

Press Release



For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Pam McConeghy, pamm@brightoncoc.org, 810.227.5086

More leaves sprouting this spring in the Brighton area as the Chamber Environmental Council launches their Green Leaf Certification Program

Green Leaf Certification Program aims to educate and guide local businesses on more sustainable practices.

BRIGHTON, Mich. (May 30, 2019) - Budding trees aren't the only place you'll see green leaves as today the Greater Brighton Area Chamber Environmental Council announced its new Green Leaf Certification Program, so you will soon begin to see these Green Leaves appearing in local storefront windows. The Green Leaf Certification Program includes nine key areas of sustainability (chemicals, education, energy efficiency, sustainable product purchasing, food systems, leadership/culture, sustainable site, waste management and water conservation), in which a company must have initiatives in six of the areas to qualify for Green Leaf status and receive a decal for their business window to show they are an environmental leader within the community. The program executes on the Environmental Council's vision of initiating projects and outreach efforts that encourage waste reduction, energy savings, environmental conservation, fiscal responsibility and education.

"We're thrilled to roll out our new Green Leaf Certification Program as a way of celebrating the wonderful sustainability efforts of our local businesses." Said Pam McConeghy, President and CEO of the Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Environmental Council has worked to build the program to appeal to businesses of any size, regardless of their current sustainability efforts, from those just starting out and looking to save money to those that are full blown sustainability pros installing rooftop solar. "Implementing a sustainability program can appear to be a daunting task," said Tiffany Stewart, Co-Chair of the Environmental Council, "We wanted to create a program that is easy for businesses to navigate by educating them on the key areas and providing some thought starters on what their business can do to become more sustainable within each." Dave Richardson, Chamber Environmental Council board member and LEED a.p. adds, "What organization wouldn't want to save energy costs and help the environment? And prospective employees will definitely appreciate your Green Leaf participation."

Any business in Brighton and the surrounding areas is eligible to apply for their Green Leaf Certification. There are no application or certification fees to participate in the program, thanks to sponsorship by Foguth Financial Group, Brighton's first Green Leaf recipient. Consumers can show their appreciation by supporting businesses proudly displaying the Green Leaf. Brighton Area Chamber members receiving their Green Leaf Certification will also receive additional recognition in their upcoming, "Sustainability Spotlight" newsletters.

Who: Any business in the Brighton and surrounding area is eligible

What: Green Leaf Certification program for businesses to proudly display their commitment to the environment

Where: <http://bit.ly/glcertbrochure>

Why: To encourage engagement and action around environmental issues within the greater Brighton area by supporting, promoting and initiating projects that heighten the connection between the community, economy and natural environment.

About The Greater Brighton Area Chamber Environmental Council

The Greater Brighton Area Chamber Environmental Council (GBACEC) was established to lead the community in environmental stewardship, education, and awareness while aiming to set a new path for Brighton where the people of the City embrace practice and policies that dramatically reduce the footprint of industry, commerce, and agriculture on the environment for our community and Livingston County. The GBACOC would like to help the Brighton community become more environmentally conscious, economically viable, and sustainable. The Environmental Council sees their efforts as an opportunity to enhance the City's identity and diversify its opportunities. By highlighting Brighton community values such as conservation, education, and sustainability, the GBACOC hopes to welcome new residents, businesses, and professionals to the area. For more information, please visit: <https://www.brightoncoc.org/environmental-council>

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Livingston County Department of Planning's Brown Bag Lunch Series is a quarterly event that brings together planning professionals, local governments and others, in an informal setting to share ideas and network with one another.

Date: June 12, 2019

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Place: Oceola Township Hall
1577 N. Latson Road
Howell, MI 48843

Topic: Water Stewardship Panel – PFAS and the One Water initiative

Dan Brown, Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC)

PFAS are toxic, synthetic chemicals associated with many health problems. They are used to produce many common products such as apparel and electronics. This contaminant has been found in the Huron River and PFAS pollution is widespread in Michigan. The HRWC has been a leading educator on PFAS pollution and they have facilitated community discussions on the threat of PFAS to the Huron River.

Trevor Layton, Southeast Council of Governments (SEMCOG)

Beginning June 1, communities throughout Southeast Michigan are celebrating Great Lakes and Fresh Water Week by promoting One Water, a brand new initiative from the Freshwater Forum at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Great Lakes Water Authority, and SEMCOG. The goal of One Water is to support shared responsibility and stewardship for our interrelated drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater systems.



Be sure to pack your own lunch! RSVP Appreciated!

Kathleen Kline-Hudson, KKline-Hudson@livgov.com
Scott Barb, sbarb@livgov.com

View the educational materials from the Brown Bag Lunch Series at:
<https://www.livgov.com/plan/Pages/lunch-and-learn.aspx>



Liv.Co **UPDATE**

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



June 2019

Livingston County Board of Commissioners



- District 1 - Kate Lawrence
- District 2 - William Green
- District 3 - Wes Nakagiri
- District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman
- District 5 - Donald S. Parker
(Board Chairman)
- District 6 - Robert J. Bezotte
- District 7 - Carol S. Griffith
- District 8 - Dennis L. Dolan
(Board Vice-Chairman)
- District 9 - Gary Childs

"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."

Board Accepts the Livingston County Transit Master Plan

The Livingston County Board of Commissioners recognizes the impact of public transportation and contracted with AECOM Great Lakes, Inc. to provide consulting services for a countywide public transportation study to support the development of a new Transit Master Plan. AECOM compiled their results and presented them to the Board, which accepted the plan as a tool to provide guidance in making future adjustments in Livingston County's public transportation system. The four major goals identified in the plan are to; improve the system efficiency of current service; develop new services that expand the customer base and respond to unserved needs; provide regional connections; and collaborate across communities, agencies, and sectors to have multimodal transportation considered as part of the County's development. As a result of the Plan, the Board is committed to continuing to operate LETS as a County Transportation System and will consider the appropriate level of local funding through the County's budgeting and strategic planning activities.

Monthly Meetings

- 6/3/2019 - General Government & Health & Human Services Meeting at 7:30 PM
- 6/5/2019 - Finance Committee at 7:30 AM
- 6/10/2019 - Full Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
- 6/12/2019 - Personnel Committee at 8:30 AM
- 6/17/2019 - Infrastructure & Development & Public Safety at 7:30 PM
- 6/19/2019 - Finance Committee at 7:30 AM
- 6/24/2019 - Full Board Meeting at 7:30 PM

Livingston County Airport Updates

The Livingston County Airport encompasses over 600 acres of property and has one 5002' runway. The Airport has a staff of 5 individuals and is open 24 hours a day, but only staffed from 7 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday and 8 am - noon on the weekends. During snow events, Airport staff can be at the Airport up to 24 hours a day! Customer service for based aircraft and transient aircraft is a large part of the work day, as is seasonal mowing, snow removal, airfield lighting and equipment maintenance, hangar maintenance and a myriad of other activities. There are approximately 185 aircrafts currently based at the Airport. Recently, a grant agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation to fund re-marking the pavement at the Airport was accepted by the Board. A high speed runway broom for snow removal has been approved and will be purchased from M-B Companies, Inc this year. Finally, an amendment to the lease agreement with Construction Helicopters, Inc. was approved to include property for additional parking.

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners & Appointments

- A contract with Paige M. Favio to provide attorney services to the Intensive Treatment Mental Health Court has been approved.
- An amendment to resolution #2018-06-105 to amend the payment terms of the short term loan from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Funds to the Livingston No. 1 Drainage District has been approved.
- Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC has been authorized to work with Central Dispatch to be Livingston County's primary 911 non-emergency line service provider.
- The FY 2018-2019 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Program Award Agreement has been approved. The Local Emergency Planning Committee will utilize this funding to identify hazardous material sited and enhance response planning.
- An agreement with Energage, LLC. to provide employee engagement surveying and results analysis and briefing services.
- Mary Serio has been appointed to the Livingston County Community Mental Health Authority Board with a term expiring 12/31/19.
- District Court Judge Shauna Murphy was appointed to the Livingston County Community Correction Advisory Board with a term expiring 10/31/22.
- The Livingston County Annual Budget Process and Calendar for 2020 was approved.
- A supplemental appropriation to the FY 2019 budget for the replacement of 5 HVAC roof-top units at the Sheriff building was approved.
- Evergreen Outdoor, Inc. was awarded an agreement to provide lawn care and snow removal services for 3 years.
- The Treasurer has been authorized to establish the 2018 Delinquent Tax Fund to settle delinquent tax accounts on a timely basis.
- LETS has created and implemented a Flexible Schedule Time Off Policy and Regular Schedule Time Off Policy and revisions to the Sick Call-In Policy and Vacant Position Policy.
- An amendment has been made to the Transit Attorney Legal Services Agreement to extend the contract for a period of 2 years.
- An amendment to the FY 2019 Car Pool and Veterans Services budget was approved for the purchase of a replacement 2019 Dodge Caravan wheelchair accessible van.
- The Board authorized a temporary construction easement for the City of Howell's State Street Reconstruction Project and a permanent utility easement for DTE Energy's reconstruction of the underground utilities in the area.
- Livingston County's Specialty Courts and Programs will submit grant applications for State Court Administrative Office Grant Funding for FY 2020.

Pending Resolutions

- The Board will consider amending the Livingston County Board of Commissioners 2019 Rules with language in accordance with the recent amendment made to the Open Meetings Act.
- The IT department is seeking approval for a 5-year agreement with Windstream for telephone and internet services.
- The Livingston County Planning Commission will ask the Board for formal recognition of their receipt, review, approval, and filing of the 2020-2025 Livingston County Capital Improvement Plan. The Plan is a multi-year inventory that identifies projects approved or anticipated by County departments.
- Equalization will ask the Board authorize the levy of the County's 2019 millages.