



THE BACK FENCE

CITY OF DEARBORN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2017

Weekly recycling, more bulk pickup coming in July with new contract

Weekly recycling collection and an expanded pick up of bulk trash items are coming to Dearborn this summer when the City switches trash collectors.

A new contract with GFL starts in July, with collection changes starting on Monday, July 3.

The biggest change for residents will be the weekly curbside collection of recycling. Currently, recycling is picked up every other week according to an A and B schedule.

“Everybody is going to like that it is a weekly service so they will not get confused anymore,” said Nick Siroskey, director of the Property Maintenance and Development Services Department.

Weekly collection will also be more convenient for residents and hopefully encourage more recycling.

Same recycling carts

Residents will continue to use the same trash and recycling carts.

Recycling is mandatory in Dearborn.

The list of accepted recyclables will stay the same and includes cardboard, paper, household metal such as cans and cookware, plastic containers numbered 1 to 7, and glass jars and bottles. Styrofoam is not accepted.

More bulk items collected

Starting in July, more bulk items will also be collected curbside including almost anything that would be generated by a household.

Collected items will include most furniture, appliances, mattresses, boxes, carpet, toilets and other refuse that must occasionally be placed outside the cart.

Hazardous materials, construction or landscaping debris, loose trash, and excessive set outs, such as a move-out, still will not be picked up.

GFL will also handle all customer complaints directly via a City phone number redirected to the company.

The firm will have to regularly report a range of data such as how long it took to resolve customer issues, volume of calls, number of returns for service, and customer satisfaction levels as generated through surveys.

Before the change in July, the City and GFL will mail informational brochures to every Dearborn residence. Brochures will be available in English, Arabic and Spanish. ■

Beginning in July, residents will recycle every week.

Free Shredding Day 8 a.m. – noon on May 13

The City of Dearborn is sponsoring a free document shredding day for residents 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 13 at the City of Dearborn DPW Yard, 2951 Greenfield Road, south of Rotunda Drive.

This event is open to Dearborn residents only and proof of residency is required.

There is a limit per person of five office sized boxes of personal paper documents and a maximum weight of 50 pounds.

The DPW Yard will not be open for any other services on May 13.

For more information please call 313-943-2433. ■



Free smoke alarms are available to Dearborn residents.

Free smoke alarms, free installation offered Plenty available; one Saturday date offered on April 29

Residents are reminded that they can still call to have the Fire Department install free smoke alarms at their homes.

Funded through a competitive federal grant, the program provides the free installation of the free alarms to any owner-occupied household, regardless of income.

Call 313-943-2134 to set up an appointment for installation. Appointments are typically only available Monday-Friday.

Saturday, April 29 available

However, new to the program in 2017 is the chance to have smoke detectors installed on Saturday, April 29.

This is possible through a partnership with the American Red Cross. Red Cross volunteers will be installing free smoke

alarms on that day, and residents may request a Saturday appointment by calling the Dearborn Fire Department at the same number, 313-943-2134. Saturday appointments are limited.

Properly installed and working smoke alarms have been shown to drastically reduce the chance of dying in a house fire.

“We continue installing free smoke detectors because we know they save lives,” said Dearborn Fire Chief Joseph Murray.

Rental properties do not qualify for the smoke detector program because under Building Codes, they are required to have working alarms already. People living in rental properties with no working smoke alarms should call 313-943-2134 and report this life safety violation. ■

Skip the line and pay online: City offers several easy ways to pay bills

The City of Dearborn encourages residents to take advantage of easy payment options for their City bills.

Convenient drop boxes 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 inside of the building to the right of the Treasury windows, as well as in the parking lot. The gray outdoor drop box offers a convenient drive-through option.

Payments placed in the drop boxes should include a check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to the City of Dearborn, along with the payment coupon, no later than 5 p.m. on the due date.

Automatic Clearing House Debit option

Residents may choose to have payments for property tax and water bills made automatically through the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) Debit system. Residents enrolled in the program will have payments automatically withdrawn from their bank accounts.

For water bills, the payment is withdrawn on the final date that payment is due.

For summer tax bills, residents can choose to have the full amount withdrawn on the Sept. 14 due date, or in three installments: Sept. 14, Nov. 14 and Jan. 14. Winter tax payments made through ACH can be withdrawn on either Dec. 15 or the final due date of Feb. 14.

This service is free, secure and easy to arrange by submitting a completed ACH form to the Treasury Division, along with a copy of a voided check or a statement from your bank verifying your routing and account number. Forms are available at www.cityofdearborn.org/paymentoptions and at the DAC.

Online and by phone

Residents may pay property taxes, miscellaneous invoices, special assessment bills and delinquent personal property taxes online or by calling 1-866-518-2301. A convenience fee is charged for all electronic payments.

Visit www.cityofdearborn.org/paymentoptions for information and step-by-step instructions on how to set up an online account.

By Mail

Of course, residents may choose to pay bills through the mail. Payments should be addressed to: City of Dearborn; Dept. 3101; P.O. Box 30516; Lansing, MI 48909-8016. ■

Block party rules simplified for social residents

Strong neighborhoods are the backbone of Dearborn, and to encourage neighborly get-togethers, the City Council in December revamped the rules for block parties.

The lead time for filing a permit was shortened. Applications now must be received 48 hours before the planned party.

A petition to have the block party still must be signed by at least half of the residents on the street that will be barricaded. Parties can close one or two blocks.

Both the application and the petition are now available at the City Clerk's Office at the Dearborn Administrative Center, 16901 Michigan Avenue, or online at www.cityofdearborn.org. From the home page, search for "block party."

The permit fee increased to \$25 to cover processing costs, but the party sponsor will no longer need to provide deposits for the required six street barricades.

Party organizers must get the barricades from the Department of Public Works, 2951 Greenfield the business day before the event. ■

Register your child for kindergarten now



This article is published as a courtesy to the Dearborn Public Schools.

Although spring is in the air, the Dearborn Public School District is already making plans for the start of the 2017 school year in September by working to get an accurate count of incoming kindergartners.

Please check the schedule for the Kindergarten Roundups that will still take place before the end of this school year at www.dearbornschools.org.

The District encourages parents to enroll their child as soon as possible and not wait until August or September.

Early enrollment allows the District to better plan for the fall semester, ensuring proper staffing levels at each school.

Children entering kindergarten in the fall must be five years of age by September 1.

However, under a State law that went into effect four years ago, the kindergarten entry date has been gradually changing from December 1 to September 1. Parents living in the district with a child whose birthday falls after the new September 1 deadline have until June 1, 2017 to complete a waiver that will allow them to enroll their child in kindergarten this fall. Waivers are available at: www.studentservices.dearbornschools.org/student-registration-information

Direct enrollment questions to the Student Services Office at 313-827-3005 or visit www.studentservices.dearbornschools.org. ■

Dearborn Public Library adding to services, customers' convenience

The Dearborn Public Library is constantly evolving to meet customers' needs with new services, information and policies.

Children 12 or younger must be accompanied by adult

To ensure the safety of children using the Library, the Library Commission instituted a new Unattended Children Policy. Children 12 years of age or younger now must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult 18 years of age or older. The adult must remain within direct sight of the child.



Newspapers from 1831-1999 now available online

The Library has just added an online database of the Detroit Free Press newspapers from 1831-1999 that can be accessed in the library or from your home computer or digital device.

This database provides genealogists, researchers, and scholars with online, easily-searchable first-hand accounts and unparalleled coverage of the politics, society, and events of the time.

Pay for library products, services, fines by credit/debit cards

The Library has launched a new Point of Sale system that allows patrons the ability to use a credit or debit card to pay for all library-related financial transactions either at a public service desk or a self-serve kiosk.

Credit card payments will also be available for photocopies, printouts from public computers, Friends of the Library books, day passes, earbuds, flash drives, and book bags. Library fines can be paid online as well.

Additionally, the Library will update the public computers, and print management software and wireless printing from personal devices will soon be available. ■

Dearborn working to expand connections through bike paths

It's an exciting time to be a bicyclist in Dearborn, as the City is working on multiple bike paths to provide safe connections between destinations in the community, including the downtowns and business districts, university campuses, parks and trails, and work sites.

The city has a master plan to promote non-motorized connections, including bike paths and dedicated bike lanes, which will increase options for leisure and commuter bicyclists.

"Bicycling is not only great exercise, but for some it is also an important transportation alternative," said Barry Murray, director of the City's Economic and Community Development Department.

"Providing biking options strengthens our image as a green city, provides recreation for residents and visitors, and helps our businesses recruit the talented staff they need to succeed," he said.

Gateway Trail extension

In the fall, the City opened an extension of the popular Rouge River Gateway Trail. The extension begins at the former trailhead that was east of Andiamo. It runs behind the restaurant via a wooden boardwalk alongside the Rouge River, and connects to Brady Street and the bike lane to Ford Field Park. The park is now the official trailhead.

The extension was made possible by grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Department of Transportation, in addition to City contributions.

More bike trails

Next up on the City's bike trail list is a proposed connection between the University of Michigan-Dearborn's two campuses. The trail will start near the University Center on the main campus, cut over to the Evergreen Road crosswalk, continue near The Union student housing complex, then onto the Fairlane Town Center service drive, cross Hubbard Road, and go into the Fairlane Campus.

Most of the proposed path will be a separate dedicated trail, Murray said. The new path will connect to an existing spur of the Gateway Trail on the Main Campus.

Five-mile central loop planned

The U of M - Dearborn piece is part of a much larger long-term project to make a five mile loop from the Fairlane Campus east along Hubbard Road to Mercury Drive south, then west alongside or near Michigan Avenue to connect back to the Gateway Trail across from the transit center.

Biking enthusiasts enjoy the Gateway Trail extension.

Join weekly bike and walk events

Healthy Dearborn organizes weekly Walk n' Roll events starting May 1 and lasting through October. The Wednesday evening outings change location every week, usually starting at a one of the City's parks.

Bikers take a five- to six-mile ride at a leisurely pace. Walkers venture out on a one- to 1.5-mile walk. Both groups end where they began. Bikers are encouraged to wear a helmet.

All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Walk n' Rolls from May to August start at 7 p.m. each Wednesday. In September, that moves up to 6:30 p.m. and then in October to 6 p.m. Participants are asked to arrive 10 minutes early.

Saturday rides are planned for Aug. 5 (Homecoming), Aug. 26, Sept. 30 and Oct. 7.

Visit www.cityofdearborn.org/healthydearborn and the Healthy Dearborn Walk n' Roll page on Facebook. ■

A spur off of the bigger route would turn off of Hubbard and cut through the Ford World Headquarters campus before reconnecting at Michigan Avenue. Specifics of that loop are still being worked out.

Outer Drive lane to be added in June

The city plans to add a five-mile dedicated bike lane along Outer Drive from the city border at Southfield Road to the Dearborn Heights border. A June completion is anticipated.

Private funding has been secured through a donation from the Kosch family given to Healthy Dearborn, which in turn is paying for the creation of a painted bike lane. The goal is eventually for that painted bike lane to go through Dearborn Heights to connect to the Hines Drive bikeway, which provides a 19-mile dedicated path.

West downtown Discovery Trail in the works

"Bike routes need something to connect to," Murray noted.

Along those lines, the new Rouge River Gateway Trail extension into Ford Field is slated to become part of a network through west downtown Dearborn. While there are many steps to go, initial funding has been approved by the City Council.

Plans call for a trail to be created in Ford Field along the north strip of the parking lot from Brady Street to the covered bridge and then south to the park entrance at Monroe Street. The route would continue as dedicated bike lanes south along Monroe to Newman east to the train station. The existing bike trail along Brady would also be extended south to Newman.

Additional bike lanes could also be added throughout west downtown on Garrison, Military, Howard, and Mason.

Ford Motor Company is also encouraging the bike routes as a means of connecting its World Headquarters, Wagner Place, and Research and Engineering Campus to a larger cycling infrastructure. Eventually, the City also plans to connect bike routes with east downtown Dearborn. ■



Bike share program set to launch in June

The City plans to begin a bike share program in June, funded by a donation from the Kosch family that was given to Healthy Dearborn.

Bike sharing means that people can use a bike for short term to travel between destinations without needing a vehicle, and they can get there more quickly than walking.

An agreement has been reached with Zagster for the bike share system, which will initially serve as a link between the student housing complex called The Union at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Dingell Transit Station, west downtown Dearborn, and Ford Motor Company's Research and Engineering Center.

Other connections under review are Fairlane Town Center, Ford World Headquarters and Beaumont Dearborn.

There will be five stations and 50 bicycles. It is anticipated that use of bikes will be free for the first 20-40 minutes. (The exact time is still being negotiated.) After that, a fee would be charged. Bikes can be left at any of the stations after use. The Zagster system uses technology located on the bicycle and is accessed via a smart phone.

Look for more details soon at www.cityofdearborn.org. ■

Transforming Downtown Dearborn through strategic goals, new projects, expanded events

Over the last year, the East and West Dearborn Downtown Development authorities, community leaders, residents and businesses have come together to set a new path for transforming the east and west downtowns into vibrant destinations by focusing on five key strategies: image, walkability, cohesive community, Next Gen appeal and innovative retail.

“When a community comes together with a common goal, it is possible to achieve even greater things,” said Cristina Sheppard-Decius, who heads Downtown Dearborn.



Ford will transform west downtown.

Wagner Place development leads new investment in west downtown

Ford Motor Company’s development at Wagner Place in downtown west Dearborn will be adding more than 600 Ford employees and new retail space in a 60,000 square-foot mixed-use project.

Streetscape improvements, some spearheaded by the City, along Michigan Avenue, West Village Drive and the connector streets of Monroe, Mason and Howard will make way for a more vibrant atmosphere enhanced by walking, biking and event facilities.

New businesses have moved into the downtown in the last six months, including Common Grace Coffee House, The Cannoli Pastry and Mint 29 Bistro. Ford’s Garage, a

restaurant with an automotive theme, is slated to open near the downtown this summer.

East downtown Dearborn bolstered by City Hall Artspace Lofts

City Hall Artspace Lofts residents in downtown east Dearborn are in the full swing of organizing art exhibits. The unique facility also has room for incubator space and creative businesses in the future. The project is designed to be a catalyst for other investment and draw more customers and residents to the district.

More residents will also be welcomed at the planned 77-unit senior housing facility called American House, to be built east of Schaefer and south of Michigan Avenue.

Events add to excitement

Following the successful inaugural Dearborn Restaurant Week in February, more events are planned to boost activity in the downtowns.

New this year is April Arts Month, and returning for the second year is Tunes @ Noon in July and August in City Hall Park. These Thursday concerts follow the popular Jazz on the Ave in City Hall Park on Wednesday nights.

On April 22, the Martian Marathon will bring thousands of runners to the city, and the growing Friday Farmers and Artisans Market starts up May 19 in Muirhead Plaza.

Friday Nites Music & Food Truck Rallies move to a new location between the two parking structures off of West Village Drive in the west downtown. ■

2017 an election year for Dearborn voters

Residents will have the opportunity to vote for candidates for the offices of mayor, city clerk and City Council in 2017.

Candidate petitions due April 25

Anyone who wants to run for office must pull a petition at the City Clerk’s Office at the Dearborn Administrative Center at 16901 Michigan Avenue and get 100 - 200 signatures from voters registered in Dearborn.

Candidates must turn in signed petitions by 4 p.m. on April 25. A primary will take place if more than two mayoral candidates, more than two clerk candidates or more than 14 council candidates turn in valid petitions.

The primary election determines what candidates will be on the ballot for the general election on Nov. 7.

Register to vote

The primary election is Aug. 8. The last day to register to vote in the primary is July 10.

The last day to register to vote in the Nov. 7 general election is Oct. 10.

Residents may register to vote, find out what precinct they are in or pick up an absentee ballot application at the City Clerk’s Office. It’s open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and may be reached at 313-943-2030.

Voters must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years old on election day. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Aug. 8 and on Nov. 7. ■



Discover Dearborn App has event details

Download the free Discover Dearborn App for more event details. Provide input into downtown’s future, and consider volunteering or sponsoring events. More details at www.dearbornwestonline.com or www.eastdowntowndearborn.com.

Celebrate the arts in Dearborn in April

Arts Dearborn, a month long celebration in April 2017, focuses on cultural organizations, programs and opportunities in our community.

Did you know that Dearborn has nine galleries; a community theater group that will soon celebrate its 90th anniversary; an award-winning symphony orchestra in its 55th season; a 200-member youth symphony; a Smithsonian affiliated museum; and a world-class, acoustically superb theater?

Additional information can be found in a calendar listing all cultural events, organizations, galleries and contacts.

For a calendar, contact the Dearborn Community Fund at 313-943-5478 or e-mail communityfund@ci.dearborn.mi.us. Follow Arts Dearborn on Facebook.

Highlights for April Arts Dearborn

- Business for the Arts/Artists in Action: Local businesses host working artists throughout the month of April.
- Youth Arts Festival – April 19: at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center; student art exhibit opens at 4 p.m.; free performance at 7 p.m. in the Guido Theater.
- Mayor’s Arts Awards – April 26; presented by the Dearborn Community Arts Council at The Center.

A Gallery Rally Week was set for April 3-8, with a Dearborn Symphony performance on April 7.

Funding for Arts Dearborn is provided by the East and West Dearborn Downtown Development authorities, with project coordination by the Dearborn Community Fund. ■



Dog Park opening in 2017 for Dearborn owners, pooches

Dearborn's first dog park, a 2.3-acre facility south of the Henry Ford Centennial Library, is scheduled to open this summer. The plan is for the park to operate daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. through November 15.

The park will be divided into two areas, one for larger animals weighing more than 30 pounds and the other for smaller ones.



Dogs and their owners will soon enjoy a new dedicated park.

Each area will be enclosed with a fence and accessible only through a gate, which will restrict entry to dog owners who have paid a fee for using the facility.

Crushed stone paths around the inside perimeter will provide walking routes for the four-legged visitors and their owners.

Agility equipment will entertain dogs

Each area will also be equipped with benches, dog waste bags and waste disposal

stations, water access and unique dog agility equipment.

The dog agility equipment – which includes adjustable jump bars, elevated agility walk platforms, walk ramps, hurdles, teeter totters and barrels – is the result of a very generous \$15,000 donation from the Oakwood Group, a Dearborn-based company founded in 1945.

Volunteers needed for advisory and support committee

As part of this project, the Recreation & Parks Department is seeking volunteers for its Dog Park Support Committee, which will work with the department in (1) monitoring and enforcing the rules and regulations governing the use of the facility, (2) maintaining and cleaning the facility, and (3) responding to residents' feedback concerning the park.

Anyone interested in joining the Dog Park Support Committee is asked to call 313-943-2410.

Registration requirements

Use of the dog park requires an annual permit, available at the City Clerk's Office for \$30. Owners seeking a permit must supply proof of Dearborn residency, a copy of the dog's license, and proof of current vaccinations.

Other dog-friendly options explored

The City Council is considering allowing dogs on leashes to be walked on paths in Crowley Park, and potentially at another park. The proposal had not been approved as of The Back Fence deadline. For updates, visit www.cityofdearborn.org ■

Rules ensure safety, fun for people, dogs

To ensure the safety of people and pets in the city's new dog park, rules have been established.

A complete list of the rules will be available from the City Clerk's Office and the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center before the park opens.

Fines for violating the rules start at \$100.

Among the rules:

- Dogs in the park must be accompanied by a human handler at least 17 years old. Canines are allowed to play off the leash, but must wear a collar or harness with their Dearborn dog tags. People also must carry a leash in case the dog needs to be restrained and to walk the pet to and from the dog park.
- One person may bring no more than two dogs. Children under 8 are not allowed in the dog park. Youth ages 9 through 16 must be accompanied by a supervising adult.
- Dogs need to be up to date on their immunizations.
- Each dog's handler is required to remove and dispose of animal waste.
- Dog owners must monitor their dog's behavior.

The City of Dearborn looks forward to providing a safe, fun place for dog owners and their humans to enjoy. ■

Connect with us through social media, eNewsletter, website

Residents can stay up-to-date with Dearborn news and events through website, eNewsletter, and social media options provided by the City.

Find fresh news about services, events and programs offered by the City of Dearborn online at www.cityofdearborn.org

The news section on the homepage is updated almost daily.

You will also find links to all related City websites – such as Camp Dearborn, Dearborn Hills Golf Course, the Dearborn Public Library, and the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center.

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

At the website, you can subscribe to the City of Dearborn eNewsletter, which is delivered to your email box every other week. Look for the signup under "Connect with Us" on the homepage or www.cityofdearborn.org/news-and-events/enewsletter

In addition, CDTV, the government access cable TV channel, offers news you need to know. Find it at channel 12 on Comcast, channel 10 on WOW and channel 99 on AT&T Uverse.

Watch live streams of CDTV programs, or view them on demand, at www.cityofdearborn.org.

To sign up for additional updates from the City, register at www.Nextdoor.com.

For information, call 313-943-2285. ■

Recreation and Parks updating facilities

Dearborn's Recreation & Parks Department is continually adding new facilities and renovating older ones to meet the leisure-time needs of the city's population.

Among the highlights:

- A splash pad will be added at Whitmore-Bolles Park, along with a stand-alone restroom facility.
- Planning is in the final stages for the installation of a Zip Line attraction at Camp Dearborn. The Zip Line—which will take riders from the top of Elm Circle, through the trees, over the main beach and Lake #1 to the southeast side of the lake—is scheduled to be installed this summer, pending the necessary approvals by local and state authorities
- Scheduled for replacement this year are the comfort stations at Ford Field and Levagood parks. ■

Public Service Days now in effect

Keep vehicles off the street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to avoid tickets; 2017 program lasts until mid-December

Dearborn Public Service Days went into effect for 2017 as of March 6 and continue through December 15. That means that parked vehicles should be off the street on the day that residents usually set their trash and recycling carts at the curb.

An easy way to remember what to do is the motto: "Carts Out, Cars In."

For example, if a neighborhood's trash day is Wednesday, the Public Service Day is Wednesday. If the trash day is Thursday, the Public Service Day is Thursday.

It is the same pattern throughout each week.

Parking tickets will be issued to any vehicle left on the street between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on a neighborhood's regular trash day/Public Service Day.

Last fall, the City Council extended the timeline for Public Service Days. Public Service Days now begin every year the first full week of March and continue through the second full week of December. Previously, Public Service Days ran from April through November.



Public Service Days mean cleaner streets.

The extension was meant to better align the no-parking dates to other City services including yard waste and loose leaf collection schedules. Changing weather patterns also mean other services, such as street sweeping and road repair, could be done earlier and later in the year.

Public Service Days allow street sweeping

Public Service Days permit more efficient and safe collection of trash,

recyclables and yard waste and allow crews to better manage other work such as road repair, tree trimming, and sewer and catch basin maintenance.

"Public Service Days also allow us to sweep the streets curb to curb and provide other important maintenance work," said Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr.

"Residents across the city pay for services with their taxes and they deserve to have them delivered in their neighborhoods in a thorough and effective manner," O'Reilly said. "Keeping parked cars off the streets gives us that chance."

Parking ticket fines escalate with each violation

Fines for violating Public Service Day parking rules are \$15 (or \$7 if paid within three days). The second violation in a calendar year is \$30; and the third violation in a calendar year is \$70.

If a fourth violation occurs in a calendar year, the vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense.

Tickets also will be issued to vehicles parked across sidewalks, on the easement or on lawns.

Remember, trash and recycling carts should not be placed in the road at any time.

Parking rules not enforced during certain holiday weeks

Enforcement of the Public Service Day parking rules will be suspended during the weeks of Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day. These are 2017 holiday weeks when trash collection is delayed a day.

Avoid parking on the street if possible year-round

The City of Dearborn recognizes that keeping vehicles off the streets can be an inconvenience and suspends Public Service Days during the winter months when it is less likely that maintenance can be performed.

Even when parking is permitted, workers and neighbors still appreciate when residents do not park on the street on trash collection days. This makes trash pickup more efficient.

For parking issues related to Public Service Days, call 313-943-2259. Parking hardship exemption applications are available at www.cityofdearborn.org or at the front desk of the Dearborn Police Station, 16099 Michigan Avenue. ■

Household Hazardous Waste Day disposal in Dearborn June 10; other dates offered by county

A free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day takes place 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10 at Henry Ford College, 5101 Evergreen.

Proof of Wayne County residency is required.

Residents can safely dispose of hazardous items, including (partial list): household paints, stains, dyes; floor care items, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners; lawn and garden chemicals: antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline; automotive batteries, dry cell batteries, propane tanks; computers, printers, scanners, cell phones; mercury containing thermometers, thermostats and elemental mercury; fluorescent light bulbs (standard and compact); smoke detectors; and pharmaceutical waste (non-controlled substances only); and flat-screen monitors.

Note that CRT-type monitors and TVs are no longer accepted.

Multiple drop-off options available

Additional Wayne County collection events run 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

- Saturday, April 22 – Romulus Civic Center
- Saturday, August 12 – Westland Shopping Center
- Saturday, October 7 – WCCCD-Downriver Campus, Taylor

For more information, call Wayne County at 734-326-3936. ■

Curbside yard waste collection underway

Collection of yard waste at residents' curbs is underway for the 2017 season.

Yard waste includes grass clippings, weeds, leaves, shrubs and brush trimmings.

Put yard waste into paper yard waste bags or your own 20 – 32 gallon container. Mark your container with a yard waste sticker. Stickers are available free 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.

Other rules apply. Visit www.cityofdearborn.org.

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



Bag or containerize yard waste for curbside pickup.



Trees add to our quality of life.

Tree planting, preservation encouraged

Dearborn encourages all homeowners to plant and take care of their trees, and sets guidelines for the management of trees through city ordinances, which are under review for updates.

The Dearborn tree ordinance creates a procedure for tree removal on private property and consequences, including fines, for those who do not follow it.

Rules for trees 16 inches or more

- Homeowners who want to remove a tree that is 16 inches or more in diameter at chest height must use a licensed tree removal company registered with the City Clerk's Office. The contractor must submit a tree removal permit application to the Permit and Plan Review Office at 16901 Michigan Avenue.
- The permit application is available at www.cityofdearborn.org or at the Permit Office. The permit is free as of April 2017, but this may change.
- Homeowners or contractors with permitting questions should call 943-2442.

Arborist must evaluate trees

- The City will conduct a site visit to verify application information and evaluate the tree. The arborist will consider the tree's species, health, and impact on the surrounding area.
- Permission will be granted to remove or relocate a tree only when it is consistent with good forestry practices. Under certain circumstances, permission will also be granted to remove or relocate a tree when it is necessary for structure or site improvement. However a property should never be cleared of trees without first reviewing with the City arborist. Call 943-2107.

The goal is to retain healthy trees

- In some cases, the City may require homeowners to plant a replacement tree or make a \$100 contribution to the City's tree fund.
- No permit is needed if the tree is dead, distressed, or storm damaged.

Resources to save trees

- City personnel also can be resources for those who want to maintain or save trees.
- For information, to report damaged trees or to notify the City about trees being removed illegally, call 943-2107. To report suspicious tree-cutting on the weekends, call the non-emergency number of the Dearborn Police Department at 943-2241. ■

Dearborn residents can order affordable trees for their easements throughout the year

The City of Dearborn encourages the planting of trees as a way to keep neighborhoods attractive, reduce energy consumption and support a healthier environment. Dearborn has held the Tree City USA designation for 29 years.

In past years, property owners could order trees from Valentine's Day through April. Now with the program expansion, residents can order trees year round. Trees will be planted in the spring and fall of each year.

For 2017, each tree costs \$175 plus tax, and the supply of trees for the program range in size from 4 – 8 feet in height. They are sold through Dearborn's Department of Public Works.

Residents can choose from an assortment of trees. To reserve a tree, order online at www.cityofdearborn.org, or call 943-2317.

Homeowners can suggest an easement planting location and city personnel will have final approval. Multiple trees may be ordered if correct spacing is available.

Residents are responsible for maintaining the health of the tree with regular watering.

Residents who had a tree removed from the easement by the City, due to age or construction (and do not wish to make their own selection), will receive a replacement tree at no charge. To find out if you are part of the tree replacement list, call 943-2317. ■

Plans call for modern pool at Ford Woods to be ready in 2018; Dunworth Pool in Levagood scheduled for more upgrades

Ford Woods Pool is scheduled to get a complete overhaul this summer and reopen in 2018 with a zero-depth entry pool, two water slides, splash features and a giant shade umbrella in the wading area.

Dunworth Pool in Levagood Park is also scheduled for improvements late this year.

Projects at both pools still need final approval from the City Council. The Ford Woods overhaul also needs a final architectural design, which may tweak some of the plans.

"Because Ford Woods is a community park serving a large geographic area, we've consistently said that we would replace the 63-year old pool, if improvements in our financial circumstances allowed it," Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr. said. The City Council has agreed to the investment.

Plans call for demolition of the existing pool this spring, so there will be no swimming at Ford Woods in 2017.

Construction of the new facility is expected to begin in summer while the park is also affected by construction work that

is part of the massive federally-mandated combined sewer overflow project.

The new pool would open in time for the 2018 swimming season.

Amenities will appeal to families, be larger and include shady areas

Other amenities at the pool will be a patio area with shade, and a 4,000-square foot grass area. A shade will also be included in the wading area, which will likely have water spray features.

Family shower rooms will be offered.

The new pool will also be larger at a proposed 23,000 square feet. It will accommodate 200 patrons and likely offer a 46-foot long lap area. The pool will probably be no more than about four feet deep.

Water slides to be added to Dunworth

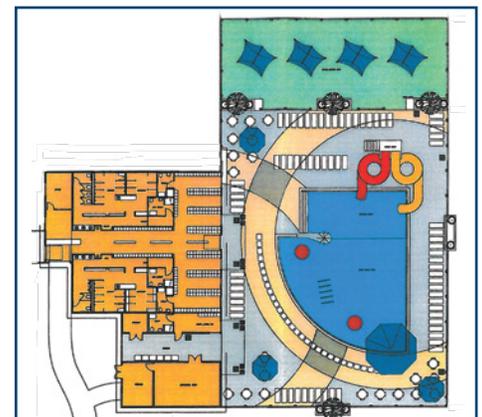
At Dunworth Pool, plans call for overhauling the dive pool this fall.

Reworking the dive pool to create a shallower 4-foot-deep pool with slides will save about 220,000 gallons of water a year.

That project is expected to start after the pool closes for the season.

The City is considering overhauling the Dunworth Pool's shower house in the future.

The City also continues to operate neighborhoods pools at Ten Eyck, Summer-Stephens and Lapeer parks, and splash pads at Hemlock and Crowley parks, with a new one planned for Whitmore-Bolles Park in 2017. ■



The new Ford Woods Pool will have plenty of amenities.

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 Bazzy
Robert Abraham
Mark Shooshanian

Department of Public Information
Mary Laundroche, Director



City of Dearborn
Department of Public Information
16901 Michigan Avenue
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Dispose of tires on May 20 at DPW Yard

Residents may dispose of unwanted tires for free from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 20 at the DPW Yard, 2951 Greenfield.

There is a limit of seven tires per each vehicle visiting the DPW Yard for this event.

No tires from commercial sources will be accepted.

This program is offered in conjunction with Wayne County. Tires dropped off at this event will be properly prepared for recycling.

Note that tires are not accepted at the curbside, or Household Hazardous Waste collections. This is the only time in 2017 that they will be accepted at the DPW Yard. ■



**DPW Yard
open for free
drop off one
Saturday of
the month**

The Department of Public Works Yard, 2951 Greenfield, is generally open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. the third Saturday of each month for disposal of items not picked up at the curb.

Note that the Easter holiday means the yard will not be open the third Saturday, but on April 22 instead.

Residents are responsible for unloading their own vehicles. Proof of residency is required.

Items accepted include furniture; dirt, sod, concrete and bricks; firewood, logs and stumps; bathtubs, sinks and toilets.

Not accepted: fuel, tires, ammunition; refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances; and hazardous materials.

Visit www.cityofdearborn.org. ■

City encourages residents to save water, money by fixing leaking toilets, adding low flow devices

Everyone is concerned about the cost of water and sewerage. Here's some helpful information to increase water-users' understanding, and ways to prevent unnecessary expenses.

City provided water and sewerage is about 1.3 cents a gallon.

The City of Dearborn's total charge to a resident using 15 units of water and sewerage on a quarterly water bill is below 1.3 cents per gallon.

This is the total cost for delivering high-quality, safe reliable drinking water to your tap and removing and disposing of all of your sewerage. Think about that the next time you pay \$1 or more for a pint of bottled water.

High water bills usually due to leaking toilets

The major source of an excessively high water bill is due to the amount of water that is being used and passing through your water meter.

You should regularly review your water bills and learn your consumption patterns. An increase in the amount of water used usually means that there is a leaky flush valve in a toilet, allowing water to run down the drain unnoticed, or your water level may be set too close to the overflow height, again allowing water to silently pass through your toilet (and meter too).

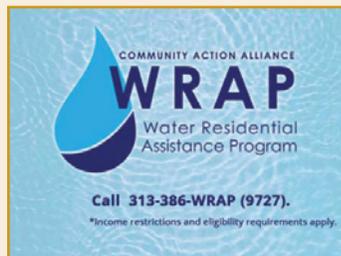
These two items are usually the biggest source of unnoticed water consumption.

Fixing these issues will reduce water consumption.

Install low-flow devices

Residents should also consider the installation of low-flow toilets, and other water-saving devices, like shower heads and faucets.

A low-flow toilet installed in an average home will pay for itself in less than a year through the reduction in water usage compared to an older high-gallon flush toilet. ■



Water bill assistance program available to eligible residents

The Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP), which promotes resource conservation and self-sufficiency and provides water bill assistance, is now available to Dearborn residents whose income qualifies them to apply.

The customized service plan comes at no increased cost to the City or residents.

It is funded by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) and administered by Wayne Metro Community Action Agency (WMCAA).

For complete information about the WRAP program and the specific qualifications required to enroll, call 313-386-9727 or visit www.waynemetro.org/wrap.

In addition to bill payment assistance, WRAP provides educational programs and funding to fix leaks and other minor home plumbing repairs. ■