

Shorelines

City of Ferrysburg 17290 Roosevelt Road P.O. Box 38 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 Spring 2014

Trash to Treasure Day: (Saturday May 3, 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 for pickup at City Hall. The City will also publish the event in area newspapers. Residents may register their home by contacting City Hall at 842-5803. The deadline to register your address with the City is Monday, April 28.

Spring Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, May 17

This year’s City-wide one-day residential trash pickup for City residents will be on Saturday, May 17. 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 17**. Crews from Republic 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 17.

Parking of vehicles and recreational 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. The placement of recreational vehicles is regulated to a side yard (a minimum of ten (10) feet from the side property line) and the rear yard. For more information regarding the parking of vehicles and recreational vehicles, please contact City Hall.

4th of July Parade

The 4th of July Parade is a great way to celebrate our nation’s independence. The parade will begin on Friday, July 4, at Ferrysburg City Hall at 10:30 a.m. and will end at Wm. Ferry Park where there will be a flag raising ceremony, music, games and food. If you would like to participate in the parade or would like to volunteer to help with the parade or events at Wm. Ferry Park, please contact City Hall at 616-842-5803.

Coast Guard Festival Community Picnic

The City of Ferrysburg will host the Coast Guard Festival Community Picnic on Sunday, July 27, from 1PM to 4PM. The event is open to all citizens and is a time to thank those that serve in the United States Coast Guard. There will be food available for purchase, games and music.

Harbor Transit Carries Its 200,000 Rider

Grand Haven – In this record breaking year for Harbor Transit ridership one person has been called out for special recognition. Dennis Carter of Grand Haven became the 200,000 bus rider of the year on December 30th. A Grand Haven native, Carter has been riding Harbor Transit on nearly a daily basis since suffering a motorcycle accident five years ago. He uses the service to get him to and from Meijer, the hospital, doctor’s office and the bank. It also helps him to get the exercise he needs by dropping him off in Highland Park or along the Boardwalk so he can enjoy nature and the out-of-doors. “Without the service provided by Harbor Transit I wouldn’t be as mobile as I am and in all likelihood wouldn’t be as healthy either”, stated Carter. “The staff at Harbor Transit are very helpful and polite and I can’t thank them enough for getting me around town safely.” In recognition for being the 200,000 rider for the year Carter was given a one month bus pass that he can use as often as he likes.

Baby wipes: Companies advertise baby wipes and other similar products as bio-degradable, however, this does not happen instantly. When flushed into the sanitary sewer system these products get caught in the pumps operating the sewer system which cause them to plug and stop working. If the pumps fail, this may cause the sewer system to backup. We are asking your assistance and not flush baby wipes or other similar products into the sanitary sewer system.

Fireworks

In 2013, City Council adopted an ordinance which prohibits the use of fireworks in the City except as permitted by State law. Fireworks would be allowed on the day before, the day of, and the day after any of the ten (10) holidays listed in the ordinance, and also on the first Saturday in August each year (Coast Guard Festival). The ordinance prohibits the use of fireworks on the days listed above between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. If you have questions regarding the ordinance, please contact City Hall.

Bill Pay Options

The City offers auto-pay for taxes and water/sewer bills. To sign up for auto-pay, contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Community Garden

In 2013, City Council approved creating a Community Garden on the City Hall property. Last fall on the United Way Day of Caring, Grand Haven High School Interact Students volunteered to construct the planting boxes. In all, 35 boxes were constructed by these volunteers, and we are grateful for their work. The garden area is enclosed with a 3' high fence. If interested in reserving a plot, please contact City Hall.

North Shore Road Project

In the fall of 2014, the west end of North Shore Road will be reconstructed and a non-motorized path will be constructed. The City received a \$674,000 grant from the Roads and Risk Reserve Fund for the reconstruction of North Shore Road from North Beach Park, east 3,000 feet. This project is expected to begin after Labor Day and be completed by November 15.

North Shore Road Non-Motorized Path

The City received a \$200,000 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant. Ottawa County Parks have pledged \$50,000 towards this project. The funds will be used to help fund the construction of a non-motorized path along North Shore Road from North Beach Park to the entrance at Coast Guard Park. This project is expected to begin after Labor Day and be completed by November 15.

North Shore Road

In the spring of 2015, the east end of North Shore Road will be reconstructed and a non-motorized path will be constructed.

Beautification Commission

The Commission oversees the 4th of July Parade, Monster Bash, Carol Sing, banners, and flower plantings with the City. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the 4th of July Parade, or interested in joining this committee, please contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Trash Containers

As a reminder, please do not place garbage, trash, and/or recyclable material bags, containers, bins or boxes to remain in any front yard or in the non-traveled portion of any street right of way prior to 6:00 p.m. on the day before the schedule collection day or leave these items in any front yard or in the non-traveled portion of any street right-of-way after 7:00 p.m. on the scheduled collection day established by the collector.

North Bank Bike Rally:

On Saturday, September 15, the North Bank Bike Rally will take place with the starting place at Coast Guard Park. The rally is a collaborative effort between Spring Lake Rotary Club and the Grand Haven Rotary Club. Routes are being designed. For more information, visit www.northbankbikerally.com.

Fire Department

Firefighters wanted: Did you know firefighters get paid? Have you wondered what is involved to become a firefighter, or how much time is required? On Saturday, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., the Department will have an informational question and answer meeting for residents to answer these questions and any other questions you may have. Personnel from the Fire Department will give a brief overview of the fire department, its operations and the training requirements. A station and equipment tour will also be included. The meeting will be at the Fire Station located at North Shore Road & 174th Avenue and is expected to last one hour and no reservation is required.

Reminders

- If you are having a garage sale or a yard sale, please remember a sign is permitted on the premise of which the 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 serve basis. The City does not take reservations for these facilities.

Harbor Transit Sets Annual Ridership Record

Grand Haven, Michigan – Harbor Transit is pleased to announce that two ridership records have recently fallen helping make 2013 the busiest twelve months in the history of Tri-Cities public transportation. On Friday, November 22 Harbor Transit carried 898 passengers, a one day record. This number helped to produce ridership for the month that was 1,458 more rides than the same period of a year ago. For the twelve months ending December 31st Harbor Transit realized a 6.4% increase in ridership over the previous year resulting in a record total of 200,437 passengers for the year. Ridership was up in all major categories with the most significant increases coming from those riders 50 years of age and over. Students from the various school locations throughout the service area continued to show increased volumes year over year. “No doubt the expansion of our service area into Grand Haven Charter Township had an impact with respect to this increase,” stated Tom Manderscheid, Director of Transportation. “But we were pleased to see the other long standing areas we serve also experienced solid growth in ridership.” “In addition, the several new buses and two new mini-vans have made for better service and quicker pickup times which have also helped to manage rider demand for service.” For the third consecutive year Harbor Transit has seen its ridership increase. During the last three years Harbor Transit has carried a total of 74,997 more passengers than the 125,440 transported in 2010 an overall increase of 59.8%.

National Flood Insurance Program

In 2012 Congress enacted the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Reform Act of 2012. This Act requires changes to the NFIP to occur. One is the elimination of existing flood insurance subsidies resulting in higher cost to most policy holders. To get more information, visit www.mi.gov/floodplainmanagement.

Funding Available to Assess Brownfield Sites in Ottawa County

Ottawa County was awarded \$400,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to perform environmental assessments of properties that may be contaminated with either hazardous substances or petroleum pollutants. The County Brownfield Program is accepting applications for these grants beginning March 31, 2014. Projects that are approved will be funded on a first-come, first-serve basis until the grant funds are exhausted.

To be eligible, a site must be in Ottawa County and believed to be contaminated. The project must also be approved by the Ottawa County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (OCBRA) and the U.S. EPA to take advantage of this grant program. The following conditions must also be met:

- The current property owner cannot be responsible for the contamination
- The proposed project must demonstrate financial need for funding
- The proposed project must demonstrate community benefits, such as new jobs, new goods/services/amenities, reduction in a health hazard, or returning a long-vacant site to reuse

Ottawa County is hosting a series of public meetings over the next few months to inform developers, business owners, residents, and others about how to access these grant funds for potentially contaminated sites. These meetings dates are as follows:

March 31, 2014 (1:00 pm) in West Olive, Main Conference Room Fillmore Street Complex

April 17, 2014 (6:30 pm) in Grand Haven, County Courthouse Jury Assembly Room

April 29, 2014 (6:30 pm) in Holland, City Hall, Council Chambers

May 1, 2014 (1:00 pm) in Zeeland, Howard Miller Library Main Conference Room

May 8, 2014 (6:30 pm) in Hudsonville, City Hall

May 13, 2014 (6:30 pm) in Allendale, Township Hall

May 21, 2014 (6:30 pm) in Coopersville, City Hall, Council Chambers

May 29, 2014 (1:00 pm) in Spring Lake, Barber School

For more information, please contact our office by phone at 616-738-4852 or visit the County Brownfield Authority's website at www.miottawa.org/OCBRA



Do You Know Where Your Septic System Is? As a homeowner, you are responsible for maintaining your septic system and protecting our rivers and streams. A **septic system** is a treatment system for your wastewater, consisting of a pipe leaving the house carrying the waste, a septic tank, a drainfield (leach field, absorption field), and suitable soil.

Regular maintenance includes pumping your septic tank regularly, usually once every 3 to 5 years to avoid a costly septic system failure.

Signs of failure include odors, plumbing or septic tank backups, gurgling sounds in the pumping system or wet, spongy ground or unusually lush plant growth in your yard. Poorly managed septic systems often allow wastes to directly enter waterways.

The **environmental consequences** are potential health hazards at local beaches for swimmers and other water users, an increase of algae and other aquatic plant growth causing fish kills, and contaminated groundwater.

For more tips, go to www.lgrow.org.

Are You Ready for Spring? As winter melts away, (and it will happen someday!), the following tips can help you prepare for the spring thaw and reduce flooding impacts, as well as keeping harmful materials out of our rivers and streams:

Uncover and clear catch basins, yard drains, drainage structures, or detention pond outlets near your properties. Clear debris from gutters and downspouts and address ice dams, including hiring a professional to clear particularly bad accumulations of ice. Move items up off the floor to protect them from potential infiltration of floodwaters or rising groundwater in the basement. Move stored chemicals to areas where floodwaters cannot reach. Make sure your sump pump is working (if you have one) and consider installing a battery operated backup in the event of a loss of power. Installing a water alarm will also let you know if water is accumulating in your basement. Anchor outdoor items that may float away and enter our waterways, such as fuel tanks and small lawn and garden machinery. Consider purchasing flood insurance to protect your property from future flooding events. Listen to National Weather Service forecasts for flood related advisories or warnings. Not sure what all the threat levels mean?

Flood Watch: flooding is possible in your area.

Flash Flood: rapid flooding, usually in low lying areas.

Flash Flood Watch: flash flooding is possible in your area.

Flood Warning: flooding is occurring, or will occur, in your area. Move to higher ground and listen to local media for evacuation orders.

Flash Flood Warning: a flash flood is occurring. Seek higher ground and listen to local media for evacuation orders.

Finally, the number one tip during flooding events: Use common sense and be safe!

More information can be found at www.lgrow.org

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 each. Thank you for your cooperation.

Water Meters

The City is replacing the manual style read water meters with radio read water meters. This allows the Public Services Department to read your water usage by simply driving by. Also, these meters will detect abnormalities. The City is making a push to have all old water meters replaced in 2014. If you have an old style water meter and are unable to be home during a weekday, please contact City Hall and we will make arrangements to replace your water meter during an evening or weekend.

Lubbers Cup

On Saturday, April 12 and Sunday, April 13, the 19th Annual Lubbers Cup Regatta will take place on Spring Lake, beginning at the Spring Lake Yacht Club in the City of Ferrysburg. Grand Valley State University is the host University. Men’s competitors will include rowers from Pittsburg, Illinois, Michigan, Michigan State, Purdue, Cincinnati, women’s competitors will include rowers from Drake, Illinois, Eastern Michigan, Purdue, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. The public is invited to watch the Regatta from the Spring Lake Yacht Club or other locations around Spring Lake.

Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve

On Saturday, April 26, the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve Board has scheduled a cleanup day at the Dunes Preserve beginning at 9.00 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 at 9 a.m.

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.	8am-5pm, M-F (616) 842-1889
Police Services	1-800-249-0911
For a water, sewer, or street emergency after office hours, call (800) 249-0911.	
<u>City Council</u>	
<u>Term expires Nov. 2015:</u>	<u>Term expires Nov. 2017:</u>
Dan Ruitter, Mayor	Rebecca Hopp
Chris Larson, Mayor Pro Tem	Regina Sjoberg
Scott Blease	Michael DeWitt
Kathleen Kennedy	

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

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