



THE BINGHAM FARMS POST

Spring, 2010

ARE YOU READY FOR TRAFFIC SNARLING CONSTRUCTION?

Get out your maps and look for alternate routes to get from point A to point B this year. MDOT is making extensive repairs to 16 miles of pavement on US-24 (Telegraph Road).

There's so much construction, MDOT has awarded three separate contracts to get this work finished in ONE CONSTRUCTION SEASON. So how are they going to do this? For starters, there will be overnight work, especially for paving or pouring concrete.

The work is so extensive not even MDOT can come up with official detour routes. At this point, the only detour scheduled is at the Fourteen Mile Rd. intersection. For the most part, drivers will be left to their own creativity to find alternate routes.

Project 1

This is a \$9 million investment resurfacing northbound and southbound lanes between 8 Mile Road and the I-696 interchange. Drainage, guardrail and sign upgrades will be made. During peak travel periods, two lanes will be open in

each direction. During overnight hours and on some weekends, only a single lane will be open in each direction. There will be some road closures during the project.

Project 2

This \$35 million project will resurface northbound and southbound US-242 between I-696 and 12 Mile Road and total pavement reconstruction of both directions between 12 Mile Road and Long Lake Road.

Due to the heavy traffic volumes, the 12 Mile to Long Lake phase will be divided into two phases: Phase 1 will be 12 Mile Rd. to Maple and Phase 2 will be Maple to Long Lake. The different phases will allow for median crossovers to be maintained and allow access to side streets and driveways.

Besides new road surfaces, the

project includes installation of a new drainage system, guardrail and sign upgrades, and the creation of continuous right-turn lanes into driveways and side streets.

Some ramps at the US-24/M-10/I-696 interchange will be closed for paving and bridge work.

Crews will maintain two lanes in each direction during peak travel times, one lane in each direction during overnight hours and some weekends.

Project 3

This project is an ARRA (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act) project and is a \$7 million investment to reconstruct northbound US-24 from Square Lake Road to Orchard Lake Road. This project includes patching sections of pavement in poor condition on southbound US-24 and replacing drainage on the northbound side.

The Village is working with our Police Dept. to keep Village roads safe

Continued on Page 2



HAVE YOU MAILED IN YOUR CENSUS FORM YET?

It should take less than 10 minutes to fill out the short census form. By filling out the form, you are doing your civic duty but also providing important information that brings dollars into the state and Oakland County.

This census data directly affects how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments. Additionally, this count is used to distribute congressional seats to states.

Any undercount will cost us \$1,000 per person per year in lost funding for schools, housing, child-care centers, shopping centers, roads and more.

It is absolutely crucial that

snowbirds are counted at the residence where they live most of the year. So, if you spend three months in Florida and nine months in Michigan, you are considered a Michigan resident.

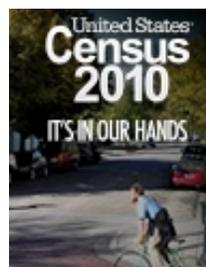
Michigan is already a donor state, paying the federal government more in gas tax than it receives back in federal highway funding. Michigan needs an accurate count.

This is one of the shortest census forms in

history. The 2010 Census form asks 10 questions. Census workers will visit households that do not return their forms to take a count in person.

This Census is more important than ever for Michigan. The information is confidential and the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

Take the time. Fill out the form today and pop it in the mail.



THE FIGHT CONTINUES AGAINST THE WEST NILE VIRUS

This past winter was not as frigid as the prior winter. That's good news on one front, but may be bad news on another - the West Nile Virus. It seems this pest is not going away anytime soon.

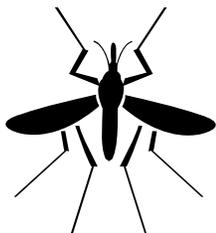
A warmer winter could mean a banner spring for mosquito populations. This means people cannot forget to protect themselves when outdoors, especially early morning or dusk.

The virus is spread to humans when bitten by a mosquito that carries the virus.

The number of human cases has been very low over the last several years and that's because people are doing a great job protecting themselves. The best defense is a good offense. Once again, there were no human cases reported in Oakland County last year.

The best advice - keep doing what you are doing.

- ♦ **Reduce areas where mosquitoes breed,**
- ♦ **Repel to protect against mosquitoes, and**
- ♦ **Report potential mosquito breeding areas.**



Other measures that can reduce the risk of contracting the virus include:

- ♦ Repair all holes in windows and screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- ♦ Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, barrels, cans, old tires, or similar sites.
- ♦ Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are most active (dawn and dusk).
- ♦ Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- ♦ Apply insect repellants that contain the active ingredient DEET to exposed skin or clothing. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for use. (Avoid applying repellent containing DEET on children less than two years of age.)

To report dead birds, call the Oakland County Health Division Hotline at 1.877.377.3641. Properly dispose of the bird and wear gloves to protect yourself from direct contact with the bird.

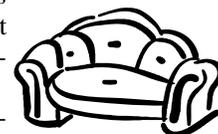
For updates on West Nile Virus, log on to:
www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus
or
www.oakgov.com.

LARGE ITEM PICK UP SCHEDULED

It's coming. The Village's semi-annual, free, large item pick up is set for **Thursday, June 10th**. All items should be at the street by 7:00 a.m. Large bulky items may be placed at the street the weekend before the pick up.

For new residents, the Village contracts with its rubbish contractor to haul away large items that normally are not included in the regular Thursday pick up.

This includes sofas, washing machines and hot water heaters.



It does not mean that it's time to clean out all the rubbish stored in your home. In the past, residents who were moving out of their home figured they could put everything out at the street. One resident had boxes and rubbish lined all along the street and half way down the driveway.

Car Trucking has the authority to bypass homes that have an excessive amount of rubbish. If you are in need of a roll-off, call Car Trucking.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Village office or Car Trucking at 586.791.8480 to avoid any problems on collection day.

Continued from Pg. 1 - Road Construction

during this massive project.

While it's going to be a major headache, Telegraph Road needs to have this work done.

The work is scheduled to begin in late March and end in December, weather permitting. It is probable that reconstruction will have to wait until next spring.

MDOT recommends that motorists change their normal routines to avoid peak traffic hours. Leave earlier or later than usual and just be patient and considerate. Everyone will be in the same boat.

Be aware of the speed limits in

construction zones. Fines are doubled for infractions in construction zones. **Speed limits are strictly enforced.**

Above all, watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists.

MDOT will be updating the websites regularly. For more information log on to www.michigan.gov/drive or www.twitter.com/mdot_metrodet.



***LATEX PAINT
IS NOT
HAZARDOUS WASTE!
DRY IT UP
AND
PUT IT WITH YOUR
REGULAR TRASH***

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

David M. Leckie

Greetings from the corner.

Well it looks like Spring is upon us and as everyone who lives in Michigan knows, this also brings road construction. This year, Bingham Farms will be directly impacted by the massive Telegraph Road Reconstruction which spans from 8 Mile Road to Long Lake Road and then a smaller area north of Square Lake. That's 16 miles of pavement. The project begins this month and is expected to run until December.

Construction is one of those major inconveniences that is absolutely necessary. The Village will work with our police department to make sure Village roads remain safe during this time. We all need to build up our patience and remember, everyone is in the same boat. Common courtesy will go a long way. Both drivers and pedestrians need to take extra precautions and be aware of what's going on around you. Michigianians are hardy folk and we will get through this.

On another note, despite what Washington says, the financial picture in Michigan still is in rough shape. Your

council is doing everything in its power to keep our balanced budget. There is no waste in next year's budget.

Fortunately, due to current and past fiscal conservancy, the Village still has designated funds that will allow us to continue the Village road reconstruction projects, but these may have to go at a slower pace. The budget also retains all essential services, such as police & fire, to keep our Village viable in these difficult times. Library service at both Baldwin and Bloomfield Twp. libraries will continue as usual.

The draft budget holds the 6.8 mill rate for the twelfth consecutive year. Don't want to preach doom and gloom, but the prior conservative fiscal policy has the Village holding up in these dismal economic times.

On a lighter note - Hope springs eternal. Have a great Spring. Go Tigers. Hopefully this year will be better than last.

IT'S ABOUT TIME

As our weather starts to warm, we begin to think of spring projects -- things we put off due to the cold weather. If you haven't already done it, one of those might be affixing the Bingham Farms automotive decal to the rear window of your car or truck. Sounds simple, and it is.

The decal provides a valuable assist to our police department and Bingham Farms Mobile Watch. While it contains no letters or numbers, this 3" x 3" depiction of evergreen trees and river water tells those folks that the car or truck "belongs" in Bingham Farms. That saves a lot of time in tracing vehicles casually parked here. After all, any thief intent on committing a crime in the Village has to get here somehow, likely by car or truck. And it is parked somewhere in the Village.

The police trace these, usually finding that the car in question, unmarked by decal, belongs to a resident. We could save that time for more important police duties if all Bingham Farms vehicles were equipped with a decal. And the beauty of this is that the decals are FREE, and will be delivered to your door. Just ask any Mobile Watch member or call Dick Holloway at 248/644-2622.

If you haven't already done so, do it now. It's about time.

Mobile Watch

A FINAL GOODBYE TO MARY JANE BAUER-WOLFE

It is on a sad note that we mourn the passing of past President Mary Jane Bauer-Wolfe. Mary Jane died peacefully in the early morning hours of February 8th. Her long term health battle was over.

A high school history teacher, Mary Jane took to heart volunteering in her community. She was President of the Village from 1998 until her resignation in February 2009 and served on Council prior to that. In the early 70s she served for a short time as Village Treasurer.

She was consistent in her desire to keep the open feel of the Village and its natural terrain. She tried to resolve issues amicably.

One of her favorite activities as President was to represent the Village at governmental functions and community events.

Her husband, Earl Wolfe still remembers her infectious smile that won his heart a few decades ago. That same smile helped the Village through some difficult times. She will be deeply missed.



VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING DATES

April 26
May 24
June 28

All meetings begin at 8:00 p.m.

LOCAL ROAD WORK SCHEDULED

Slowly but surely, the Village is getting closer to finishing its road reconstruction program that has been underway for the past five years.

This summer Fromm Lane is scheduled to be completely rebuilt. This includes tearing the asphalt down to its base. There will be some drainage work where needed.

The project is expected to begin after July 1 and take approximately 4-5 weeks. Driveway access will be maintained, however, there will be some short term delays.



Plans are available at the Village office. Any resident wishing to review these plans may do so during regular business hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

More information will be sent to each property owner on Fromm prior to the beginning of the project.

VILLAGE HOLDING ITS OWN IN ROUGH ECONOMY

It's becoming more and more difficult for the Village to keep its 6.8 millage rate. State revenue sharing continues to fall, property values are going down and foreclosures continue. Unfortunately, the Village's fixed or contracted costs are not going down.

The good news is that the Village expects to maintain the 6.8 millage rate for at least FY 2010-2011. The Village has held this rate for the past **11 years**. This means that the draft budget is very tight with only the absolute essentials in it.

At this time there will be no reductions in services. Police and Fire and Library are all covered. For the second year, there will be no salary increases for staff.

The Budget includes one major
Continued on Pg. 5

ROUGE RESCUE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Want to have some fun while helping to improve the health of the Rouge River?

Participate in the Friends of the Rouge's Rouge Rescue event on Saturday, June 5, 2010. Friends of the Rouge has been dedicated to the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River for nearly 25 years, but it is only through the help of caring individuals, organizations, and communities that they have been successful. Gather your friends and neighbors and join our community partners and thousands of concerned citizens for



Rouge Rescue 2010. This annual river clean up and river stewardship event is devoted to improving the health of the Rouge River for generations to come.

Last year Rouge Rescue attracted over 2,200 volunteers who participated in river stewardship projects at 37 worksites in 25 communities in Southeast Michigan. Volunteers worked to clean trash and debris from the river, stabilize eroding stream banks, remove invasive plant species and plant native wildflowers. During last year's Rouge Rescue 710 bags of trash and 4 cars were removed from the river corridor and surrounding natural areas. This was quite an accomplishment, but there is more work to be done!

Folks are invited to participate at any of the Rouge Rescue 2010 sites. Check the Friends of the Rouge website for a complete list of sites. Volunteers will get a chance to socialize, have fun, and learn about the Rouge River ecosystem, all while getting a chance to make a positive difference in their community.

For more information about Rouge Rescue 2010 and other opportunities to help your community through Friends of the Rouge visit www.therouge.org or call 313.792.9621.

WHAT'S COMING UP AT THE BALDWIN LIBRARY

Spring is here and it's a fantastic time of year to visit the Baldwin Public Library. You can stay current on what's happening at the Library by registering for Baldwin's eNews at www.baldwinlib.org/enews.

Meet Author Scott Turow on Thursday, April 15 at 4 p.m.

Hear Scott Turow speak about his life and experience writing *Presumed Innocent*. Major demand to hear Turow is expected so tickets will be distributed by lottery. Program is open to residents of Birmingham, Beverly Hills, and Bingham Farms. Stop in to join the lottery today!



Friends of the Baldwin Public Library Book Sale

Friday, May 7 from 7 pm - 9 pm: Member Preview Night - Reserved for Members of the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library (Memberships are available at the door)

Saturday, May 8 from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday, May 9 from 12 noon - 4 pm: Half Price Day

Monday, May 10 from 10 am - 2 pm: Bag Day - Buy a bag for \$3.00 and stuff it to the brim with books.

Summer Reading Kick-Off

Join us as we kick off another great summer of reading for all ages! The theme of this summer's program is WATER! Join us for the kick-off event on Friday, June 18 from 1 pm to 5 pm.

Baldwin provides priority registration for Library programs to residents of Birmingham, Beverly Hills, and Bingham Farms.

Looking for updated information on the Village?

Check out www.binghamfarms.org

BINGHAM RESIDENTS BIG ON RECYCLING

Do you know when the Village began recycling? Following a pilot program in 1991, the Village adopted a Recycling ordinance in early 1992 requiring all households to begin recycling.

It was amazing how quickly residents caught on. Now, with the green movement, it is as important as ever to continue this program.

Originally, the Village used a 3-bin system where separation was done at the home. As technology improved and recycling trucks came on the market, the rubbish contractor began separating recycling materials at the street.

This process now allows the Village to use just one bin.

Not only has the process changed since 1992, but so has the amount of materials that can now be recycled. The most recent additions are plastic grocery bags such as those used at Kroger & Meijer. Many shoppers have switched to cloth bags to carry home their groceries. The toughest part of that is remembering to bring the bags in with you when you go shopping.

Check out the SOCRRA website at www.socrra.org to get a complete list of products/materials that may be recycled.

Continued from Pg. 4 Village Budget

road project on Fromm which is scheduled to begin after July 1. This will be funded from the Local Road Designated Fund.

The proposed FY 2011-2012 follows:

Administrative*	\$ 406,060
Engineering	4,500
Library	120,000
Public Safety	1,030,144
Legal	18,000
Rubbish	90,000
Total	\$1,698,704

*Administrative Expense includes: rent, audit, office utilities, supplies, salaries, benefits, planning, insurance, legislative and publishing expenses.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

It's convenient, easy and available all year long. Bingham Farms residents can drop off their Household Hazardous Waste products at the SOCRRA facility on Coolidge Highway in Royal Oak. The contract between the Village and SOCRRA also allows residents to drop off electronic equipment, such as televisions (no consoles) and computer equipment.

Appointments are necessary. Call SOCRRA at **248.288.5153**. The staff will ask a few questions about what type of material that will be dropped off and in what amounts. You will be given a date and time for your drop off.

Put the items in your car, drive to the site at the scheduled time, drive up to the little building in the back and show proof of residency (driver's license will do). The SOCRRA staff will do the rest. They will remove all the items from your vehicle.

Fill out a form and then be on your way. The whole experience should take less than an hour and that's door to door.

Residents are becoming more comfortable using the SOCRRA facilities and that's good news.

There is one area of concern. Only oil-based paint is considered a hazardous material. **LATEX PAINT IS NOT. See Pg. 7 for the proper way to dispose of latex paint.** So, be careful not to include latex paint with your drop off.

The SOCRRA website has a lot of good information on what is considered hazardous and what is not. It also provides alternatives to reduce the amount of product that is dropped off.

Should you have any questions, call SOCRRA at **248.288.5153** or visit their website at www.socrra.org. Or call the Village office at 248.644.0044.



HAVING TROUBLE WITH YOUR TV PROVIDER?

The Birmingham Area Cable Board was formed in the early 80s when cable first came on the scene. The Board is authorized through an Interlocal Agreement between four municipalities: Birmingham, Bingham Farms, Beverly Hills and Franklin.

The initial charge of the Board was to identify cable providers and then negotiate a contract with the approved company. The original cable provider was Booth Communications.

Since that time, the Board has been instrumental in resolving cable complaints, inviting cable competition, pursuing legislative enhancements and developing the PEG (Public, Educational and Governmental) channels

In 2006 the State passed legislation that limited the ability of local units of government to negotiate franchise agreements.

Shortly after, AT&T received a franchise and began building their system. In 2008 AT&T began rolling out service in very limited areas. To date, AT&T is primarily available in Bingham Woods Condominiums. They will not talk about future roll outs.

Satellite TV (Direct TV & DISH Network) continue to offer an alternative.

The Cable Board solely has authority to monitor cable providers and only for TV service (Comcast & AT&T). As a courtesy they try and assist customers with internet and phone related problems.

The process for resolving TV-related issues follows:

- Call your provider for service.
- If the problem is not corrected, call the Cable Board at 248.336.9445.
- A report is filed with the provider.

A customer may also file a complaint on line by logging on to the Cable Board's website at www.birminghamareacableboard.org.

TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE

The Village has been most fortunate this year as there have been no residential burglaries yet reported. But it doesn't mean the crooks don't look for prime targets in the Village. Crooks aren't particularly concerned whether it's day or night. They always are on the prowl. Just across Telegraph and to our North, there have been a number of residential break-ins.

In recent nighttime home invasions, crooks have found easy access through unlocked doors or windows and where the security alarm system has not been turned on.

Here are a few ideas to keep your home safe.

- First of all, if you have an alarm system, USE IT, even when you're going out for just a short time.
- Install light by all exterior doors.
- Use lights at night.
- Illuminate house numbers for quick emergency response.
- Trim bushes back from doors and windows. Don't give burglars a place to hide.
- Close the garage door and cover windows so no one can see what is inside the garage.
- If a vehicle is parked outside, be sure it is locked and hide the garage door opener from view.
- Remove valuables, especially purses, lap top computers, iPods and GPS systems.

The Franklin Bingham Farms Police Department has compiled a complete list of ideas to make sure you don't become a victim.

Call the Village office at 248.644.0044 and ask for a copy.

**LARGE ITEM PICK UP
JUNE 10, 2010**

See Pg. 8 for details

HAPPY RETIREMENT OFFICER GARDNER

After 32 years of police service, Officer Jim Gardner is turning in his badge and gun and heading for the easy life.

He began his career in 1978 working for the C&O Railroad followed by a short stint in Florida. In 1986 he came back to Michigan and within a short period of time was hired by the Franklin-Bingham Police Dept.

Officer Gardner was a go-getter from day one. Within a short period of time, after being assigned to the Special Assessment District on Telegraph Rd, he arrested three security guards for breaking into the businesses they were supposed to protect.

He has had a distinguished career with the Franklin-Bingham Police Department receiving 33 letters of appreciation from residents for the quality of service he provided to them, and 17 other commendations.



The Village is most fortunate to have had Jim patrolling the streets and keeping the Village safe for all these years. His personable smile, his understanding and willingness to go that extra mile will be missed.

Enjoy your retirement Jim. You've earned it.

NEW RESIDENTS

It's sometimes difficult to find out that the Village has a new resident. We would like to send a Welcome Letter that addresses common questions.

If you are new to the area, contact the Village at 248.644.0044.

DO YOU KNOW?

Like other municipalities, the Village has adopted ordinances to keep the peace and tranquility of our community. A few snippets of those ordinances follow.

- Vehicles for Sale - it's unlawful to display a vehicle for sale on a public road or right of way. This includes cars parked at the end of a driveway. (Sec.95.10)



- Construction noise is not allowed after dusk or before 7:00 a.m. No construction on Sundays. (Sec. 95.21 A)



- After 11:00 p.m., tone down outside noise (Sec. 95.21 E)



- Underground fences for dogs are not to be placed in the front yard unless approved by the Village Council. (Sec. 157.007 N)



- Yard sales are allowed and no permit is needed. Signs must be removed immediately following the end of the sale.



- No more than three regulated trees may be removed from a site within a 2-year time period without obtaining a permit. The removal of dead or damaged trees does not require a permit. (Sec. 93.01-93.11)



The complete ordinance may be found on the Village website, www.binghamfarms.org. Click on the link "Code". If you have any questions, call the Village office at 248.644.0044.

GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSING OF LATEX PAINT

In response to questions regarding what to do with old latex paint, SOCRRA has developed a few simple guidelines. Latex paint is technically not a Household Hazardous Waste, but it is considered a liquid and therefore cannot be placed in with the trash. It must be turned into a solid. To do this, the paint must first be dried or hardened before it is disposed of in the trash, and the empty paint cans be placed in the recycling bin. **Because oil-based paint contains dangerous solvents, it is important to remember that these procedures can only be used with latex paint.**

Natural Drying - With latex paint cans that are less than a quarter full, simply remove the lid and place the can in a well-ventilated area. The remaining paint should be dry within a few days. Once dry, the hardened paint can be chipped out and placed with the trash. The empty paint can, whether metal or plastic, should be placed in the recycling bin.



For paint cans that are more than a quarter full, you'll need:

Paint Hardener - You can pick up paint hardener at any local hardware or paint store. Once you have your paint hardener there are a few simple steps to follow:

1. Cover your work surface to protect it from paint splashes
2. Add a paint hardener to the can – read the directions on the packet to find out how much hardener you need to add. Typically one packet will harden up to 2/3rds of a gallon of paint.
3. Stir and mix thoroughly. After a few minutes, the paint will have a chunky, oatmeal-like texture

You can now dispose of the dried paint in the trash. The empty paint can be placed in the recycling bin.

Kitty Litter - This common, household absorbent works well in removing the moisture from latex paint. How much kitty litter to add depends on the makeup and age of the latex paint. In most cases, start with a cup or two and add as needed. Stir thoroughly and after a short time, the paint will thicken. Dispose of the hardened material in the trash and recycle the empty paint cans.



Saw Dust, Mulch, Small Animal Bedding, & Sand – These are other common absorbents that can be used to thicken and solidify latex paint. Use them the same way you would use kitty litter. Remember to recycle empty paint cans **and lids** after disposing of the hardened paint.

Some general tips to consider before drying latex paint:

- To limit waste buy only what you need – ask at the paint stores, they are the experts!
- Store cans in a proper place, properly sealed, so the paint doesn't leak or dry out.
- Storing paint cans upside down can help keep paint fresh.
- Try to use all of the paint.
- Donate any leftover paint to local schools, churches or theatre groups.

LARGE ITEM PICK UP REGULATIONS

Date: Thursday June 10, 2010

Time: All large items at street by 7:00 a.m.

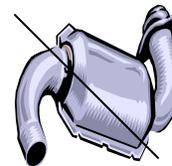
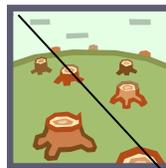
ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- * Large appliances, furniture and hot water heaters
(Refrigerators & freezers must have Freon removed prior to pick up)
- * Only small tree stumps
- * Brush and tree branches must be bundled and the length may not exceed four feet
- * Rolls of carpet and linoleum must be tied together with the length not to exceed four feet
- * Disposal of construction materials is limited to one 32-gallon trash container



UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- * Large tree stumps
- * Hazardous waste
- * Automotive parts
- * Tires
- * Loose gravel
- * Large amounts of construction material & loose items



Car Trucking has the right to refuse to pick up excessive amounts of materials. If you have a large quantity of items, please call Car Trucking at **586-791-8480** and make special arrangements. Car Trucking does have dumpsters (roll-offs) available.

LATEST TREE THREATS

It seems every so many years, the trees in our Village are under attack from one insect or another.

First there was the gypsy moth. That infestation was so bad that many communities (even Bingham Farms) resorted to aerial spraying. That kept the insect at bay for almost eight years. But this infestation may be coming back for a second attack. The gypsy moth prefers oak trees but will feed on aspen, birch, poplar and other species. The Village is staying on top of this.



Then came the emerald ash borer. Thousands of ash trees were lost. At the time, the only option to property owners was to cut down the trees.



While the major infestation may be behind us, latest reports indicate the pesky beetles are still around. Normally, they attacked trees that were in a weakened state. This time through, even the healthy trees may be at risk.

In the past few years, scientists have been testing different types of insecticides that might prevent the loss of ash trees. But most of these insecticides are dangerous so are recommended for professional use only.

There is one that can be used by the homeowner and that is the Bayer Advanced Tree & Shrub Insect Control. The effective rate of these insecticides vary. Check with an arborist before using any product.



Now making its way into the Midwest is Pine Wilt. This insect predominantly attacks Scots pine. The culprit here is the pine sawyer beetle. They are strong fliers and can travel several miles.

There is no highly effective management method at this time. The best advice is to remove a tree that is infected. Dead pines can become beetle reservoirs,

NOXIOUS WEEDS ORDINANCE NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS

It does not happen often, but there are times when property owners move away, go out of town or just leave the property in a state of disrepair. One area of high concern is lack of maintaining the lawn. Grass that reaches a height of eight inches or more is considered a noxious weed.

Before the Village steps in to remove the violation, the property owner is notified of the infraction. He is given 10 days to remove the violation. If not resolved within that time period, the Village will contract with a landscape company to cut the lawn.

The annual notice published in the "Eccentric" newspaper reads:

"Pursuant to Section 95.36(A), the Village hereby publishes notice to property owners that noxious weeds existing on a property as of May 1 of that year may be cut, mowed or removed by the Village, with the property owner charged with the Village's actual and administrative costs and expenses in doing so, as many times that calendar year as necessary to keep the property

free from noxious weeds.

Specifically, the Village will provide written notice to owners of property upon which noxious weeds exist, and to occupants and agents of said owners known to the Village: (i) to cut, mow or remove the noxious weeds within 10 days of the date of the notice, (ii) to thereafter maintain the property free from noxious weeds, (iii) that upon a failure or refusal to do so, that the Village Clerk (or their designee), will enter upon the property and perform the required cutting, mowing or removal, (iv) that payment of the Village's actual and administrative expenses incurred in cutting, mowing or removal is the responsibility of the property owners and is secured by a lien on the property, (v) that the existence of noxious weeds is a public nuisance and (vi) may schedule any public nuisance hearing before the Village Council for a bill under dispute as set forth in Section 95.08."



WANT TO BE KEPT INFORMED AND RECEIVE SPECIAL ALERTS?

Register with the Village at

info@binghamfarms.org

Receive warnings, water alerts, police notices and more.

Sign up today.

COMPOST SEASON BEGINS

Now that the snow has melted and spring is officially here, the weekly pick up of compost begins on April 8 and will run through the end of November.

Compost materials include leaves, grass, plants and small bushes.

All compost should be placed in **brown paper bags** or tied into bundles no more than 4' in length. Compost placed in plastic bags go as regular trash as plastic does not disintegrate quickly.



so they should be cut promptly and burned, buried or chipped.

The best advice, if you know a tree is diseased, remove it quickly. It may save surrounding trees.

HELP STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING

Every year the Village picks up the tab to haul away debris dumped in the Village rights of way. It ranges from a truck full of old tires to wood chips to tree trunks.

If you see anything suspicious, such as a slow-moving and/or fully loaded truck, call police dispatch at **248.626.5444**. Getting the license number or a description of the truck will help police track down the scofflaws.



If caught, the culprits face stiff fines and must remove the debris or reimburse the Village for its costs to remove the materials.

VILLAGE OFFICES HOLIDAY CLOSURES

May 31st - Memorial Day

July 5th - Independence Day



UPCOMING EVENTS

Bingham Farms

Large Item Pick Up - June 10th

Birmingham

Village Players - "Hair" May 7 - 24. Call 248.644.2075 for details.

Fine Arts Festival - S. Old Woodward

May 15 - 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

May 16 - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Village Fair - June 3-6 S. Old Woodward

In The Park Concerts - Wednesdays at 7 p.m. **Booth Park**

Concert Hot Line - 248.530.1650

Fireworks - July 3rd at dusk - Lincoln Hills Golf Course

Beverly Hills

Fun Run & Walk - May 31 at 9:30 a.m.– Beverly School

Parade & Carnival - May 31 at 11:30 a.m.– Beverly Park

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
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Birmingham, MI
Permit No. 217

Village of Bingham Farms
24255 Thirteen Mile Road #190
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
(248) 644-0044

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Website: www.binghamfarms.org