



CITY OF FERNDALE
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ISSUE

04

JULY
2015

CityNewsLetter

FERNDALE
est. 1927

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City of Ferndale • 300 East 9 Mile Rd • MI 48220

FROM THE MAYOR: PARKS HIGHLIGHT A CITY IN PROGRESS



Summer has arrived here in Ferndale, which makes it the perfect time to talk about one of my favorite subjects: our parks. I heard something great recently, and I'd like to share it with you. I met a resident—a father with a young daughter, maybe four or five years old. He came up to me and thanked me for the recent improvements made to Garbutt Park. He told me, "We live in the neighborhood, but there are children here my daughter never knew, never even met until they played together on that new equipment." It was a great reminder of why we're making these improvements. Quality parks make people more likely to get out, meet each other, and strengthen our community.

I'm pleased to report that there's plenty more on the horizon. With the May special election behind us—during which residents showed their support for Ferndale services by voting to approve both the streets and parks bond and the Headlee millage renewal—we can now get to work on rebuilding and strengthening our parks. In the coming months, you'll see changes at Wilson Park, the addition of a children's safety training course at Garbutt Park, and a new dog play area. And that's just the beginning.

In the meantime, I invite you to take advantage of the warm summer weather and visit your nearest neighborhood park—you never know who you'll get the chance to meet.

Thank you for your support, and for helping us make Ferndale the great community it is!

Mayor Dave Coulter

www.ferndalemi.gov

Oppenheim Park Before and After



Garbutt Park

See the grand reopening for yourself—check out the fun video at bit.ly/Garbutt_Opening



CITY DIRECTORY

Emergencies	Call 911
City Manager	(248)546-2360
City Clerk	(248)546-2384
Community Development	(248)546-2366
Finance Dept.	(248)546-2376
Fire Non-Emergency	(248)546-2510
Police Non-Emergency	(248)541-3650
Public Library	(248)546-2504
Public Works	(248)546-2514
Public Works <i>after hours</i>	(248)541-3650
Recreation Department	(248)544-6767
Republic Parking	(734)395-7005
Special Events/Dream Cruise	(248)546-1573
Tax Department	(248)546-2370
Water & Sewer	(248)546-2374
43 rd District Court	(248)547-8700
Ferndale Area Chamber	(248)542-2160
Ferndale DDA	(248)546-1632
Ferndale Public Schools	(248)586-8676
Historical Society	(248)545-7606
Housing Commission	(248)547-9500

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- June 20, 2015
 - ArtFair@CityHall
- July 16, 2015
 - Get Reel Movie Night "Wizard of Oz"
- July 17, 18 & 19, 2015
 - Pig & Whiskey
- July 25, 2015
 - Fire Truck Pull for Special Olympics
- August 8, 2015
 - Sierra Club's "Green Cruise"
- August 13, 14 & 15, 2015
 - Ferndale Dream Cruise Festival with Rock'n Live Entertainment
 - Camp Vester Vintage Camper Show & Antique Market
- August 14, 2015
 - Emergency Vehicle Show, Lights & Sirens Cruise and Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- August 15, 2015
 - Mustang Alley
- August 20, 2015
 - Get Reel Movie Night "Frozen" sing-a-long
- August 30, 2015
 - FernCare's "Any K Is Ok Run"

Do you enjoy receiving a newsletter?

How do you feel about the City's communications? Please let us know!

Taking our short survey will help us decide what to send in the future. Thanks in advance.

www.surveymonkey.com/m/s/ferndale-communications



FERNDALE GOES NATURAL

Thanks to a push by residents—and the leadership of City Council member Melanie Piana and the Ferndale Sustainability Commission—the City of Ferndale has amended its noxious vegetation ordinance and will now support and encourage yards that feature planned natural landscaping.

Natural landscaping is the planned planting of native prairie, woodland, and wetland plants as an alternative to turf grass. Its benefits are numerous: it incorporates plants native to our area that thrive with less upkeep than is required of traditional lawns. It reduces air, noise, and water pollution, and encourages butterfly and honeybee populations.

So, what does this mean for you and your neighbors? Read on for some helpful points and guidelines. If you have additional questions, visit our FAQ page at www.ferndalemi.gov/Services/Sustainability.

- Natural landscaping allows for *planned* installation of *native* plant life. Overgrown or untended non-natural grasses and plants/weeds will not be allowed. It is recommended that residents interested in incorporating this kind of natural plant life work with a nursery or native landscaping professional.
- Naturally landscaped yards must be registered with the City. There is no cost, and doing so helps staff to educate people concerned about ordinance violations. Register online at: ferndalemi.seamlessdocs.com/f/NativeVegetation.
- As has always been the case, non-natural grass and plants/weeds in yards must be attended to. Grass must be kept below 7 inches. Property owners with overgrown or untended grass/weeds will receive one notice per season; if grass is not cut within seven days, the City will mow it and the homeowner will be charged \$275.
- If you have questions about natural landscaping or lawn ordinances, contact the City's Code Enforcement Department at 248-336-4117.



A SUMMER OF FESTIVALS

Pig & Whiskey, July 17 - 19, 2015, brought to you by Woodward Avenue Brewers and Metro Times, is a full weekend of BBQ, beer, whiskey, and outdoor entertainment. Free admission; food and beverages are available for cash purchase.

For more information, visit bit.ly/pig-whiskey

Green Cruise, August 15, 2015. Join the Sierra Club's Green Cruise, a celebration of Earth-friendly transportation. Event features bicycle tours, dog walks, wheelchair "walk and roll," human-powered Celebrate Green Parade, and more.

For more information, visit www.sierraclub.org

Ferndale Dream Cruise, August 13 - 15, 2015. Sponsored by Ford Motor Company. The 21st annual event will feature the Ferndale Emergency Vehicle Show, Lights & Sirens Cruise, Mustang Alley, Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Rock'n Live Entertainment, Kids Play Zone, great food and merchant vendors, plus the "Munster Kids and the Tribute Kars Tour" exhibit with special guest Butch Patrick, aka Eddie Munster. For more information, visit ferndaledreamcruise.com

Rock'n Live Entertainment Schedule

Thursday, August 13

5:00 p.m. Rock Bottom

7:00 p.m. Lookin' Back, a Bob Seger Tribute Band

Friday, August 14

3:00 p.m. Beside The Point, 5:00 p.m. Full Tilt; and

7:30 p.m. Ages Apart

Saturday, August 15

11:00 a.m. The WhatAbouts; 1:00 p.m. The Favorites

3:00 p.m. Groove Band; 5:00 p.m. Crewsade; and

7:00 p.m. Magic Bus

Official 2015 Woodward Dream Cruise merchandise is now available for purchase at Ferndale City Hall.

LEARNING FROM THE BURN:

4 TIPS FROM THE FERNDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

In May, the Ferndale Fire Department held a side-by-side burn demonstration for students of the Detroit Carpenters Apprenticeship School to illustrate the importance of fire-protective devices in homes. Nearly twenty future builders watched burn demonstrations meant to simulate the average house fire, witnessing for themselves the difference a sprinkler system can make.

"This room and content fire is the most common kind of fire we see in Ferndale," Ferndale Fire Marshal Brian Batten said. "We want future builders to see what can happen and know what they can do to increase the chances of keeping a structure safe."

In both demonstrations, newspaper was lit on fire and placed in the back corner of the structure. In the first, the fire burned for approximately 3–4 minutes—the average amount of time it takes for the fire department to respond to a call—before being extinguished by firefighters. The structure and all of its furniture and contents were lost.

The second demonstration mirrored the first, but occurred in a room outfitted with an automatic sprinkler system. At about 90 seconds, the sprinkler activated and extinguished the fire. The result was minor burn and smoke damage to the room and mostly undamaged furniture.

The demonstration is part of a grant-funded program that allows the Ferndale Fire Department to bring fire prevention education to local building professionals. Grants pay for the construction of simulated rooms, made from metal containers. Most furnishing is donated. They hope to open the program to residents in the near future.

So, what can homeowners do to keep their properties—and their families—safe from fire? Batten and the Ferndale Fire Department have several key pieces of advice.

1. Install a sprinkler system

"It's our number-one piece of advice," said Batten. "We recommend that everyone have them in their homes."

2. Smoke alarms

"The best recommendation apart from sprinklers is smoke alarms, particularly the kind that can be programmed to communicate with one another," said Batten. "You should have one on every floor and in and around every area or room."

3. Fire drills

"Practice a fire drill with your family every month," Batten urges. "The more you practice, the more likely you'll be to remember your options in a crisis situation."

4. Doors closed for safety

Fire professionals recommend that interior doors stay closed whenever possible—including bedroom doors at night. "It's the smoke that kills people, not the flames," Batten said. "With doors closed, you keep a fire isolated and smoke out of your space for longer. You can gain the few precious extra seconds you need to decide on a strategy and find a way out."



*Burn 1:
Room and contents are a total loss.*



*Burn 2:
Equipped with sprinkler system:
minor damage to room and content.*

Build Basics Comes to Ferndale

The Build Institute is coming to Ferndale this summer, offering its eight-week Build Basics course for local aspiring and established entrepreneurs. The class provides business training and education in a number of areas—money management, business planning, market research, legal matters, accounting, professional development, and more.

The course is the first event to come out of the newly-formed Ferndale Small Business Collaborative (FSBC), a group comprised of representatives from the City of Ferndale, Downtown Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Works, Ferndale Public Library, and Ferndale Public School District. The organization works to identify and create opportunities for Ferndale small business owners and entrepreneurs to cross promote and gain access to shared resources.

Costs for the Build Basics class are determined based on a sliding scale. Registration opens June 8. For more information or to register, visit www.buildinstitute.org.

Ferndale's City Council Members

David Coulter,
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Dan Martin,
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Get Social

For up-to-date info, conversations, events, photos, and more, join us on social!



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