

## **Village of Breckenridge / Wheeler Township Community Profile**

### **Physical Profile / Regional Setting**

Wheeler Township is located in the Northeast corner of Gratiot County in a predominantly an agricultural area. The Township is bordered on the North by Porter Township, Midland County, on the South by Lafayette Township, on the West by Bethany Township, and on the East by Jonesfield Township, Saginaw County.

The Village of Breckenridge is located in the Western Portion of the Township and is the nearest Business District. Breckenridge is located on M-46, the main highway and connecting route to larger cities like Saginaw (30 miles East) and Alma (10 miles West). Lansing is 60 miles South of the Village and Mt. Pleasant, home of Central Michigan University, is 25 miles North of the Village.

Wheeler Township consists of 36 sections of land and covers an area of 22,967 acres. The major land use in the Township is Agricultural Production, defining its rural and agricultural character.

### **Economic Profile / Infrastructure**

The major presence of Agriculture in the community has spawned the development of a major Agricultural Support Network of Businesses in the Village of Breckenridge and along M-46 connecting the Unincorporated Village of Wheeler. This area is home to Michigan Agricultural Commodities, a Major Grain Handling and Merchandising Business, Janson Equipment / Case IH Ag Equipment Dealer, Boland Tire, Crop Production Services, Stoneman Pro-Services / Pioneer Seed Sales, Miles Petroleum / Bulk Fuel Storage, Northwest Energy / Propane Supplier, Cross Frame and Axle, Kenny Brother's / Pickle Receiving Station and the Michigan Sugar / Sugar Beet Receiving Station. Lying between Breckenridge and Wheeler is a Commercial Industrial Park owned by the Village of Breckenridge and carrying the Renaissance Zone Designation. The Park is served by a City Sewer System that links Breckenridge and Wheeler along M-46 and there are future plans to add City Water and a new water tower to the Park. A Railroad Line runs East and West just North of M-46, serving the Township. The Downtown District of Breckenridge offers an active Main street Scene comprised of a grocery store and meat market, a local library, banking services, insurance agencies, lawn and garden equipment dealer, newspaper, several eating choices, gas and repair stations, postal service, hair salons, and investment services. The Village and Township are also home to two cemeteries, public parks, ball diamonds, a funeral home, several churches, a historical society, a Fire Department, and the Breckenridge Chamber of Commerce. Breckenridge is the recipient of the "Tree City USA" designation.