

Shorelines

City of Ferrysburg 17290 Roosevelt Rd. P.O. Box 38 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 Fall 2017

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention week is October 2 through October 6. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will have their annual open house on Monday, October 9 at the Fire Station from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. There will be games, handouts, and fire truck rides. Firefighters will be on hand to explain fire safety.

Monster Bash

The Beautification Commission is sponsoring a "Monster Ball" on Friday, October 27, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 17290 Roosevelt Road. Kids will have the opportunity to wear their Halloween costumes and learn how to dance to songs such as the "YMCA" and the "Hokey Pokey". Apple cider and donuts will be provided. Admission is free and kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. All are encouraged to wear a costume.

Fall Residential Trash Pick Up

There will NOT be a fall Trash Pick Up this year.

Fall Street Edge Leaves Collection Coming!

The City's street edge leaves collection program will begin soon. All City residents are encouraged to take advantage of the pickups that will be provided at no cost to our residents. While this program is intended to pick up loose leaves, crews will accept bagged leaves in paper bags only. Paper bags are available for purchase at City Hall for 5/\$2.00. All other types of bags will be left at the curbside and will be the responsibility of the property owner to dispose of in a method other than land filling or burning. Please rake leaves as close as possible to the street or curb.

Area 1: Monday, November 6 and 13

All City Residents east of 168th Avenue and north of Spring Lake.

Area 2: Tuesday, November 7 and 14

All City residents east of 174th Ave, north of Ridge Ave and west of 168th Avenue.

Area 3: Wednesday, 8 and 15

All City residents north of North Shore Road and West of 174th Avenue.

Area 4: Thursday, 9 and 16

All City residents south of North Shore Road to the City limits, south of Ridge Avenue and west of Spring Lake.

General Election: Tuesday, November 7

The City Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 17290 Roosevelt Road. The terms of Mayor and three (3) City Council Members expire in November. Regina Sjoberg and Rebecca Hopp are running for Mayor. Five (5) are running for one of three open City Council positions: Mike DeWitt (I), Scott Blease, Dan Matteson, Richard Carlson and Ivy Barnes. Persons interested in running may file a Declaration of Intent form by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 27.

Voters may obtain absentee ballots by contacting City Clerk Debbie Wierenga. Absentee ballots may be obtained and voted at City Hall until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6. The City Clerk's office will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 4 for absentee ballots.

Charter Amendment

On the November 7, 2017 ballot, there will be a proposal to amend the City Charter to require when there is a proposition to sell, lease, or dispose of any park, cemetery or any part thereof, the proposition would need to be approved by three-fifths (3/5ths) majority of the electors of the City voting thereon at any general or special election.

Millage Proposal

On the November 7, 2017 ballot, there will be a millage proposal to levy 3 mills for 20 years. The millage would be used exclusively to repair or replace Smith's Bridge.

Community Garden



Over the seasons we have received good comments and helpful suggestion regarding the garden. To better plan for next year, if you are interested in a garden plot for 2018, applications are now being accepted. Plots will be assigned when an application is received by the City. For 2018, a resident can reserve two (2) plots. At the end of May 2018, if additional plots are available, gardeners may request an additional plot.

Back to School Safety

As the summer comes to an end, we start to think about going back to school. The Ottawa County Sheriff's office wants to remind the citizens of Ferrysburg that getting to and from school safely is our goal. Children will be walking, riding bicycles, and taking the bus to school. Students walking and riding bicycles should always use bike paths and sidewalks where they are available. Where there are no sidewalks, students should walk along the side of the road facing traffic. Students should wear light colored clothing and avoid using electronics and headphones. If riding a bicycle, wear a helmet, ride with traffic, and always ride on the bike path where available. Students should seek crosswalks when crossing roadways.

Motorists should be aware of speed restrictions around schools and be alert for students walking and riding bicycles. Motorists are reminded that they must stop for any school bus that has its flashing red lights activated. Motorists should be aware that crossing guards are present at some intersections to assist children safely cross the roadways and must stop when indicated. Motorists should be aware that traffic will increase around schools prior to school and at dismissal time and may need to leave extra time to make their trip.

Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve

On Sunday, September 17, the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve Board will host visitors who wish to hike the trails from 2 – 4 p.m. Hikes will be led by trained docents who will point out various plants and animal species that can be observed at the Preserve. The Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve is owned by the City of Ferrysburg. The Preserve is approximately 112 acres, one-half of which was donated by the late Connie Lindquist, by Gerald Lindquist and Harold V. Hartger. The other half was purchased primarily with the financial assistance of the Nature Conservancy and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

Recreational Fires



For a complete list of all regulations regarding recreational fires contact Ferrysburg City Hall or visit our website at www.ferrysburg.org City Code Chapter 92.

Reminder:

Do not blow grass clippings or other yard waste onto the street. This will prevent these items from being washed into the storm drain which dump into the lake.

Opportunities

The Planning Commission has one (1) opening with a term expiring July 1, 2020 and the Recreation Commission has four (4) openings with terms expiring in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Carol Sing



The annual Carol Sing is scheduled on Saturday, December 9, at 6:00 p.m., at Wm. Ferry Park. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will deliver Santa Claus to the park where he will give out candy canes. The Fire Department will start a bonfire and Christmas carols will be sung. Pine Street Café will provide hot chocolate and Leppink's will provide donut holes.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

October 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The national Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse and medications. Planned drop off locations are Grand Haven Township Hall, Walgreens, Holland Health Department and the Spring Lake Township Fire Station/Ottawa County Sheriff's Branch Office located at 106 North Fruitport Road. Those living in Ferrysburg are urged to use the Ottawa County Sheriff's Spring Lake Branch drop off.

Your Local Watershed and You:

How You Can Help Reduce Pollution *Entering The Grand River.*

Stormwater is rain water that isn't soaked into the ground during a rain event. As stormwater passes over impervious surfaces like streets and parking lots, it picks up pollutants such as oil and grease from parking lots and roadways, excess fertilizer from lawns, and pet waste. Locally, this stormwater is not treated; rather it is discharged to the Grand River and its tributaries via storm sewer systems and drainage ditches. Find out where stormwater from your property goes by using the **Lower Grand River Watershed Map** at **LGROW.org**.

Here are a few ways YOU can reduce stormwater pollution from entering the storm sewer system in your community:

- Reduce stormwater by planting rain gardens and using rain barrels in your gardens to prevent water from leaving your property.
- Keep storm drains near your home clear of litter by disposing of trash and recyclables in proper containers.
- Collect yard waste to prevent grass clippings and leaves from clogging the storm sewer system.
- Avoid fertilizing your lawn before a rain storm, use only the manufacturer's recommendations, and sweep up excess fertilizer on hard surfaces like sidewalks, driveways, and roadways.
- Ensure that soiled water and other wastes from car washing practices do not enter the storm sewer system by washing your car on grass or gravel, rather than your driveway. Better yet, take your vehicles to a commercial car wash that sends wash water through the sanitary sewer.
- Be Septic Smart! Keep your septic system maintained to protect your family's drinking water and reduce the risk of contaminating local water.
- Properly dispose of any pet waste in a closed trash receptacle. Pet waste is raw sewage and contains harmful bacteria, easily transported to water through stormwater.
- Be conscious in closing lids on dumpsters and outdoor trash cans.

For more ways to protect the Lower Grand River Watershed, visit the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds' Information and Education Page at LGROW.org. *Share, Explore, Protect...*River.

Your Local Watershed and You:

What can you do to help protect your watershed? Do you know what a watershed is? Did you know you are in a watershed right now?

Think of a giant glass bowl. Now picture a drop of water hitting the rim of the bowl, sliding down the side, and finally resting on the bottom of the bowl. Each drop of water that hits the rim will follow the same routine – down the side to the bottom. The bottom of the bowl eventually fills with those water drops. This is a small scale demonstration of a watershed. A watershed is an area of land that drains into the same body of water, whether it's a stream, river, lake, or ocean. All of the land that drains into the Grand River, also referred to as the Grand River Basin, represents a subwatershed of the Lake Michigan Basin. To find out which subwatershed you live in, enter your address in the **Lower Grand River Watershed Map** at **LGROW.org**.

Why Should You Care?

When it rains, the water that isn't soaked back into the ground is called stormwater. Stormwater runs off of impervious surfaces, like concrete driveways and asphalt-paved streets, then eventually into the Grand River. Unfortunately, stormwater can carry a lot of harmful waste on its way to our lakes and streams – gas and oil from parking lots, excess fertilizer from your lawn, pet waste, and various other pollutants. These pollutants can end up in the lakes, rivers, and streams in which we fish, play, and swim.

What Can You Do?

You can help reduce the pollutants entering our waterways and their negative impact on our environment in many ways, from picking up after your pet to installing a rain barrel on your property. For a full list of activities to prevent stormwater pollution in the Lower Grand River Watershed, visit the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds' **Information and Education Page at LGROW.org. *Share, Explore, Protect***

Blue Piping

In the 1970's and 1980's, many homes were connected to the City water system with polybutylene piping (blue pipe). Over time, this type of pipe has been known to leak and give trouble. Property owners are responsible for water lines beginning at the street right-of-way. If you have this type of water pipe leading into your home or in your house, you may wish to consider replacing the polybutylene piping.

Openings: Ferrysburg Fire Department

The City of Ferrysburg is looking for a few good men and women who are interested in a unique and rewarding opportunity to serve their community. The Ferrysburg Fire Department is a volunteer Fire Department, and is always accepting applications from individuals who are willing to become firefighters for the City of Ferrysburg. You must be at least 18 years old, a high school graduate, have a valid driver's license, and be able to respond to fires at any time of the day. Firefighting experience is a plus, but is not required.

Smoke Detector Safety

Have you recently checked the batteries in your smoke detector? Is your smoke detector working properly? If you have answered "NO" or if you are not sure how to answer, the Ferrysburg Fire Department can help! Call Ferrysburg City Hall at 842-5803, to schedule an appointment. A member of the Ferrysburg Fire Department will then contact you to set up an appointment to check your smoke detector "**free of charge**".

Meetings

City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission meets the 1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals meets the 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Beautification Commission meets the 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Recreation Commission meets 2nd Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
Other Boards and Commission meet on an irregular schedule.
To confirm a scheduled meeting, contact City Hall at 842-5803.

With the upcoming arrival of winter, the City crew will discontinue chipping brush October 20. In April they will continue brush chipping. A reminder that there is **no** burning in the city limits of Ferrysburg.

City of Ferrysburg
17290 Roosevelt Road
P.O. Box 38
Ferrysburg, MI 49409-0038

Phone: (616) 842-5803
Fax: (616) 844-0200
E-mail: info@ferrysburg.org
Website: www.ferrysburg.org
Office hours: 8 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday
Police Dept. Admin. 8 am-5 pm, M-F (616) 215-1595
Police Services 1-800-249-0911

For a water, sewer, or street emergency after office hours, call 616-994-7850.

City Council

Term expires Nov. 2017:

Daniel Ruiter Mayor
Rebecca Hopp
Regina Sjoberg
Michael DeWitt

Term expires Nov. 2019:

Timothy O'Donnell
J. Patrick Twa
Kathleen Kennedy

City Staff

City Manager
Clerk/Treasurer
Public Serv. Supt.
Public Serv. Tech.
Public Serv. Tech.
Public Serv. Tech.
Public Serv. Tech.
Public Serv. Tech.
Fire Chief
Police Sergeant
Building Insp.
Zoning Adm.
Assessor
Assessor
Admin Assistant
Admin Assistant

Craig Bessinger
Debbie Wierenga
Matt Schindlbeck
Tom Miller
Len VanderJagt
Karl Rowland
Colton Whipple
Mike Olthof
Jason Kik
George Dood
Craig Bessinger
Dennis Burns
Heather Singleton
Diana Arens
Mary Jane Farnquist

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Brush Chipping