

Frequently Asked Questions - Community Center Building at Trantina Farm

Answers to questions about the building on 151st Street at Trantina Farm will be continually updated and posted here. If you have additional questions, please send them to office@homertownship.com.

What grants has the Township received for the Community Center and/or Trantina Farm?

In 2005, the Township received an OSLAD grant for \$365,000.00 to develop Trantina Farm with prairie plantings, native trees and wetland restoration to re-establish native vegetation to the site. Also, reconstruction of an 1850's barn into a nature interpretive center, picnic shelters, playground, interpretive trails, fire ring and wildlife observation platform, dog exercise park and parking.

In 2023, the Township was awarded an ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) grant for a \$500,000 Infrastructure Project - Site Improvements and Community Center at Trantina Park. This is a reimbursable grant. To date \$393,555 has been reimbursed to the Township. Remaining reimbursement funds may be received when the septic system is completed.

In 2025, the Township received a grant for \$7,558.20 from Ozinga for concrete work on the community center at Trantina Farm.

Does putting up a building on the Trantina Farm property violate the OSLAD grant?

We have reached out to the grant administrator at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources regarding the OSLAD grant that was received for Trantina Farm. Here is their response:

"The 2005 grant (OS 05-1374) was for development assistance only. Our interest in the property begins and ends with the grant-funded components. As long as development of further public recreation (whether indoor or outdoor) does not negatively impact the community's ability to use and enjoy the grant-funded portions of the property, we have no concern and encourage the Township's maximization of use of the site."

More questions and answers to come.