Assessor's office. OR you may also email [ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com](mailto:ggtownshiptaxes@gmail.com) to request that both the instructions and form be sent to you

## How do I know if a property is within the Green Garden Township property limits?

Green Garden Township is a county subdivision of Will County, Illinois. Green Garden Township borders: Steger Road to the north, Offner Road to the south, Scheer Road to the west and Harlem Avenue to the east.

*Wishing all of you a  
safe and happy 2023!!*

Jane Bushong, CIAO  
Green Garden Township Assessor

## Town Hall Rental

Interested in a place to host a birthday party or other function? Green Garden Town Hall is available for rent. Please send inquiries to Township clerk, Crissy Craft at [clerk@greengardentownship.com](mailto:clerk@greengardentownship.com)

## Want to get involved?

Township is looking for volunteers for volunteers for Planning Commission. Please email Supervisor Murday at [supervisor@greengardentownship.com](mailto:supervisor@greengardentownship.com)

## GGT Statistics

- **2020 Population:**  
3973 Residents with almost 1500 households.
- Median Sales Price for single family homes over the last 3 years, starting in May 2020 based on data from MRED. Data deemed reliable yet not guaranteed.
- **May 2020**
  - Entire MLS Area - \$235,000
  - GGT - \$405,000
- **May 2021**
  - Entire MLS Area - \$265,000
  - GGT - \$445,000
- **May 2022**
  - Entire MLS Area - \$285,000
  - GGT - \$530,000
- GGT is one of 24 townships in Will County, Illinois.
- GGT has an over 65 population of roughly 19%.





**GREEN GARDEN TOWNSHIP**  
25506 South Center Road  
Monee, IL 60449

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
FRANKFORT IL  
PERMIT NO. 39

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

### **TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR | Don Murday** **Don@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Don is honored to serve as your Township Supervisor. He has lived in Green Garden since 2006, and is involved in Township Governance since he became a resident. Don currently practices law with an office in downtown Chicago.

### **CLERK | Chrissy Kraft** **Clerk@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Chrissy moved into Green Garden in 2022, and currently serves as a substitute teacher in the Peotone School District. As Clerk, she is charged with keeping the minutes of all Township meetings, and generally keeps the Township running. She has also volunteered to lead the effort to publish this newsletter.

### **TRUSTEE | Bill Wagner** **Bill@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Bill is a former Supervisor of Green Garden Township and has lived here since 1979. He currently serves as a local veterinarian. Bill is charged with the financial oversight of the Township, focusing on the levying process and establishment of our budget.

### **TRUSTEE | Cherie Newton** **Cherie@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Cherie is a two-term Trustee who has lived in Green Garden for approximately 25 years. She has always been active in the community and cares about giving back. In addition to serving as the FOIA Officer of the Township, she also chairs the Town Hall Renovation Committee.

### **TRUSTEE | Ralph Dietz** **Ralph@GreenGardenTownship.com**

A former member of the Green Garden Planning Commission, Ralph currently serves as the Trustee overseeing Land Use matters impacting the Township. Ralph recently returned from the University of Chicago where he served as a building engineer. Ralph moved to Green Garden over 20 years ago.

### **TRUSTEE | Mark Kovar** **Mark@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Mark was recently elected as a Trustee for Green Garden after serving as a Will County Sheriff's Deputy for a number of years. Mark is charged with overseeing the newly instituted Will Ride Program for Green Garden. He is a lifelong resident of the community.

### **ROAD COMMISSION | Jim Hilliard** **Roads@GreenGardenTownship.com**

After serving for many years as a firefighter and paramedic, Jim continues his commitment to public service serving as Green Garden's Road Commissioner. Jim is charged with keeping our roadways and surroundings in good shape.

### **ASSESSOR | Jane Bushong** **Assessor@GreenGardenTownship.com**

Jane has lived in Green Garden for over 20 years. After obtaining her CIAO designation in August of 2019, she was appointed Assessor in September of that same year. Jane is focused on providing an open, friendly and accessible Assessor's office, while implementing a permanently maintained system containing accurate assessment information.