

Seville Township Community Profile

Seville Township is located in the northwest corner of Gratiot County. The location of the township is T.12N.-R.4W. There are thirty-six square miles in the township. Seville Township has Montcalm County on its west side and Isabella County on its north side. The closest urban areas are Alma and Mt. Pleasant.

Settlers were establishing communities in Seville Township in the middle 1800's. The township ended up with two prominent settlements in Elwell and Riverdale. These settlements were, and still are, a mix of people and businesses. At the present time, Elwell has approximately eighty-five homes and businesses, and Riverdale has approximately one hundred sixty-eight homes and businesses. The top three employers in Seville Township are Riverdale Feed & Grain, Riverdale Tavern, and the United States Post Office. Agriculture has been significant in the development of Seville Township. Generations of farmers have relied on the land for their livelihood.

As time passed, other more densely populated areas formed. These areas evolved through the development of Smith's Shoreacres, Half Moon Lake Development Subdivision No. 1, Schnepf Subdivision, Lincoln Manor Estates, Timber Country Mobile Home Park, and Deer Trail. Seville Township became a zoned township in May of 1965. A blight ordinance was adopted in February of 1996.

Seville Township has several natural waters within its boundaries. The Pine River runs through the western edge of the township, flowing on the east side of Riverdale. Half Moon Lake is a sizable lake located in the northwest corner of the township. A fairly large campground was developed at Half Moon Lake. Madison Lake and Peterman Lake are smaller lakes located toward the eastern edge of the township.

Lumberjack Park is a nice attraction with a baseball diamond, picnic tables, shelters, playground equipment, and huge pine trees. The Pine River flows through Lumberjack Park. Elwell Park is a great place for a gathering with open space, picnic tables, a shelter, and playground equipment. The Gratiot Isabella Regional Education Service District utilized a ninety acre farm in the northeast corner of the township for the development of the Forest Hill Nature Center. This tract serves many students and others by providing an environment that nurtures awareness and appreciation regarding nature. The Fred Meijer Heartland Trail runs through Seville Township. The trail provides people the opportunity to see the township scenery while they enjoy walking or cycling.

The A.C.T. group, a local service organization, developed the Riverdale Museum. The museum is located adjacent to the Heartland Trail at the northern edge of Riverdale. The Seville Township Library serves the community from its location in Riverdale. It is also near the Heartland Trail. There are four churches and six cemeteries in Seville Township to serve people's needs.