



THE BACK FENCE

CITY OF DEARBORN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • FALL 2015

Bag leaves for curbside pickup every week; loose leaf collection scheduled for Oct. 19-Dec. 4

Dearborn is proud to be a Tree City USA for more than 26 years. Trees are one reason we enjoy a high quality of life in our community. But disposing of leaves is a big job.

Place leaves in containers, bags at the curb each trash day

The best method to ensure your leaves are picked up promptly after they fall is to put them in yard waste paper bags or 20-32 gallon containers with a City yard waste sticker and set them at your curbside every week.

Place the bags or containers on your easement by 7 a.m. on your trash day each week. They will be picked up that same trash day.

Yard waste stickers are available at the Dearborn Administrative Center and Dearborn libraries.

Leaves in plastic bags or in cardboard boxes will not be picked up.

Alternative method: loose leaf collection

Loose leaf collection is scheduled to begin the week of Oct. 19 and will end the week of Dec. 1, with the last pickup on Dec. 4.

Weather conditions may change the schedule.

Loose leaves raked into the street are not picked up every week.

Crews aim for two pickups of loose leaves during the season in every neighborhood.

Leaves picked up on non-recycling weeks, but not every time

Leaves that are in the street are picked up on a neighborhood's Public Service Day during the non-recycling week.

Use the non-recycling week as a guideline. Only rake leaves into the street on the day before your trash is picked up on a non-recycling week.

However, there will not be a leaf pickup every time your neighborhood is on a non-recycling week.

Leaves in the street will be picked up twice in every neighborhood during the season.



Put your leaves in proper containers or paper yard waste bags for pickup each week on your trash day.

It may take several weeks to complete a whole Public Service Day/trash day district.

Reduce danger: Don't rake leaves into the street too early

Raking leaves into the street too soon leads to dangerous driving conditions and leaves that blow back onto neighbors' yards.

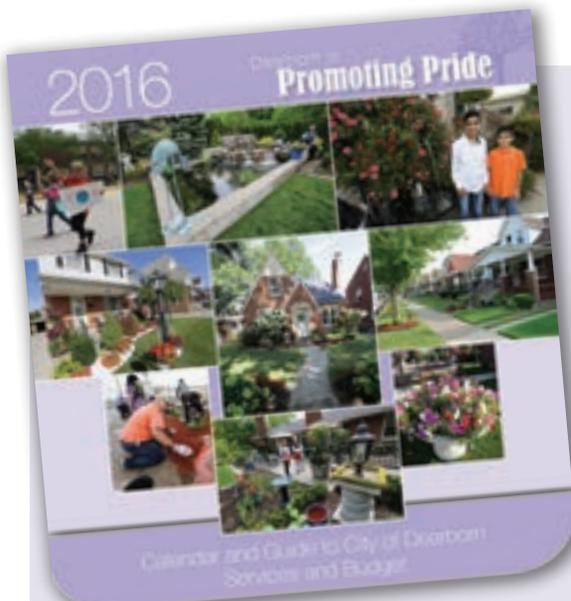
Contractors paid by residents to rake leaves must follow the same rules.

In addition, parked vehicles must be removed from the streets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a neighborhood's Public Service Day.

Following this process makes it easier for crews to pick up leaves and keeps streets clean and safe.

Could be several weeks between loose leaf pick ups

Crews most likely will not be able to pick up all the loose leaves in a neighborhood on the designated Public Service Day. When they return to the area, they will start where they left off. ■



Order a free 2016 City of Dearborn Calendar at www.cityofdearborn.org until Oct. 31

Dearborn residents are invited to order a free 2016 City of Dearborn Calendar until Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015.

Place your order online at www.cityofdearborn.org

Online ordering is efficient and accurate and saves taxpayers money.

Dearborn residents also may order a calendar by calling a voice mail box at 313- 943-3003.

Please give your complete street address and zip code, and apartment or flat number.

Calendars will be mailed by Dec. 30.

The City of Dearborn Calendar includes important dates, as well as phone numbers for government departments and the recycling schedule. It also contains budget information. ■

Learn about new services, programs, events at the Dearborn Public Library

Dearborn library is now a reciprocal lending library

Dearborn residents now can apply for a library card at more than 80 libraries in southeast Michigan. Dearborn Public Library is now a reciprocating library with all libraries in The Library Network (TLN) Cooperative group. With this emphasis on communities sharing their resources, this is a wonderful opportunity for residents. For a list of participating libraries, call 313-943-2330 or visit any Dearborn Public Library.

The Big Read-Dearborn asks "Do you know Poe?"

The Dearborn Public Library is one of 75 non-profit organizations to receive a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host The Big Read program.

The book chosen for the 2016 Big Read-Dearborn is "The Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe."

The program kick-off will be 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 6, 2016.

Do you know Poe?



Throughout February and March, there will be a series of Poe-related events for children, teens and adults.

For more information about the program, visit dearbornlibrary.org.

Database resource available

Dearborn Public Library is now subscribing to a new database, AtoZdatabases, offering library card holders a free resource

useful for job searches, and reference and marketing information.

Featuring an easy-to-use interface, the database provides users with unlimited access to the data of 220 million people and 30 million U.S. businesses.

AtoZdatabases can be accessed from any Dearborn Public Library during regular hours. Using their library card number and PIN, library patrons can also access it any time from home by visiting dearbornlibrary.org and navigating to "Online Resources."

hoopla expands digital offerings to include comic books

In addition to the thousands of videos, music and e-audiobook offerings through hoopla digital service, now Dearborn Public Library patrons can enjoy access to hundreds of comic books as well.

Dearborn Public Library cardholders may access hoopla through the library website at dearbornlibrary.org under Services. ■

Expanded opportunities offered by the Recreation & Parks Department

Dearborn's Recreation & Parks Department continues to renovate and improve its facilities.

Recent additions include the installation of splash parks at Hemlock and Crowley Parks. The Hemlock Park facility, funded in part through a \$56,000 Wayne County Millage Allocation, and the Crowley Park splash park opened in May.



Children enjoy new splash parks.

Spray park idea headed for Whitmore-Bolles

The department also has an intergovernmental agreement with Wayne County to construct a similar facility at Whitmore-Bolles, featuring spray park-like features. Tentative plans include the construction of a small comfort station as well.

Outdoor aquatic facilities will be further enhanced by the \$466,000 project planned for Dunworth's 50-meter pool this fall, which will extend the life of the facility by 15-20 years.

Crowley Park playscape

Another park project is the planned installation of a unique playscape at Crowley Park.

"This will be a community-built playscape," explained Recreation & Parks Director Greg Orner. "Equipment designers and building consultants will work with community leaders to design a one-of-a-kind play structure that reflects the character of the neighborhood."

Resort cabins at Camp Dearborn

Camp Dearborn in Milford will also be undergoing some additions. In response to the popularity of its eight resort-style cabins built in 2012, eight additional resort-style cabins are under construction.

Plans also call for the installation in 2016 of a zip line at Camp Dearborn.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

The Hubbard Ballroom is scheduled to undergo an extensive renovation this winter, which will include the installation of suspended LED lighting, mahogany wall paneling, and the refurbishment of the wood floor.

The fitness area at The Center will be equipped with new free weights and state-of-the-art Selectorized machines. ■

Clip and Save!



FALL INTO FITNESS SPECIAL

For a limited time only, get a

30-Day Fitness Membership
for just **\$19**



Ford Community & Performing Arts Center
15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI 48126
(313) 943-2350 • www.dearbornfordcenter.com

Offer must be redeemed by November 8, 2015. **Must bring in ad to receive the discount.** Price is per person. No refunds, credits, or transfers with this offer, which requires a valid picture ID for adults and a birth certificate for each child under age 18 at the time of purchase. Corporate membership will require proof of employment in Dearborn. Membership will begin on the day you sign up.



New businesses add to interest, options in Dearborn's downtowns and beyond

Business is booming in Dearborn, and a slew of new restaurants, nightlife, activity and shopping options have opened recently or are preparing to open in Dearborn's downtowns and beyond.

Additionally, Dearborn has seen news of expansions and remodeling in existing businesses.

Here's a look at some of the many exciting developments.

West Downtown

In west downtown Dearborn, many new restaurants have opened, including: Al-Ajami, Nar Bar, Los Galanes, Brera Pizza, Famous Hamburger and Stadium Restaurant.



Dearborn Brewing, the city's first brewery.

Scheduled to open soon are Lue Thai Café, Downtown Deli and Brome Burger.

Additionally, nightlife spot LIV Lounge; Venture Title Agency; and paint party spot Paint and Pour; as well as the city's first brewery, Dearborn Brewing, have opened in west downtown.

Also in west downtown, several businesses have spruced up their properties. Bailey's Bar and Grill has been remodeled, the bar Biergarten

had extensive façade improvements, and Japanese restaurant Kabuki expanded its outdoor seating.



Brera Pizza serves up your favorite toppings!

Throughout The City

Three hotels are slated to open in Dearborn in 2016: the Hampton Inn at Michigan Avenue and Military Street, and Holiday Inn Express and Staybridge Suites hotels at Michigan Avenue and Telegraph Road.

A new car dealership, All Pro Nissan of Dearborn, opened in September on Michigan Avenue.

The Union at Dearborn, a student housing complex serving University of Michigan-Dearborn, opened 63 new apartments in August 2015. The 208 total units in the complex house more than 600 students. ■

East Downtown

In east Downtown Dearborn, the restaurants Baba's Grill, Good Burger and Sheeba Restaurant have opened in the last few months, with Alanos Pizza & Subs scheduled to open soon.

Salon New Look is also newly opened in east downtown, as well as clothing shops Dream Fashion and Orient Bazaar.

Longtime east downtown market Alcamo's has remodeled its shop, adding new food options and indoor seating for customers looking to dine in.

Further north on Schaefer Road, Yogurtopia opened its second Dearborn location just south of Warren Avenue.



Yogurtopia opened its second city location.



Good Burger has returned to Dearborn.



Alcamo's Market, a longtime Dearborn favorite, added seating.



Yard waste can be placed in proper paper bags.

Curbside yard waste collection continues until week of Dec. 7-11

Collection of yard waste at residents' curbs ends for the 2015 season the week of Dec. 7-11.

Note that the curbside pickup ends with each trash pickup day. So, residents with a Monday trash district would get their last curbside yard waste pickup for 2015 on Monday, Dec. 7. Residents with a Tuesday trash pickup will be served by their last curbside yard waste collection on Tuesday, Dec. 8. The pattern will continue through Friday, Dec. 11.

Put yard waste into yard waste paper bags or your own 20-32 gallon container. Mark your container with a yard waste sticker. Stickers are available at Dearborn libraries and the Dearborn Administrative Center.

Do not use plastic bags or cardboard boxes.

Private contractors must haul away their own debris. Do not blow or sweep yard waste into the street.

Unbundled or improperly bundled brush requires a special pickup. Call 943-2433 for fees.

Yard waste collection begins again the week of March 14-18, 2016. ■

Rules for safe and efficient collection of trash, recyclables and bulk materials

It is hard to remember all the rules every week regarding trash and recycling pickup, so use this handy guide.

General rules

- Take your carts out to the curb after 5 p.m. the night before collection day or by 7 a.m. on trash collection day. Remove your empty carts from the curb by midnight on your trash day.
- Trash must be bagged and placed inside the City-provided gray carts. Always keep your cart lid closed.
- Any bagged trash (maximum of 4 bags) placed outside of the gray cart will be reloaded into your cart.
- If this happens frequently, City ordinance requires the homeowners/occupants to lease an additional trash cart. Households that generate additional trash will be notified that they must call 943-2433 to arrange for the additional cart and pay the one-time lease fee of \$55.
- Seasonal décor such as hay/straw bales and pumpkins should be bagged and placed inside your trash cart.

Recycle these items in green carts

- Paper bags, junk mail, paperboard, newspaper, magazines, phone books, office paper, cans made of steel, tin and aluminum, kitchen cookware, household plastics (No.1-7), plastic bags, and glass jars.

Recycling cardboard

- Cardboard may be recycled, but must be broken down and placed inside the green recycle cart.
- If broken down boxes still will not fit in your recycle cart, they must be bundled or tied in manageable pieces to be reloaded into your recycling cart. The driver of the recycling truck will reload the cardboard into the cart so the automated arm can pick up the cart.
- If this happens regularly, you may be required to lease an additional recycle cart for a one-time lease fee of \$55.

Large or bulky items

- Place your bulk/oversize items for disposal at the curb before 7 a.m. on your trash pickup day.
- A separate truck will pick up these items.
- Households are limited to 5 bulk items per week and a maximum of 20 per year.

Call for a special pickup if bulk items exceed allowable curbside amounts

- Arrange for a special pick-up of a large amount of bulk items by calling 943-2433.

Fees apply when trash is left out too long

- Fees will apply if the City must remove trash or other materials left on the curb when it is not your regular collection day.

City offers free disposal at DPW yard

- Dearborn residents may dispose of items not picked up at the curb on the third Saturday of every month at the Department of Public Works (DPW) yard, 2951 Greenfield Road.

Call 943-2433 if you have questions about trash and recycling.



Place carts correctly at the curb



Take pride in Dearborn by picking up litter.

Do your part to keep Dearborn beautiful by picking up litter on your property, in your neighborhood

Clean neighborhoods are good for the environment, beneficial for residents (especially children), and promote strong property values.

The City is asking residents to clean their own yard and sidewalks and pick up and throw away litter whenever they see it on their property.

You must pick up litter even if it blew on your property from another house, or was tossed onto your lawn from someone else.

Penalties can be imposed on residents and property owners who do not take care of the litter that is in their yards, sidewalks and driveways.

If you have questions about litter removal and your responsibilities, please call 313.943.2433 or visit www.cityofdearborn.org. ■

Avoid tickets, get parked vehicles off the street during snow emergencies so roads can be plowed

Parked vehicles by law must be removed from roads when the City of Dearborn declares a snow emergency.

Parked vehicles left on the street will be ticketed. Police do not issue warnings. Tickets are \$80.



Snow emergencies are generally declared when three inches of snow or more is predicted within a short period of time, or when other weather conditions will make the roads hazardous.

Sometimes a snow emergency is declared ahead of a snow storm, to give residents plenty of warning to move their parked vehicles so they won't get ticketed.

Even if a snow emergency is not declared, residents can help the City plow the roads faster and more effectively by moving parked vehicles off the street whenever significant snowfall is expected.

Outdoor early warning sirens will be activated to signal the beginning of a snow emergency and the requirement that residents move their parked vehicles off the street.

Residents can also check to see if a snow emergency is in effect via:

- City website www.cityofdearborn.org, Facebook and Twitter pages
- CDTV (channel 12 on Comcast, channel 10 on WOW, and channel 99 on AT&T)
- TV and radio news
- Text or email messages from the public safety information system known as Nixle. Residents can sign up to receive alerts at Nixle.com
- Snow emergency hotline at 313-943-2444

Tickets can be given after snow emergency ends

Even after a snow emergency ends, police are permitted to ticket parked vehicles if they appear as if they have never been moved during the emergency. The most likely sign is that they are covered in snow.

Crews also salt the roads

It is also a good idea to remove parked vehicles when City crews are salting roads, to allow for better coverage.

Driveways may be covered during snowplowing

Please take into consideration that driveway aprons will be covered with snow from street plowing operations. It is an inconvenience, but necessary so that roads can remain safe for drivers. Do not put snow from your driveway back into the cleared street. ■

Snow emergency parking options on specific streets



The City recognizes that some residents do not have driveways and during snow emergencies cannot easily remove their vehicles from the streets, especially in northeast and southeast Dearborn.

So, to help residents in those areas, the City has designated specific streets that residents can use temporarily during a snow emergency.

Residents can park temporarily on the streets listed below during a snow emergency. They are marked with signs.

Southeast Dearborn:

- Eagle, from Amazon to Salina
- Lapeer, from Ferney to Amazon
- Lowrey, from Holly to Saulino Court
- Westlawn, from Vernor to Burley
- Tuxedo, from Ferney to Riverside Drive
- Whittington, from Canterbury to Riverside Drive
- Berkshire, from Industrial to Canterbury
- Morningside, from Industrial to Wyoming
- Riverside Drive, from Industrial to Vernor

Northeast Dearborn:

- Blesser, from Maple to Oakman
- Henson, from Maple to Oakman
- Henn, from Chase to Williamson
- Haggerty, from Maple to Calhoun
- Paul, from Chase to Horgan and between Schaefer and Hartwell
- Hemlock, from Chase to Oakman
- Donald, from Chase to Calhoun and between Reuter and Oakman
- Alber, from Reuter to Oakman ■

View maps of the snow emergency parking streets at www.cityofdearborn.org.

Artspace Lofts set to open in Dearborn in 2016

Dearborn's new live-work space for artists is getting excitingly close to completion.

The City Hall Artspace Lofts, managed by Minneapolis-based Artspace, Inc., is the nonprofit's first property in Michigan.

Artspace purchased the former Dearborn City Hall in 2014 and has been transforming the historic property into more than 50 live-work units for local artists, as well as spaces for performance and visual art and commercial studios.

According to Artspace, construction on the main building is on track to be completed by the end of December, with the first residents moving in by early 2016.

The West Annex portion of the complex is expected to be completed by the end of January.

Applications for residency opened Sept. 25.

Visit www.artspace.org to learn more

Artspace has hosted several sessions in Dearborn and surrounding cities for prospective residents to learn how to apply to live in the City Hall Lofts. They've also been reaching out to community organizations and businesses interested in getting involved with the facility.

Those interested in the City Hall Artspace Lofts should visit www.artspace.org and click on "Our Places."

Or, call the East Dearborn Downtown Development Authority for more information at 313-943-3141.

You can also connect with the project on Facebook and Twitter. ■



One bedroom floor plan at Artspace

Avoid long lines: drop boxes offer convenient payment option at Dearborn Administrative Center

Customers paying water or tax bills can take advantage of drop boxes at the Dearborn Administrative Center (DAC), 16901 Michigan Ave.

Boxes are located inside of the building to the right of the Treasury windows, as well as in the parking lot.



The gray outdoor drop box is adjacent to the Main Entrance of the DAC. It offers a convenient drive-through option, so that residents do not need to leave their car to use it.

Payments placed in the drop box at the Dearborn Administrative Center should include a check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to the City of Dearborn, along with the payment coupon.

Drop boxes are checked frequently by Treasury staff, and payments made via drop box are considered on-time as

Pay at drop boxes to avoid long lines.

long as the payment is placed in the box by 5 p.m. on the bill's due date.

Avoid the line, pay bills online

Residents are also reminded that several other options exist for paying bills so that they don't need to stand in line waiting for a cashier.

Property tax payments can be made online, by phone, through Automatic Clearing House (ACH) Debit withdrawals, and by mail.

Water bills can be paid through ACH withdrawal and by mail.

For full details on payment options, tax due dates and tax and water rates, visit www.cityofdearborn.org. ■

Public Service Days end for 2015 on Nov. 28

The Public Service Days program concludes for the season Nov. 28, 2015 and resumes again the week of April 4, 2016.

Parked vehicles must be removed from streets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Public Service Days, which are the same day as a neighborhood's regular trash collection day.

This enables the City to provide efficient and safe curb-to-curb services such as street sweeping and tree trimming.

Remember that Public Service Days are the same as your regular trash day. But the purpose of Public Service Days is more than just picking up the trash at the curbside more effectively.

Also note that certain holidays push back your normal trash pickup for that week. Your Public Service Day does not change on weeks that holidays disrupt the regular trash schedule. ■

Veterans Day ceremony Wednesday, Nov. 11

The public is invited to attend Dearborn's Veterans Day Ceremony at 11 a.m. Wednesday, November 11 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Avenue.

The patriotic event recognizes all veterans and is presented in conjunction with the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council (DAWVC). Honored at the ceremony will be the DAWVC's 2015 Veteran of the Year.

Doors will open at 10 a.m. for the public to meet local veterans and view their military memorabilia. ■

Laws regulate fireworks use to national holidays; City limits times

Dearborn residents are reminded to follow state and local laws regarding the purchase and use of fireworks, as well as to exercise extreme caution.

Fireworks only allowed on certain days

In addition to smaller, low-impact fireworks such as sparklers, powerful or airborne fireworks, known as "consumer" fireworks, are legal for sale and use in Michigan.

However, the use of consumer fireworks is restricted to the day before, day of, or day after national holidays.

Dearborn's fireworks ordinance also restricts the times that these fireworks may be used on permitted holidays. No use is allowed between midnight and 8 a.m., with the exception of New Year's Eve, when the time of use is extended to 1 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Call 313-943-3030 to report violations

Dearborn residents can call 313-943-3030 to anonymously report unsafe or illegal activity in their neighborhood. Call 9-1-1 if there is a dangerous situation.

Regulations on fireworks

Other restrictions apply to consumer fireworks. Violations are considered a civil infraction, punishable by fines of up to \$500.

- No one is allowed to use fireworks on public properties.
- No one is allowed to ignite or discharge fireworks in any way that would cause them to land on someone else's private property without express consent. ■

Dearborn Administrative Center (DAC) home for most city services, departments

Have you been to the Dearborn Administrative Center yet?

Since September 2014, it has been the home to services and departments that used to be at City Hall.

The DAC is at 16901 Michigan Avenue, on the south side of Michigan Avenue, just east of the Southfield Freeway. It is across from Ford World Headquarters.

For more information, please call 313-943-2285 or visit www.cityofdearborn.org. ■



2014 Survey shows residents view news from the City as trustworthy

The City of Dearborn provides both trustworthy and relevant information, according to the vast majority of respondents to a survey included with the Fall 2014 *Back Fence*, and posted online in fall 2014.

Of the 348 people who answered the survey, 89 percent said information presented by the City was trustworthy and 91 percent said the information was relevant.

The City's Department of Public Information is using the survey results to better provide residents with the news they need and want in the format that is most convenient to them.

To help us on that mission, we encourage all residents to complete the 2015 Survey on City News and Information. The survey is now available online through the City website at www.cityofdearborn.org or below.

For the 2014 survey, more than three-quarters of respondents said they get some news from the *Back Fence* newsletter and more than half use official City websites to learn what is happening in the City.

Trailing those are other City outlets including, in declining order, Nixle.com for alerts from the Police Department, social media such as Facebook and Twitter, CDTV, and the City's email newsletter.

Residents also relied on traditional news outlets to get information about City of Dearborn government. The *Dearborn Press & Guide*, WXYZ Channel 7 and WDIV Channel 4 were the most common news sources. Each was selected by more than half of survey respondents.

Responses to the survey came from across the city, but more than half lived in the 48124 zip code. ■

Connect with the City of Dearborn online, learn about events, services through eNewsletter

Residents can stay up-to-date with Dearborn news and events from their computer or mobile device through website and social media options provided by the City of Dearborn, its departments and facilities.

Find the City of Dearborn online at www.cityofdearborn.org

There, you'll find City news, information about City services, and links to all related City websites – such as Camp Dearborn, the Dearborn Public Library, and the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center.



You can also connect with the City of Dearborn through social media on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest and other accounts. Find links to all of our accounts by visiting www.cityofdearborn.org/social-media

At the website, you can also subscribe to the City of Dearborn eNewsletter, which is delivered to your email box every two weeks.

In addition, CDTV, the government access cable TV channel, provides news you need to know. Find it at channel 12 on Comcast, channel 10 on WOW and channel 99 on AT&T. Watch programs on demand at www.cityofdearborn.org

For more information, contact the Department of Public Information at 313-943-2285. ■



Clip and mail!

Residents asked to respond to 2015 survey to improve delivery of City news and information

In an effort to better serve the community, the City of Dearborn is conducting a survey to assess how residents get information about the City.

Residents can complete the survey online at www.cityofdearborn.org

As an alternative, please fill out this survey and mail to:

Public Information/Survey
16901 Michigan Ave., Suite 16
Dearborn, MI 48126



Zip code (please select one)

- 48124
- 48128
- 48126
- 48120

Age range (please select one)

- 29 or under
- 30-49
- 50-65
- 66 or older

Which City of Dearborn official outlets do you use to get news about Dearborn? (Select all that apply)

- City website (www.cityofdearborn.org)
- City of Dearborn Television (CDTV)
- Any City social media outlet (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest, others)
- The Back Fence* printed newsletter
- City email newsletter
- Nixle.com

Do you feel the information presented by the City of Dearborn through official outlets is trustworthy?

- Yes
- No

Do you feel the information presented by the City through official outlets is relevant?

- Yes
- No

Should the City do more to present official information in a language other than English?

- Yes
- No

If yes, which language(s)? (Select all that apply)

- Arabic
- Spanish
- Other (please specify) _____

Thank you for your input!

Mayor
John B. O'Reilly, Jr.

City Council
Susan A. Dabaja, President
Thomas P. Tafelski, President Pro Tem
Michael T. Sareini
Brian O'Donnell
David Bazy
Robert Abraham
Mark Shooshanian

City Clerk
Kathleen Buda

Department of Public Information
Mary Laundroche, Director



City of Dearborn
Department of Public Information
16901 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, MI 48126

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FYI Fall/Winter Schedule

Boo Bash

October 29, 6 – 8:30 p.m.
The Center, 943-2354
Tickets must be purchased by
October 24 at the Theater Box Office.

Veterans Day Ceremony

November 11, 11 a.m.
The Center
943-2285

Festival of Trees

Fundraiser benefitting Children's Hospital
Nov. 22 – 25 and 27– 29
The Center • www.FOT.org

The Nutcracker

December 4, 1 p.m.
and December 5, 1 and 7 p.m.
The Center

Christmas Tree Lighting & Sing-Along

December 7, 6 p.m.
The Center

Holiday Choral Festival

Dearborn Community Chorus,
Vanguard Voices & Brass
December 12, 7 p.m.
The Center

Sounds of the Season

Motor City Brass Band
December 13, 3 p.m. • The Center

Padzieski Gallery Paint Party

January 29, 6 – 9 p.m.
Padzieski Art Gallery

Mayor's Arts Awards

Presented by Dearborn Community
Arts Council
February 10, 7 p.m. • The Center

Dearborn Symphony Orchestra Annual Pops Concert

"BRASS-A-MA-TAZZ!"
February 5, 8 p.m. • The Center

For many more activities, visit
www.cityofdearborn.org

Info on transportation for seniors, details on Housing units; more modern bus now part of the mix for tenants

Residents in City of Dearborn Housing Department buildings can be seen cruising around in a new bus.

The vehicle can accommodate 14 passengers, including two in wheelchairs via a hydraulic lift.

The \$51,800 bus is a 2016 Ford E-450 with a gasoline engine. Delivered on Sept. 4, it replaces a slightly larger vehicle that was more than 13 years old.

Housing Department buses are used to transport senior and handicapped residents of City-owned housing for shopping, banking, and hair-styling appointments, in addition to trips for special events.

For some, the buses are their main transportation after they are forced to give up their vehicles for financial or health reasons. For others, the buses provide convenient door-to-door service, especially in inclement weather.

Buses run from Monday to Friday, usually between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and are free to residents of City-owned senior housing buildings. Housing buses provide more than 250 rides each week to residents. Each apartment building has regular bus service three days a week.

Buildings for senior citizens

The City of Dearborn provides housing options for moderate- and low-income adults age 55 or older. Apartments are also available for low-income residents with disabilities or handicaps.

More than 680 apartments, most of them one-bedroom, are offered in five locations in Dearborn.

Rents for low-income residents are subsidized by the U.S. Dept. of Housing, and are usually set at 30 percent of household income. Heat, water and electricity are included in the rent at all the apartments.

To learn more, call the City's Housing Department at 313-943-2390. Dearborn residents receive preference when filling



Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr. joins residents in marking the addition of a new bus for Dearborn's Housing buildings.

vacancies. Age and other factors are also considered.

Other busing available for all seniors

All Dearborn residents age 60 or older are eligible for regular Senior Busing services offered through the Dearborn Seniors Division of the Recreation and Parks Department. The service also covers those who are younger than 60 if they have a SMART disability card.

Residents are asked to call to schedule rides two weeks in advance, although reservations can be taken as close as four days ahead. Tuesdays include visits to banks and drug stores, and Thursdays focus on grocery shopping. Medical appointments can be scheduled for any weekday.

Rides are \$1 each way, and the service runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Transportation is only provided in Dearborn, but passengers age 65 or older can receive free bus or Connector tickets to link to other SMART services.

To schedule a ride, please call 313-943-4083. For information in Arabic, call 313-943-2783. ■