

Shorelines

City of Ferrysburg 408 Fifth Street P.O. Box 38 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 Spring 2010

Trash to Treasure Day: (Saturday May 1, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

The city will sponsor a garage sale which will be promoted as “Trash to Treasure Day.” This voluntary, free event is open to all Ferrysburg residents. Participants can display their items for sale on front lawns and driveways from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All residents participating in this event may register their address with the city allowing it to be placed on a map which will be available on the city’s website or at City Hall. Residents may register their home by contacting City Hall at 842-5803. The deadline to register your address with the city is Tuesday, April 27.

Spring Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, May 15

This year’s city-wide one-day residential trash pickup for city residents will be on Saturday, May 15. This is a one-day, one pickup event. Pickup crews will not make return trips. Please place items for pick up at the curb or street edge by 7:00 a.m. on **May 15**.

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 May 15.

4th of July Parade

The 4th of July Parade will be held on Saturday, July 3, beginning at 10:30 a.m. from the “new” City Hall located at 17290 Roosevelt Road and ending at William Ferry Park. At the park there will be a flag raising ceremony, music, kids games, and food. If you would like to have an entry in the 4th of July Parade or would like to volunteer to help put this parade on, please contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Coast Guard Picnic

On Saturday, July 24, the City of Ferrysburg will once again have the honor to host the Coast Guard Festival Picnic. The event will begin at 11:30 a.m. and last until 3:00 p.m. There will be food, music, and “Dee Jay the Clown”. The picnic is open to all, and citizens are encouraged to attend to support and thank those who serve in the United States Coast Guard.

Summer Concert Series

The City Council has approved sponsoring two concerts in Coast Guard Park this summer. The dates are Wednesday, June 23 and Wednesday, August 11, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Ferrysburg City Council is sponsoring these concerts at no charge. Bring a chair and listen to the bands as they perform near the pavilion at Coast Guard Park.

Census 2010 – Please Return Your Form

You should have received a 2010 Census form to fill out and return. By filling out this 10 question form and returning it you will be counted. With being counted the city will benefit in the per capita funding received from the State of Michigan and the Federal Governments. The national population count is also the basis for determining the unemployment rate, grant distribution, poverty/income statistics, consumer price index and other economic indicators. **ALL** information submitted will be kept confidential.

Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve Cleanup

The Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve Board has scheduled a cleanup day at the Dunes Preserve on Saturday, May 22, beginning at 9 a.m. The Dunes Preserve Board asks volunteers to gather at the preserve's main parking lot on Berwyck Street just east of North Shore Drive. Volunteers are asked to wear gloves and appropriate clothing for weather conditions. The day's work will focus on the cleanup of the Connie Lindquist Trail, Harold Hartger Trail, and Marjorie Hendricks trail. The board will provide trash bags for volunteers, who will be divided into crews to work in different sections of the preserve. Coffee and donuts will be available.

City Hall

The Ferrysburg City Council has approved moving City Hall operations to the former Ferrysburg Elementary School site. The move is expected to take place in June. Residents can park in the parking area off of Ridge Avenue and enter the building from this parking area. City Hall offices will be located in that part of the building adjacent to the Ridge Avenue parking lot.

The City's voting precinct will also be moved to this site and City Clerk Debbie Wierenga will soon notify every voting resident within the city, of the "new" voting location. Please watch your mail and if you have any questions, please contact City Clerk Wierenga at 842-5803.

Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve Hike

On Sunday afternoon, May 23, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. the Kitchel-Lindquist Dunes Preserve will welcome the public to a family oriented hike on the trails at the Preserve. Experienced docents will guide participants in discovering native plants and learning about the wildlife that is able to survive in this unique habitat. Committee members will welcome participants at the Dr. Mary S. Kitchel outdoor classroom on the north side of Berwyck just east of North Shore Drive in Grand Haven. All are welcome to participate.

Parkwood Drive Project

In July, work will begin to reconstruct Parkwood Drive from North Shore Road to Alpine Drive. The project will consist of concrete curbs and gutters, storm sewer pipe and catch basins, and some sanitary sewer pipe replacement. Parkwood Drive will be reconstructed as a two-lane street. The project is expected to take 12 weeks to complete.

The City Engineer, Moore & Bruggink, Inc. is providing the design and construction engineering. The estimated cost of the project is \$555,000. A MDOT grant of \$328,000 will help finance this project.

Deer

Last fall City Council created the Deer Advisory Board to look at whether there is an issue with deer within the City of Ferrysburg. The Deer Advisory Board has been meeting and a number of experts within their fields have presented the Board information regarding deer. The Deer Advisory Board is reviewing the material presented and will make a report to the City Council in early summer.

Code Enforcement

The city has ordinances to keep blight from entering neighborhoods. Blight can lower property values, and make the community less desirable for those who live and work in the city. These ordinances cover items such as weeds or grass, trash containers, inoperable vehicles, and the storage of junk or debris on property. Code enforcement is a proactive way to produce favorable results on behalf of the community. Ordinance requirements can be found on our web site or by contacting City Hall.

Dog Park

The Ferrysburg Recreation Commission and the City Council have created a Dog Park located west of the soccer fields in Coast Guard Park. The Dog Park is tentatively scheduled to open in June 2010. Citizens will be able to bring their dogs and allow them to run unleashed. If you have any questions regarding the Dog Park you can contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Important Information about Dogs and Cats

It is a great responsibility to own a dog or a cat. Most people know this going into the task but others find out after it is too late and they have the pet. In 2008 7,719 cats and kittens and 3,230 dogs and puppies were euthanized in Kent and Ottawa Counties. Please use this information to inspire you to get your pet spayed or neutered. If it is a cost issue then you may want to look into C-SNIP, a low-cost spay/neuter clinic in Grand Rapids. The cost ranges from \$50 - \$65 for dogs and \$30 to \$45 for cats.

The Spring Lake / Ferrysburg Police Department receive many animal complaints annually. Please be a responsible pet owner and keep in mind the below rules for the City Of Ferrysburg.

The below offense fines are first offense \$50.00, second offense \$250.00, and third offense \$500.00.

1. Any animal which is kept by a person cannot run at large in the city. (This includes cats)
2. No dog shall be unconfined unless under the reasonable control of some person.
3. Dogs must have a collar with a license attached.
4. Any animal defecating on public or private property, the owner will promptly remove the excrement and dispose of it in a sanitary method.
5. Animals that are found and turned over to the police department are taken to Harbor Front Animal Hospital on Savidge Street and if the owner of the animal cannot be identified the animal is scheduled for pick up by the animal control.

City Happenings!

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

Parking of vehicles

Residents are reminded that the Zoning Ordinance restricts parking of vehicles to the driveway, carport or garage. Also, parking in any right of way is prohibited.

Signs

Residents are reminded that the placing of real estate open house and garage sale signs is regulated by the Ferrysburg Zoning Ordinance. Garage sale signs are permitted on the premises on which such sale is being conducted and one (1) sign is permitted off premises on a private parcel at the nearest cross street. Real estate open house signs are permitted on the premises on which the open house is being conducted and one (1) sign is permitted off premises on a private parcel at the nearest cross street. For the complete regulations for placing signs in the City, contact City Hall.

Web site

The city's website contains forms, agendas, minutes, the City Code, Zoning Ordinance, and other useful information. If there is something that you would like to see included on the city's website, please contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Remember.....

- The burning of leaves, yard waste, and brush in Ferrysburg is prohibited. The burning of trash and waste building material is also prohibited.
- If you are having a garage sale or a yard sale, please remember that these signs are permitted on the premise on which such sale is being conducted and one (1) sign is permitted off premises on a private parcel on the nearest cross street. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall.
- Picnic shelters at William Ferry Park and Coast Guard Park are available to Ferrysburg residents and the public on a first come, first served basis. The City does not take reservations for these facilities.
- Residents are asked to keep bushes trimmed near their outside water meter remote. This will allow Public Service Workers to read the outside water meter remote quicker and more efficiently.

2010 Recreation Plan

Since December 2009, the Recreation Commission, comprised of community members and a City Council Representative, worked to create the 2010-2015 Parks and Recreation Plan. In order to be eligible for grants from the State, for recreation activities and park facilities, it is required that the city submit a five year plan to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment. In the Plan, the Commission reviewed the current parks facilities as well as the recreational opportunities within the city and neighboring communities. Subsequently, the Commission established a list of goals and actions for the city to explore and enact over the next five years. The plan includes proposed costs and budgets for upgrades to the city's parks. The goals are designed to create a stronger system of parks, which encourage and foster an active community. The Plan was submitted to Ferrysburg City Council and adopted on March 15, 2010. An online version is available on the Ferrysburg website, or hard copies can be found at City Hall.

Free Electronics Recycling!

Old electronics hiding in those closets? Bring them to First CRC, 516 S. Ferry in Grand Haven, on Saturday, May 1, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Old computers, monitors, keyboards, floppy discs, broken radios, clocks, VCR & DVD players, video game players and more can be recycled for FREE! \$10.00 donation for televisions. Volunteers will be waiting in the church parking lot to help you unload. And, if you have unwanted metal items – bring them as well. All items will be environmentally recycled. Questions? Call LaDon at First CRC, 842-6370.

Rein in the Runoff

Grand Valley State University received funding from Michigan Sea Grant to conduct a stormwater assessment project for the Village of Spring Lake and Spring Lake Township. The City of Ferrysburg was invited to join the Stakeholder Steering Committee. This project was titled the “Rein in the Runoff Project” and examined the causes, consequences and alternatives to minimize the impact of polluted stormwater runoff into the local water bodies. The final report has been completed and is available for viewing at City Hall or at <http://www.gvsu.edu/wri/reininthrunoff>.

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.

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**”.

Outdoor Placement of Motor Homes, Boats, and Recreational Type Vehicles

The Zoning Ordinance prohibits the above referenced items from being parked in a front yard. The placement of such vehicles and trailers are permitted in a side yard (a minimum of ten (10) feet from the side property line) and rear yard, and must be licensed. If you have any questions regarding the parking of motor homes, boats, trailers, or other recreational type vehicles, please contact City Hall at 842-5803.

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.

Brush Chipping

In April the City Public Services Crew will start chipping brush once a month on the **second full week**, streets west of US-31; on the **third full week**, streets east of US-31. Brush must be stacked all in the same direction. There is a 30 minute time limit at each stop. Generally, crews can chip in 30 minutes what you can stack in 30 minutes.

Leave Pick-Up

The City of Ferrysburg does not have a Spring street edge leaves pick up. Residents with leaves in **paper bags only** may drop them off at the West side of the Public Services Garage. Paper bags are available at City Hall for \$.40 a piece. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

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
408 Fifth Street
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 Ruiter
Tom Speolman, 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
Project Adm.	Ryan Davies

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