



the ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

SEE US AT THE EXPO! March 19, 2011

Come see the Ada Township Parks Department, Open Space Preservation, DDA/Farmers' Market, and Fire Department at the annual Forest Hills Community EXPO. It will be held at Ada Christian School, 6206 Ada Drive S.E., from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and is sponsored by the Ada Business Association, the Cascade Business Association, and the East Paris Business Association.

ARTS IN ADA

Get ready for Ada's annual rite of spring, the "Arts in Ada" festival, hosted by the Ada Arts Council, and held once again under the majestic oak canopy on Bronson St., near Ada's historic covered bridge. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, May 21ST, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The event will feature a variety of artists displaying their high quality wares, a variety of food vendors, as well as continuous dance and musical performances, all with no admission charge.

Artist/vendor application forms are on the Arts Council web site, at www.adaarts.org.

For more information, contact Jeanne LaFontaine, at 682-2743.

MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

Assessment Change Notices were mailed at the end of February. If you have not received one, please contact our office at 676-9191 ext 26.

Board of Review will hear assessment appeals on March 15TH 2011 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and March 17TH 2011 from 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

- Appointments are required.
- You need to provide sales data or an appraisal to substantiate what you believe the value should be.
- Assessment information is available on our website at www.adatownshipmi.com.
- Letter appeals are welcome if you are unable to attend a Board of Review hearing. They must be received no later than March 4, 2011. Please send them to:

Ada Township Board of Review
PO Box 370, Ada MI 49301

FIREFIGHTER OF THE ISSUE

Firefighter Ben Thomet



Ben joined the Fire Department in 1990 and served alongside his sister, Amy Thomet McCaslin, and his father, Ron Thomet, who retired in 2004 after 39 years of service. Ben has been a lifelong resident of Ada Township. He and his wife, Holly, own Thomet Stables, a large horse boarding and training facility located on property that has been in the Thomet Family for generations. Ben and his family reside in the house built by his grandparents in 1939.

In addition to being a firefighter and owning Thomet Stables, Ben also owns and operates Thomet Construction. His company specializes in new homes, remodels, pole barns, decks and boardwalks, including the majority of boardwalks along the Ada Bike Trail. He also enjoys farming, which he has done with his father for many years. Together, they grow hay, wheat and soybeans on approximately 250 acres.

Ben and his family attend Bella Vista Church, where Ben is a member of the safety team. Ben and Holly have three children; Emily, 15, Olivia, 5, and Gabe, 2½. He is very grateful to be able to serve his community by being a member of the Ada Fire Department.

A special note to those who have purchased property in Ada Township during the last year... Proposal A does not authorize the assessor to automatically set the assessed value of a property sold at one half of the sale price. An individual sale price may or may not be a good indicator of the true cash value of the property for a variety of reasons. Section 27(5) of the General Property Tax Act states that "the purchase price paid in a transfer of property is **not** the presumptive true cash value of the property transferred"

Were you aware that...

- Annual changes of assessment are based on sales in the neighborhood. We have approximately 87 neighborhoods. Your neighborhood rarely consists of just the homes on your street.
- Your taxable value can never exceed your assessed value.
- It is the homeowner's responsibility to review the property record card periodically to be sure the information is correct.

PLANS FOR HALL ST. IMPROVEMENTS ADVANCE

Planning and design work is advancing on a proposed 2012 project to re-surface Hall St., from Cascade Rd. to the Forest Hills Central campus, add a center turn lane at Paradise Lake and add facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.

In late 2009, Ada and Cascade Townships, along with the Kent County Road Commission, held a public open house meeting to obtain feedback from residents along the street on various alternatives for improving the street, including options for location and width of pedestrian and bicycle paths along the road.

Based on input from that meeting, the concept that has been chosen for further design work leaves the width of the road largely unchanged, with the exception of a new center turn lane at Paradise lake, and adds 5-foot sidewalks on each side of the road. Alternatives that would involve installing a wider (8 to 10 feet) non-motorized trail on either the north or south side of the street have been discarded, due to the shallow front yard setbacks that exist along much of the road corridor, and resident concerns with potential impacts on trees and other vegetation along the road corridor.

The costs of sidewalk installation are proposed to be shared by Ada and Cascade Township, while the cost of resurfacing the road will be shared on a 45% County / 27.5% Ada Township / 27.5% Cascade Township basis. Total project cost is estimated at \$581,000, with the Ada and Cascade Township share being approximately \$200,000 each. Completion of the project is scheduled for the summer of 2012. While the project is programmed in both Townships' Capital Improvement Plans, it is contingent upon approval of funding by each Township Board.

As detailed engineering is completed for the project, another neighborhood information meeting will be held to share the construction plans with residents along the road. Comments or questions can be submitted to Jim Ferro, Planning Director, at jferro@adatownshipmi.com, or Steve Peterson, Planning Director, at speterson@cascadetwp.com or mailed to either office.

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE...

Real Property taxes were due in our office no later than February 28, 2011 5:00PM. We have made our settlement with the Kent County Treasurer's Office and the tax roll has now become theirs. If you have not paid your 2010 and prior real property taxes, please contact their office at (616) 632-7500. All 2010 and prior personal property taxes (business owners) that are past due are paid at our office. Please contact us for current amount owing.

The 2011 dog licenses were available in our office only through February 28, 2011. After this date, they are available at the Kent County Animal Shelter at 740 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids (616) 632-7300 or at the Kent County Treasurer's Office 300 Monroe, Grand Rapids (616) 632-7500. It is a State of Michigan Law that **ALL** dogs 4 months or older be licensed annually. Please contact either office at the above numbers for further information.

Attention "snow-birds" if you have not done so yet, please pick-up or request a Temporary Mailing request form to change your mailing address back to your property address. It is up to all property owners to fill out a temporary mail request when **leaving for and returning from** your winter address. This is so we can cut down on trying to locate you when mailing your summer and winter taxes. And YES this must be done every time you leave and return. Any questions, you can call our office (616) 676-9191 ext 27 or 23. You may also speak to someone in the Assessing office at (616) 676-9191 ext 26.

NEW "FORM-BASED" ZONING OPTION FOR THE ADA VILLAGE AREA

The Township Board and Planning Commission recently completed and adopted an alternative set of zoning standards, based on "form-based" zoning principles, which can be used for development or redevelopment of property in the Ada Village area. The intent of the new standards is to encourage development that better fits the traditional form, look and feel of the Village. If a property owner or developer chooses not to use the new form-based zoning provisions, the pre-existing zoning designation and rules apply to any new development. The adoption of the new zoning standards accomplishes one of the initiatives for the Village identified through the 2006 Ada Village Design Charrette process.

The alternative zoning standards, titled "Planned Village Mixed Use Overlay" district, place greater emphasis on building form and relationship of buildings to the adjoining street and sidewalk, and less emphasis on segregating different land uses.

A summary of the new regulations can be downloaded from the "News Alerts" section on the home page of the Township web site, www.adatownshipmi.com.

Ada Historical Society & Museum

The Averill Historical Museum of Ada is open Fridays and Saturdays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. and also by appointment.

Events for March, April and May 2011

March 12 • April 9 • May 14

Event: Membership Meeting—come join us in our efforts to explore and preserve Ada history.

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: at the Museum

March 19, 2011

Event: Forest Hills Community Expo—Please stop by our booth, pick up our schedule of spring and summer events, and browse the booths from various community organizations.

Time: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location: Ada Christian School, Ada Dr.

April 30- May 1, 2011

Event: Tri Rivers Historical Museum Network Tour—All museums in the network will be open for the tour. Stop by AHS for a brochure and map.

Time: 11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Location: at the Museum

May 21, 2011

Event: Arts in Ada—We will participate in Ada's annual celebration of performing and fine arts. Come browse the craft booths, enjoy some tasty treats and watch as area dance schools and musical acts perform.

Time: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: Bronson St., Ada

May 22 , 2011

Event: Civil War Lecture—Come enjoy the presentation, "Bedrolls and Bonnets—Daily Life in the Civil War Era," which highlights the lives of both men and women during the Civil War.

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Ada Township Assembly Hall.

Call for the Civil War Sesquicentennial

The Society will be presenting a new temporary exhibit in recognition of the 150TH anniversary of the start of the Civil War. In an effort to tell the story of the Civil War from an Ada perspective, we welcome any items, artifacts, papers, memorabilia etc. that community members may have to share. If you would be interested in having your Civil War items included in the exhibit, please do call us at 676.9346 or email adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

The Farmers' Market is looking for volunteers for the coming season. If you are interested, call or email the Clerk at: 616-9191 or sburton@adatownshipmi.com



Contact Information

Address: 7144 Headley St., Ada

Phone: 616.676.9346

E-mail: adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com

On the Web: www.adahistoricalsociety.org

2011 CPI IS RELEASED

The numbers are in and the calculations have been made, it is now official. The State Tax Commission has announced that the official inflation factor to be used for calculating taxable values for the coming year is 1.7 percent.

SPECIAL INSERT FROM DDA REPORTS ON PROGRESS

A special 4-page insert in this issue of the Adaview reports on the activities and accomplishments of the Ada Township Downtown Development Authority in its first two years of existence.

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTIONS

Reminder: Principal Residence Exemptions...

Filing deadline for new exemptions is May 1, 2011. The May 1st filing deadline for Principal Residence Exemptions applies to new applications only. You do not need to reapply each year.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVIEWS

Ada Township Assessor's office will be visiting neighborhoods in the township during the calendar year of 2011. This will involve an exterior inspection of the property to verify the information contained on your property record card is accurate. The review of the information already contained on your record card does not result in an increase of your Property Taxes.

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

CONGRESS SWEETENS CONSERVATION EASEMENT INCENTIVES

In December, 2010, the U.S. Congress renewed and extended federal income tax incentives for donation of conservation easements on natural land to local governments and land trusts. These incentives had previously expired at the end of 2009, but have now been renewed for all of 2010 and 2011.

The extension of these Federal tax provisions makes it possible for modest-income property owners to derive a greater tax benefit from a conservation easement donation. The extended incentives include the following:

- Raising of the maximum income tax deduction a land owner may take for donating a conservation easement from 30% of income in any year to 50%.
- Allowing qualifying farmers to deduct up to 100% of their income.
- Extending the time period over which donated conservation easement deduction amounts in excess of the income limits may be carried forward, from 5 years to 15 years.

Conservation easement agreements between a property owner and the Township or a local land trust are an effective tool for property owners to permanently protect their land in a natural, undeveloped condition.

Ada Township has dedicated funding available through its Open Space Preservation Program to acquire and protect important natural land, using either outright purchase of land or purchase of conservation easements on land. Land owners may also choose to work with the local land trust that serves our region—the Land Conservancy of West Michigan, as the recipient of a donated conservation easement.

For more information on Ada Township's Open Space Preservation program, or for information regarding the Land Conservancy of West Michigan, contact Jim Ferro, Planning Director, at 676-9191, Ext. 31, or jferro@adatownshipmi.com.



Please visit the Ada Township Website at www.adatownshipmi.com for more information and updates.

ADA TOWNSHIP SANITARY SEWER FORCE MAIN UPDATE



January 24, 2011

On January 10, 2011, the Ada Township Board adopted a resolution to replace the 16" diameter sanitary sewer force main located in the public right-of-way of Ada Drive from the pumping station located near Fulton

Street, westerly to the vicinity of Forest Hills Central Middle School and to issue capital improvement bonds to pay the estimated \$2,500,000 cost of the project.

A referendum notice related to the issuance of the proposed capital improvement bonds was published in The Grand Rapids Press on January 17, 2011 (*see page 5*).

The Ada Drive force main was initially constructed by the Township in 1965 as part of the construction of sanitary sewers to service the unincorporated Village of Ada and surrounding areas, including the Amway Industrial Complex.

Unfortunately, in 2009, the force main failed on three different occasions resulting in breaks and the discharge of raw sewage onto adjacent grounds and into storm sewers, in violation of state environmental laws.

As a direct result of these force main failures and to forestall state enforcement actions against the Township, the Township entered into an Administrative Consent Order with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment on September 14, 2010, which essentially requires the Township to replace or re-line the Ada Drive force main by December 30, 2012. Failure to comply with the Administrative Consent Order will subject the Township to stipulated daily penalties.

The Township is proposing to proceed with this project in early summer 2011, to take advantage of the proposed reconstruction of Ada Drive by the Kent County Road Commission between Thornapple River Drive and Fox Hollow Drive, which is expected to commence in July 2011. The advantage to the Township by proceeding in this manner will be to eliminate the expense of pavement restoration as a sewer main replacement cost.

The annual expense of repaying the proposed township bond issue will be paid from revenues generated by customers of the Township Sewer System. This expense was anticipated by the Township and will result in the need to review the sewer rate in the fall of 2011.

For questions or additional information on this project, please contact Ada Township Supervisor, George Haga, at (616) 676-9191 ext. 50.

NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ADA OF THE TOWNSHIP'S INTENT TO ISSUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM RELATING THERETO

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF ADA intends to issue Capital Improvement Bonds in a maximum amount which shall not exceed \$2,500,000.

Purpose

The Bonds shall be issued for the purpose of defraying the cost of the replacement of the Township's Ada Drive sanitary sewer force main, including valving and connections at the pump station, pavement and intersection replacement and related improvements, appurtenances, interests in land, restoration and professional services.

Estimated Project Cost

The total estimated cost of the proposed Project is \$2,500,000. The cost of the Project shall be paid from the proposed bond issue, Township funds on hand and investment earnings on bond proceeds.

Maximum amount and terms of repayment

The bonds shall be issued in one or more series in a maximum aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,500,000, shall mature serially with interest on the unpaid balance at a rate or rates not to exceed the maximum rate of interest allowed by law and shall be repaid over a term not to exceed the maximum term permitted by law. The Bonds shall be issued pursuant to Act 34 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2001, as amended.

Source of Payment and Security for the Bonds

The principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be payable primarily from revenues of the Township sanitary sewer system and shall be a general obligation of the Township secure by the Township's full faith and credit and limited tax pledge, within applicable statutory and constitutional tax

limitations applicable to the Township. THE TOWNSHIP DOES NOT REASONABLY EXPECT THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO LEVY ANY TAXES TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE PROPOSED BONDS AND FURTHER TO THE TOWNSHIP WILL NO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL TAXES TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS OVER PRESENTLY EXISTING TOWNSHIP MILLAGE LIMITS WITHOUT A FURTHER VOTE OF TOWNSHIP ELECTORS.

Right of Referendum

THE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF TOWNSHIP ELECTORS APPROVING THE BONDS, UNLESS, WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OF INTENT, A PETITION, SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS RESIDING WITH THE LIMITS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ADA, SHALL BE FILED WITH THE TOWNSHIP BOARD REQUESTING A REFERENDUM UPON THE QUESTION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS. IF PETITIONS ARE SO FILED, THE BONDS SHALL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP QUALIFIED TO VOTE AND VOTING ON THE QUESTION OF ISSUING THE BONDS AT A GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTION.

This Notice is published pursuant to the requirements of Section 517 of Act 34 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2001, as amended, and was approved by the Township Board of the Township of Ada on January 10, 2011.

*Susan Burton, Township Clerk
Township of Ada*

KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE

Recently the Fire Department responded to a fire in the wall behind the fireplace, the fire damage was confined to one room but the smoke did get throughout the house. There were smoke alarms throughout the house and one close to the fire but none went off. An investigation showed that the batteries were good, the household power supply was good, and when the test button was pushed the alarm sounded. The cause of the malfunction was determined to be the age of the unit, the home was over sixteen years old and the smoke alarms had never been changed.

The National Fire Protection Association recommends that smoke alarms be replaced ever ten years. When installing new smoke alarms consider installing ten year lithium powered smoke alarm, which is sealed so it cannot be tampered with.

CUT YOUR FAMILY'S CHANCES OF DYING IN A HOUSE FIRE IN HALF BY HAVING A WORKING SMOKE ALARM ON EVERY LEVEL OF YOUR HOME AND ONE IN EVERY BEDROOM.

Another important item to have in every home is a Carbon Monoxide alarm. Carbon Monoxide is an order less and colorless gas that can be fatal if inhaled in sufficient quantities. Carbon Monoxide is generated by burning of natural fuels such as natural gas, propane, and wood.

Smoke Alarms cost between \$10 and \$30 and a Carbon Monoxide alarm cost between \$30 and \$60. Both are available at local hardware stores or home improvement store throughout the area.

It's very cheap insurance to keep your family safe.

Parks & Recreation Department

Contact Information:

Phone: 616-676-0520 **fax:** 616-676-5870

E-mail: mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com

Web site: www.adatownshipmi.com

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

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

E-News: To receive news and updates from the Parks & Recreation Department via e-mail send a request to:

mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com

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:

Ada Park & Locke Arboretum 1180 Buttrick Ave., 57 acres. Softball & soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball court, playground, fishing pond, trails, picnic tables, grills, pavilion, gazebos, park offices, Learning Center and Locke Arboretum.

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

Grand River Natural Area Grand River Drive SE. Enter via Ada Park or McGraw Park, 110 acres. Nature area, trails, bike path, woodlands, wetlands, Grand River shoreline.

Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE, 247 acres. Bike path, trails, picnic area, observation decks, natural areas, wetlands, prairie, woods, Grand River shoreline.

Facility Use

Park Hours: Park grounds are open to the public dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Park Hours: Park grounds are open to the public dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Ada Park Shelter & Gazebo Rentals and Reservations: Available April through October. For rates, availability, use policies or reservations, contact the Park office. The Ada Covered Bridge is not rented out for private use.

Athletic Fields:

Athletic fields (baseball & soccer) at Ada Park and Leonard Field are used in the spring, summer and fall for area leagues and instructional programs. Contact the Park office for information, schedules or reservations.

Basketball & Tennis Courts at Ada Park are open to the public except during scheduled lessons and programs. Tennis Courts #5 and #6 are set up for Pickle Ball. Check with the office for schedule details or to reserve a time.

Adult Programs

Ada Adult Summer Softball Program

Summer league applications and entry fees for new or returning teams are due March 14. Contact the Park Office at 676-0520 or rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com for an application or more information. Team fee of \$675 covers 12 games, balls, umpire and registration.

League Nights: Mondays: Girls High School Fast Pitch

Tuesdays: Men’s Slow Pitch, Wednesdays: Co-ed

Thursdays: Men’s Slow Pitch & Men’s Fast-Pitch

Grand Rapids Triathlon

Sunday, June 5 (starts in Ada)

A chance for athletes of all skill levels to compete on scenic riverside course, perfect for the novice through the seasoned triathlete. USA Triathlon Sanctioned. For information visit: www.grandrapidsstriathlon.com.

Pickle Ball

On Ada Park tennis courts #5 and #6. Drop-in games and free lessons on Wednesdays and Sundays, 4-8 p.m. Check in with the park office for more information, to register, reserve a court or rackets or just drop in.

Nature Lecture Series & Walks

Various Wednesday, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Ada Township Park Learning Center & Trails

Nature presentations inside the Learning Center at Ada Park followed by a short walk outside to see examples. Pre-registration requested by contacting the Park office. \$3/person Snacks & handouts provided.

Local Birds Wed., April 27 10-11:30 a.m.

Wildflowers Wed., May 4 10-11:30 a.m.

Invasive Plants Wed., May 18 10-11:30 a.m.

“Energy Walks” in Ada Township Park

Thursdays April 14 – May 26 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Guided instruction and coaching in an outdoor setting to encourage a healthy lifestyle with a variety of stretches, warm-ups, movement activities, strength training and walks. Contact the Park office at 676-0520 to register. \$3/person/session. Provided by “Mother Nature’s Gym” www.mothernaturesgym.com.

Family Event: “Rulers of The Sky”

Wednesday, March 16 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Ada Park Learning Center \$4/adult \$3/youth

A Special “Birds of Prey” presentation by John Ball Zoo with live birds. Raptors are magnificent creatures admired for their strength and beauty. Get an up-close view of some of nature’s incredible feathered hunters and learn about them in this amazing program. Pre-registration requested due to limited seating. Call ahead to 616-676-0520 or email us.

Parks & Recreation Department

Youth Programs

Pre-registration requested by calling 676-0520 or email mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

Schools Based Programs

Opportunities for preK-12 schools range from guided field trips in the parks (\$2), to service learning projects (free) to shelter facilities for rent (\$25/day). Contact the Park office for details, curriculum, fees and scheduling.

Boy and Girl Scout Programs:

Scout groups are welcome to the resources of Ada Parks & staff to help complete badge requirements, have field trip outings, conduct service projects or rent a facility. Contact the Park office for details, fees and scheduling.

Discovery Days Ages 3-5 10:00 a.m.-12 noon

Ada Park Learning Center \$5/youth

For pre-schoolers with a parent or guardian to have a fun, educational adventure in Ada Park. Each session will have an indoor hands-on activity, nature craft, and a guided discovery experience outdoors.

Pre-registration requested.

Who are you? (Owls) Wed., March 9; Thurs., March 10

Signs of Spring Wed., April 13; Thurs. April 14

Plant a Seed Wed., May 11; Thurs., May 12

Terrific Turtles Tuesday June 28

Happy Hoppers! Tuesday July 12

Water Fun Tuesday August 9

Young Explorers Ages 5-7 10:00 a.m.-12 noon

Ada Park Learning Center \$5/youth

Parents may drop off or join their youth for a fun morning of nature study, hands-on activities and crafts. There will be inside and outdoor activities.

Pre-registration requested.

Who are you? (Owls) Wednesday, March 9

Fishing Fun Wednesday June 29

Bonkers for Bikes Wednesday July 13

Rock Hounds Wednesday August 10

Junior Naturalist Ages 8-11 9:30 a.m.-12 noon

Ada Park Learning Center \$5/youth

Hands-on science activities, crafts, games, snacks, and outdoor adventure based outings. Parents or guardians may attend or drop off youth with a contact information form.

Pre-registration requested.

Fishing Frenzy Thursday June 30

Bike-a-thon Thursday July 14

Rocks and Fossils Thursday August 11

Youth Programs

Summer Day Camp Adventures

Ages 6-11 Dates vary

Summer Day Camps run for two or three day sessions on various weeks from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Younger campers (6-7) may sign up for ½ day sessions. Each Camp starts at Ada Park with some days held at Roselle Park. Pioneer Days will be held at the Averill Historical Museum in Ada. Fees range from \$40 to \$60 per session. Pre-registration required.

Session 1: *Arts in the Park* June 14, 15, 16

Session 2: *Sports Spectacular* June 21, 22, 23

Session 3: *Water Wonders* July 6, 7

Session 4: *Eyes on Survival* July 19, 20, 21

Session 5: *Michigan Wildlife* July 26, 27, 28

Session 6: *Pioneer Days* August 2, 3

Ada Village Kids' Garden

For youth 8-12 years old

Next to the Community Church

May – September on various Tuesdays and Thursdays. Learn to grow and garden, attend food and gardening workshops, help with the Farmers market and contribute to a local food pantry. Contact the Parks office for details and registration packet.

Volunteer Opportunities

Ada Parks & Recreation Department has volunteer opportunities to assist with grounds care, gardens, trails, habitat stewardship, clerical services and youth program. Contact the Park office for and application, interview or schedule of events.

Spring Volunteer Orientation & Luncheon

Tuesday, April 12 12:00-1:00 p.m. Ada Park

Interested, new & current Volunteers welcome. Please RSVP by April 8TH to the Parks office.

Volunteer Stewardship Work Days

Various Tuesdays 9:30-12:00 a.m. locations rotate.

Trails, gardens, invasive plants, habitat improvements.

April 12: Ada Park; April 26: Ada Park

May 3: Roselle Park; May 10: Leonard Field

May 17: Carl Creek Preserve; May 24: Ada Park

June 7: Roselle Park

Garlic Mustard Challenge

Saturday, May 14 10 a.m.-12 noon

Join us at local parks or work at your own property to help reduce this highly invasive plant. Contact the Park office for details or see www.stewardshipnetwork.org.

For a free brochure local invasive plants contact the park office or see www.naturenearby.org.

CALENDAR {2011}

March

- 1 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 7 Downtown Development Authority – 8:30 a.m.
- 10 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- 12 Ada Historical Society – 10:30 a.m.
- 14 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 15 **Assessment Appeals – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (appt. required)**
- 17 **Assessment Appeals – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. (appt. required)**
- 17 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.
- 19 **Forest Hills Community Expo – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
- 26 **Annual Township Meeting – 1:00 p.m.**
- 28 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

April

- 4 Downtown Development Authority – 8:30 a.m.
- 9 Ada Historical Society – 10:30 a.m.
- 11 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 14 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd. – 4:00 p.m.
- 18 Ethics Board – 6:15 p.m.
- 19 **Leaf Collection Day**
- 21 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 30 to May 1 **Tri-Rivers Historical Museum Network Tour**

May

- 2 Downtown Development Authority – 8:30 a.m.
- 3 **School Elections**
- 7 **Clean-Up Day – 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**
- 9 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 12 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd. – 4:00 p.m.
- 14 Ada Historical Society – 10:30 a.m.
- 19 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.
- 21 **Arts in Ada**
- 22 **Ada Historical Society: Civil War Lecture – 2:00 p.m.**
- 23 Ada Township Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 24 **Leaf Collection Day**
- 30 **Memorial Day – Office Closed**

Coming June 5TH – Grand Rapids Triathlon

IMPORTANT INFORMATION *(remove & save)*

AdaView is published by Ada Township Board.
7330 Thornapple River Drive SE., P.O. Box 370, Ada, Michigan 49301

TELEPHONE:

616-676-9191
www.adatownshipmi.com

HOURS:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Closed Holidays

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Ext. 21, sburton@adatownshipmi.com

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PRSR. STD.
US POSTAGE
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Permit No. 657