

Moving Forward Together

May 2026 Township Update

Dear Islanders,

May is shaping up to be one of the most exciting months we've had in a long time, and there is a lot to share. From road improvements and recreational openings to new faces and community events, there is real momentum on Drummond Island right now. Here's what's happening.

Golf Course & Park Are Open

After a late-season snowfall and the subsequent snowmelt that pushed things back, I am happy to report that the Golf Course and Park are officially open for the season. It was a slow start to spring, but the wait is over. Get out there and enjoy it!

Community Days: Thank You, Drummond Island

Our first Community Days of 2026 took place on May 2nd, and it was a great day. This year's spring event focused on road clean-up across the island, with volunteers turning out to help make our roadsides a little cleaner and our community a little brighter. Thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy. Your effort makes a difference.

Our next Community Days will be held on October 17th. More details will be shared as we get closer, but mark your calendars now. These events truly reflect the spirit of "for the island, by the island."

Paving on Cream City Point

Paving work is beginning this month on Cream City Point Road, and our goal is to have it completed before Memorial Day weekend. This is a project that has been a priority for our community, and we are glad to see it moving forward. We appreciate your patience during the work and look forward to the improvement it will bring.

Skip Patching on Johnswood Road

In addition to the paving project, skip patching is taking place on Johnswood Road near Chuck's. This targeted maintenance work helps address areas of concern and extend the life of our roads. Road maintenance remains one of our core operational commitments, and we will continue working through our priority list with the Chippewa Country Road Commission.

Township Logo Contest Has Launched

After months of planning, the Drummond Island Township Logo Contest is officially underway! This is your chance to help shape the visual identity of our township. We are inviting community members to submit original logo designs that capture what makes Drummond Island special. Details on submission guidelines, deadlines, and the public voting process are available at the Township Hall and have been shared on our website and Facebook pages. We can't wait to see what our community comes up with.

EUP ISD Career & Technical Education Millage: Voters Say Yes

On May 5th, voters across Chippewa, Luce, and Mackinac Counties approved a renewal and modest increase of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) millage. The 1-mill levy, originally passed in 2017, was renewed for another 10 years. These funds support hands-on programs like construction technology, health science, welding, and drafting and design, along with student transportation, work-based learning, and industry tours across the 19 school districts in the ISD's service region.

This is a great outcome for the students of our region, and it reflects our community's continued investment in the next generation of skilled workers right here in the EUP.

911 Surcharge Update

At its March meeting, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners approved an increase to the county's 911 telephone surcharge, raising it from \$2.25 to \$2.75 per service user. This increase brings the surcharge to the maximum allowable level without a voter referendum. The adjustment was made in response to rising operational costs at the Chippewa County Central Dispatch Center, which serves Chippewa, Mackinac, and Luce Counties — including Drummond Island. The new rate will appear on your phone bill going forward.

Candidate Visits: Michigan 107th District

Drummond Island will be hosting two candidate visits next month as candidates for the Michigan 107th District make their way to the island. Parker Fairbairn will be visiting on June 5th, and Brendan Ryan will visit on June 14th. These visits are a great opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions, and make your voice heard. The details are listed on the Township Calendar on our website.

EUPTA Update: Drummond Islander V and Ferry Service This Summer

We have exciting news from the Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority: design work on the Drummond Islander V is progressing well. The naval architect is in the process of finalizing the hull design, making requested changes, and once that is complete, the weight of steel will be determined — which is how the rough cost of the new vessel gets established. Director Paramski has reported good progress, and we look forward to sharing more updates as this process moves forward.

In the meantime, there is something important to plan for this summer. The Sugar Islander will be going to dry dock for maintenance, which means Drummond Island will be operating with one ferry for a stretch this season. We ask everyone (residents, seasonal visitors, and guests alike) to be patient and flexible as our ferry crew works to keep things moving as efficiently and safely as possible. Truly, we have the best EUPTA crew around. They go above and beyond every single day to get us where we need to go, and this summer will be no different. Thank you in advance for your patience and your appreciation for the hardworking people who keep us connected.

Welcome, Katie VanEenenaam-Carpenter!

We are thrilled to announce that Katie VanEenenaam-Carpenter, MAAO, has officially been hired as Drummond Island Township's new Assessor. Katie brings over 11 years

of active assessing experience across multiple townships in Chippewa and Mackinac Counties, and she holds her Michigan Advanced Assessing Officer (MAAO) certification — the highest level of individual assessor certification in the state.

Katie's start date is June 1st, and we could not be more excited to welcome her to the team. Her depth of knowledge, her understanding of township government, and her commitment to public service are exactly what Drummond Island needs. Please join us in welcoming Katie to our community (officially)!

There is a lot happening, and all of it reflects the energy and commitment of the people who call this island home. Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and enthusiasm as we move through this season together.

Together, we keep moving forward.

With appreciation,

Krystal Truax

Township Supervisor

Drummond Island Township