

SHORELINES

Fall Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, September 26

New in 2009, is a City-wide one-day residential trash pickup for City residents on Saturday, September 26. This is a one-day, one pick up event. Pick up crews will not make return trips. Please place items for pick up at the curb or street edge by 7:00 a.m. on **September 26**.

Crews from Allied Waste Services will pick up: trash in bags, boxes, or small containers; a maximum of two (2) appliances per residence; and limited building material boxed or bundled and no more than four (4) feet in length. Crews will not pick up: tires, leaves, brush, yard waste, tree stumps, loose building material, garbage, auto parts, concrete, blacktop, batteries, scrap iron or steel, hazardous wastes, and loose trash items. Property owners will be responsible for any items left at the curb or street edge after completion of the pick up on September 26.

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.

Area 1: Monday, November 2, 9 and 16

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

Area 2: Tuesday, November 3, 10 and 17

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

Area 3: Wednesday, November 4, 11, and 18

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

Area 4: Thursday, November 5, 12, and 19

All City residents south of North Shore Road to the City limits, south of Ridge Avenue and west of Spring Lake. Friday, November 6, 13 and 20 will be utilized to collect leaves in any areas that need extra attention due to a large volume of leaves.

City General Election: Tuesday, November 3

The City Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 408 Fifth Street. The terms of Mayor and three (3) City Council Members expire in November. Jeffrey Stille is running unopposed for Mayor. Tim Scarpino has served on the City Council for eight years and is term limited. Dan Ruitter and Regina Sjoberg are running unopposed for the three (3) City Council seats. Persons interested in running for the open may file a Declaration of Intent form by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 23. As of the printing of this newsletter, James Marek has filed a Declaration of Intent.

The Mayor's term is for two (2) years, which will expire in November 2011. The three (3) City Council Members' term is for four (4) years which will expire in November 2013.

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 2. The City Clerk's office will be open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31 for absentee ballots.

Monster Bash 🍁🍁

The Beautification Commission will sponsor in conjunction with the Ferrysburg City Council, the Monster's Ball at the former Ferrysburg Elementary School gymnasium on Friday, October 30 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Admission is free and kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. All are encouraged to wear a costume. Music will be provided.

Motorized Equipment Millage Proposal

In 1989, Ferrysburg voters approved a motorized equipment millage of 1.75 mills for ten years. In 1998, voters approved a renewal of the motorized equipment millage at a 1.25 mills for ten years. The motorized equipment millage expired in 2008. On the November 3, 2008 ballot was a proposal to renew the motorized equipment millage at 1 mill for ten years, however, the 2008 proposal was defeated.

This millage is used to pay for motorized equipment for the Police Department, Fire Department and the Public Services Department. The funds collected through the motorized equipment millage will allow the City to purchase a new Fire Truck at a cost of \$520,000, a new dump truck, equipped for snowplowing at a cost of over \$100,000, and a new pick-up truck in the City's current fiscal year. This equipment will be purchased without financing, saving interest costs. This equipment allows these departments to provide necessary services to our residents and allows employees to work with safe reliable equipment.

On the November 3, 2009 ballot, will be a proposal to levy up to one mill for ten years. If approved these funds cannot be used for any other purpose than to purchase motorized equipment.

Volunteers

From time to time, the city will be contacted from an organization willing to volunteer to work on projects within the City. The City's has graciously accepted these offers and volunteers have planted flowers, pulled weeds and performed general clean-up. On occasion we have more volunteers than work. If you are aware of someone in the City who may benefit from a group of volunteers to help pull weeds, rake a yard or other, please contact City Hall. Or if you are part of an organization that would like to volunteer within the City, please contact City Hall.

Vacation Precautions



If you are going to be on vacation or away from your dwelling for any extended length of time, follow these tips:

Arrange to have a trusted neighbor keep a close watch on your dwelling while you are away.

Discontinue all delivery services to your dwelling such as newspapers, mail and etc.

Make sure your front lawn is cut or your driveway plowed while you're gone.

Use an automatic timer to turn on and off your night lights while you're gone.

If you have a telephone answering machine, do not put a message on it stating your gone away.

Make sure before you leave that all doors, windows and other means of entry are locked.

Advise the Village of Spring Lake/City of Ferrysburg Police Department that you are going on vacation and that you would like to have additional patrols and put on the property watch list.

Former Ferrysburg Elementary School

Community Mental Health of Ottawa County leases space inside the former Ferrysburg Elementary School and there is additional space available for lease. If you or your organization is interested in leasing space, please contact City Hall.

Transportation



The City of Ferrysburg is a member of the Michigan Municipal League (MML). This summer the MML included the article below in their newsletter. If you would like to contact your legislature, please call the number included in the article.

“Legislators tell us they want to hear from their constituents on Michigan’s failing transportation system so the Michigan Transportation Team (MTT) created a way for this to happen. By dialing toll-free 888-719-3087, callers will only have to enter their five digit zip code to be connected with their legislator. This number is for anyone who is fed up with crumbling roads and wants to let their legislators know that we need to fix them. Please pass this information along in your community and encourage citizens to call the number to connect to their legislator. The plan currently before legislators is expected to yield an additional \$1.8 billion in new transportation revenue per year – increasing the amount local road commissions would receive to maintain, repair and replace existing roads as well as create 46,000 jobs for the state.”

Carol Sing

The annual Carol Sing is scheduled on Saturday, December 12, 6:00 p.m. at William 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 Carols will be sung. Pine Street Café will provide hot chocolate and Leppinks Food Center will provide donut holes for treats.

Water Meters

The Department of Public Services is changing the old style manual read water meters to radio read water meters. This allows the Public Services Department to drive by your residence and read water usage via computer. The software also allows the Public Services Department to monitor for abnormalities. For instance, if the software detects non-stop water usage for a 24 hour period, a report will be generated and the property owner notified. If you receive a letter stating the City will be installing the new water meters in your area, please contact City Hall to schedule an appointment. The installation is typically completed in 30 minutes. The City hopes to complete the change over to the new meters by 2013.

2010 Census

The United States Census will be mailing census questionnaires in March of next year. This Census data is used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

Generator

Earlier this year, City Council approved the purchase and installation of a back-up generator at the Jack Olthof Fire Station. This generator will allow the Fire Department to operate in a power outage. Also, in an emergency, this generator will allow the building to be utilized as an emergency response center.

City Happenings!

Keep informed with what is happening in your community. Join the City e-newsletter group to receive happenings in the city. Watch your e-mail for events in the area. Contact City Hall or e-mail dwierenga@ferrysburg.org to join the e-newsletter group.

Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses will be available at the City Hall beginning December 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010 for purchase. You may also purchase your dog licenses on-line from Ottawa County at <http://miottawa.org>. If your pet has been spayed/neutered the fee will be \$6.00. If your pet has not been spayed/neutered the fee will be \$15.00. Puppies age 4 to 7 months are \$6.00. All fees double on March 1, 2010.

Winter Tax Bills

Your winter tax bill will be arriving around December 1, 2009. Winter tax bills are due on February 16, 2010 without penalty. On February 17, 2010 penalties will be applied and on March 1, 2010 all unpaid taxes will be turned over to the Ottawa County Treasurer's office for collection with additional penalties applied. Taxes can be paid at Fifth Third Bank, Ferrysburg; Ferrysburg City Hall from 8 am-5 pm, Monday through Friday; by mail; or by using the drop box alongside of the City Hall front door.

Loutit District Library

On July 1 the Loutit District Library re-opened at 407 Columbus Avenue in Grand Haven. The \$10 million renovation and expansion project was paid for with a bond issue approved by the voters in 2007 along with a bond issue funded by the library's operating millage, \$1.6 million in private donations, and with accumulated library funds. The library offers a 162-seat program room, a public computing room, a computer classroom, a Local History and Genealogy Room, and the Cheapstacks Used Book Store. Ferrysburg residents are encouraged to visit and support their new Loutit District Library. For additional information about the library, visit its web site a www.loutitlibrary.org .

Brush Chipping

With the upcoming arrival of winter, the City crews will discontinue chipping brush October 16. In April they will continue brush chipping. A reminder that there is **no** burning

in the city limits of Ferrysburg.

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".

Deer

The City has received comments from property owners within the City regarding deer. At their meeting on August 17, City Council approved forming a committee to review, research, and provide information regarding deer to residents. If you are interested in serving on this citizen panel, please contact City Hall for an application.

Meetings

City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:30 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 as needed.
 Kitchel-Lindquist Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm.
 Other Boards and Commission meet on an irregular schedule.
 To confirm a scheduled meeting, contact City Hall at 842-5803.

For a water, sewer, or street emergency after office hours, call 842-1640.

City Council

<u>Term expires Nov. 2009</u>	<u>Term expires Nov. 2011</u>
Jeffrey Stille, Mayor	Chris Larson
Tim Scarpino, Mayor Pro Tem	Thomas Spoelman
Daniel Ruiter	John Stafford
Regina Sjoberg	

City Staff

City Manager	Craig Bessinger
Clerk/Treasurer	Debbie Wierenga
Public Serv. Supt.	George Dunning
Public Serv. Tech.	Bob Kerridge
Public Serv. Tech.	Jim Dyke
Public Serv. Tech.	Tom Miller
Public Serv. Tech	Matt Schindlbeck
Fire Chief	Mike Olthof
Police Chief	Roger DeYoung
Building Insp.	George Dood
Zoning Adm.	Craig Bessinger
Assessor	Jerry Groeneveld
Adm. Asst.	MaryJane Farnquist
Adm. Asst.	Diana Schell

Holiday Closing Schedule

November 26, 2009	November 27, 2009
December 24, 2009	December 25, 2009
December 31, 2009 (noon)	January 1, 2010

City of Ferrysburg
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City Information

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 Website: www.ferrysburg.org
 Office hours: 8 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday