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## Welcome Wendy Bain - New City Employee



Wendy joined the Fremont City Offices staff as an Account Clerk on January 28, 2013. Prior to working at the City, she worked at Gerber/Nestle for 20 years and District Health Department # 10 for 3 years. Wendy said, "What I like most about my job at the City is, interacting with the public. I grew up in Fremont and have

lived in the area all my life, I get to interact with people I have not seen in years." Wendy is married to Dan Bain and has a 19 year old son Nicholas Boltz who is attending his first year of college at West Shore Community and living in Ludington. She enjoys camping and reading.

## Welcome Dalton Schaffer - New Part-Time Police Officer



On February 1<sup>st</sup>, Dalton Schaffer was hired for a part-time patrol officer position within the police department and brings a wealth of life experience to the agency. Dalton was previously employed by Hesperia PD and is

currently employed at Pentwater PD. When not doing police work, Dalton finds time to tackle some carpentry jobs. Dalton enjoys working out and holds a third degree black belt in Taekwondo.



## Property Tax Payment Schedule

The City sends out property tax bills semi-annually. Summer taxes are mailed July 1<sup>st</sup> and are due by August 10<sup>th</sup>. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Summer taxes include millages for the Fremont Public Schools (both operating & debt levies), State Education Tax, the City tax and the County Operating tax.

Winter taxes are mailed on December 1<sup>st</sup> and are due by February 14<sup>th</sup>. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Winter taxes include millages for Newaygo County, the Intermediate School District and the Fremont Area District Library.

For the convenience of our taxpayers, payments (check only, no cash please) may be placed in the drop box at the northwest exit of the City Hall parking lot at any time. The City accepts tax payments until February 28<sup>th</sup>; thereafter, all payments must be made at the County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 885, White Cloud, MI 49349.



## Fremont Community Recreation Authority

Fremont Public Schools (FPS) promise to the community to repurpose the former high school, is partially completed.

The Fremont Area Parks & Recreation Committee identified the southern half of the facility as a reusable asset for the community, including the swimming pool, gymnasium, weight room and the multi-purpose room with a full-size operational kitchen. There are also classrooms and office space for potential lease. The Committee met monthly and held several public hearings August 2012 through March 2013 to receive community input and to discuss the potential benefits of repurposing the facility as well as the downfalls, if it is not repurposed. Repurposing will save FPS an estimated \$400,000 in demolition and cleanup cost.

During February and March, the City of Fremont, Sheridan Charter Township, Dayton Township and Sherman Township approved joint resolutions to form the Fremont Community Recreation Authority. A recreation authority is a local government entity representing more than one governmental jurisdiction, formed for the purpose of owning and/or operating a recreation facility for community benefit.

The Authority has representation from all of the participating jurisdictions, including Fremont Public Schools and at-large community members. The Authority Board has hired Recreation Director Tim Horton who has already submitted his 90-day action plan, that outlines how he will build new programs and improve existing ones.

In addition to operating the recreation center, the Authority will take over the School District's community recreation and enrichment programs. Existing programs will continue without change, so the transfer will be seamless.

The City and School District are both contributing in-kind labor for building, grounds and recreation field maintenance. The Authority is privileged to receive grant funding from the Fremont Area Community Foundation and participating jurisdictions to help cover facility operational costs during its start up.

We are extremely excited about this opportunity and hope the community embraces the concept and takes advantage of what there is to offer in coming months. Stay alert in coming months for more information regarding the new recreation center.

## Curbside Refuse Service

Each residential dwelling chooses to use a 65- or 95-gallon rollout cart (garbage container with wheels- see picture) or buy special bags with the Allied Waste logos. Cart lids must be within 15" of being closed, otherwise no overloaded carts will be emptied. Any additional garbage that will not fit into the 65/95-gallon cart must be placed in the specially purchased **Mixed-Refuse Bags** and placed beside the cart. Empty carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curbside and placed in garages or side yards by 12:00 PM (noon) of the day after the scheduled pickup.

Effective April 1, 2013, the rate for the 65-gallon rollout cart is \$9.95/ month and the 95-gallon rollout cart is \$11.65/ month. The mixed refuse bags have remained at \$2.00

per bag, or \$24.00 for a box of 12.

The City does not permit residents to stop and start their refuse/recycling services. However, during the first two weeks of January and July each year, the property owner of the collection address may elect to change service from a roll-out cart to mixed-refuse bags or vice-versa by notifying the City Offices. Changes are only allowed during these two-week periods.



# Are You in Need of a 2nd Meter for Irrigation?



Looking toward spring, the City wanted to take this opportunity to inform residents who water their lawn, sprinkle flowers, etc. that they can purchase a second meter from the City that would be used strictly for outside watering.

The resident would then receive a second bill for water only, but would only receive this bill if the meter had usage during the City's quarterly billing cycle.

Having a separate meter would require separation of water lines between the domestic meter and irrigation meter that service the home.

This separation would be done by either the homeowner or a certified plumber; the City Water Department Supervisor would inspect the separation upon completion.

Even though there will be costs involved for purchasing the meter and installation by a plumber, having a second meter could greatly reduce your utility billings during the watering season; residents would realize the savings in a very short time.

If you feel your summertime billings are high due to watering, you can contact Joyce Winchel at 231-924-2101 to have an estimate done to see if a 2<sup>nd</sup> meter would be beneficial for your home before the watering season begins.



## Recycling - Single Stream

Starting January 2013, curbside recycling changed to a single-stream process, whereas all recyclables can be co-mingled in the blue recycling container. Make sure you place paper products at the bottom of the bin to prevent them from blowing out.

Curbside Recycling will also increase 2% to \$7.65/month effective 4-1-13. Residents on refuse bag service who receive a quarterly bill for only recycling services are welcome to pay for their recycling services in advance on an annual basis to avoid having to write a check for such a small amount each quarter. Because rate adjustments are done in April, paying ahead could affect your first billing; after the credits have been used, you may receive a bill for the small difference. Paying ahead can also save on the City's printing and mailing costs, thus allowing us to maintain our current low rates.

### Weed Control Notice to Fremont City Residents

Notice is hereby given that the Weed Control Map for the City of Fremont for the 2013 season has been filed with the City Clerk. The growth of grass and weeds as defined by Section 5-16 of the Fremont City Code may not exceed nine (9) inches in height. It is the intention of the officers and employees of the City of Fremont to enforce this Ordinance in the areas indicated on the Weed Control Map. Copies of the map and the ordinance are available at the Fremont City Offices.

*Vicci L. TerVeer, City Clerk*

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION HELD AT NEWAYGO COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Saturday, June 1, 2013  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **TYPES OF ITEMS ACCEPTED**

From Your Home	From Your Garage	From Your Garden	Miscellaneous
AEROSOLS	AUTO FLUIDS	ALGACIDES	POOL CHEMICALS
BATTERIES	CHEMICALS	HERBICIDES	MERCURY
CHEMICALS	OILS	PESTICIDES	CLEANERS
FLORESCENT BULBS	SOLVENTS	FERTILIZERS	PAINT

The above items accepted at No Charge for Newaygo County residents, though donations are greatly appreciated!

### **ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED**

Fire Extinguishers, Fireworks, Smoke Detectors, Bio-Hazards,  
Propane Tanks and Business Waste

NEWAYGO COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS IS PROVIDING A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION TO ENSURE THE SAFE DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS USED AROUND THE HOME.

### **\*\*Now accepting tires\*\***

Tires less than 33 inch \$1.50 each, 33 inch and bigger Tires \$2.50 each, tractor tires \$5.00 each

If you have any questions call the Newaygo County Board of Public Works at **689-7225**



# REMAIN SECURITY CONSCIOUS

In these economic times, it is important to remain security conscious and to be aware of your surroundings. Keep your homes and garages locked when you are away, and be sure to remove your keys from the ignition and lock your vehicles whether your car is in your driveway at home, in store parking lots, or at school. Leave only those items in your yard that you can afford to lose, especially overnight. Finally, be respectful of your neighbors, watch out for each other and each other's property. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them occasionally. Working together will keep the City of Fremont a great place to live, work and play.



## 2013 Upcoming Construction Projects

Every year, the City works to maintain and improve its roads and utilities. Drivers may experience inconvenient detours, but you can rest assured that the final product will be worth it.

The following projects are expected to be completed during the 2013 construction season:

- Maple Street – Replacing water main on Maple Street, from Weaver Avenue to Darling Avenue
- Mechanic Avenue – Replacing water main on Mechanic Avenue from Woodrow Street to Sheridan Street
- Market Avenue – Mill and resurface Market Avenue from Main Street to Countryview Lane

- Main Street – Mill and resurface on Main Street from Stewart Avenue to Luce Avenue
- Sidewalks "Safe Routes Grant Project" – Construct new sidewalks along:
  - ✓ Mechanic Ave. from Maple to Pine Street
  - ✓ Pine Street from Lake Dr. to Mechanic Ave.
  - ✓ Cherry St. from Merchant to Darling Ave. and from Division to Stewart Ave.
  - ✓ Middle School entrance from Lake Dr. to Sullivan Ave.
- T&C Path – Install new section on W. Lake Dr. from 2nd Street to Lake Dr.
- T&C Path – Install new section along Oak St. from Connie Ave. to Lake Dr.

## 2013 Fremont Farmers' Market Schedule

### Dates and Times:

Tuesdays: 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Starting: June 29, 2013

Ending: October 12, 2013

The Fremont Farmers' Market is located downtown Fremont in the northeast public parking lot north of Main Street between Merchant Avenue and Division.



## FARMERS' MARKET Community Information Booth

At the Farmers' Market in the middle of the pavilion, there will be an information center/promotion area for businesses located in the City. A different retail establishment each market day will promote its business at the booth by displaying its goods. Any Fremont retail establishment will be able to display promotional information at this booth throughout the season. Tote bags with the Fremont Farmers' Market logo will be available for purchase at the Community Information Booth for \$2.50. Bridge Cards will be accepted this year – double up food bucks program.



*For more information on the Fremont Farmer's Market, please contact the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce at (231) 924-0770.*

# GARAGE SALES: A Fun and Thrifty Summer Pastime

The City will be enforcing its regulations on garage sales again this summer. While many are thankful the City is doing so; others do not appreciate the effort. The regulations are being enforced because 1) the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does not allow signs in their right-of-way, and many of the signs are placed along Main Street and Stewart Avenue in the MDOT right-of-way; 2) for safety reasons, signs should not be attached to utility poles; and 3) the signs are unattractive and often the signs are not taken down after the sale. Everyone has worked hard to have Fremont looking neat, clean and beautiful for all to enjoy, so ridding the City of unnecessary signs is part of that effort.

The City understands that garage sales are important to many people. As a result, the City organizes a community garage sale twice a year, one in May and one in August. To participate, see below. The more people that participate in

the community garage sale, the more energy the event will create. This translates into more people attending the various garage sales, which includes having visitors from outside the community take part; visitors who are good for local businesses. The community garage sales could have a positive economic impact not only for the individual home owner but for the community at-large.



## Fremont's Annual Community Yard Sale

It's time to get ready for Fremont's Annual Community Yard Sale.

The dates for this event are:

May 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013

and

August 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013



To participate, all you have to do is call or come into the Fremont City Office, give us your name, address and phone number, and you're on the list! You can sign up for all 3 days, or just 1 day. The offices are open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 924-2101.

## Flushing of Fire Hydrants

The City Water Department will be conducting the semi-annual **Watermain Flushing Program** on Friday evening, **April 26<sup>th</sup>** and continue through the evening until finished. Some discoloration of water may occur throughout Saturday, so let your water run for a short period until clear. While the water will continue to be safe to drink, residents are urged not to do any laundry during this time.



## Maple Grove Cemetery News ...

The City of Fremont's Maple Grove Cemetery is pleased to announce its' new capabilities with its' software program.

The program provides access to online burial searches by the public. Many people do genealogical studies these days so this program could be useful.

The search covers anyone who is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery and their location by using the "locate on map" feature. If you have more information on a particular burial site, it can be submitted to Maple Grove Cemetery to review and may be added to the database.

Go to [www.cityoffremont.net](http://www.cityoffremont.net), select the "services" tab then click on "cemetery". Next, select the "online map" link to begin your search. Entering last name only will show all burial sites with that last name. Once a burial site is found, click on "occupant name" then click the "locate on map" tab to find their placement in the cemetery.

# Tree Coupon Program Rules

- City homeowners only.
- One coupon per household.
- Only the owner (not a tenant) of a rental property may request one coupon per building/yard.
- Condo complexes are limited to one coupon.
- Only trees, not shrubs or bushes, may be purchased.
- Coupons must be redeemed at Mellema Nursery by 5/31/13.
- Trees must be planted on the property designated on the coupon at the time of pick-up. During June, the City will inventory all trees planted under the program.

## BRUSH PICKUP

As a reminder, City crews resumed the monthly curbside brush pickup on April 1. The program will run on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, April - October. Brush is not to be placed at the curbside any earlier than the Friday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. If you have questions regarding refuse services, please call the City Offices @ 924-2101, Monday-Friday, between 8 AM & 5 PM.

## Tree Coupons To Be Available

*"A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit."*

Elton Trueblood (1900-1994)



On April 10, 1872, it was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day. In celebration of **National Arbor Day** on Friday, April 26, the City will again offer tree-purchase coupons. The City coupons will remain at \$30 this year and they will go to the first 50 City homeowners that request them, in person, at the City Offices. Coupons will be available till gone and must be redeemed by May 31, 2013.

During the City's coupon program over the last 15 years, residents have planted over 650 trees in the community. During the same time, the City planted an additional 400 trees throughout our parks, along our streets and in our cemeteries.

Based on "best forestry management practices," it is advisable to diversify our urban



TREE CITY USA

forests, which helps ensure not only a variety of tree species, but also lessens the negative effects or spread of diseases, such as happened with Dutch Elm Disease and may happen with the Emerald Ash Borer. Therefore, the Tree Coupon may not be used to purchase any species of Elm, Ash or any Conifer tree under 6 foot.

The coupon program and other various City tree plantings and maintenance efforts have contributed to the City's 20-year designation as a "Tree City, USA." Consider creating a tree legacy for the next generation, so that they may discover the meaning of human life when they sit under our trees. "HE WHO PLANTS A TREE, PLANTS HOPE!" - Lucy Larcon. ★

## Keeping It Green In Fremont - Fun Facts

**Did You Know:** The City recycles concrete, concrete block, brick, and asphalt and turns it into crushed concrete.

**How:** At any time, local contractors and residents may drop off concrete, concrete block, brick, and asphalt to the City's crushed concrete area located at 805 W. Oak Street. Every fall the City contracts with a company that comes in and "crushes" these materials to make the crushed concrete. The City then recycles it and uses it for City street projects. Any extra crushed concrete that is not used by the City, may be purchased by residents or contractors at \$10.00 a yard. At this time, crushed concrete is not for sale because the City will be using it for the 2013 spring/summer street projects (e.g., new sidewalks). Concrete may become available again for sale in late summer. At that time, a person interested in purchasing crushed concrete may come to the City Offices at 101 E. Main Street and pay in advance of picking it up. *Questions on the issue may be directed to city staff at 924-2101.* Loading times area as follows:

Monday – Friday

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.



**Why do it?:**

1. To be good stewards of the environment
2. To avoid having the materials deposited in a landfill
3. To save contractors and residents the cost and inconvenience of having to dispose of the material

**Kera Howell**, junior at Fremont High School an Ambassador Girl Scout with troop 20424 in Fremont, is working on her Gold Award. She is organizing an Earth Day Awareness event called "**Make a Scene by Being Green!**" Her project is about raising awareness on being "green" by reducing, reusing and recycling.

If you have any questions about her project, please call her at 231-233-0346.



A GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT AND AN EARTH DAY AWARENESS EVENT

Where: Fremont Marketplace  
When: Saturday, April 20, 2013  
Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

# Fremont Yard of the Month

## New City Neighborhood Improvement Program

### What is the Fremont Yard of the Month award?

The Fremont Yard of the Month award recognizes the hard work and pride exhibited by Fremont residents to beautify their yard.

### Why was the Fremont Yard of the Month award established?

The Fremont Yard of the Month award was established to recognize Fremont City residents who have improved or maintained their yard and whose yard has a positive aesthetic appeal. The award is intended to inspire others to take pride in their yard and to improve the overall quality of life in Fremont.

### What are the evaluation criteria?

Judges will use the general criteria as outlined on the City's website when choosing the "Yard of the Month". These are only guidelines. The final decision is based on evidence of the homeowner's pride and the contribution the yard makes to the Fremont community's appeal.

### How do I nominate a yard?

You may nominate your own yard or someone else's yard by filling out a Yard of the Month award application, which can be found on the City's website, or it may be picked up at the Fremont Municipal Building located at 101 E. Main Street, Fremont, MI. Awards are given out for recognition during the following months:

- July – For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by June 15.)
- August - For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by July 15.)
- September – For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by August 15)
- October – For Halloween Yard Decorating (Nominations must be submitted by October 15)
- December – For Holiday Yard Decorating (Nominations must be submitted by December 1)

Anyone may nominate a yard, whether they live in the City or outside the City, but the yard needs to be located within the City limits. More information may be found on the City's website at [www.cityoffremont.net](http://www.cityoffremont.net), or you may direct questions to Michele Ribant, the City's Neighborhood & Economic Development Director, at [mribant@cityoffremont.net](mailto:mribant@cityoffremont.net) or at 924-2101.

## NEW FIRWORKS LAWS

**Fireworks sold within the state are now allowed to be much louder and can leave the ground. Public Act 256 of 2011 legalizes consumer fireworks like bottle rockets and roman candles. Prior to the rule changes, Michigan's firework laws were relatively restrictive. The only fireworks allowed for legal use were novelty fireworks that did not leave the ground or explode, such as sparklers or smoke bombs.**

### Consumer Fireworks are regulated as follows,

(1) *A person shall not ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization's or person's express permission to use those fireworks on those premises.*

(2) *Consumer fireworks shall not be sold to a minor.*

(3) *An individual shall not use consumer fireworks or low-impact fireworks while under the influence of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance*

(4) *Local Ordinance does not allow for disturbing the peace. No person shall disturb the public peace and quiet by loud, boisterous or vulgar conduct or by making such excessive, unnecessary, or unusually loud noise, whether on public or private property, nor allow others under his control or direction to make such noise, which disturbs the peace, good order, health and safety of other persons, a neighborhood or the community in general.*

*(See safety tips =>)*



"FRIEND" US ON



Google or search for "City of Fremont, Michigan" and you can keep up on City events and other announcements.

## REMEMBER THESE FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

- Always have adult supervision
- Buy from reliable sources
- Use outdoors only
- Always have water (a hose and a bucket) nearby
- Never re-light a dud (wait 15-20 minutes and put it in the bucket)
- Never throw or point fireworks at other people
- Make sure the area is clear of combustibles
- Don't mix alcohol and fireworks
- Dispose of fireworks, especially sparklers, by soaking in water before placing them in a trash can
- Light one firework at a time.



## Fremont City Beat

101 E. Main Street  
Fremont, MI 49412

PRE-SORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
FREMONT, MI  
Permit No. 12

RESIDENT  
FREMONT, MI 49412



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the Fremont City Beat, please contact the City Offices at 231-924-2101 or stop by to see us at 101 East Main St., Fremont, MI 49412

## Important Numbers

City of Fremont	– Administration	(231) 924-2101
	– Police Department	(231) 924-2100
	– Fire Department	(231) 924-2103
	– Cemetery	(231) 924-2330
	– Municipal Airport	(231) 924-7080
Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce		(231) 924-0770
Fremont Area District Library		(231) 924-3480
Spectrum Health-Gerber Memorial		(231) 924-3300
Fremont Public Schools		(231) 924-2350
Dogwood Center for Performing Arts		(231) 924-8883
Newaygo County Sheriff Department		(231) 689-7303

Emergency – Fire – Police – Ambulance  
Call 911

**Refuse & Recycling Pick-up** – Place curbside every Tuesday by 7:00 AM

**Leaf Pick-up** – Begins 3rd Monday in October; continuous for four weeks, weather permitting

**Brush Pick-up** – Place curbside by 7:30 AM on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October

**Watermain Flushing** – April and October

**Winter Street Parking Ban (2:00 AM to 6:00 AM)** – From December 1st - April 1st

