



CROSSWINDS

WWW.SPRINGLAKEVILLAGE.ORG SPRING 2014

Village Hall
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49456

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• **Village Manager**

Chris Burns

• **Village President**

Jim MacLachlan

• **Council Members**

Dave Bennett

Bill Meyers

Mark Miller

Steve Nauta

Mark Powers

Scott VanStrate

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Spring Lake Village



Now Accepting 2014 Reservations Tanglefoot Park & Mill Point Docks



The Village is currently accepting seasonal reservations for this summer. We are also accepting applications for dock rentals. If you, or someone you know, would be interested, please call Mary at 616-842-1393.

Spring Leaf Pickup

The Village of Spring Lake will provide the spring leaf pickup program on April 28th. **All leaves must be raked onto the street and off of the lawn by this date as the truck passes only once in the Spring.** The hose on the vacuum truck is limited in length; therefore piles on the lawn are hard to reach.



All Village residents, **except those on Savidge**, need to have their leaves raked to the road by **7:30 a.m. on Monday, April 28th**. M-104 (Savidge Street) residents need to have their leaves bagged and ready for pick up at **7:30 a.m. April 28, 2014**.

The Village leaf truck cannot pickup landscaping waste, ornamental grasses, sticks, brush, lumber, etc.

SPRING CLEAN UP SERVICES

The Village of Spring Lake will conduct its Spring Clean Up Program for all Village residents on Wednesday, May 7th. This program is open to Village residents only and will be provided by licensed waste haulers.

NO TRASH WILL BE COLLECTED AFTER MAY 7th AS A PART OF THIS PROGRAM.

Property owners will be responsible for any trash left on the curb after May 7th. This will include the cost of removal.

The following items will **NOT** be collected as a part of this program:

- ◆ Tree stumps, large automotive parts, concrete, blacktop, batteries, paint and any household solvents or cleaners of oil.
- ◆ Construction materials must be disassembled so they may be loaded in the trucks.
- ◆ Pipe will be accepted only if it is in six (6) foot lengths or shorter.
- ◆ If you have numerous items, please place them in a disposable container such as a cardboard box.

Rental Registration Time

Do you own a house or apartment that you use as a rental property? It's that time of year again when you are required to register your property with the Village. After the Village receives your registration, you will be contacted by the Inspector to schedule your inspection (if you are due). If you have questions regarding your property or have not received an application in the mail, please contact Maryann Fonkert at 616-842-1393 for assistance.

BRUSH COLLECTION

Brush collection will take place on **May 19th & September 15th**. The DPW will collect brush up to 8' in length. Residents should neatly stack the cut ends facing the street no later than 7:30 a.m. on the day of collection. While it may take more than one day to traverse the entire Village, the DPW crew will make one pass by each house. If your brush is not at the curb prior to their drive-by, it will not be picked up. The DPW cannot take stumps, decorative grasses, vines or roots. If you have questions regarding brush collection, please contact DPW Director Roger Belknap at 616-638-6470.

TREE TRIMMING

In 2013, Consumers Energy trimmed the backbone of their electric distribution system throughout the Village. Consumers Energy will be trimming trees that affect their lateral distribution lines in 2014. Affected Village residents received a green post card in the mail. If the trees to be trimmed or removed are in the ROW contiguous to your property, you should receive a door hanger as well as contact by a Consumers Energy employee. These trees are not part of the Village tree maintenance program, which will take place later in the summer. A map showing affected areas is available for review on the Village website.



BUDGET PREPARATION

Village staff are in the midst of preparing the 2014/2015 fiscal year budget. Review of the General Fund budget will take place in April & May. Residents are encouraged to check agendas on the Village website to determine when each fund will be discussed. All budget discussions are open to the public. Taxpayers are welcomed and encouraged to attend and participate in the process.

04/22/14

5-Year Capital Improvement Plan to Planning Commission

05/06/14

Final Budget to Council

05/19/14

Council Approves Water & Sewer Rates & Misc. Fees

06/09/14

Budget Adoption by Council

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2014

Water Meters Read ~ end of March
Water Bills Mailed ~ April 15th
Water Bills Due ~ May 15th
Shut-offs for non-payment ~ June 4th

Tanglefoot Park Opens ~ April 15th

Leaf Pick up ~ April 28th

Junk Trash Collection ~ May 7th

Historical Home Tour ~ May 17th & 18th

Brush Collection ~ May 19th

Memorial Day Parade ~ May 26th

Wooden Boat Show ~ May 31st
Mill Point Park

Heritage Festival ~ June 9th to 14th

Water Meters Read ~ end of June
Water Bills Mailed ~ July 15th
Water Bills Due ~ August 15th
Shut-offs for non-payment ~ September 3rd

Budget Adoption ~ June 9, 2014
Barber School, 7:00 p.m.

Taxes Mailed ~ July 1st
Taxes Due ~ September 15th

Brush Collection ~ September 15th

Junk Trash Collection ~ October 1st

Water Meters Read ~ end of September
Water Bills Mailed ~ October 15th
Water Bills Due ~ November 15th
Shut-offs for non-payment ~ December 3rd

Leaf Collection Begins ~ October 27th
Leaf Collection Ends ~ November 26th

Water Meters Read ~ end of December
Water Bills Mailed ~ January 15th
Water Bills Due ~ February 15th
Shut-offs for non-payment ~ March 4th

VILLAGE HALL HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Good Friday ~ April 18th

Memorial Day ~ May 26th

Independence Day ~ July 4th

Labor Day ~ September 1st

Veteran's Day ~ November 11th

Thanksgiving ~ November 27th & 28th

Christmas ~ December 24th & 25th

New Years ~ Dec 31st (1/2) & January 1st

Front Yard & Right of Way Parking

Section 16.1A of the zoning ordinance states:

Parking of vehicles in the front yard in the **SFR-A and SFR-B** zoning districts and for single-family dwelling and two-family dwelling uses in all zoning districts is restricted to a designated driveway, the width of which shall not exceed any point one-third (1/3) of the lot width, or twenty (20) feet, whichever is greater. ***Parking in areas of the front yard that are not part of your driveway, such as on the grass, is not permitted.***

Also, Village Ordinance, Number 179, Section 74-89 prohibits residents from parking vehicles in the Right-of-Way (ROW). In the past, this Ordinance had not been enforced and residents were allowed to park in the ROW between April 1st and December 1st.

In an effort to keep our community looking its best and your property values at their highest, in 2012, the Village Council instructed the Code Compliance Officer to commence enforcement of the ordinances. Council does, however, realize that parking is limited in several of areas of the Village and amended the Ordinance to allow one vehicle to park in the Right-of-Way with an annual **Public Right-of-Way Parking License**. License applications are available at Village Hall or www.springlakevillage.org, in the event you are interested in obtaining a license for 2014; the cost is **\$5 per year**.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our Village Council will continue its review and analysis concerning the Spring Lake/Ferrysburg Police Department at its meeting on April 21. With the expiration of our intergovernmental agreement fast approaching on June 30, the dialog between our communities regarding the extension, the amendment or the termination of the agreement will continue to be a top priority for us. The decision regarding the contract will be a mutual one between the parties to the contract, and we hope to have developed some consensus within the next few weeks. In the interim, our communities will continue to be protected by the dedicated officers who have served us so well over the years.

A discussion of this subject actually began at the Police Commission level back in 2012 when Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg officials met to investigate the possibility of a potential merger of the police departments. In June of 2013, the Village Finance Committee and the members of the Police Commission continued conversations regarding the scope of our unfunded pension liabilities, among other rapidly escalating costs, and how we might confront these substantial costs and deal with them in the context of collaboration with our neighbors in Grand Haven or with Ottawa County. As the contract's expiration date approaches, we are re-examining the agreement with the following objectives in mind:

- ◆ Continue to offer the same level of police protection to our citizens in terms of patrol hours and available manpower
- ◆ Wherever possible and/or practical, continue the continuity of current police staff members
- ◆ Provide these services in a more cost-effective and sustainable manner
- ◆ Confront and resolve the issue of significant unfunded liabilities for pension costs and other post employment benefits for all employees

Implementing these objectives will involve the close cooperation of our police personnel, members of our respective administrative staffs, and our elected officials. In the days and weeks to come, we will continue to discuss our options and our projected timeline.

We continue to welcome public input regarding this important issue, and we invite the public to share their comments with members of the Village Council at its meeting on April 21 at the Barber School. Since Ferrysburg is the other party to this agreement, citizens may also wish to share their thoughts and opinions with members of their City Council as well. If you are unable to attend a Village meeting, please share your thoughts with our Village Manager Christine Burns or myself at 842-1393 or drop us a note. Emails may be directed to Christine@springlakevillage.org or to villagepresz@gmail.com.

This process will remain a top priority until the contract issue is resolved. It will be handled in a reasoned, deliberate and thoughtful manner, and we will continue to keep our constituents informed of the progress we expect to achieve very soon.

Jim MacLachlan, Village President



SCHOOL BOND ISSUE



Spring Lake Public Schools has placed two bond issues on the May 6, 2014 ballot. Proposal 1 includes renovations and additions to Holmes and Jeffers, significant upgrades to the Intermediate/Middle School, minor upgrades at the High School, technology, and buses. Proposal 2 includes upgrades at Grabinski Field and the addition of two synthetic turf fields at Spring Lake High School.

A bond presentation at the Spring Lake District Library is scheduled for April 17th at 6:30 p.m. More information about these proposals can be found at the district's website: <http://www.springlakeschools.org/bond-2014>. The last day to register to vote is April 7, 2014. Contact SL Township Clerk Carolyn Boersma at 844-2101 with questions regarding registration or absent voter ballots. Information is also available on the Spring Lake Township website www.springlaketwp.org.

SIGN UP FOR CONSTANT CONTACT

The Village periodically sends out important updates via Constant Contact. If you wish to be on our email list, you can sign up on the Village website at www.springlakevillage.org. We promise not to fill up your inbox with junk. Constant Contact and Facebook are the quickest way for us to get information out for things such as flood preparation to the masses. Don't forget to [like] our Facebook page as well.



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Music at the Point ~ Mill Point Park
Thursdays 7:00 p.m. ~ 8:30 p.m.

June 19th - New Revival Jazz Band

June 26th - Lakeshore Big Band

July 3rd - Bill Ellingboe

July 10th - Steel Doin' It

July 17th - Don Middlebrook

July 24th - Time Out Jazz Band

July 31st - Blue Water Ramblers

August 7th - Sea Cruisers

August 14th - We Know Jackson

August 21st - Adams Family

August 28th - Funkel Jesse



CENTRAL PARK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

After a brief hiatus, the Central Park Capital Campaign is ready to kick into high gear. We have a number of awesome volunteers who will be working on this campaign to insure it's success.

We have received "preliminary" estimates from the engineer as follows:

Parking Lot Improvements:	72,000
Basketball Courts:	32,000
Pickle Ball Courts:	18,000
Dog Park Improvements:	8,000
Engineering:	34,700
Contingency:	<u>15,300</u>
Estimated Total:	\$180,000

We are actively seeking grants to complete this project, however we know that will not be enough to do everything that needs to be done. Thanks to a number of generous donors, we currently have approximately \$14,000 already pledged. Our goal is to have funding secure by the end of 2014 with construction to take place in 2015. What was previously slated as a phased approach will now be completed in one construction season. Stay tuned for the release of a website that will keep residents and donors up-to-date.

If you would like to bring Central Park back to her former glory, please contact us at 616-842-1393 for information regarding naming rights, donations or volunteer opportunities.