

Shorelines

City of Ferrysburg 17290 Roosevelt Rd. P.O. Box 38 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 Fall 2010

City Hall

On June 1, 2010, City Hall operations moved to the former Ferrysburg Elementary School, located at 17290 Roosevelt Road. Residents are asked to park in the parking lot off of Ridge Avenue where they can enter City Hall offices. Residents are encouraged to stop in and tour the building. Telephone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses have not changed and the Ferrysburg Public Works and Fire Department will remain at their current locations.

City Hall Garden

On September 30, a butterfly garden will be installed at City Hall. If you or your organization is willing to adopt this garden for maintenance purposes, please contact City Hall.

Fence

The City has approximately 150 feet of 6' high fence and posts for sale. Residents have the opportunity to bid on the fence, by submitting a sealed bid marked "Fence" delivered to Debbie Wierenga, City Clerk, at Ferrysburg City Hall, by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2010. The fence can be seen at the Ferrysburg Public Works Garage located at 410 Fifth Street.

State Wide General Election: Tuesday, November 2

This year's Governor's election will be on Tuesday, November 2, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 17290 Roosevelt Road. Voters may obtain and vote absentee ballots at City Hall until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 1. Election workers conducting this election are: Mary Janusch, Virginia Teunis, Patricia Sayles, Faye Hoffman, Roselyn Butterworth, and Mary Jane Farnquist.

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.

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 allowed the City to purchase a new Fire Truck at a cost of \$520,857.00, with no financing costs. In the 2010-2011 City Budget, funds for a new dump truck equipped for snowplowing at a cost of over \$100,000, have been included. This purchase will be made without financing, which will save interest costs. This equipment allows the City departments to provide necessary services to our residents and allows employees to work with safe reliable equipment.

On the November 2, 2010 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.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention week is October 3, 2010 through October 9, 2010. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will have their annual open house on Monday, October 11, 2010 at the Fire Station from 6 p.m. until 8 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 will sponsor in conjunction with the Ferrysburg City Council, the Monster's Ball at the City Hall gymnasium on Friday, October 29 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.

Halloween

October 31, falls on a Sunday this year, therefore, Halloween trick-or-treat will be Saturday, October 30, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Carol Sing

The annual Carol Sing is scheduled on Saturday, December 11, 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 received 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.

Dog Park

The Grand Opening of the Dog Park located at Coast Guard Park was held June 19, 2010. A number of vendors were present and many citizens from the area attended the event. The Dog Park is open daily from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

If you have suggestions for the dog park or would like to make donation for items to be included in the dog park, please contact City Hall.

Youth Council

The Ferrysburg City Council has created a Youth Advisory Council to involve students in government while serving their communities. If you are a student in grades 9-12 and reside in the City of Ferrysburg, applications are now being accepted. Youth Advisory Council Members will also serve as non-voting members on the Recreation Commission, the Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve Board and the Beautification Commission. If you would like an information packet, or have additional questions, please contact City Clerk Debbie Wierenga at 842-5803.

Deer Advisory Board

The Deer Advisory Board, a committee of Ferrysburg residents, met with the express purpose of seeking to understand how the urban deer population of the city impacts residents and property owners, and how that impact reflects on the health of that urban deer population. To that end, the Deer Advisory Board held seven (7) public meetings, four of which featured presentations by persons with expertise in this area. Key findings of the Deer Advisory Board are listed below:

- A. Based on information from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment (MDNRE) representatives, the deer density in Ottawa County and the City of Ferrysburg is significantly higher than what is desirable.
- B. White-tailed deer do have positive and negative impacts on property, which subjectively is dependent on individual preference and tolerance.
- C. Biological Carrying Capacity has not been reached in the City of Ferrysburg. There is plenty of food.
- D. The City of Ferrysburg could impact the density of the White-tailed deer herd by lawfully managed/regulated hunting.
- E. Public education is necessary in any attempt to impact the density of the White-tailed deer herd.
- F. It is desirable to cooperate and communicate with other units of government (Local, County, & State) to help further recommendations from the Deer Advisory Board.
- G. Education is the single most important piece in helping to reduce the negative impact of White-tailed deer on the personal property of the residents of the City.

A complete copy of the Ferrysburg Deer Advisory Board Summary Report is available at City Hall. As a reminder, feeding deer anywhere in Michigan's Lower Peninsula is prohibited.

Unused Medication

Don't flush unwanted meds, instead, safely dispose of your personal medications at any of 3 health department offices located in Holland, Grand Haven, and Hudsonville during regular business hours. Hours for the Grand Haven office are:

Grand Haven: 16920 Ferris Street, Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays, 8AM until noon and 1PM until 5PM, 616-846-8360.

Please remove pills from the pill bottles and place them in a plastic bag before dropping them off at the Ottawa County Health Department of your choosing. If you have questions about the Ottawa County's unwanted medication collection program, please call 616-393-5645.

This information has been brought to you by: C.O.R.E. (Clean-up Our River Environment), www.COREmichigan.org, through a grant from the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation's Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Fund.

Opening on Boards and Commissions

Many of the City's Boards and Commissions have openings. If you are interested in serving, please contact City Hall at 842-5803 for an application or visit our web site at www.ferrysburg.org.

Parkwood Drive

You may have noticed that Parkwood Drive has been reconstructed from North Shore Road to Mohawk Drive. This \$558,000 project is funded with a \$328,000 Federal Highway Grant, the remaining with City funds. Nagel Construction was the contractor and Moore & Bruggink was the engineer on the project.

City Owned Waterfront lots and right-of way

Eagle Scout Candidate Ryan Richert will build and install three (3) interpretive signs that will go on the City-owned water front lots and right-of-ways on Spring Lake off of Lakeview Avenue. These lots are located at the end of Gruenbauer Street (20'wide), Reenders Street, (20'wide), and at the end of Doric Street (44'wide). One of these signs will contain historical information about Spring Lake, another will contain information regarding common birds that one may see, and the other sign will contain information regarding migratory birds in the area. Mr. Richert is working with Ottawa County Coordinator of Interpretive and Information Services Chip Francke. Last year as part of his Eagle Scout project Mr. Richert installed the mile markers along the bike paths in Ferrysburg.

Fall Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, September 25

This year's City-wide one-day residential trash pick up for City residents will be on Saturday, September 25. 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 25**.

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 25.

City Happenings!

Keep informed with what is happening in your community. Join the City e-newsletter of happenings. 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 January 1, 2011 for purchase. You may also purchase your dog licenses on-line from Ottawa County at <http://miottawa.org>.

Winter Tax Bills

Your winter tax bill will be arriving around December 1, 2010. Winter tax bills are due on February 14, 2011 without penalty. On February 15, 2011 penalties will be applied and on March 1, 2011 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 5/3 Bank, Ferrysburg; Ferrysburg City Hall from 8 am-5 pm, Monday through Friday; by mail; or by using the drop box in front of the City Hall entrance.

Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve

The Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve, on the North Shore, is owned by the City of Ferrysburg. The Preserve consists of approximately 112 acres, one-half of which was donated by the late Connie Lindquist, by Gerald Lindquist, and by 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. A Board of nine (9) citizens oversees the operation and maintenance of the Dunes Preserve. On Sunday, September 19, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., Board Member Lynne Kinkema will lead a family oriented hike on the trails at the Dunes Preserve. Mrs. Kinkema will guide participants in discovering native plants and learning about the wildlife that is able to survive in this unique habitat. The public is welcome to participate.

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 1, 8 and 15

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

Area 2: Tuesday, November 2, 9 and 16

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

Area 3: Wednesday, November 3, 10 and 17

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

Area 4: Thursday, November 4, 11 and 18

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

Friday, November 5, 12 and 19 will be utilized to collect leaves in any areas that need extra attention due to a large volume of leaves.

“Green” Lawn and Garden Tips

Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Avoid scorching your lawn from over-fertilization. Use slow-release fertilizers only 2-3 times per year. Non-phosphorus types are best for the environment.
2. Plant native plants in your garden. Natives naturally need less water, fertilizers, and pesticides saving you time and money.
3. Pick up your pet waste and dispose of it properly; otherwise, it could end up in your storm drain, the Grand River, and eventually your favorite Lake Michigan beach.

“Green” Car Care Tips

Many vehicle fluids can be hazardous. Even small quantities can contaminate drinking water supplies and harm wildlife. Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Recycle used oil and automotive fluids. Just one gallon of used motor oil dumped down a catch basin can contaminate one MILLION gallons of your drinking water.
2. Wash your car at a commercial car wash or on your lawn. Otherwise, dirty, oily water on your driveway will flow to your storm drain, the Grand River, and eventually Lake Michigan.

“Green” Home Tips

Prevent pollution from entering your storm drains and protect the health of your family, your community, and the Grand River by following these tips.

1. Protect your family's health. Dispose of unwanted paints, solvents, and cleaners at your county's household hazardous waste collection center.
2. Lower your water bill. Install a rain barrel to capture and reuse your storm water.

Brush Chipping

With the upcoming arrival of winter, the City crew will discontinue chipping brush October 22. 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".

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.

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

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

City Council

<u>Term expires Nov. 2011:</u>	<u>Term expires Nov. 2013:</u>
Jeffrey Stille, Mayor	Daniel Ruitter
Tom Spoelman, Mayor Pro Tem	Rebecca Hopp
Chris Larson	Regina Sjoberg
John Stafford	

City Staff

City Manager	Craig Bessinger
Clerk/Treasurer	Debbie Wierenga
Public Serv. Supt.	George Dunning
Public Serv. Tech.	Bob Kerridge
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

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