



.the. ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE GRAND RAPIDS TRIATHLON – JUNE 11 AND 12



**GRAND RAPIDS
TRIATHLON 2022**
JUNE 11 - 12

Huntington #DISCOVERADA

On Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, 2022, we will again host the *Grand Rapids Triathlon* in Ada. The main activities will be near the intersection of Buttrick and Thornapple River Drives and at Ada Park. Road closures will occur on both days. A schedule of road closures and detour maps are below. Beneficiaries of this year's Triathlon are *Make-A-Wish Michigan* and *Brody's Be Café*. For more information on the "GR Triathlon" visit www.grandrapidstri.com. For the "Youth Duathlon" component visit www.gryouthduathlon.com.

Contact the Ada Parks office for questions: (616) 676-0520 / adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.



**GRAND RAPIDS
TRIATHLON 2022**
JUNE 11 - 12

Huntington #DISCOVERADA

2022 Saturday DETOUR MAP



Detour Directions

1. Go west on Cascade Rd SE toward 28th St
3.0 mi
2. Turn right onto Spaulding Ave SE
0.5 mi
3. Take the 2nd right onto Ada Dr SE
2.7 mi

Map Key

- Detour Route
- Road Closure



**GRAND RAPIDS
TRIATHLON 2022**
JUNE 11 - 12

Huntington #DISCOVERADA

2022 Sunday DETOUR MAP



Detour Directions

1. Go west on Cascade Rd SE toward 28th St
3.0 mi
2. Turn right onto Spaulding Ave SE
0.5 mi
3. Take the 2nd right onto Ada Dr SE
2.7 mi

Map Key

- Detour Route
- Road Closure

Saturday, June 11, 4:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. & Sunday, June 12, 4:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

GRTri Road Closures

- Thornapple River Drive from River Street south to Laraway Lake Drive
- Buttrick Avenue from Thornapple River Drive to Grand River Drive
- Grand River from Buttrick to Old Oak Hill Drive

On the Detour Maps, the roads marked in **RED** will be closed to thru traffic with police stationed at the various access points.

If you would prefer receiving the AdaView via email, please email the Clerk's office at: jsmith@adatownshipmi.com.



ADA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS –

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

Below is a breakdown of our responses during the first quarter of 2022. As is common in most departments medical responses are a large portion of our incidents. Fire alarm systems are a close second. Please, if you have a monitored fire alarm system put the system in silent/test mode during construction or remodeling. Drywall dust or painting can set off the detectors which will get a full response from our department. Many times, construction crews do not have the code to reset or silence the system.

Type	YTD
Medical	55
Vehicle accidents	17
Fire alarms	33
Assist other departments	8
Illegal burns	3
Service calls	4
Odor investigation	4
CO alarms	7
Wires down	8
Vehicle fire	2
Total to date 3-31-2022	141



KENT COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE NEWS –



Greetings from your Community Police Officer,

I hope everyone had a great winter. I for one cannot be happier to finally get some warm weather coming through. As the temperature rises so does the number of calls for service at the Sheriff's Office.

One particular crime that has been on the rise is catalytic converter thefts. If you are unfamiliar, a catalytic converter is found underneath your car attached to the exhaust pipe with bolts. It's a vital element of your car's exhaust system because they reduce emissions of harmful compounds found in car exhaust. They contain metals that fetch a high price at scrap yards. They are being removed in minutes using power tools like a Sawzall and can cost between \$1,500-\$3,000 to replace.

Here are a couple ways to prevent having your catalytic converter removed:

- Anti-theft devices: These can be purchased through various manufacturers.
- Secure parking: Park overnight in a locked garage, or in a well-lit, enclosed lot if you can. If you're parking in a driveway, consider installing motion sensor lights. If you're parking on the street, try to pick a well-lit one with plenty of traffic.

You will know your catalytic converter is missing by the loud roaring noise and sputtering sounds coming from your vehicle. If your catalytic converter is stolen, please report it. The KCSO is working with local scrap yards in an attempt to track down the thieves. Some thieves have been bold enough to remove catalytic converters in busy parking lots. If you see or hear anything suspicious, take notes, get a license plate if able and pass it along to local law enforcement.

Have a great summer and stay safe!

Deputy Omar Dieppa, Community Policing – East Precinct
Omar.Dieppa@kentcountymi.gov | (616) 632-6435



24/7 COVERAGE YEAR THREE

In 2019 the Fire Department upgraded our services from a Monday-Friday, 8-5 staffing model to a 24/7 model. This provides a firefighter at the station 24 hours a day along with the Fire Chief weekdays. Weekends are supported by an on-duty, paid-on-call firefighter responding in a medical unit. This has allowed us to reduce in-service times from up to 372 seconds to less than one minute. Quicker in-service times equal quicker on-scene times, both of which play into a better outcome for our patients and the property we protect. This also provides us weekend staffing, so stop by for a tour!

AUGUST 2 BALLOT PROPOSAL INCLUDES MILLAGE TO SUPPORT ADA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY

On August 2, 2022, Ada residents will have the opportunity to vote on a public safety millage request because the previous millage expired in December 2021. The proposed millage would provide funding for the operation of the Ada Township Fire Department, including maintenance, equipment and training, and for the Kent County Sheriff Department’s police protection in Ada Township.

The proposed five-year millage, at a rate of 1.4 mills, would include a renewal of the previous five-year millage at the rate of 0.9322 mills and an increase of 0.4678 mills.

For example, a home with a taxable value of \$200,000 will pay \$280 annually (\$1.40 per \$1,000 of taxable value). This represents an increase of \$93.56 for the homeowner as compared to the previous millage rate of 0.9322 mills. If approved, the new millage would raise an estimated \$1,631,290 in the first year.

Here’s a closer look at the operations of both fire and police, and what these funds would support.

Ada Township Fire Department

The Ada Township Fire Department has experienced a 16.1% increase in call volume over the past five years, for a total of 686 dispatches in calendar year 2021. Currently the department has three full-time fire fighters in addition to the Fire Chief. In 2019 the fire department staffing model changed from Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm service to 24/7 coverage. This means that there is at least one person at the station 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

Funds from the new millage would provide for:

- The addition of one full-time fire fighter to cover our Township.
- Replacing one pumper truck in 2023 and save funds (\$1.3 million) to replace two other trucks that are nearing the end of their service life in the coming years.
- Upgrading medical services to EMT levels. Currently our firefighters must hold a First Responder certification.
- Ongoing firefighter training.
- Other required equipment purchases, like hoses and firefighter gear.



Kent County Sheriff Department – Ada Township

Funds from the new millage would provide for the addition of one Deputy dedicated to Ada Township.

Ada Township has seen a 10% increase for services from 2020 to 2021, with an estimated 19-minute and 35-seconds response time.

Examples of how an additional Deputy could improve police service in Ada Township include:

- Decreased police response times to calls for service.
- Increased number of educational and safety awareness events and crime-prevention training: active shooter, human trafficking and fraud, among others.
- Increased police presence and traffic control at high-volume, family-friendly, community events like Beers at the Bridge, the Ada Chili Cookoff, and Tinsel, Treats & Trolleys.
- Increased guidance in neighborhood watch and business watch programs.



Official language that will appear on the August ballot

ADA TOWNSHIP POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION MILLAGE PROPOSAL – RENEWAL AND INCREASE FOR A TOTAL OF 1.4 MILLS

Shall the expired previously voted increase in the tax rate limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within Ada Township of 0.95 mills (\$0.95 per \$1,000 of taxable value), as reduced to 0.9322 mills (\$0.9322 per \$1,000 of taxable value) by the required rollbacks, be renewed and increased by 0.4678 mills (\$0.4678 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a total of 1.4 mills (\$1.40 per \$1,000 of taxable value) annually for five (5) years, 2022 through 2026, inclusive, to provide funds for police protection within the Township and for maintenance, equipment, and operation of the Township’s Fire Department?

If approved and levied, this millage would raise an estimated \$1,631,290 in the first year of levy. All or a portion of the revenues from this millage will be disbursed to the Kent County Sheriff’s Department for police services within Ada Township. To the extent required by law, a portion of the revenues from this millage will be captured within the district of and disbursed to the Ada Township Downtown Development Authority and the Ada Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

YES _____ NO _____

2022-2023 UTILITY RATE INCREASE

The Township Board reviews and adjusts the water and sewer rates charged to our customers every year. With your latest water/sewer bill you will see the following increases.

Water Rates

The Township raised the water rates 6% this year. This is due to the following:

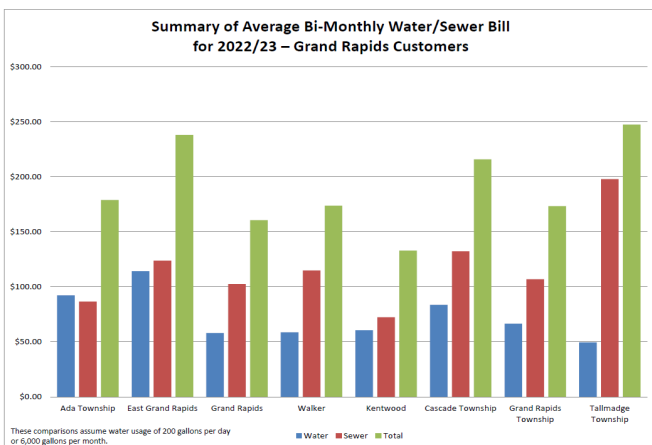
- The Township purchases our water wholesale from the City of Grand Rapids. Earlier this year the City of Grand Rapids increased the wholesale rate they charge us by .54%.
- In 2020 the Township Board authorized a three-year, \$8 million project to remove and replace all the old cast iron watermain in the Adacraft, Adatowne, and part of the Ada Woods neighborhoods. This watermain (over 5 miles) will be replaced with ductile iron pipe. After Phase III is completed this year, all 41 miles of watermain will be ductile iron pipe.
- In 2021 the Township increased the capacity of the Ada Drive water pumping station with a larger pump and new electrical.
- The Knapp Street water tower will be repainted this summer and receive some miscellaneous improvements.

Sewer Rates

The Township raised the sewer rates 6.9% this year. This is due to the following:

- The Township sends its sewer flow to the City of Grand Rapids system, and the City increased the wholesale sewer rate they charge us by 7.26%. The City is still in the process of implementing a multi-year rate increase to fund each community's portion of the new bio-digester recently completed at the Grand Rapids Water Resource Recovery Facility (wastewater treatment plant).
- In 2022 the Township anticipates completing repairs at its Fulton St. lift station (valve replacement & eave repair), Hall St. lift station (control improvements) and Spaulding Ave. lift station (fixed generator installation). Additional lift station work is anticipated in future based on needed repairs and upgrades.
- In 2020 the Township re-lined a mile of the main sewer line under Ada Drive. This sewer line was over fifty years old and severely corroded. The relining of the main should provide reliable service for another fifty years.

Below is a bar chart that shows Ada Township rates relative to other communities fed from the Grand Rapids water and sewer system. Even with the recent rate increase and significant capital investments, Ada Township rates remain competitive with surrounding communities.



ADA FARMERS MARKET

Tuesdays from 9am to 2pm
June 7 thru October 25, 2022

You're guaranteed natural freshness when you buy directly from a farmer, and typically produce from the farmers market lasts two or three times longer than supermarket produce. But it's also about more than just fresh. You can ask the person selling the products, "How are you growing this food?" Our farmers are delighted to share this information and any other details you want to know about their food here at the market. Just ask! Even if it's not "certified organic," you can still use the information they provide and develop personal standards for what produce purchases make sense for you and your family. As a consumer, you influence the quality and quantity of what vendors bring to the market based on what you buy every week. If enough of you decide a particular product doesn't fit in, vendors get the message and change up the mix.

More importantly, the items you enjoy are also there for others to discover. Our vendors come back year after year because of your support. They've learned to fine-tune their product offerings to your tastes, making the Ada Farmers Market look and taste like no other in West Michigan.

This year, the vendors will again bring their best harvests, baked goods, and crafts. And buskers will play a variety of music for shoppers from 11:30am until 1:30pm. Our musicians are all local performers who share their musical talents each week and our Ada Marketeers return their appreciation with smiles, dancing, applause, and tips. We also welcome back the library's story time sessions, providing various volunteers who read stories aloud, entrancing audiences of all ages while they sit listening under the crab apple tree. There are two sessions each Tuesday and if you stop by their booth, they'll give you the scoop on what books are featured that day.



We'll also have other surprises during the season – something new and fresh happening each week (puppy yoga anyone?). Keep updated with what's new by visiting our Facebook page or Instagram. And hang onto the postcard inserted into this newsletter as a reminder each Tuesday, so you don't miss the best of local fresh right here in Ada!

Finally, we'd like to welcome our newest market sponsor, *The Wellness Way*. Expect lots of great information each week on health and wellness topics – and nifty giveaways! Now that you have all the details you need for planning your visits to the market, make sure you have the essentials: Shopping bag, basket cart? Check. Coordination with shopping partners? On the calendar. A few extra dollars for your favorite musician? Got it. You're all set! See you soon at the market!

Finally, we'd like to welcome our newest market sponsor, *The Wellness Way*. Expect lots of great information each week on health and wellness topics – and nifty giveaways! Now that you have all the details you need for planning your visits to the market, make sure you have the essentials: Shopping bag, basket cart? Check. Coordination with shopping partners? On the calendar. A few extra dollars for your favorite musician? Got it. You're all set! See you soon at the market!

<https://www.facebook.com/adafarmersmarket>

<https://twitter.com/AdaFarmersMkt>

<https://www.instagram.com/adafarmersmarket/>

www.adafarmersmarket.com

FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK...

Welcome to Summer in Ada



Ross Leisman
Township Supervisor

"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer."

–F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

Like Fitzgerald there is just something about summer we all feel inside. In this article I want to highlight some of the ways the Ada community is helping to bring you the conviction that there is

something familiar and good about summer in Ada. Details are listed on the events postcard included with this newsletter and at <http://adamichigan.org/events>.

Let's start outdoors in nature. Ada Township is home to Seidman Park and Chief Hazy Cloud Park, two large county parks full of natural areas, trails and waterways. In addition, this summer our own Township Roselle Park will have a new parking lot to make its 240 acres of trails and grasslands on the river accessible for hiking, birdwatching, or taking your kids to the climbing structure. The Township will be spending over four million dollars this summer to improve and increase its already expansive trail system by constructing a trail along Pettis Avenue. The Township Parks Department has all kinds of additional information on recreational activities and preserved areas in the Township.

Want to relax after exercising in the great outdoors? Then come to the village area for a summer of events that would make Gatsby proud. Beginning on June 1 and running through August 31 there will be live music at the Van Andel Pavilion in Legacy Park on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. It is good music. In addition, the Township just approved a social district on Wednesday nights, so that you can buy your food and drink at an Ada restaurant and bring it with you to enjoy while watching a concert in the park. Think of this as being like other summer concert venues, except you are not limited to one concession stand, the music is free and you get to hang out in a park with a new pavilion and a playground overlooking the river.

In addition to the live music on Wednesday nights the Township is sponsoring three Beers at the Bridge events, one each in June, July, and August. These family friendly events also have live music, vendor booths, places for the kids to play, and adult beverages. On Tuesdays the Farmer's Market will be up and running in the parking lot of the Community Church. In addition, two triathlons are planned for June, a tent sale in July, August in Ada with children's activities at Ada Township Park, and historical lectures and presentations from the Historical Society throughout the summer.

And of course, as it has for many years, Ada Township will be sponsoring a 4th of July parade, car show, kids' activities, and a live band with fireworks at night. Working with its private sector partners, the Township through its departments, boards, and DDA is working hard to make Ada the hometown we are all looking for. The conviction of summer starts with the energy of the bursting leaves and is enhanced by all of the planned activities, but really comes from the people who make up this community. So please come home this summer and enjoy what Ada has to offer. We look forward to seeing you.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Ada Township is excited to be kicking off its 2022 Master Plan update this spring! Over the next several months, the Township and its Master Plan consultants Progressive AE will be working on the initial project phase of community engagement. This will include efforts to seek community input in a variety of ways. Residents are encouraged to be on the lookout for ways to engage in this effort such as an online survey, community game event, or visiting the Master Plan table at local events this summer.



John D. Said
Planning Director

A community's Master Plan is a policy document that identifies its preferences for the future. This primarily includes land use and related physical development matters, as well as related topics such as transportation and the local economy. As such, a Master Plan looks forward, establishing a vision and specific goals with actionable steps to get there.

The Township will provide updates on its website about the Master Plan at <http://adamichigan.org/township/departments/planning-zoning/master-plan>, and encourages residents and all other interested parties to stay engaged in this process. Any questions may be emailed to Director of Planning John D. Said, AICP, at: jsaid@adatownshipmi.com.



TOWNSHIP

ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Events for June, July & August 2022



www.AdaHistoryCenter.org
(616) 676-9346
7144 Headley St., P.O. Box 741
Ada, MI 49301
AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

For up-to-date info on programming and more, check our website AdaHistoryCenter.org.

Temporary Exhibit – Hometown Heroes: Ada Fire Department

Stop, drop, and roll into the history of the Ada Fire Department at our temporary exhibit for 2022. Fire up for special offerings throughout the year as we sound the alarm for all ways the Ada Fire and Rescue Department serves our community.

Open Hours

When was the last time you visited the Ada History Center? Every exhibit exploring our community’s past has been renewed in the last two years. Whether you’re new to the community or been here for years, we’ve got something for you. **Open hours are Fridays and Saturdays, 1-4pm or by appointment.**

June 9, July 14, August 11 – Monthly Board Meeting

3:00pm at the Ada History Center. Historical Society board meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month and are open to the public. We welcome your involvement. Join us to see how we’re making history!

Summer Concert Series

The Historical Society is proud to be involved in offering concerts at the Van Andel Family amphitheater in Legacy Park and the Beers at the Bridge concerts at the covered bridge and Leonard Field. Check websites for the Ada History Center and Ada Village for the full line-up and all the info you need to enjoy the sounds of summer in Ada.

Centennial Properties Program

The Centennial Properties program continues to recognize homes and commercial buildings 100 years of age and older. We honor the importance of historic properties and the value they add to our community today. Find photos of all these treasures on our Facebook page. Check our website www.AdaHistoryCenter.org for more information on the program and an application. Contact us with any questions.



A battle to the drench! Water battles like this one c.1980 at Leonard Field often pitted Ada and Cascade Fire Departments and were highlights of the annual 4th of July celebrations.

ELECTIONS

Ada elections in 2022 include the Primary on August 2 and the General election on November 8. Absentee ballot applications will be sent to everyone on the “permanent absentee list.”

If you would like to register to vote, you can come into the Township office Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm. There are more ways to register and more information on how to register at:

mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Home/RegisterToVote.

Please note that, due to redistricting, your senate/house/congressional and county commission districts may have new numbers. Your Ada precinct and polling place has not changed. All Ada residents have probably already received new voter information cards. If you don’t receive yours by mid-June, please call the Township office for a replacement.

To view your personal voting information (after you are registered), please go to mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index.

If you are interested in working as an election inspector, please call the Township for an application or find one here: www.michigan.gov/documents/Elec_Inspecc-Appl_131809_7.pdf, fill out, and submit to the Township office.



ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Contact Information:

Phone: (616) 676-0520 **Fax:** (616) 676-5870

Email: adaparks@adatownshipmi.com

Website: www.adatownshipmi.com

Facebook: Ada Village

Office in Ada Park: 1180 Buttrick Ave., Ada, MI 49301

Mailing address: P.O. Box 370, Ada, MI 49301

Mission: "To provide all community members with diverse recreational opportunities including access to premier natural, historical and cultural areas that enhance our quality of life and inspire the preservation of nature."

ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS & PRESERVES

Ada Township Park 1180 Buttrick Ave. 57 acres. Park office, shelters, arboretum, softball and soccer fields, tennis and pickleball courts, basketball court, playground, pond, trails, picnic areas.

Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE. 247 acres. Restrooms, meeting room, picnic area, playground, paved and non-paved trails, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

Legacy Park 7450 River Street in Ada Village. Thornapple River view, playground, picnic plaza, paved trail, restrooms, Van Andel Family Pavilion.

Leonard Field Park & Ada Covered Bridge 7490 Thornapple River Dr. 2 acres. Softball field, bike path, Thornapple River overlook deck, Ada Covered Bridge.

Carl Creek

Crossings Preserve

6230 Grand River Drive.

8 acres. Non-paved trails, creek access.

Grand River Natural Area

Grand River Drive, enter via Ada Moorings. 110 acres.

Trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline.

Walking and Bike Paths: Located throughout the Township and in several Parks. Maps available.

Kent County Parks in Ada Township:

Chief Hazy Cloud Park, 150 Pettis Ave.

Seidman Park, 8155 Conservation Rd.

www.kentcountyparks.org



PARK RULES AND USE

COVID-19: Please follow current protocols.

Park Hours: Park grounds are open dawn to dusk.

Dog Policy: Township ordinances require dogs to be on a leash and cleaned up after in all parks and preserves.

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Alcohol is not allowed in the parks or park facilities.

Wi-Fi is available in the parks near the buildings.

UPDATES FROM THE PARK OFFICE

New Online Facility Rentals & Program Reservations Service

We created a new software program that allows you to reserve a facility or make a program reservation online, plus make payments with a credit card. Note that you will need to go to the site and set up an account prior to making a reservation or paying online. To get started, use this link: rec.adamichigan.org. And, yes, you can still call, email, or stop by the Park office to make a reservation.

E-Newsletter and Parks Mailing List

To receive updates on events, programs and cancellations, be sure you are on our "parks mailing list". Send an email to adaparks@adatownshipmi.com to get signed up or call the Park office at (616) 676-0520.

COVID-19 – Please Keep Safe

While we are keeping all our outdoor amenities open, some indoor facilities may still have limitations. Please follow current state and county guidelines and check with the Park office if you have questions.

Wi-Fi Service Available in the Parks

Thanks to a grant from Kent County, public Wi-Fi access is in Ada, Legacy, Roselle and Leonard Field parks. Access appears on devices as "Name of Park-Public Wi-Fi".

Staff Updates at the Park Office

Some changes going on at the Park office: Rob McCormick, our long-term softball program coordinator, has retired. Erin McIntosh has joined us as a full-time Administrative Assistant. Soon to be hired, a new full-time Recreation Program Assistant.

Employment Opportunities

Please check our website for current job postings:

www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings

Some potential opportunities include:

- Seasonal Park Maintenance Workers
- Part-time Program Instructors
- Internships
- Umpires for Softball Games

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities include assisting with gardens, grounds, trails, habitat stewardship, office tasks, special events and programs. Individuals and groups are welcome. Contact the Park office for an application or schedule of events.

Many Thanks to the Ada-Cascade Rotary Club for their volunteer work at Leonard and Legacy parks on April 16th.



UPDATES ON PARKS, PRESERVES & TRAILS

Bike Paths and Non-motorized Trails

Several maintenance projects and new initiatives are planned on the trails this year. See article on page 2 for details.

Please report any issues or concerns to the Park office at (616) 676-0520 or adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.



Photo credit: Ken Coviak

Roselle Park Parking Lot Improvements

A project to upgrade the parking lot by the silo at Roselle Park is currently underway. We expect the work to continue through June. Donations to help support this project are being accepted. Contact the Park office on how you can help.

Leonard Field Park Riverfront Improvements

Through support from a MI DNR grant, contributions from the PRLP Fund and the Ada Downtown Development Authority, and private donations, we are setting up for a Riverfront Improvement Project in 2023. This initiative will update the two riverside decks, access to the river, and accessibility in the park. Pledges and donations to help this project are currently being accepted. For details, contact the Park office.

Ada Park

We are renovating the Park office building to better accommodate staffing needs. It will no longer be used for education programs or public meetings.

Legacy Park

The "Music on the Lawn" Summer Concert Series returns to Legacy Park on Wednesdays in June, July, and August, from 7-9pm. Note this will be part of the new "Social District".



Donations and Charitable Gifts

As a government entity, donations to Ada Township are tax deductible. Contact the Park office for details.

Current opportunities include:

- General gifts to support operations, facilities and programs
- Donations toward the Leonard Field Park Riverfront Improvement Project

EVENTS & RECREATION PROGRAMS

Recreation and Education programs for youth, adults and families, and large community events are offered throughout the year. For details or to be added to the contact lists, please utilize one of these options: Call the Park office at (616) 676-0520; Email us at adaparks@adatownshipmi.com; Check the Township website at www.adamichiganmi.com; Check the Ada Village Facebook page.

"Music on the Lawn" Summer Concert Series

Legacy Park, Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, June-August

Date	Band	Style
June 1	Bare Naked 90's	90's pop
June 8	Whiskey Bound	Country
June 22	Cliff Metcalf Jazz Quartet	Jazz
June 29	Natchez Trace	Classic Rock
July 20	Blue Water Ramblers	Folk
July 27	Adams Family	50's 60's
August 3	Rights Side Up	Top Pop Rock
August 10	Beatles Thing	Beatles Tribute
August 24	Chris Collins Band	Blues/Rock
August 31	Megan Rae Band	Country

2022 Summer Youth Programs & Day Camps

Most of our youth programs are on hold for the summer. There is still a potential for some later in the summer but we will not be doing a summer day-camp this year. Please contact us for updates.

"The Plants & Pollinator Connection"

Friday, August 12 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Roselle Park Donations appreciated

A special presentation on the importance of pollinators to native plants. Hosted by the West Michigan Conservation Network, and presented by Carolyn Miller with Michigan State University W.J. Beal Botanical Garden. To register, please visit: <https://wmconservation.net/>.



Adult Softball Leagues Teams

Our adult spring/summer softball leagues are underway with Tuesday nights men's slow-pitch and Wednesday nights Coed. Games are held at Ada Park and Leonard Field Park. The fall leagues are planned to start in August. Please contact the Park office for updates and team registration forms or check our website.

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ADA'S OWN "MR. BASEBALL" RETIRES



Rob McCormick

Growing up on Ada Drive, just blocks from Leonard Field Park, Rob McCormick has long ties to softball in Ada and the community at large. In a recent interview Rob stated, "I grew up playing pickup softball with kids in the neighborhood in the 1950s. Later on, in the mid '60s I ran the scoreboard and announced games for the men's fast-pitch softball games."

In 1970, after graduating from Forest Hills High School, Rob attended college at Arizona State. During the summers of his college days, Rob McCormick played baseball/softball here in Ada. That was back when Leonard Field was the only ball field in Ada, and the only park in the Ada Parks system.

Returning to Michigan in 1975, he took a job at Lowell Public Schools as a counselor, and started a family. His work with Lowell Schools included that of Assistant Football Coach where he helped lead the team to winning several state tournaments. Having two jobs with the schools didn't keep Rob from softball. The association that coordinated the games eventually hired Rob to manage the summer leagues. In 1986 Rob was hired by Ada Township to manage the leagues and later gained the title of Recreation Director for Ada Township Parks.

While coordinating the games at Leonard Field, Rob worked closely with Bud Locke on the development of Ada Park and eventually managed leagues there too. Later Rob served on the Ada Township Parks Committee and helped with the planning and development of the Grand River Natural Area, Roselle Park, the Carl Creek Crossings Preserve, the Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve, and the initial trail system.

With Rob's leadership and influence, the level of recreation programs offered by Ada Parks increased over time. His impact led to the development of AYSO youth soccer program at Ada Park, summer youth and day-camp programs, school field trips to the parks, and hosting the Grand Rapids Triathlon.

A longtime softball umpire in Ada, Ken Parrish knew Rob growing up. He recently stated, "I went to school with his brother and sister; Rob was a few years ahead of me. I feel like he's Mr. Ada Softball – coordinator, director, whatever his title, Rob does whatever needs to get done, whether it's lining up the umps, raking and striping fields, even umping. He does it all. He's very proud of the condition of the field, always wanting a good experience for the players. And he does all that with a laid-back style, always a smile on his face."

As a community we have truly been blessed by Rob's years of service. We hope to honor him by renaming one of the ball fields at Ada Park as "McCormick Field". Contributions to help support the maintenance and development of the ball fields are being accepted through the Park office.

When asked about his Ada softball legacy, Rob's response was characteristically modest and laid-back: "I enjoyed it; it was a labor of love."

THE PLANTS & POLLINATOR CONNECTION

Nearly 100 years ago, the importance of pollinators in all aspects of nature began to surface. In 1936 entomologist Dr. Edith Patch predicted that "Insect Gardens" would be essential in the United States. She also believed that research efforts would be more concerned about the conservation of beneficial insects than with the destruction of pests like mosquitoes. Eight-six years later, those predictions have become a reality as we nurture the pollinator garden surrounding the building at Roselle Park. We also promote dragonfly, bat, and bird habitats to handle those mosquitoes, as nature intended, at all our parks!

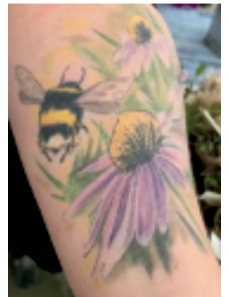
With about 450 species of native bees in Michigan that depend on a variety of flowers, there's great creative potential for all kinds of pollinator gardens. Maybe you'd foster a habitat for the 20 bumblebee species that might visit and select flowers they prefer, like the Purple Coneflower we see illustrated in this photo.

While you may not be willing to get a tattoo to show how much you love bees, we invite you to learn how to provide them the food, shelter and support they'll need their entire life cycle.

We are pleased to serve as the host to a West Michigan Conservation Network Learning & Engagement program called "The Plants & Pollinator Connection", presented by Carolyn Miller with Michigan State University W.J. Beal Botanical Garden.

August 12, 3pm, Roselle Park building meeting room.

To register, please visit: <https://wmconservation.net/>.



ACTION UPDATE FOR INVASIVE PLANTS: THE SPRING CHALLENGE

Plants are considered "invasive" when they are relatively new to an area, and in some form "do harm" to the local ecosystem or property. Over 300 plant species are considered invasive, noxious, or pests by one or more jurisdictions in the Midwestern U.S. The Midwest Invasive Plant Network is a great source of information about managing invasive plants in our area:

www.mipn.org.

Generally, we try to treat or remove woody invasive plants like the non-native Invasive Bittersweet in late summer and fall, and leafy plants like Garlic Mustard in the spring. Springtime in Ada is when you should do a quick search of your property to "pull out" any Garlic Mustard plants. It is best to pull the entire plant out of the ground (including the roots) and to remove them before they go to seed. If you see the white flowers forming, it's time to take action before the seeds develop and disperse.

The Stewardship Network offers additional resources to assist with identification and management of invasive plants, including Garlic Mustard. To be part of a larger network of people working on invasive species management, join the "Spring Challenge" and report the locations of invasive plants found and the amounts removed. For more details, see: <https://www.stewardshipnetwork.org/spring-challenge/>.



CEMETERIES

Ada Township has two cemeteries: Ada Cemetery on Fulton Street and Findlay Cemetery on Two Mile Road. Burial and crematorium spaces are available for purchase by Ada Township residents only. Ada Cemetery is always open. Findlay is open on Wednesdays and Fridays-Sundays. When Spring weather improves, Township staff will be cleaning up winter debris and leftover gravesite materials. If you have leftover items on your family's gravesite(s), please remove as soon as possible.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Township is seeking volunteers for the many wonderful events scheduled throughout the summer months! Events include the 4th of July Celebration (7/4), Beers at the Bridge (6/17, 7/15, 8/19), and the Music on the Lawn Concert Series. Please reach out to Haley Stichman at hstichman@adatownshipmi.com or (616) 676-9191, Ext. 35, if you are interested in learning more about the various opportunities.



DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES

Ada has regulations and rules that need to be followed in order for a person to solicit, or go door to door offering something for a fee. The person soliciting must obtain a permit from Ada Township. After an application is filed, a brief background investigation is done on the applicant. Once the background investigation is complete the applicant is issued a permit. The permit is a picture ID card which must be visible when soliciting. This permit allows them to go door to door in the community unless the property or community is marked with a No Soliciting sign.

A resident can still complain if the solicitor is rude, aggressive or makes the resident uncomfortable. If you have a complaint about a solicitor who has a permit, contact Ada Township, Clerk's Office at (616) 676-9191, Ext. 20. If the person does not have a permit, contact the Sheriff's department at (616) 632-6100.

Political campaigning is exempt from this permit process.

Be Safe and Aware

SUMMER TRAILS UPDATE

The Township is working with the contractor who completed the Ada Dr. trail mill and repave in 2021 to review the trail and potentially repave a significant portion of it due to it not being an acceptable quality to the Township.

The Township is planning on new paths in 2022 at:

- Pettis Ave. from 3 Mile Rd. to the Chief Hazy Cloud Entrance
- Kamp Twins connecting Fase St. to Buttrick Ave.
- Hall St./Cascade Rd./Spaulding Ave. Connector

All of these paths are at various stages of planning and bidding, and have different construction schedules. For more information on these projects, other trails items and potential future projects, please visit our website under "Departments – Parks & Recreation – Trails".



GET TO KNOW THE ORGANIZATIONS IN ADA THAT WORK TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH IN OUR COMMUNITY!

The Ada Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is an advocate for the vitality of the downtown development district. It works with the local businesses, Township, Ada Business Association, and other community partners to support the enhancement of Downtown Ada through promotion, business collaboration and public improvements. We strive to develop and foster a 'vibe' in the downtown district that makes Ada a community where people and businesses want to be.

Events hosted by the DDA include Beers at the Bridge, Brats & Bonfires, Winter Wonderland, and the Farmers Market.

Downtown Development Authority Contact:

Haley Stichman

DDA Director

Phone: (616) 676-9191, Ext. 35

Fax: (616) 676-5870

Email: hstichman@adatownshipmi.com



The Ada Business Association (ABA) is a membership based non-profit organization focused on actively supporting businesses in the Ada Community. The ABA provides opportunities for connection, learning, collaboration, and growth, by engaging its members in community activities and experiences. By providing enriching resources and interactive events for members, the ABA creates a platform for local businesses and organizations to thrive and expand their presence in the community. The ABA strives to support our members by creating connection to encourage mutual support, providing learning opportunities to assist business development and inspiring interactions that foster collaboration and growth.

Events hosted by the Ada Business Association include Story StROLL, August in Ada, Pumpkin Prowl, and Tinsel, Treats & Trolleys.

Ada Business Assoc. Contact:

Kim Rantala

Executive Director

Phone: (614) 403-5060

Email: kim@adabusinessassociation.com



Discover Ada was founded in 2020 with a goal of supporting and promoting Ada Village, its businesses, and people that call it home. Discover Ada focuses on serving the local businesses and Ada community through events like the Grand Rapids Triathlon, Women's Night, and the Elf Hunt. Since 2020, Discover Ada has morphed into a known brand that's recognized for promoting new Ada Village businesses, creating community events, and providing a platform that allows businesses to share their content. Discover Ada is passionate about just that – discovering Ada!

Events sponsored by #DiscoverAda include an annual tent sale, Women's Night, Leprechaun and Elf hunts, Pumpkin Prowl, and many other promotional activities.

Discover Ada Contact:

Liz Haan

Email: lizh@cdv5.com

#DISCOVERADA

DID YOU KNOW?

When visiting Ada Village, you can utilize the parking lots at the Township Hall (7330 Thornapple River Drive SE), Amy Van Andel Library & Community Center (7215 Headley Street SE) and The Community Church (7239 Thornapple River Drive SE). The Village is a relatively small place. Nearly all public parking in the Village is no more than a 5-minute walk to your destination, and the walk is likely to be a pleasant and interesting one. In fact, parking at The Community Church lot and walking to the restaurants and retail shops is no farther than walking from the parking lot into or around Meijer for groceries, and walking from the Township Hall parking lot to, say Ada Fresh Market, is the same as walking from one end of Woodland Mall to the other. So, if you're able to, utilize these parking spots and enjoy the community on the way to your destination! If you have any questions regarding public parking in the Village, please contact Haley Stichman, DDA Director, via email at hstichman@adatownshipmi.com or call (616) 676-9191, Ext. 35.



for groceries, and walking from the Township Hall parking lot to, say Ada Fresh Market, is the same as walking from one end of Woodland Mall to the other. So, if you're able to, utilize these parking spots and enjoy the community on the way to your destination! If you have any questions regarding public parking in the Village, please contact Haley Stichman, DDA Director, via email at hstichman@adatownshipmi.com or call (616) 676-9191, Ext. 35.

for groceries, and walking from the Township Hall parking lot to, say Ada Fresh Market, is the same as walking from one end of Woodland Mall to the other. So, if you're able to, utilize these parking spots and enjoy the community on the way to your destination! If you have any questions regarding public parking in the Village, please contact Haley Stichman, DDA Director, via email at hstichman@adatownshipmi.com or call (616) 676-9191, Ext. 35.

ADA TOWNSHIP ROADWORK SCHEDULED FOR 2022

Township staff meets annually with staff from the Kent County Road Commission to review the Township's PASER ratings and determine what paved roads need maintenance for the upcoming year. The Township and the Kent County Road Commission split costs for these projects 50-50, allowing the Township to stretch general fund dollars further to maintain the road network. More information on these projects, including the PASER rating map, can be found at the Township website under "Services – Road Maintenance". If you have additional questions, please contact Township Manager Julius Suchy.

Below is a listing of projects planned for the upcoming year:

- McCabe Ave. (2 Mile Rd. to Forest Path Dr.) – Sometime between June 1st – September 1st, this section will receive a chip seal which is a cost-effective treatment that shields the road's surface from the damaging effects of sun and water while combating oxidation that causes asphalt to become brittle and more susceptible to fractures or cracks. It also helps the road shed water, which restricts water's ability to seep into the road's base material and compromise the road's integrity.
- Adaridge/Ada Woods Phase III Watermain/Road Replacement Project will bring this multi-year, multi-neighborhood project to an end with the project schedule running from May – July. The project will include replacement of the following roads:
 - Rix St. (Kulross Ave. to Adapointe Dr.)
 - Creek Run Dr.
 - Springreene Dr.
 - Scarborough Dr. (Kulross Ave. to just west of Lehigh Dr.)
 - Grayfield Ct. (Scarborough Dr. to South Extent)
 - Drumlin Ct. (Scarborough Dr. to midpoint of block)



TOWNSHIP

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE
P.O. Box 370
Ada, Michigan 49301

PRSR. STD.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 657

CALENDAR (2022) SUMMER ISSUE

JUNE

- 7 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 7 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 9 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 9 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 13 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 13 Ada Township Board Meeting – **NOON**
- 14 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 16 Planning Commission – 5:30P
- 20 CLOSED FOR JUNETEENTH**
- 21 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 28 Farmers Market – 9A-2P

JULY

- 4 CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY**
- 5 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 5 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 11 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 11 Ada Township Board Meeting – **NOON**
- 12 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 14 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 14 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P

- 19 Board of Review – 8A @ Ada Township Hall
- 19 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 21 Planning Commission – 7P
- 26 Farmers Market – 9A-2P

AUGUST

- 2 PRIMARY ELECTION – 7A-8P**
- 2 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 8 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 9 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 9 Ada Township Board Meeting – **NOON**
- 9 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 11 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 16 Farmers Market – 8A-2P
- 18 Planning Commission – 7P
- 23 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 30 Farmers Market – 9A-2P

PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES. SOME OF THESE MAY BE "VIRTUAL" MEETINGS.
www.adatownshipmi.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(remove & save)

AdaView is published by **Ada Township Board**.

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE
P.O. Box 370
Ada, Michigan 49301
www.adatownshipmi.com

TELEPHONE: (616) 676-9191

HOURS: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F, closed Federal holidays

ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD:

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Julius Suchy, Ext. 48, jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com

SUPERVISOR

Ross Leisman, Ext. 50, rleisman@adatownshipmi.com

CLERK

Jackie Smith, Ext. 21, jsmith@adatownshipmi.com

TREASURER

Kevin Moran, Ext. 23, kmoran@adatownshipmi.com

TRUSTEES

Dan Hurwitz, djhurst@adatownshipmi.com

Catherine Jacobs, cjacobs@adatownshipmi.com

Bob Proos, rproos@adatownshipmi.com

Chris Winczewski, cwinczewski@adatownshipmi.com

Editor: Jackie Smith, Ada Township Clerk

Co-Editor: Marthene Wamser

DESIGN & PRINTING

Gilson Graphics

