

# Facts About Belvidere Township

## Did You Know...

Belvidere Township serves residents within the city limits of Belvidere as well as the approximately 9,000 residents that reside outside the city limits.

Belvidere Township has 79 miles of road, 73 subdivisions with approximately 120 cul-de-sacs and 4 subdivisions pending outside the city limits of Belvidere. The total parcel count in Boone County is approximately 24,216 parcels. Of those parcels, 11,472 are in Belvidere Township. There are 7,202 parcels (62.8%) located within the City of Belvidere that are Belvidere Township. Bonus, Spring and Flora Townships make up the remaining parcels (37.2%) within the City of Belvidere.

From the Township tax receipts: The City receives 28.8% of the Road & Bridge Replacement Tax. The City receives 26% of the Road & Bridge Property Tax.

Belvidere Township provides a drug collection site for unused and outdated medicines one time a year. The Township also sponsors a shred day in the Spring of the year. Belvidere Township networks with several agencies in the community to help provide and fill the needs for its residents. Belvidere Township is one of the original founding partners that provide financial support of the Boone County Council on Aging and continues to annually for township seniors.

The Assessor, Road Commissioner and Town Clerk are not voting members of the board, but are elected officials.

The Township Board is made up of the supervisor and 4 Trustees that are all elected positions. The Trustees and Clerk do not receive any benefits. They are encouraged to attend educational seminars and classes on a regular basis. All elected officials must take and get certified for Open Meetings Certificate. There is no per diem to attend meetings or classes and bump up moneys paid. Wages for the 3 full-time elected offices (Supervisor, Assessor and Road Commissioner) accepted a pay freeze from 2009-2013 and also contribute 25% toward their health insurance. The Trustees and Clerk froze their pay also for 2009-2013. Belvidere Township fund balances are audited annually and follow prescribed government accounting practices for fund balances. We have prepared for this economic downturn and will continue to be able to provide the services the township residents expect.

The Supervisor manages the Town Hall building. It is utilized by many Belvidere Township government and not-for-profit groups for meetings and classes. The Belvidere Police and Fire meet at the township as well as CERT and FEMA and many other organizations. There were over 100 meetings scheduled in the past year, primarily in the evening hours.

The Supervisor's office has 1 full-time and 2 part-time employees and a full-time elected Supervisor. The Supervisor's office is the Treasurer for all departments and Belvidere Cemetery. It is also responsible for administering General Assistance.

General Assistance is a highly governed mandated program by the State of Illinois. Continuing education is required of all designated employees and the Supervisor. General Assistance is an eligibility program and not an entitlement program. The state mandates a thorough eligibility process for all applicants. Approximately 90% of all of Belvidere Township General Assistant clients are within the City of Belvidere. Belvidere Township administers General Assistance for all of Boone County.

The Road District has 4 full-time employees and 1 part-time (snow emergency need) and a full-time elected working Road Commissioner. They are responsible for maintaining those 79 miles of road and subdivisions. This includes resurfacing, plowing, salting, trimming trees, mowing ditches, patching holes, shouldering roads, cleaning out culverts, picking up garbage in ditches, installing road signs and sweeping subdivisions in the Spring.

The Assessor's office has 4 full-time Assessors and a full-time elected Assessor. All the employees and the Assessor are required to be Certified Illinois Assessing Officers (CIAO). They are required to have 30 credit hours of training each year to maintain their certification. These classes must be classes that are approved by the Illinois Department of Revenue. The Assessor's office values all the parcels within Belvidere Township. They figure the valuations for the county. The county does not do assessments. There are approximately 11,472 parcels. Belvidere Township values 47.4% of the parcels in Boone County, and it accounts for approximately 53% of Boone County's total equalized assessed value. All work done in the Assessment office is state mandated.

The Township Board meets twice a month. The meetings are held at 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

Please feel free to call or stop in at any time if you have any questions or concerns, or if you would just like to visit for a few minutes with us. Our doors are always open and your opinions and concerns matter. We are located at 8200 Fairgrounds Rd.

This letter prepared and offered on behalf of the elected and employed persons at Belvidere Township.

