

Shorelines

City of Ferrysburg 17290 Roosevelt Rd. P.O. Box 38 Ferrysburg, MI 49409 Fall 2012

General Election: Tuesday, November 6

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 17290 Roosevelt Road. Voters may obtain absentee ballots by contacting, City Clerk Debbie Wierenga, at 842-5803 or at www.ferrysburg.org. to download an absentee ballot application. Absentee ballots may be obtained and voted at City Hall until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5. The City Clerk's office will be open until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 3 for absentee ballots.

The State of Michigan requires all registered voters to provide a photo ID when voting in person. Acceptable photo ID that can be used for voting purposes are driver's license/personal identification card, US passport, military identification card, student identification, or a tribal identification card. If a voter does not have acceptable photo ID, an affidavit will be required to be completed and signed by the voter. Even though the election inspector may know you, the law requires the inspector to request to see a photo ID. A ballot will not be issued to a voter without proper photo ID.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention week is October 7 through October 13. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will have their annual open house on Monday, October 8 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 will sponsor in conjunction with the Ferrysburg City Council, the Monster's Bash on Friday, October 26 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the City Hall gymnasium, 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.

Opening on Boards and Commissions

Many of the City's Boards and Commissions have openings. Enclosed is a listing of positions open on the City's Boards and Commissions. If you are interested in serving, please complete the enclosed application and return it to City Hall. For additional information on the various Boards and Commissions, contact City Hall at 842-5803.

Fall Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, September 22

This year's City-wide one-day residential trash pickup for City residents will be on Saturday, September 22. 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 22.

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 22.

Ridge Avenue

In the spring of 2013, MDOT and the City will be performing preventative maintenance on the Ridge Avenue Bridge. This work will require the bridge to be closed to thru traffic for approximately 5 weeks. Watch for further information.

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.

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-Hartger 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.

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, October 29, November 5 and 12

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

Area 2: Tuesday, October 30, November 6 and 13

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

Area 3: Wednesday, October 31, November 7 and 14

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

Area 4: Thursday, November 1, 8 and 15

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

Friday, November 2, 9 and 16 will be utilized to collect leaves in any areas that need extra attention due to a large volume of leaves.

Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve

On Saturday, September 15, the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve Board will sponsor a birding event. The public is asked to meet at the North Pier parking lot at 8:00 a.m. After spending some time viewing aquatic birds, the group will move to the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve to view and identify birds at the Preserve until approximately 10:00 a.m. The public is welcome to attend. You may wish to bring a pair of binoculars.

Master Plan

Earlier this year, the Planning Commission began work updating the Master Plan. LSL Planning was retained to help with this update. The plan will be used to guide the future physical development of the City. The final draft will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and if approved, the draft will be forwarded to the City Council for their review. If City Council concurs with the plan as written by the Planning Commission, a copy of the plan will be sent to each of the adjoining communities and to the Ottawa County Planning Department. After 42 days, if no comments are received, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the City Council to adopt the plan. City Council will be the approving body to officially adopt the Plan. If you would like to review a copy of the draft Master Plan, visit our web site at: www.ferrysburg.org or stop by City Hall.

Parking of Vehicles and Recreational Vehicles

Residents are reminded that parking on any public street right of way is prohibited, and the Zoning Ordinance restricts parking of vehicles to the driveway, carport or garage. 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.

How You Can Help Reduce Pollution Entering the Grand River

The City of Ferrysburg is working to better manage storm water runoff. As a resident of the City of Ferrysburg, you have the ability to help reduce the amount of pollution entering the storm sewer system and ultimately reaching the Grand River and Lake Michigan.

What is Storm Water Pollution?

When it rains, storm water flows over lawns, streets, and parking lots carrying with it road dirt, fertilizers, oil, and grease into storm drains, which are often located alongside streets and parking lots.

Where do Storm Drains Lead?

Storm drains lead directly to nearby streams and lakes without any type of treatment. Storm water entering storm drains or catch basins in the City of Ferrysburg ultimately reaches the Grand River and Lake Michigan.



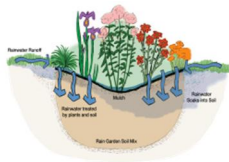
Storm water runoff entering the storm sewer after a rainstorm.

How Can I Help Reduce Storm Water Pollution?

- Never dump grass clippings, vehicle fluids, or anything else down a storm drain/catch basin.
- Avoid fertilizing your lawn before it rains. Use non-phosphorus fertilizers.
- Dispose of pet waste in a trash can.
- Take used motor oil to a quick lube or auto shop.
- Dispose of unwanted paints, solvents, and cleaners at your county collection center.
- Report storm drain dumping to the City of Ferrysburg storm water coordinator at 616-842-5803 or gdunning@ferrysburg.org.

What is a Rain Garden?

A rain garden is a special kind of garden. It is typically planted with native wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs. It has a shallow dip at the center to collect, filter, and soak up rainwater running off the land, roof tops, and pavement. A rain garden will naturally trap nutrients, and other pollutants, and clean up dirty rainwater.



What are the Benefits?

- Native plants naturally need less water, fertilizers, and pesticides saving you time and money.
- Rain gardens attract birds and butterflies to your yard.
- Rain gardens keep dirty rainwater from entering the storm sewer system and the Grand River.

How do I Plant a Rain Garden?

1. Select a spot in your yard to capture rainwater.
2. Use a shovel to create a shallow dip.
3. Replace soil if needed. A good mix is 50-60% sand, 20-30% topsoil, and 20-30% compost.
4. Plant native plants (ex. butterfly weed, purple coneflower, prairie dropseed, multicolored iris).
5. Mulch with shredded hardwood and water.
6. Visit raingardens.org for more information.

Brush Chipping

With the upcoming arrival of winter, the City crew will discontinue chipping brush October 26. 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-Hartger 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. 2013:</u>	<u>Term expires Nov. 2015:</u>
Daniel Ruiter Mayor	Chris Larson, Mayor Pro-tem
Rebecca Hopp	Scott Blease
Regina Sjoberg	Kathleen Kennedy
Michael DeWitt	

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 Arens

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