



# .the. ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

## TRAILS UPDATE – WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2023?

The past two years have included lots of new trail construction and 2023 is shaping up to continue that trend. The Township Board has approved the following non-motorized trails projects slated for construction in 2023.

### Trail Projects Construction Plans - 2023:

- **Fulton St. (Ada Drive to Grand River)** – This path will be located on the south side of Fulton St. beginning at Ada Drive and heading east to the Grand River. Once it reaches the Grand River it will include a path underneath the Fulton St. bridge connecting to the trail on the north side of Fulton St. This connection will allow residents to travel from the downtown village area to the north side of Fulton without crossing at a surface crossing. This project will also connect to the public path easement that is part of the Village East of Ada development project. This easement will allow residents to travel from the new trail on Fulton St. through Village East of Ada to Legacy Park.
- **Pettis Avenue Phase II (Chief Hazy Cloud Entrance to Vergennes St.)** – This path will start at the Chief Hazy Cloud Entrance, cross Pettis Avenue and travel on the north side of Pettis all the way to Vergennes St. This will allow trail users to travel from the downtown village area all the way up to Knapp St. via Pettis Ave.
- **Rix St. (Ada Drive to Adaridge Dr.)** – This path will connect the neighborhood with the downtown allowing for pedestrians to stay off Rix St. which can be quite busy during morning and afternoon school traffic. The current plan is to locate this trail in the railroad right-of-way but approval from the railroad is still required.

For updates on these projects progress throughout the year, please visit our website as noted at the end of this article.

### 2022 Construction Project Wrap-Up:

- **Pettis Avenue Trail Phase I** – Construction of this new 4.2-mile section of non-motorized path from Knapp St. to the entrance of Kent County’s Chief Hazy Cloud Park has been completed. There is minor landscaping restoration scheduled to be completed this spring.
- **Hall St./Cascade Rd./Spaulding Connector** – Construction of this small stretch of non-motorized path connecting Hall Street near the Consumers Energy Trail with the sidewalk on Spaulding was completed. This will allow residents to travel west on Cascade Rd. without having to cross both Hall St. and Cascade Rd.

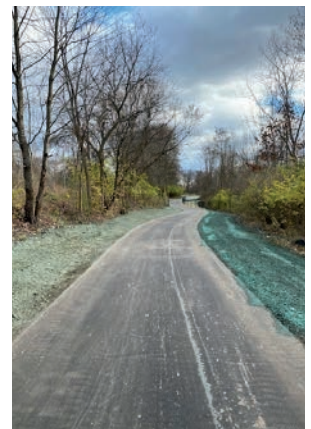
- The Township had hoped to construct the Kamp Twins connector trail between Fase St. and Buttrick Ave., but this project is delayed slightly due to some railroad permitting issues. It is anticipated these issues will be resolved shortly and allow for construction in 2023 or 2024.

### Other Trail Updates:

- **Wayfinding Signage** – The Township is working with Corbin Design to create a wayfinding signage plan for the Township trail network that will provide directional signage, information kiosks, maps, and mileage markers throughout the network. This will allow the Township to communicate to trail users about everything Ada has to offer. It is anticipated these signs will be installed in 2023 if the project moves forward without delays.
- The Township has been an active participant in the Grand Rapids Greenway Trail discussions that would allow trail users to travel from Grand Rapids all the way to the City of Lowell. Ada Township serves as an important regional connector for this potential project and hopefully there will be exciting updates to announce soon.
- **Potential Construction Projects** – The trail committee is currently reviewing potential projects for 2024 and 2025 and looking at what segments serve neighborhoods and improve connectivity throughout the Township.
- Staff will be putting out to bid a large list of repairs throughout the existing trail system. This will be done as an annual process to make sure the Township is properly maintaining the system, not only building new paths.

Please check out our website at [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com) and click “Departments – Parks & Recreation – Trails,” for additional updates, pictures and videos highlighting the work done to date.

If you have any questions about the Trails projects under construction or consideration in future years please contact Julius Suchy, Township Manager at [jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com). Please report any maintenance issues on the trails to the Parks Department at (616) 676-0520 or [adaparks@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:adaparks@adatownshipmi.com).



Pettis Trail Phase I

If you would prefer receiving the AdaView via email, please email the Clerk’s office at: [jsmith@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:jsmith@adatownshipmi.com).

# SPONGY MOTHS – WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR 2023?



**Julius Suchy**  
Township Manager

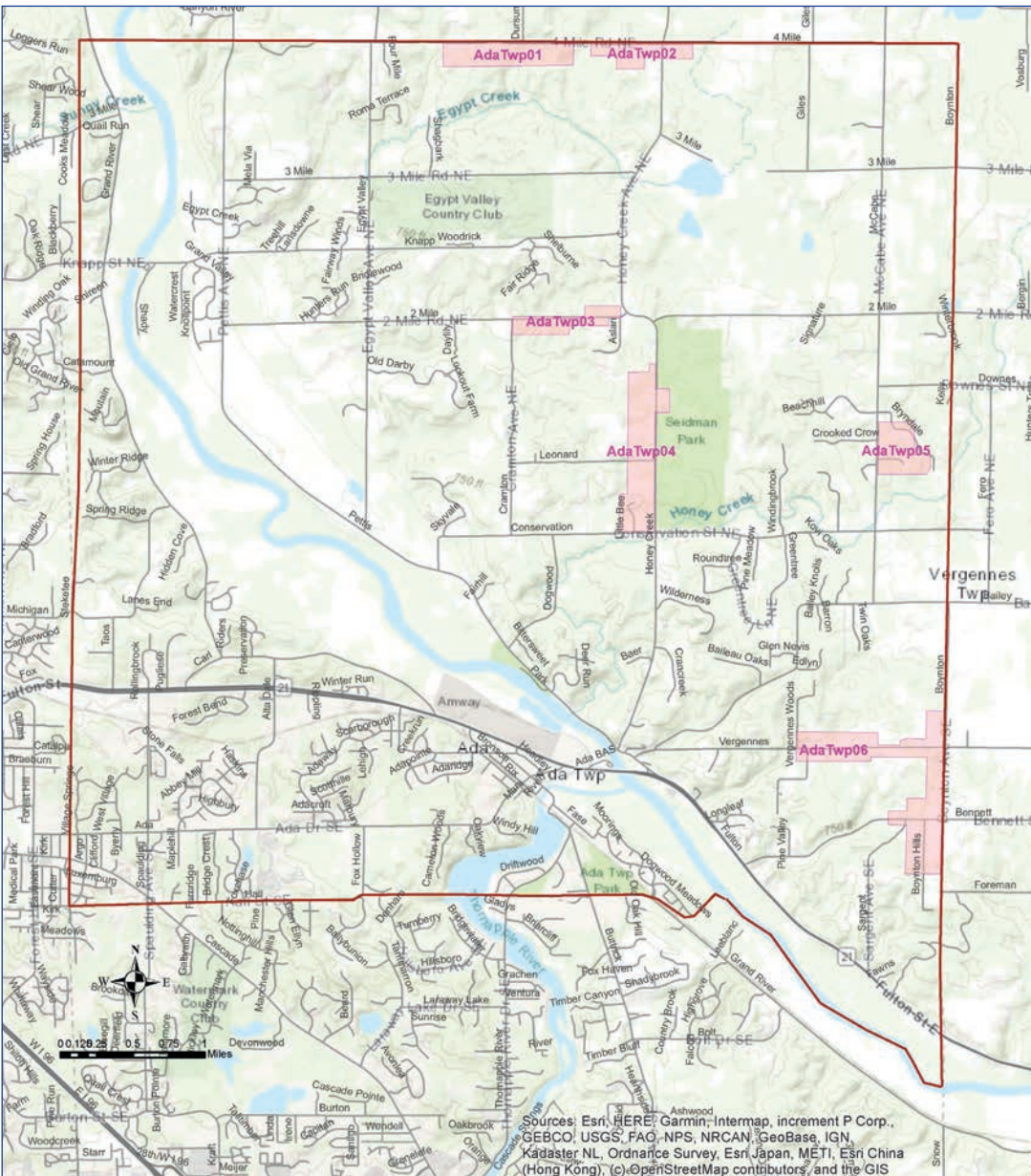
At its January 9th board meeting the Township received a report from Aquatic Consulting Services on the Egg Mass Survey they completed on behalf of the Township this winter. This survey was intended to determine the success of the spongy moth spray services that were completed in the spring of 2022.

The report indicated the spraying services were highly successful with Aquatic Consulting Services only recommending 654 acres (shown on the map above) for spraying compared to 2,967 acres last year. According to Aquatic Consulting Services the entire reduction is not due to spraying, but also other environmental factors that play a role in the life cycle of spongy moths.

The Township Board discussed how to proceed at its January 9th and January 23rd board meetings and determined that these spray services benefit the entirety of the Township and the cost would be paid out of the general fund as opposed to a special assessment to impacted property owners. The next step is to receive a proposal from spray services contractors and then provide a letter to all impacted property owners so they are aware of what will happen and when.

If you have any questions about Spongy Moths or the potential spray program please contact Julius Suchy, Township Manager at (616) 676-9191, Ext. 7348 or via email at [jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com).

If you are interested in reading the 2022 report or previous years reports provided by Aquatic Consulting Services, please visit our website [www.adamichigan.org](http://www.adamichigan.org) and click Township/ Services/Spongy (Gypsy) Moths.



## ADA TOWNSHIP SPONGY MOTH SURVEY REPORT 2023 SEASON

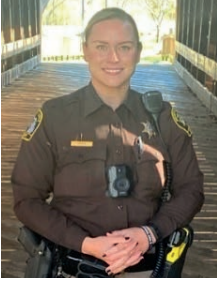
Shaded areas are recommended for Aerial B.t.k. spray in Spring 2023.

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c)OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS



## KENT COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE NEWS –

Greetings from your  
NEW Community Policing Officer!



**Kate Chase**  
Community Policing  
East Precinct

My name is Kate Chase. I am a current Ada Township resident and grew up in Grand Rapids Township. I am excited to now be serving my neighbors and fellow community members in this new position. To clarify, my role is supplementing that of Deputy Dieppa's. We will be working together to better serve each township and will share in event planning, addressing neighborhood concerns, teaching opportunities and more. We are excited to share the workload in order

to allow for proactive enforcement action and to be readily available to our communities, Monday through Friday.

I started my career at the Kent County Sheriff's Office in 2011 as an Emergency Communications Operator, then transitioned to the Road Patrol Division in 2018. I am a professor at GVSU and GRCC's Police Academy, teaching Self Defense for Women, and Fitness and Wellness. I'm also a Defensive Tactics and Firearms Instructor and avid kickboxer. In my free time, you might see me strolling downtown Ada with my 1-year-old daughter or exploring in the children's play areas at Ada or Cascade Libraries. I look forward to meeting and serving each of you. Don't hesitate to contact me with concerns or questions.

### SAFETY/SECURITY REMINDERS FOR BUSINESSES

- Encourage staff to park their vehicles in a well-lit and populated area of the parking lot and remind them to lock their vehicles and remove all personal belongings prior to their workday.
- If the business opens or closes early (before sunrise or after dark) request that staff members leave the building together.
- If your business has high value merchandise (luxury sportswear, jewelry, firearms, etc.), ensure that said items are stored in a secure locked area of the building after hours. Do not begin removing inventory until customers have left the building.
- Do not display high value merchandise in store front displays or in windows. Instead, display in the middle of the store, in high traffic areas, near the cash registers, in an area which remains visible to staff.
- Personal property and merchandise can be replaced, you cannot! If confronted by a thief, do not engage in a confrontation or escalate the encounter by attempting to reclaim the stolen items. Instead, be a good witness and obtain a thorough physical description of the suspect and if applicable, their vehicle and license plate if safe to do so.

Deputy Kate Chase, Community Policing – East Precinct  
[katherine.chase@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:katherine.chase@kentcountymi.gov) | (616) 430-7811

## Township Master Plan Update

### November Community Engagement Event Summary

On November 2, 2022, over 30 residents attended the Ada Township Master Plan Community Event at the Amy Van Andel Library. Activities included the following:

- *Ada's Key Gateways*: Identifying locations that distinguish arrival into the Township.
- *Placemaking on the Fulton Street Corridor*: Defining and locating placemaking opportunities along Fulton Street.
- *Living in the Built Environment*: Crafting a framework for incremental residential development and gentle density within the Township.

These activities gathered valuable information on how residents view the future of their community. Key themes from each activity are discussed below:

#### *Ada's Key Gateways*

Participants mentioned the difficulty of identifying where Ada Township begins and where it ends. Participants cited the gateway sign feature at Knapp Street and Grand River Drive as an example of a noticeable entry point into the Township. Participants noted Fulton Street as a major entry point and noted that Ada's Village area features a distinct character from the rest of the community and may be enhanced through special street lighting or other features. Some participants also discussed whether gateways were necessary, as Ada Township may not require discernable "edges" that delineate adjacent communities.

#### *Placemaking on the Fulton Street Corridor*

As the primary east-west corridor, Fulton Street connects Ada Village to Grand Rapids and Lowell and features a mix of industrial, commercial, and residential uses along its nearly 7-mile path through the Township. Participants were asked about design elements and land uses they desire along the corridor as well as potential opportunities for creating places with a unique sense of place. Participants identified various ideas, including enhancing the corridor's appearance, better connectivity to nearby neighborhoods, and a desire to maintain the natural forested character of the corridor through much of the community.

#### *Living in the Built Environment*

Through the planning process, residents have cited housing affordability as a topic to address. In balancing the demand for new housing with preserving the Township's special environmental features, participants were asked how additional housing could be placed in locations with existing infrastructure. Participants identified townhouses, accessory dwelling units, and small-scale multi-unit buildings as desirable neighborhood additions.

### Master Plan Next Steps

Township Staff and Progressive AE continue to work on drafting Ada Township's Master Plan update. Feedback from the community events, pop-up engagement events, focus groups, and the online survey are informing the process. Completion of a Draft Master Plan is anticipated in early 2023; please stay tuned for details as the Draft Master Plan is completed and opportunities are provided to review the vision and goals for the Township's future.

Township Staff and Master Plan consultants Progressive AE want to thank those that have participated in the Master Plan process. Their input and thoughtful discussions are paramount in creating a Plan that reflects the values of Ada Township and ensure that the Township continues to be a desirable place to call home.



## ADA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS –

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN TRAINING

As part of our millage passing, we promised to outfit our medical units and train our responders at the EMT level. Our team began class on January 2nd and will be taking their National Registry test in April. Shortly after, our four medically licensed trucks will be outfitted with the advanced equipment and medications.

### RIVER RESCUE BOAT ARRIVES

This spring you will see our department members training in the river with a new rescue boat. We have relied on the Cascade Fire Department to respond with their boat to our emergencies. The new boat has a look similar to an inflatable raft but is actually a hard plastic. Power is provided by a 40-horsepower jet drive motor. With the jet drive we are able to operate in low level water without the risk of damaging the prop found on a standard motor.



### SPRING FORWARD & SMOKE DETECTORS

As we all change our clocks remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors. A detector is your first defense in getting out of a fire so keep a new battery installed. Don't forget the CO detector as well. We will finally be able to open our windows, but water heaters and stoves can give off the deadly, odorless carbon monoxide.

### ALARM SYSTEMS

Is your home protected by a monitored alarm system? If so, confirm you have a current phone number on file with your provider along with a neighbor who can allow access to the home if you are out of town. If we can gain access, it will help locate the source of the alarm rather than just doing an exterior walk around. False alarms are second only to medical emergencies for Fire Department responses. Something as simple as a contractor on site creating dust can set off the system. We recommend placing the system in test mode while contractors are on site, remembering to replace it to normal operation after they leave.

### CHILDHOOD DREAMS CAN COME TRUE

Have you always thought about becoming a firefighter? I think we all have when we were kids. Who didn't ride their Big Wheel down the sidewalk making the siren noise? We are here to provide you some really big wheels and electronic sirens. Come be one of our paid-on-call firefighters. We provide paid training, turn out gear and even a retirement! You are able to keep the career you have while helping out your community and no experience is necessary. Stop by the Fire Station or give us a call at (616) 676-2376.

### FIRE STATION 1 LANDSCAPING LEGACY

In 1990, Fire Station One was built along with a new Township Office which are both located in their current locations. While this is one impressive fire station, funds were short for landscaping. Mr. Gene Gilmore, owner of Holiday Farms in Ada and a member of the Township's Planning Commission, donated each of his checks earned while serving on the Commission to the Fire Department to plant three trees located on the south side of the station. One tree was removed a few years back to provide additional living and storage space. When he was contacted to tell him one tree would be removed, he replied, "I didn't think anyone would remember that." We do remember and appreciate your support over the years. On January 6, Mr. Gilmore passed at the age of 93 leaving behind a legacy at the Fire Station and throughout our community.

### SAVE THE DATE!

Get excited and mark your calendars early for these summer events.

**Ada Village Farmers Market @ The Community Church**  
June 6 - October 25, Tuesdays, 9am-2pm

**Music on the Lawn Summer Concert Series @ Legacy Park**  
June 14 - August 23, Wednesdays, 7-9pm

\*No concert will be scheduled for 7/5 as the band will play on 7/4 during the 4th of July Celebration. No rain dates scheduled this year.

**Beers at the Bridge Summer Concerts @ Legacy Park\***  
June 16, July 21, August 18, 6-9 pm

\*Moving to Legacy Park for **one** summer only. Stay tuned for more information!

### 4th of July Celebration

Come to the village for these festivities on Tuesday, July 4!

- 7am Breakfast @ Fire Station 1
- 9:45am Kid's Parade
- 10am Main Parade
- 11am River St. Car Show
- Children's activities in the park
- 6:30pm Music at Legacy Park
- 9:45/10pm Fireworks at dusk

### COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN NOW REGISTER FOR THE 4TH OF JULY PARADE ONLINE!

Registration is encouraged prior to event day.

Visit [rec.adamichigan.org](http://rec.adamichigan.org) and search under Community Events for the 4th of July Parade.

## The Downtown Development Authority Recognizes Long-time Board Member Retirement and Welcomes a New Face!



**U. Turan**  
Board Member

Congratulations to the newest board member of the Ada Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA)! The Township board confirmed the appointment of U. Turan to the Ada Township DDA Board on December 12, 2022. His term officially started on January 9. Turan has been a member of the business community in Ada for over 26 years. He looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve the Ada community in this new role.



A big thank you to outgoing member, Devin Norman, for his many years of service to the DDA. We thank him for his valuable contributions to making Ada Township a better place for all!



The Ada Township DDA is governed by an amazing volunteer board that helps staff make decisions and set goals for the success of Downtown Ada. Learn more about them here: <https://bit.ly/DDABoard>.

## LET'S RECONNECT!

Due to an issue with our email newsletter vendor, we lost a lot of contacts! While unfortunate, the problem has been solved. If you want to get back onto the list, or want to subscribe for the first time, you can do so on our website's ([www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)) homepage under "Sign Up Now for Email Update". Through this, you will get updates regarding board meetings, township events, and updates about what is happening in Ada. We would love to have you!

## 2023 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

### Ada Township

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE, Ada, MI 49301

### 2023 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Ada Township March Board of Review for 2023 will be held at the Amy Van Andel Library Room #2, 7215 Headley St. SE on the following dates:

- Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8am – Organizational Meeting
- Monday, March 13, 2023 9am to 4pm – Appeal Hearing
- Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1pm to 9pm – Appeal Hearing

The March Board of Review will meet to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2023 assessments. **To appeal, you must make an appointment by calling (616) 676-9191, Ext. 7325. By board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received by Friday, March 10, 2023.**

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2023 are as follows:

Agricultural	48.44.....	1.0322
Commercial	49.51.....	1.0099
Residential	44.59.....	1.1213
Industrial	41.47.....	1.2057
Personal Property	50.00.....	1.0000

### Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 4 days of notice.

**Contact:** Stephanie Boerman, Assessor at (616) 676-9191, Ext. 7325.

**Board of Review Members:** Bill Makuski, Fred Westdale, Luke Zinger, and Shawn Reynolds-Juarez

## ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Events for March, April & May 2023



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

### Museum Open Hours

Open hours resume the first weekend in March. Check our website [www.AdaHistoryCenter.org](http://www.AdaHistoryCenter.org) for details.

### Saturday, March 4 – New Temporary Exhibit & Opening

1-4pm at the museum. Come, take a walk in the park with us! Check out *Grass Roots: Growing Parks in Ada* and explore how people in Ada have enjoyed, nurtured, and protected local parklands over the past century. The new temporary exhibit launches with an opening on March 4 and continues throughout 2023.

### Saturday & Sunday, May 6 & 7 – Tri Rivers Small Museums Tour

11am-5pm Saturday, 12-5pm Sunday. Visit area small museums participating in the "Spring Into the Past" tour. Check out our special focus on Victory Gardens for the 2023 theme "Feeding the Family."

### Saturday, May 13 – Vintage Baseball Game

5pm at Ada Park. We want to take you out to the ballgame old-school style! Check our website for more details as the event approaches.

### Saturday, May 20 – West Michigan Dahlia Society's Kids Planting Day

10am at the History Center gardens. Further details available at [www.westmidahlia.com](http://www.westmidahlia.com).

### March 9, April 13 & May 11 – Monthly Board Meeting

3pm 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!



*Did you know Ada once had a movie theater? It was a pre-cursor to the modern indoor entertainment venue. In this image c.1918, the women stand in front of a building where farming implements were sold. By the 1930s, Boyd Smith owned the building and he dreamed bigger. Boyd used the wide-open, wooden plank floor alternately as a movie theater and skating rink. In 1934, he received a dancehall permit for the rink – paid \$5. The township later stipulated that it would be revoked if he didn't hire a peace officer to keep order.*

*That building was demolished and is the current site of Grand Rapids Bicycle Co.*

## LIBRARY FRIENDS SPRING BOOK SALE

The winter solstice has passed and the new year is here! As the days grow longer and warmer, our thoughts turn to the Ada Farmer's Market and wonderful fresh produce, walks along our beautiful Thornapple River, and relaxing under a favorite tree with a new book. The Amy Van Andel Friends of the Library group will be hosting their **annual spring book sale on May 13th from 9am-1pm at the Amy Van Andel Library**. Please join us for this fun event and stock up on books for summer reading! This event coincides with the Children's Business Fair and Family Day in Ada.



Would you like to become a new "Friends" member to help support our library and programs? We welcome new members! Stop by the membership table and complete the membership card. All new and renewing members will receive a gift coupon for 1 free book!

## FRIENDS OF THE AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY NEWS

### Rotating Guest Artist Exhibits at the Library

The artwork of Ada resident Betsy Ratzsch is on display in the Library from January through March.

For 20 years, Betsy owned the Betsy Ratzsch Pottery studio and gallery in Ada Village, where she produced and sold her own custom lines of ceramic dinnerware and other fine pottery, as well as a selection of hand-produced jewelry and other American fine craft products.



In 2013, Betsy shifted her artistic focus to acrylic painting, with an emphasis on the ever-varying visuals of the Lake Michigan shoreline.

In Betsy's words, her goal is "to give more of an impression of how being at this huge body of fresh water feels rather than to how it looks exactly."

## The Downtown Development Authority Moves forward with its Plan for Public Art in Ada!

The Ada Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is excited to share that it has engaged with Lions & Rabbits Center for the Arts (LRCFA) to push forward its first Public Art Initiative. As a part of its Capital Improvements Plan, the DDA has budgeted for the installation of artist murals on the two train bridges that run over Thornapple River Dr. and Ada Dr. within the Development District. A design committee comprised of Township staff and community members was formed to oversee the approval of the artist RFPs and initial vetting of artist proposals for this project. We anticipate the final designs to be presented to the DDA Board at its meeting in March. Stay tuned for more information as we move through this process!

## SPRING 2023 LEAF PICK-UP DAYS Tuesday, April 25 and Tuesday, May 23

Ada Township will arrange again this spring for curbside pick-up of leaf bags for residents.

Please note the following information:

- Pick-Up Days are set for Tuesday, April 25 and Tuesday, May 23.
- For Ada residents only
- You need to purchase your own paper leaf bags (plastic bags not accepted).
- For leaves and compostable yard waste only (no branches or household waste)
- Leave leaf bags roadside at your property before 7am on the pick-up day.

For more information or questions contact The Ada Township Hall at (616) 676-9191.

## SPRING GARLIC MUSTARD CHALLENGE

Residents are once again being encouraged to become a part of the statewide Garlic Mustard Challenge by removing this invasive plant from their property, properly disposing it and reporting totals to the Stewardship Network. For more information contact the Ada Park office or visit: [www.stewardshipnetwork.org](http://www.stewardshipnetwork.org).

Garlic mustard is a highly invasive plant that threatens and diminishes native woodland and forest plants and ecosystems. It has an odor similar to garlic when crushed, and serves as a food source for some people. Few native animals feed on it. It can be recognized in the spring by its cluster of leaves and white, four-petal flowers at the end of the stalk.

This plant out-competes or displaces native plants by its early blooming period, rapid growth and toxic feature. In addition, one plant can produce up to 3,000 seeds that can remain viable in soil for multiple years.

To remove Garlic mustard from your yard, it is best to do so in the spring before the white flowers turn to seed pods.

Pulling the plants out by hand is often the best method so you are sure to get the roots, then place the plants into bags for disposal. When the soil is moist, grasp low and firmly on the plant's stem and gently tug until the main root loosens from the soil, and the entire plant will pull out. Pulled plants should be packed into black garbage bags and placed in the trash. Trash haulers will remove it like other trash if bagged. Do not put the plants in with other yard waste or into compost piles because the seeds could still spread.

Additional information can be found through MSU Extension at: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/garlic\\_mustard\\_may\\_be\\_michigans\\_worst\\_woodland\\_weed](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/garlic_mustard_may_be_michigans_worst_woodland_weed).



## ALTERNATIVE RESOURCES FOR MANAGING TRASH, REUSABLES & RECYCLABLES

### GENERAL WASTE AND YARD WASTE



KENT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Kent County has information on yard waste disposal and other materials:

[www.reimaginetrash.org/material/yard-waste/](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/material/yard-waste/)

### RE-USABLE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



Salvation Army accepts household items at their stores and drop-off boxes:

[www.satruck.org](http://www.satruck.org)  
[www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org)  
(888) 868-9305

### SCRAP METAL AND APPLIANCES



Padnos handles scrap metal recycling and appliances. They have drop-off services:

[www.padnos.com](http://www.padnos.com)

### ELECTRONICS



Comprenew handles electronics:

[www.comprenew.org](http://www.comprenew.org)

### PAPER SHREDDING



Shred-It handles paper recycling:

[www.stericycle.com](http://www.stericycle.com)  
(616) 984-7977

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



Kent County Public Works has drop-off sites:

[recycle@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:recycle@kentcountymi.gov)  
(616) 632-7941

For more information, contact the Ada Parks Department at (616) 676-0520

## ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### Contact Information:

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

**Email:** [adaparks@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:adaparks@adatownshipmi.com)

**Website:** [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)

**Facebook:** Ada Village

**Newsletter:** available via email

**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](http://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. Access appears on devices as "Name of Park-Public Wi-Fi".

## UPDATES ON PARKS & PRESERVES

### Facility & Program Reservations

For facility rentals and program reservations, you may do so online at [rec.adamichigan.org](http://rec.adamichigan.org) or use the app which can be found on the Apple or Android Store under "Ada Township MI Reservations". As always, you can still call, email, or stop into the Park office to make a reservation. Note that May and June weekend dates for Roselle Park are mostly filled already.

### Roselle Park Parking Lot Improvements

Most of the work on the project to upgrade the parking lot by the silo at Roselle Park was completed last fall and the lot is open again for use. There will be some additional details finalized in the spring. Thanks for your support and patience.

### Ada Park Updates

The shelter restroom will open again around the 1st of April. Until then, the port-a-john is available. Reservations for the shelter and gazebos are underway. Note, Buttrick Drive will be re-paved in mid-late June creating some access issues.



### Leonard Field Park Riverfront Improvements

The construction plans for the Riverfront Improvement Project are in the final review stages. We expect the actual work to start in June and last into the fall. The project will update the two riverside decks, access to the river, accessibility, and vegetation along the riverbank. Pledges and donations to help this project are currently being accepted. For details, contact the Park office or check our website.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Whether you are an individual, couple or group, volunteers are always appreciated. Upcoming needs include assisting with community special events, stewardship work days in



the parks & preserves, and youth programs. Contact the Park office for details, an application, and schedules.

### Employment Opportunities

We are currently accepting applications for seasonal park maintenance workers, program instructors, interns, and umpires. Visit our website for details:

[www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings](http://www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings).

### Donations and Charitable Gifts

Donations to support park improvements and programs are always appreciated. Current requests include support for the Leonard Field Park Riverfront project, smaller items like picnic tables and trees, and sponsorship. Contact the Park office for details.



## RECREATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES

**Recreation and Education programs** for youth, adults and families, and large community events are offered throughout the year. For details, to register, or to be added to the contact lists, please call the Park office at (616) 676-0520; email us at [adaparks@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:adaparks@adatownshipmi.com); or see the Township website at [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com). Visit the Ada Village Facebook page for regular programming updates, announcements, and additional info.

### Forest Hills Community Services

Note that in addition to programs offered by Ada Parks & Recreation, many other opportunities are available through the Forest Hills Public Schools: (616) 493-8950, [www.fhps.net/departments/community-services](http://www.fhps.net/departments/community-services).

### Community Events

#### Save the dates:

- Forest Hill / Ada Community Expo, March 11
- 4th of July events on July 4
- *Music on the Lawn* summer concerts at Legacy Park on Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, June 14, 21, & 28; July 12, 19, & 26; August 2, 9, 16, & 23.
- *Beers at the Bridge* summer concerts to be held at Legacy Park this year on Fridays June 16, July 21, and August 18.



### Family Programs

#### Vintage Baseball Game

Sponsored by the Ada Historical Society  
**Saturday, May 13 • 5:00–7:00 pm**  
**Ada Park Athletic Field Free**

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and snacks to watch this baseball game played in an “old time” fashion.

#### “Parks of Ada” Exhibit

Inside the Ada History Center, March through December. Sponsored by the Ada Historical Society.

### Youth Programs

#### Opportunities for Scout & School Groups

Outdoor environmental education field trip experiences as well as volunteer opportunities are available at Roselle Park and Ada Park. Contact the Park office for details.

#### Summer 2023 Youth Programs

We are working on details for this coming summer’s youth programs. Most will include ½ day event a couple times a month. Contact the Park office for updates or to be put on the contacts list.



## RECREATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES

For more information about, or to register for programs, call (616) 676-0520, email [adaparks@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:adaparks@adatownshipmi.com) or go online to: [rec.adamichigan.org](http://rec.adamichigan.org) or on our app at “Ada Township MI Reservations”.

### Adult Programs

#### 2023 Ada Township Adult Softball Leagues

Registration for the adult softball leagues is open. Team registrations and payments are due in by April 10. The Men’s league will run on Tuesday evenings from May 9 – July 18. The COED league will run on Wednesday evenings from May 10 – July 19. Team fees are \$735 and include 10 regular season games as well as a single elimination post-season tournament. Each team must have a designated manager.

#### Interested in Umpiring for the Softball Games?

We are seeking individuals interested in umpiring for our adult softball leagues. The summer and fall leagues run May 9 through September 30. Games are on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Application forms are on our website at [www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings](http://www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings).

#### Pickleball Tournament

**Save the date! July 29 & 30 at Ada Park.**

More information to come. Please visit the Ada Village Facebook page for regular updates and announcements.



#### Fitness & Fall Prevention for the Aging Population

**Friday, April 21 • 10:00–11:30 am**  
**Roselle Park Resource Building**  
**\$10/person**

Learn more about how to implement exercise and physical therapy practices to mitigate risk of injury and improve quality of life. Led by Cascade Clinic Manager – Center for Physical Rehab. Pre-registration requested.

#### Thursday Morning Yoga at the AVA Library

**Thursday mornings, 8:00–9:00 am, March through May**  
**Ada Library (7215 Headley St. SE)**  
**\$15/Class, \$80/6 Bundle, \$165/Full Package**

Join us for Yin Yoga at the AVA Library. Pre-registration requested, drop-ins okay, class bundle packages available.

#### Nature & Landscape Photography Workshop

**Saturday, May 20 • 9:30–10:30 am**  
**Roselle Park Resource Building**  
**\$10/person or \$35/family of 4 or more**

Tips and tricks on nature and outdoor photography and taking great pictures. Learn basic composition, lighting, and techniques and how to master your cell phone camera. Instructor from Holladay Photography.





# TOWNSHIP

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

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STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
GRAND RAPIDS MI  
PERMIT NO. 66

## CALENDAR (2023) SPRING ISSUE

### MARCH

- 7 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 9 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 9 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 13 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 13 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 16 Planning Commission – **5:30P**
- 27 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**

### APRIL

- 10 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 10 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 11 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 13 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 13 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 19 Downtown Development Authority Citizen’s Council – 6:30P

- 20 Planning Commission – **5:30P**
- 24 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 25 Spring Leaf Pick-up

### MAY

- 2 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 8 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 8 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 11 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 18 Planning Commission – **5:30P**
- 22 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 23 Spring Leaf Pick-up
- 29 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY**

PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.  
[www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*(remove & save)*

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

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE  
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[www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)

**TELEPHONE:** (616) 676-9191

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

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