



.the. ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION

The State's primary election was held August 2. Ada had over 40% turnout, with 45% of those turning out at the polls and 55% voting absentee.

ADA'S PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE PASSED BY SLIGHTLY OVER 70%.

The following are results from Ada:

Most of the Democrat positions were unopposed.

Republican results (and the unopposed Democrats) are as follows:

Governor –

Tudor Dixon (R) will face Gretchen Whitmer (D)

3rd Congressional –

John Gibbs (R) will face Hillary Scholten (D)

30th State Senator –

Mark Huizenga (R) will face David LaGrand (D)

State Representative –

Lynn Afendoulis (R) will face Rachel Hood (D)

Kent County Commissioner –

Dave Hildenbrand (R) will face Vanessa Lee (D)

There were many more county-wide and state-wide races.

County results can be found here:

<https://electionreporting.com/county/bSlc67f6-9bd6-4012-b871-becb3ef14478/township/Ada%20Township>

State results can be found here:

www.michigan.gov/sos/elections



The November general election is scheduled for November 8. If you are interested in working at the polls, please contact Deb Thompson at Ada Township, (616) 676-9191.

... and PLEASE VOTE!

MARK FITZPATRICK AWARDED HEARTWELL ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY AWARD

The Heartwell Environment Legacy Award is awarded annually by the West Michigan Environmental Action Council. It is named after former Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell and dedicated to individuals who have committed their lives to protect the environment and natural resources.



Mark Fitzpatrick

Mark Fitzpatrick, the Director of the Ada Township Parks & Recreation Department, is the 8th recipient of this award, which recognizes Mark's leadership and contribution to the development and expansion of Ada's parks system – including Roselle Park and Chief Hazy Cloud Park. It also recognizes his long-time work as an environmental advocate in West Michigan.

VOTER REGISTRATION

You may register to vote in the November election anytime up to 8 pm on Election Day; however, there are restrictions. Until October 24, you can register by any method . . . Secretary of State, mail, online, or at your local clerk's office. Between October 25 and November 8, you can register only at your local clerk's office with proof of residency. Please register early . . . the sooner the better!



Jackie Smith
Clerk





ADA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS –

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

On the August ballot we asked for a renewal and increase to our Public Safety Millage. Your support was overwhelming and greatly appreciated. A portion of those funds will be used this winter as our firefighters begin training to the next level of care as Emergency Medical Technicians. With medicals being the largest portion of our responses, we want to be trained to the highest levels. I will keep you updated with other upgrades we are making in the future to provide you the best possible service. If you ever have questions about the Fire Department, call Chief David Murray at (616) 676-2376 or simply stop by the station.

BREAKFAST IS SERVED TO 650!

In 1990 we moved into our Fire Station One; we also started the July 4th breakfast. After a 2-year COVID-19 break, we returned this year and served up 650 guests! Thank you to all that came out. We look forward to seeing you in 2023!

HALLOWEEN

Monday, October 31st your Ada Firefighters will continue the 50-plus years of tradition of hosting the annual Halloween Party. From 5-8pm, stop by and enjoy cider, doughnuts, candy and check out the trucks while you are here. The entire event is inside so things will be warm and dry!



WHAT IS BLACK AND WHITE AND RED ALL OVER?

Nope it's not a newspaper, and you won't find the answer on your Dixie riddle cup. It's the fleet of vehicles at the Fire Department. Due to supply chain issues, much like Henry Ford said with the Model T you can have any color as long as it's black. The black Chevrolet Tahoe will be outfitted with red reflective stripes and be our first response unit from Fire Station One. This truck will replace our 2009 Chevrolet Suburban.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

For 100 years Fire Prevention week has been recognized across the country; this year October 9-15 is the week. In Ada we spend the entire month teaching Fire Prevention to dozens of classes and hundreds of students. Your children will come home with fire safety materials; take a few minutes and go over the information with them. It is a great time to review your escape plan, check smoke detectors and make sure your address is visible to first responders. If you have any questions about fire safety in your home, call us at (616) 676-2376.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAME OUT FOR THE ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN ADA!

Wow... what a day, what a parade, what a community! As we look back on our annual 4th of July Celebration, we reflect on the vibrancy of the Ada community! It was an honor to have our grand marshal, long-time resident and business owner Mr. Walt VanderWulp, leading the parade through downtown. We thank you for your many years of service and contributions to our community.

A big thank you goes out to all volunteers who assisted our workforce. Eight different festivities were held this year and we could not have put them on without you!

But most of all, thank you, Ada Township for your support of the 4th of July Celebration. Your smiles, laughter, cheers, and hugs keep us planning each year.

The annual 4th of July Celebration will return to Ada next year. For more information on how you can get involved please check the Ada Township website.





KENT COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE NEWS –

Greetings from your
Community Police Officer,

Auto Security

Thefts of two particular car brands have been on the rise after gaining popularity on social media. We are warning residents of a local increase in car thefts of Kia and Hyundai brand vehicles. The thefts are mainly of Kia cars newer than 2011 and Hyundai cars newer than 2015 with standard key ignitions.

The thefts have been on the rise nationally after tips showing how to start these cars without the use of a key were posted on social media. Thieves are simply joy riding the vehicles or using them to commit other crimes. The vehicles are then left abandoned in most cases soon after the theft.

To prevent yourself from becoming a victim, we recommend:

- Buy a steering wheel lock
- Lock your car
- Make sure the alarm is on
- Park in well-lit areas or garage
- Use camera surveillance systems

Scam Alert!

The Kent County Sheriff's Office is warning residents of law enforcement impersonation phone calls. This is a reminder that the KCSO will never solicit payment for fines or bond over the phone.

In the most recent scam, a fraudulent caller posing as a law enforcement officer threatens to arrest the victim if money is not sent. Typically, the reason given by the caller is to pay fines for outstanding warrants. The callers will often "spoof," or fake, their phone numbers so the call appears to be coming from a local police department, like the Kent County Sheriff's Office.

The callers will often ask you to obtain a prepaid credit card from a local store and provide them with the credit card number. Once the money is taken from the credit card, there is very little law enforcement can do to identify the suspect and recover the money.

The callers often threaten to extort victims with physical or financial harm or the release of sensitive data. They are becoming more sophisticated and organized in their approach, are technologically savvy, and often target young persons and the elderly.

To protect yourself from falling victim to scams, be wary of answering phone calls from numbers you do not recognize. Never give out your personal information, including banking information. Do not send money to anybody that you do not personally know and trust, including those claiming to be law enforcement officers. If in doubt, hang up and contact the person they are claiming to be or report to local authorities.

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



ADA FARMERS MARKET

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

We have had the most fabulous weather at the Market this year, making it a summer to remember! The market has also seen a return to its former size, with many more vendors and products. If you haven't been to market, it's time you visited our little corner of fresh. We have several Tuesdays remaining through the end of October, rain or shine, from 9am until 2pm. As the market's products transition with the early fall weather, you'll be seeing more of those beautiful hardy veggies holding the last of the summer sun. Sadly, it also means it's time for our student volunteers to return to school. We are the luckiest Market in town to have these extra helpers for unloading vendor vehicles, counting market traffic and painting so many of the little faces visiting us on Tuesdays. They each work hard behind the scenes and we want to take time out to thank them for all they did to make sure your market ran smoothly!

Caleb Fish • Chessie Mac Anaspie • Arie Norden
Bear Norden • Oliver Oxley • Mason Velie

Thank you as well to our wonderful crew of adult volunteers who generously donate their time, managing the Market Booth, the set up/take down process each Tuesday and other important tasks. The market operations depend heavily on their efforts to keep Tuesdays running efficiently.

Rick Buckner • Barry Kiefer

This year we've had social media support from the Ada Township Downtown Development Association (DDA) from their intern, Aaron McNair, and the Director of the DDA, Haley Stichman. Both helped to significantly boost our social media presence, helping to highlight all the wonderful products and services we offer shoppers each week. A big thanks to Aaron and Haley!

Next in line for applause are the many musicians who join us each week as buskers, playing their special brand of fresh tunes from 11:30am until 1:30pm. We hear how many of you enjoy their unique programming and show your appreciation with tips!

We also owe big thanks to the host of our location, The Community Church. Our market is part of their mission to the community at large and we are grateful for their generosity.

Finally, thank you for supporting the vendors and the Market. We work hard every year to bring you familiar market products and surprise items, like macarons or horchata. Vendors are excited to be part of our market and make Tuesdays part of their business plan, selling you the best of fresh. They also enjoy catching up on what's new from their regular customers. You keep them coming back by supporting them at the Market and keeping their business healthy.

It really is the best place to be in Ada on Tuesday from the first Tuesday in June until the last Tuesday of October. Join us in the weeks remaining this season and keep our local market alive and healthy. Mark your calendars!

See you at the Market!

Township Master Plan Now Underway

WE'RE LISTENING!

An update to the Township's Master Plan is currently underway. The Plan is a policy document that guides where and how growth will occur in Ada Township. For this process to be a success, public involvement is key. Open and inclusive conversations have been happening this summer to gather diverse viewpoints from residents, business and property owners, civic and neighborhood groups, local officials, and everyone else that is interested in Ada Township. Focus groups, pop-up listening stations at local events, and an online community survey culminated in a community visioning event on Tuesday, August 16th where community voices contributed to creating a bold vision for Ada's future.

Public Engagement

- Focus Group #1 – Community Connectors
June 22, 2022, 8:30a
15 Attendees
- Focus Group #2 – Community Connectors
June 28, 2022, 5:30p
17 Attendees
- Focus Group #3 – Ada Business Association | June 29, 2022, 11:30a | 26 Attendees
- Pop-up Event #1 – Music on the Lawn
June 29, 2022, 6:30p
50 Participants
- Pop-up Event #2 – Ada Farmers Market
July 19, 2022, 9:00a
40 participants
- Community Event #1 | August 16, 5:00p
- Online Survey: 360+ responses



As a result of this Public Engagement effort, in conversations at the Ada Library, Music on the Lawn, and the Ada Farmers Market, as well as input received from the online survey, a total of over 500 participants shared their opinions on the issues facing Ada, as well as opportunities for change. Many reflected on current experiences, the Township's physical constraints, and the desired character of the community. For example, we've heard the following:

Positive aspects of Ada:

- Recreational green space in Ada Township (natural features including two rivers, trails/paths, open space, places for kids to play).
- A sense of community (vibrant village core, citizen/community care and involvement, high commitment to the common good).

- Safe community (low crime, safe place to live/work/play/visit).
- Public school system (schools attract residents to the community).
- Small-town, historical feel (diverse village area businesses, new walkable village area, strong planning and design, appropriate scale).
- Local business presence (mix/variety of local businesses that meet local needs).

Challenges in Ada:

- Travel speeds and circulation patterns (traffic and congestion).
- Parking availability (parking options specifically for events and on weekends).
- Housing affordability (diversity of housing options for families, seniors, and diverse income levels).
- Diversity (lack of economic and racial/ethnic diversity).
- Vehicular and pedestrian safety (underpass area slope and visibility, crosswalk areas).

Future opportunities for Ada:

- Expanding recreation and activities (more trails and parks, trail connections, play areas for kids).
- Improved access and safety for pedestrians and cars (managing traffic, roads, and parking areas).
- Intentional planning for future development in Ada (more workforce housing especially near employment centers/business areas, longevity of community, more housing density in village area, providing pedestrian connections from village area to commercial areas on Fulton to the west).
- Biking infrastructure (improving crosswalks, keeping bikes off main roads, more trails and connections especially between the village area and parks).
- Business variety (restaurant and retail that are more affordable).

UPCOMING MASTER PLAN EFFORTS

Stay tuned for more engagement opportunities this Fall by visiting the project website at: <http://adamichigan.org/township/departments/planning-zoning/master-plan>. Work to date is also posted there. More events are planned to validate community goals, develop preliminary plan concepts, create a recommended zoning plan, and prioritize an implementation strategy. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming community event!



John D. Said
Planning Director

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY NEWS –

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA), through its partnership with The Right Place, has developed a set of key objectives – a collaborative roadmap – to help maintain focus and guide the DDA's strategic initiatives over the next couple years.

The visioning and planning process was a collaborative effort between the DDA Board, DDA and Township management staff, and its community partners. The intent was to work through past, current, and potential future initiatives to determine where focusing DDA resources and efforts will fulfill the goals of the DDA and further define our role within the community.

Mission and Vision: *The Ada Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is an advocate for the vitality of the downtown development district through promotion, business collaboration and public improvements. We strive to develop and foster a positive 'vibe' in the downtown district that makes Ada a community where people and businesses want to be.*

For a full copy of the DDA Objectives, visit adamichigan.org/township/government/boards-commissions/downtown-development-authority, then scroll to downloads.

Let's Get Social

While you're scrolling through your social media feed, don't forget to like the Ada Township Downtown Development Authority Facebook page – you'll want to stay tuned for more details regarding all the fun things happening in the Village this year!

Check it out: facebook.com/adatownshipDDA.

Downtown Development Authority Contact:

Haley Stichman

DDA Director

Phone: (616) 676-9191

Fax: (616) 676-5870

Email: hstichman@adatownshipmi.com



TOWNSHIP DDA

ADA TOWNSHIP FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

Fall is a great time to clean up our properties of unwanted trash and sort out recyclable and re-usable items. Listed below are the details for the fall Ada Community Clean-Up Day and resources to assist you. Please contact the Ada Parks office for more information, (616) 676-0520.

Fall Clean-Up Day

For Ada residents to drop off trash, scrap metal, old appliances, re-usable household items, electronic devices, and paper documents for shredding. (No yard waste).

When: Saturday, October 22, 2022

Where: Parking lots of Ada Christian School & Ada Congregational Church

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

For: Ada Residents and Businesses only

Items accepted:

Republic Services: For general trash, scrap metal, appliances

Comprenew: For electronic devices

Salvation Army: For useable household items

Shred-it: For paper document shredding (limited to 6 boxes and households only)

Items not accepted:

No yard waste (branches, leaves, etc.), tires, oil-based paints, toxic chemicals, inflammable materials (gas, propane)

Routing:

- For general trash, scrap metal, electronics, appliances or any combination of items, enter via the main driveway for Ada Christian School at 8206 Ada Dr.
- For only re-usable household items or paper shredding, enter the Ada Congregational Church lot off of Fox Hollow Ave.

Fall 2022 Leaf Pick-Up Days

Tuesday, October 18 & Tuesday, November 29

- For Ada residents only.
- Purchase your own paper leaf bags (plastic bags not accepted).
- For leaves and compostable yard waste only (no branches or household waste).
- Leave leaf bags roadside at your property before 7:00 a.m. on the pick-up day.
- For more information or questions contact (616) 676-9191.

Can't make the Clean-Up Days?

Here are some resources available for managing your trash, reusables and recyclables:

- General Waste and Yard Waste: www.reimaginetrash.org
- Re-Usable Household Items: Salvation Army www.salvationarmy.org / (888) 868-9305
- Scrap Metal and Appliances: Padnos / www.padnos.com
- Electronics: Comprenew / www.comprenew.org
- Paper Document Shredding: Shred-it www.stericycle.com / (616) 984-7977
- Household Hazardous Waste: Kent County Public Works recycle@kentcountymi.gov / (616) 632-7941



KENT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS



COMPRENEW



ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Events for September, October & November 2022



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

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

Temporary Exhibit – Hometown Heroes: Ada Fire Department

There are only a few months left, so don't miss out! In the temporary exhibit for 2022, we sound the alarm for all ways the Ada Fire and Rescue Department has served our community.

September 8, October 13, and November 10 – Monthly Board Meeting

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

September 8 – Honoring Our Hometown Heroes

6-7:30pm at the History Center. Join in celebrating the Ada Fire Department and their families for their service to this community. RSVP by September 3 – AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com or (616) 676-9346.

September 17 – Fur Trade Living History Encampment

10am-4pm at the History Center. Experience the sights and sounds of a real fur trading camp with tools, jewelry, freight canoe and a live exhibition of bow and arrow shooting. Interact with descendants of Rix Robinson. Appropriate for all ages.

September 22 – Centennial Properties Reception

7pm at the History Center. Would your home be eligible for a "Centennial" plaque? How do you get a centennial designation? Share stories about your experience in owning a historical home. Explore the experience with a lively panel discussion.

October 7 – Ada Village's Fall Festival

4-7pm at the History Center. Come listen to a short story and visit the museum exhibits as we partner with Amy Van Andel Kent District Library for story time during the village-wide celebration.

October 10 – Fur Trade in the Grand River Valley

7pm at the History Center. Lynn Chapman and Jessica Yann will discuss research on the archaeology of the fur trade in the Grand River Valley and Ada in particular, including Dr. Ruth Herrick's report on the Ada dig. Yann is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at MSU. Chapman is President of the Coffinberry Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society. Experts in their fields, this talk will share insights into the world of the fur trade and the relationships between participants such as Rix Robinson in that trade here 200 years ago.

November 3 – Veterans' Day Presentation

7pm at the History Center. Join with us in honoring veterans' service at our annual lecture presentation. Details to come.

November 18 – Wreath Sale Fundraiser Begins

Stop by the barn for fresh-cut holiday wreaths and support the activities of the Ada History Center. Choose from Douglas or Fraser fir and choice of fabrics for bows. Order form and sale hours available soon. Thank you!

Open Hours

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

Centennial Properties Program

The Centennial Properties program continues to recognize homes and commercial buildings 100 years of age and older. We honor the importance of historic properties and the value they add to our community today. Check our website www.AdaHistoryCenter.org for more information on the program and an application.



School days, school days, dear old Golden Rule days. Reading and 'riting and 'rithmetic ... Not much has changed in a century as we are still grabbing that first day of school pic. Here Elinor Washburn (Staskus) is ready to go with book and lunch pail in hand, c. 1924. The Ada School was just up the hill, under the railroad viaduct, from her home on Bronson Street. Of course, it would have been uphill both ways.

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Contact Information:

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

Email: adaparks@adatownshipmi.com

Website: www.adatownshipmi.com

Facebook: Ada Village

Newsletter: available via email

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

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

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

ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS & PRESERVES

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

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

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

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

Carl Creek Crossings Preserve 6230 Grand River Drive. 8 acres. Non-paved trails, creek access.

Grand River Natural Area Grand River Drive, enter via Ada Moorings. 110 acres. Trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline.



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

Kent County Parks in Ada Township:
Chief Hazy Cloud Park, 150 Pettis Ave.
Seidman Park, 8155 Conservation Rd.
www.kentcountyparks.org

PARK RULES AND USE

COVID-19: Please follow current protocols.

Park Hours: Park grounds are open dawn to dusk.

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

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Alcohol is not allowed in the parks or park facilities.

Wi-Fi is available in the parks near the buildings. Access appears on devices as "Name of Park-Public Wi-Fi".

RESOURCES

New Online Facility & Program Reservations Service

We started a new software program for facility rentals and program reservations. Note that you will need to set up an account prior to making a reservation or paying online. To get started, use this link: rec.adamichigan.org. You may also use the app, which can be found on the Apple or Android Store under "Ada Township MI Reservations". You can still call, email, or stop in to the Park office to make a reservation.

Employment Opportunities

Currently accepting applications for seasonal park maintenance workers, part-time program instructors, internships and umpires. Visit our website for details: www.adamichigan.org/township/government/job-postings.

UPDATES ON PARKS, PRESERVES & TRAILS

Bike Paths and Non-motorized Trails

- The new path along Pettis Avenue from Knapp Street to Chief Hazy Cloud Park is underway. To be completed before winter. Connectors at Cascade Road and Hall Street and on Kamp Twin are also to be done this fall.
- Please report any issues or concerns to the Park office at (616) 676-0520 or adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.

Roselle Park Parking Lot Improvements

Pardon our mess – the project to upgrade the parking lot by the silo at Roselle Park ran into some challenges with the soil quality so it is still underway. Completion is expected in early October.

Leonard Field Park Riverfront Improvements

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

Ada Park

- We are renovating the Park office building to better accommodate staffing needs and visitor services.
- The Shelter restrooms will close for the season on October 31.

Legacy Park

- The summer concert series and new "Social District" will wrap up at the end of August.
- Facility rentals will end for the season on October 31.



EVENTS & RECREATION PROGRAMS

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

Community Events

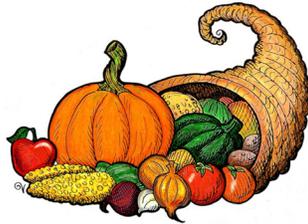
Fun for Everyone!

Fall Festival:

Friday, October 7, 4-7 pm
Legacy Park Info at: adavillage.com

Pumpkin Prowl:

Friday, October 28, 5-8 pm
Legacy Park and Ada Village Info at: adabusinessassociation.com



Thanks to our Summer Concert Sponsors!

Many thanks to all the sponsors that helped support the 2022 "Music on the Lawn" concert series at Legacy Park. What a great series and support from the community!

- Ada Historical Society
- Pedego Grand Rapids
- Michigan Software Labs
- RRR Lawn Care
- BP-Ventures
- Tip Toes Boutique
- Buttonwood Capital Management
- Ada Parks & Recreation
- Garage Bar
- Lake MI Credit Union
- First Companies
- Edward Jones
- Ada Village Pharmacy
- Chop & Hue

Family Programs



Animals of the Night

Thursday, October 20
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Roselle Park \$5 adult / \$3 youth

Interactive presentation inside by the "Outdoor Discovery Center" about local nocturnal animals. Live animals and artifacts included. Optional outside walk and observations to follow.

Youth Programs

School Field Trip Opportunities

Outdoor environmental education field trip experiences are available at Roselle Park and Ada Park. Various themes and typically run 1½ to 2 hours. Contact the Park office for details.

Boy Scout and Girl Scout Opportunities

Achievement badge theme programs and service-learning opportunities are available in the parks for Scout groups. Contact the Park office for details.

Adult Programs

2022 Softball League Completed

Congratulations to the league Championship teams: "Christian Brothers Outdoor Services" won the men's league title and "JT's Pizza & Spirits" won the COED league. We are grateful to all of our participants and sponsors. Note that no fall leagues will be held this year. For information related to softball leagues and field rentals, please contact Wesley Deason at wdeason@adatownshipmi.com.



Ada's First Pickleball Tournament

Saturday, October 15 Ada Township Park

A fun tournament to help raise funds to support the courts at Ada Park. Open to ages 18 and up. Tournament divisions and registration will be broken down into various skill levels. Register via rec.adamichigan.org. Deadline is October 10. For details, contact Wesley Deason at wdeason@adatownshipmi.com.



Fall Lecture Series

Managing Invasive Plants on Your Property

Thursday, September 22 7:00 p.m.

Roselle Park \$5/person

An overview of local invasive plants, methods for managing them, and Q&A session for managing your own property. Presenter Jessie Schulte with the Kent Conservation District.

Forest, Woodlots and Trees – Helpful Hints for Managing Your Property and Property Value

Thursday, October 13 7:00 p.m.

Roselle Park \$5/person

Forests, even small ones, provide a myriad of benefits – from wildlife habitat to clean water and property values. Yet, a healthy forest is no accident. Come learn about the role of forests in our community and a few tips you can use to keep your trees and woodlots healthy. Presenter Lee Mulder with the Davey Resource Group Inc.

Volunteer Opportunities

Contact the Park office for details, applications and schedules.

River Clean Up Day

Saturday, September 17 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Start and end at Leonard Field Park

Assist with trash removal from the Thornapple and Grand Rivers. Both shoreline walkers and paddlers will be involved. Registration required by September 12.

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

STAFFING CHANGES

The Parks & Recreation Department has undergone some recent staffing changes as we seek to find ways to better serve the community. We are excited to add these talented individuals to our team and hope you get an opportunity to interact with them soon!

Erin McIntosh (emcintosh@adatownshipmi.com) has joined the Department as our new Administrative Assistant. A Grand Valley State University graduate, she has a background in administrative work as well as experience with municipal management and event planning. She is the new contact person regarding facility rentals and is looking forward to setting up volunteer events in the parks. Erin can be found at the Ada Township table at events like Beers at the Bridge or taking pictures for the Ada Village Instagram.



Erin McIntosh

Please contact Erin if you would like to reserve a Township facility or want to volunteer with the Township!

Wesley Deason (wdeason@adatownshipmi.com) has been hired as the new Recreation Coordinator and is eager to



Wesley Deason

provide Departmental support as well as increase the number of programs offered in an effort to bring the community together. With his degree from Indiana University and experience working within municipal recreation, he has enjoyed finishing up the summer softball season and connecting with the community. Wesley is continuing to come up with several recreation tournaments and programs to round out the last weeks of mild weather. Make sure to keep an eye out on the Ada Village Facebook page for informational posts about upcoming program registrations.

IT'S TIME TO CUT & TREAT THOSE BITTERSWEET VINES

Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculata*) is recognized by long vines that "wind" up trees and showy red and yellow fruits. As the vines make their way up trees, they restrict sap flow, cover the tree leaves and eventually kill the tree. They can be seen along many roadsides and in woodlots throughout Ada Township.

Removal takes some care and can be done summer through the winter. Be careful not to pull down on vines that may cause overhead branches to fall. Use loppers or pruners to cut the vines at the ground level and as high as you can reach. It is best to apply an

herbicide to the cut section near the ground, being cautious not to get any on you, nearby plants, or the ground. If you wish to avoid use of herbicides, you will need to revisit the site to pull out small new vines that will start to grow in the area. Woody sections of cut vines can be left to decompose, but any berries should be bagged and put in the trash.

For more information see: www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/plants/vines/oriental-bittersweet

For assistance contact: Kent Conservation District:
(616) 222-5801 / www.kentconservation.org



LIBRARY FRIENDS SEEK NEW MEMBERS IN ADVANCE OF FALL KICKOFF EVENT

Friends of the Amy Van Andel Library is a membership-based nonprofit organization that provides financial support for enhancement of library programs serving our community.

New members who join and pay membership dues by September 14 will be able to attend our members-only Fall Kickoff event at the Amy Van Andel Library on Wednesday, September 21, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. The event will feature complimentary appetizers, a wine and beer cash bar, brief updates from the Library Friends and KDL, and the introduction of the library's first rotating artist exhibit, featuring local artist Ann Teliczan.

Membership forms are available at the library concierge desk, or you can join and pay dues on our website: adalibraryfriends.com.



Dues are \$30/year for an entire household (single/couple/family), reduced to \$15/year for a senior (65 years +) household. Membership dues paid by the end of 2022 are valid through December 31, 2023.

Help the Library Friends meet their membership growth goal for 2022.



FALL TRAILS UPDATE

You know it is summer when everyone is out on the wonderful non-motorized trail system Ada has to offer! This summer residents have not only seen paving of new sections of trail (Pettis Ave.), but also fixing existing segments (Ada Dr.) that needed repair.

2022 Construction Project Update:



The main project currently under construction is a 4.2 mile stretch of Pettis Avenue from Knapp St. to the Chief Hazy Cloud Park entrance. We are thankful to Kent County Parks for allowing us to utilize Chief Hazy Cloud Park property where possible to make a truly distinct trail experience for our residents and guests. Please check out our website at www.adatownshipmi.com and click "Departments – Parks & Recreation – Trails", for pictures and videos highlighting the work done to date. This section should be complete and usable in October of this year.

The section of non-motorized trail on Pettis Ave. from Knapp St. to 3 Mile Rd. has been delayed as the Township has not been able to secure easements from the necessary property owners. The Township only wants to construct safe non-motorized trails and an easement is required for this section. The Township has no plans to proceed with this section unless easements are secured.

The Township has two projects that it still hopes to construct in 2022; these two paths include Kamp Twins connecting Fase St. to Buttrick Ave. and Hall Street connecting to Spaulding Avenue. These projects are currently delayed slightly due to some railroad permitting issues on the Kamp Twins section, but the hope is these items will be resolved shortly.

At its August 8th Township Board Meeting the Township Awarded Corbin Design the Non-Motorized Wayfinding Signage Project. The Township will now work with Corbin to create a wayfinding signage plan for the Township trail network that will provide directional signage, information kiosks, maps and mileage markers throughout the network. This will allow the Township to communicate to trail users about everything Ada has to offer.

The Trails Committee is still finalizing the project list for 2023. One highlighted project will include a path underneath the Fulton St. bridge at the Grand River providing an additional connection for residents to travel from Legacy Park to the north side of Fulton crossing the Grand River. The Township is also exploring Phase II of the Pettis Avenue trail to connect the phase under construction currently to Vergennes St., a path on Rix from Ada Drive to Adaridge as well as looking at the other segments that will provide maximum connectivity for residents.

Staff is still working on putting out a bid to contractors for large scale repairs throughout the existing system. This will be an annual process to make sure the Township is properly maintaining the system, not only building new.

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



Julius Suchy
Township Manager

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) UPCOMING EVENTS

There are many wonderful events to experience throughout the fall in Ada. Mark your calendars and join the fun!

Music on the Lawn Summer Concert: Megan Rae Band

Wednesday, August 31 7-9:00 p.m.

Join us for the last Music on the Lawn concert on Wednesday, August 31 from 7-9:00 p.m. at the Van Andel Family Pavilion in Legacy Park (7450 River St.).

The Ada Village Social District will be open from 4-9:30 p.m. Grab a beverage from your favorite restaurant and take a walk through the village to Legacy Park.

* Music on the Lawn is brought to you by Ada Township Parks and Ada Historical Society.

Women's Night in Ada Village

Friday, September 16 6-8:00 p.m.

A fun-filled night where the businesses of Ada Village cater to their women customers with discounts, food, beverages, prizes, and giveaways.

* Women's Night is hosted by the Ada Village Businesses and #DiscoverAda.

Fur Trade Living History Encampment

Saturday, September 17 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Experience the sights and sounds of a real fur trading camp with tools, jewelry, freight canoe and a live exhibition of bow and arrow shooting. Interact with descendants of Rix Robinson. Appropriate for all ages.

* Event is hosted by the Ada Historical Society.

Fall Festival Featuring Brats & Bonfires

Friday, October 7 4-9:00 p.m.

This year, the annual Fall Festival will feature Brats and Bonfires! Come down and celebrate Fall with music, bonfires, brats, pumpkin painting, a flower truck, and so much more.

* Fall Festival is a partnership between the Downtown Development Authority, Ada Business Association and #DiscoverAda.



Pumpkin Prowl

Friday, October 28 5-8:00 p.m.

Trick-or-Treat your way through Ada Village.

* Pumpkin Prowl is a partnership between the Ada Business Association and #DiscoverAda.

Halloween at Fire Station One

Monday, October 31 5:30-8:00 p.m.

The tradition of Halloween at the Fire House has been a staple of Ada for well over 40 years. Each year we welcome ghosts and goblins along with all types of superheroes for a night of cider, donuts, and of course, candy. Don't forget to get your picture taken in one of the fire trucks!

Want more event information?

Scan the QR code or visit <http://adamichigan.org/events> to view detailed event information.



BEERS AT THE BRIDGE

A big THANK YOU to all our 2022 Beers at the Bridge sponsors for helping us once again put on three great events this year! We could not have done it without you!



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CALENDAR (2022) FALL ISSUE

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day – Township Office Closed**
- 6 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 6 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 8 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 8 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 12 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 12 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 13 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 15 Planning Commission – 7P
- 20 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 26 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 27 Farmers Market – 9A-2P

OCTOBER

- 4 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 4 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 10 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 10 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 11 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 13 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 13 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 18 Leaf Pick-up Day
- 18 Farmers Market – 9A-2P
- 20 Planning Commission – 7P

- 22 Fall Clean-up Day
- 24 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 25 Farmers Market – 9A-2P

NOVEMBER

- 5 Township Office Open for Absentee Voting – 8A-4P**
- 7 Downtown Development Authority – 8A
- 8 Election Day**
- 8 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30P
- 10 PRLP Advisory Board – 8:30A
- 10 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 3P
- 11 Veterans Day – Township Office Closed**
- 14 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 17 Planning Commission – 7P
- 24 Thanksgiving Day – Township Office Closed**
- 25 Thanksgiving Day – Township Office Closed**
- 28 Ada Township Board Meeting – **7P**
- 29 Leaf Pick-up Day

PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.
www.adatownshipmi.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(remove & save)

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

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

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