



The Villager

The Newsletter for the Village of
Pinckney

From the desk of Rebecca Foster, Village President

Doing things “the Pinckney way” has its advantages, especially in tough economic times. If we can shave \$50 off an expense or a budget item, we’ll do it! And it pays off – while other communities are looking at tax increases or cuts in services, the Village is managing to maintain services to residents while keeping our millage at the same rate it was in 2004. Our fund balance is healthy. Our debt is low. Our audits are good. And we’ve managed to stay off the front page of the local paper for quite a while now (knock on wood!). While there are never any guarantees for the future, at the moment, we are hunkered down and ready to ride out the economic woes that continue to plague Michigan.

A great example of our way of doing things is our “new” Department of Public Works building at the former Patterson Lake Products site. We kept one pole building intact during the demolition, and the guys have been plugging away at rehabbing it over the past year. It’s not fancy. It is big. And our DPW has done a lot of the work themselves, including some pretty savvy shopping –

A note from our Department of Public Works:

A reminder that Village Ordinance 92.64 talks about sidewalk encroachment. The ordinance, passed in 2000, states:

- ◆ All trees, bushes and shrubs in the street right-of-way of the Village of Pinckney shall be trimmed or pruned by the abutting property owner so that no branch thereof grows or hangs lower than eight and one-half feet above the level of the sidewalk, and shall also be pruned so that they shall not encroach onto the sidewalk or street.
- ◆ All trees, bushes and shrubs on private property, the branches of which extend over the line of a street or sidewalk shall be trimmed and pruned so that no branch grows or hangs over the line of the street or sidewalk lower than eight and one-half feet above the level of the sidewalk and shall also be pruned so that they shall not encroach onto the street or sidewalk.

scouring the U of M property surplus for office and break room furniture, and scoring big with used glass and metal medical cabinetry for the shop. They also tried to shop local as much as possible with bids for electrical, doors and other services.

We hope to have them moved in this fall. We’re thinking of having a party. And because it’s Pinckney, you’ll have to bring your own chair, and it will be a potluck...but it will be good!

Outdoor Furnaces Ordinance Adopted 7/27/2009

It shall be unlawful to install or operate a free-standing fuel-burning furnace, within the Village of Pinckney.

For more details see the village website under ordinances.

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ *Village of Pinckney Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8AM-4PM*
- ◆ *The Village Offices will be closed on Monday, September 7th in honor of Labor Day.*
- ◆ *Check the Village website frequently for updates on activities, recycling schedules, tax information and more.*

www.villageofpinckney.org

Save on your future energy bills



The simple act of planting trees can decrease the energy you need to cool your space, as well

as provide a place to hang a tire swing.

Shade trees can reduce the need for air conditioning by 7% to 40%, according to research by the Department of Energy and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. Shaded walls are 9 to 36° F cooler at peak temperatures.

Trees raise property values and provide many other benefits. According to the U.S. Forest Service, a 1985 study estimated the values of an average 50-year old shade tree as: air conditioning worth \$73, soil erosion and storm water management worth \$75, wildlife shelter worth \$75, and air pollution control worth \$50 — a total of \$273. In 1989, a total value of \$57,151 was estimated for the life of a typical tree.

Get the best results by planting trees to the west and southwest of buildings. Deciduous plants work well in temperate zones, because they block sunlight in summer but let it in during chilly months. Spring and fall are the best times to plant them.

Downtown Development Association *Façade Program*

The Pinckney DDA offers a Downtown Improvement Program to anyone owning property (home or business) in the DDA district. The façade program was established to encourage visual improvements to existing building facades, signs (for businesses) and awnings to enhance the district.

The program will provide property and/or business owners with cash rebates of up to 50% of the total cost of the project for materials purchased from businesses in the Village of Pinckney, or 35% for materials purchased from businesses outside the Village of Pinckney up to a maximum of \$3000 (for businesses) or up to a maximum \$500 (for residential buildings). Project plans, including estimated costs, are to be submitted to the DDA Building Improvement Committee for review on a monthly basis. The committee will review the project and make a recommendation to the DDA Board.

Paperwork is available in the Clerk's Office and will be available on the village website very soon.

Friendly Reminders from the Zoning Department

Temporary Signs

Temporary special event signs shall be permitted provided they are not located within a road, pedestrian or public right of way, or in any manner that may present a traffic hazard. All temporary signs must be identified with the name and phone number of the sign owner or contact person for the event, and must comply with standards set forth below. Any sign that does not comply will be removed. Exceptions can be made upon request for location of special event signage in the right of way at the intersection of Dexter Road and Main Street (M36). Requests for placement at this location must be made in writing to the Zoning Administrator two weeks prior to placement of the sign. Signs placed in the right of way without permission will be removed.

Temporary signs shall not exceed six square feet in area and four feet in height; and no sign, or portion thereof, shall be closer than four feet to any electric light pole, street lamp or other public utility pole or standard. No sign, or portion thereof, shall be closer than 13 feet to any electrical conductor without proof of approval by the public utility company. No sign shall in any way obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or the view in any direction at a road intersection.

Driveway Permits

Under Ordinance 56 (Section 92 in the Codification) prior to commencement of any work to the sidewalk, curb, driveway, etc., the necessary permits shall be obtained from the Village Zoning department or

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Dealing with the Effects of Emerald Ash Borers



Ash with 60% dieback

Dead and dying ash trees are a widespread problem in Southeastern Michigan, due to the emerald ash borer, an insect that have invaded ash trees in several states. As a result, the trees, which may grow to heights of 60 feet, become structurally unstable and may fall at any time.

Detroit Edison is seeing more and more incidents in which ash trees located far from power lines on private property are falling and damaging power lines. For that reason, Detroit Edison is encouraging people to remove these trees from their property.

There is an expense with the tree removal. However, the potential for injury or death to others or damage to home, vehicles or property is far worse and property insurance may not cover damage caused by the dead or dying trees.

For more information, please visit one of the following websites:

DTE Energy—

<http://my.dteenergy.com/home/clearance/aboutLineClearance.html>

State of Michigan—<http://www.michigan.gov/mda>

U. S. Department of Agriculture—<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>

Arbor Day Foundation—<http://www.arborday.org/>

Community Service Opportunities

Looking for ways to get more involved in your community? Several fall opportunities are listed below, and soon you will be able to find an updated list on the website.

- ◆ Join the “Friends” Group of the Pinckney Library for their monthly meeting. The meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at the Pinckney Community Public Library at 6:30 pm. New members are always invited!
- ◆ Putnam Township Senior Center. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed. If you have a hobby to share, we are always interested in learning new things. Cindy Kaye - Director: ckaye@yahoo.com
- ◆ Pinckney Cemetery Board hosts two volunteer clean-up days. We rake leaves, remove dried and dead flowers, remove trash, etc. We can always use more help. Our Fall Clean up date is tentatively scheduled for October 24. Check the Village website or call the office to confirm dates and details.



Mike Rogers
Congressman
8th District

Congressman
Mike Rogers

and/or members of his staff are holding “Office Hours” in the Village Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 8:30am—9:30am.

Come by and meet the Congressman or his staff and get your questions or concerns addressed.

FREE BRUSH REMOVAL

The Village provides brush removal on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Please place brush and branches at the curb, cut ends facing the street. Trees and branches can be no larger than 10" in diameter and no longer than 8 feet. No stumps.

FOR SALE!

Department of Public Works Building at 455 South Howell, zoned Secondary Business District. Contact the Village or listing agent Michelle Vedder 734-368-1496



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Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.VILLAGEOFPINCKNEY.ORG

Zoning Continued.....

DPW. Unless otherwise agreed an emergency permit must be obtained within 48 hours of the onset of work. The current residential driveway permit is \$15. Commercial permits are \$50. If you have any questions, please contact the Zoning Department.

Village Directional Signs

It took much longer than expected, but the Downtown Development Authority was finally able to have directional signage installed throughout the Village. Using preliminary designs by the Pinckney High School architectural drafting class, R. Gari Signs of Pinckney produced and installed the signs this spring. We've already had many positive comments!



The Village of Pinckney takes pride in offering several environmentally responsible options for trash disposal.



Weekly trash pick-up is provided on Wednesdays by Mid-Michigan Rubbish. Holidays push collection to Thursdays for the following: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. There is currently no limit to the number of cans or bags, but there is a 50-lb weight limit per bag. One large item per residence per week will be collected at no charge. Please contact Mid-Michigan for any excessive amounts of trash or large items. Phone: 517-851-4388.

Recycling and yard waste pick-up are also provided on alternating weeks, also on Wednesdays. Recycling bins are available at Village Hall - a \$5 deposit is required. Yard waste collection runs April through November. Yard debris must be bagged in brown paper bags or in the yard waste bags available at most hardware stores. Limit of 10 bags per pick-up.

Recycling Schedule: Sept 2, 16, 30; Oct 14, 28; Nov 11, 25; Dec 9, 23.

Yard Waste Schedule: Sept 10 (Thurs), 23; Oct 7, 21; Nov 4, 18.

Fall Leaf Pick Up: October 26, 27; Nov. 2,3,9,10,16,17,23,24,30; Dec. 1,7,8,14, 15