



Welcome to the Shelby Township Newsletter where we will update all Shelby Township residents with a recap of our activities in 2024 and also preview what is planned for 2025 and beyond.

## Shelby Township Community Park

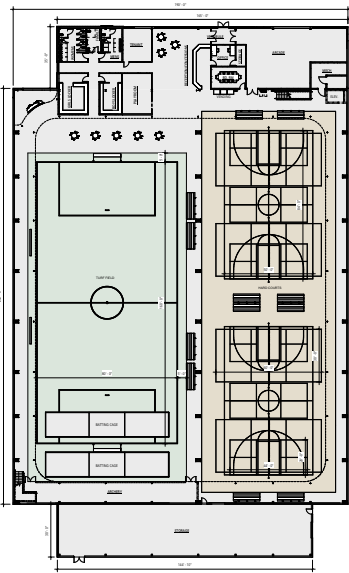
Since its opening, the Shelby Township Community Park has quickly become a welcomed gathering place for families and residents across Oceana County. The park offers a range of recreational opportunities that have enhanced the quality of life in the community. With soccer fields, softball fields, restrooms, a playscape, and pickleball courts now available, the park sees daily use from local sports teams, children at play, and families enjoying the outdoors. It has become a true testament to Shelby's commitment to improving the lives of its residents. We're thrilled to see how the park has already enriched our community. It reflects our pride in Shelby and our dedication to investing in the well-being of our residents.

If you see weeds between the parking lots and think that Doug (The Park Maintenance Guru) is being lazy by not knocking them down, then you would be wrong. The system is a complex natural process that captures all the rainwater and purifies the water so we are placing good water back into our environment. It's a natural method that was adopted several years ago which has a positive impact to the environment and specifically drinking water.

When you see Doug riding his mower take a moment to wave and or say hi. Doug maintains this park like it's his own property and we are privileged to have him working for the Township.

The Shelby Township Community Park is now a lasting symbol of local unity and progress, continuing to provide a positive impact for years to come.





## Enclosed Facility at Shelby Township Community Park

The planning for the enclosed facility is well on its way. We received feedback from surveys and a public hearing. It has been decided that the facility will measure 48K square feet. It will hold two basketball courts, four volleyball courts, four pickleball courts, a full-size indoor soccer field, two batting or pitching cages for softball or baseball, a place for football practice, a full-size three-lane running or walking on a mezzanine track, a playroom for small children and a rock-climbing wall. The facility is slated to be open in December of 2025. We are seeking volunteers to help run the facility, so please contact the Township Office if you are interested.

## Road Work

Road work in Shelby Township has continued. The last two years have focused on upgrading gravel roads in the community. In 2025, we will continue with gravel and restart the pavement journey. If you think we have done a good job with the roads, please reach out and tell us. If you believe your road needs help, then please do the same.

## Planning Commission

The Planning Commission has been busy working on the Master Plan. It was just completed in October and has been distributed for public comments. The plan is posted on the Shelby Township website, so feel free to read all 108 pages. The Master Plan is the foundation for any township to move forward. We successfully received a grant from the State to help us through the process. The Planning Commission is also working on updating our Solar and Wind Ordinance.



## Grants

We continue to win with our grant process. To date, we have received 9.1 million in grants for Shelby, and in 2025 and 2026, we will receive an additional 2.5 million, which will go toward the enclosed facility. We will also apply for additional road grants from the federal government, so stay tuned. **The Board is acutely aware that these grants are from Tax revenue, but as we've said before, it's nice to have our tax revenue come back to Shelby versus being spent in another city, State, or even another Country.**

## Streetlights & Signs

A committee was formed to address the streetlights and/or signs in Shelby Township. Through this committee, all the street signs that were missing have been replaced. If you know of one we have missed please reach out to the office. We have installed three solar streetlights: one at the park, one at the new housing development, and one on Oceana Drive and Buchanan. We have already had several communities come and view this as an option so our hope is other areas in Oceana County will adopt this type of renewable energy lighting. The committee also installed signage from the East and the West on Shelby RD informing motorists that 88th Avenue is approaching. They have recommended to, and have been approved by the Board, to install additional signage throughout all the major roads in the Township. This has worked in other Townships and appears to work nicely for us.

Respectfully,

*Richard Raffaelli*

Richard Raffaelli  
Shelby Township Supervisor

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

