

THE ADA FARMERS' MARKET



As the summer is turning to fall, the Market displays the brilliance of the season with cabbages, eggplant and carrots, apples and the last of the blueberries! As many folks choose this season to can these fresh flavors, you can learn for yourself as we introduce you to the Canning Diva, who will be demonstrating some simple ways to keep the season's harvest in a jar, during the last weeks of the Market. Specific dates will be announced for classes during

Market hours on our website – www.adafarmersmarket.com. These classes will be available for a small fee to cover the cost of demonstration materials. For those who have never tried canning, this is a great introduction on the how-to's of preservation.

Also remember to grab your market basket before the end of the season! Proceeds from the sale of the baskets fund market operations every year. Choose from four styles and two sizes. They make great gifts for any occasion. Prices are \$35 for the large baskets and \$15 for the small. You can also peek at some of the choices online at our website.

The end of the season means losing valuable student volunteers who help out with various market tasks each Tuesday. We want to publicly thank these great kids: Christopher Hodgson, Courtney Koskela, Natalie Shabahang, Emily Gawrych, Grace Gawrych, and Bradley Thomas.

Thanks also to our wonderful crew of adult volunteers who generously donate their time to set up, take down, organize kid's activities, coordinate musicians and manage the token

system. Thanks go to Mary Lynne Drumheller, Ric Bogerd, Neil Smith, Neil Sullenger, Amy Owsinski, Beth Czekaj, and Sandi Nicely.

We also are grateful to the Community Church, and Pastors Billy and Mara Norden for their support and assistance. Lastly, we thank the vendors and the public. Each meets to build and support the special qualities of this vibrant market, making it the best place to be on Tuesdays, from mid-June until the end of September, every year.

We hope to continue to see you at the Market for the rest of this year and beyond. Remember to keep up with us on Twitter and Facebook while the Market is closed.

Ada Village Design Plan

Weeklong Design Workshop

Tuesday, September 3 - Friday, September 6

- Opening Session: Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
- Walk-In Design Studio: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
- Closing Session: Friday, 3:00 p.m.

All events held in lower level Fellowship Hall
The Community Church
7239 Thornapple River Dr.

Phone: 616-676-9191, Ext. 31 E-mail: info@envisionada.com

Note: A limited number of "Cadence" issues are available at the Township offices, in the lobby, on Mondays.

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

Ada Historical Society & Museum

Hours of Operation:

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

Contact Information

7144 Headley St., Ada Phone: 616.676.9346 adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com www.adahistoricalsociety.org

Events for September, October and November 2013

September 12, October 10, November 14 - Monthly Board Meeting

Meeting times subject to change. Please call or email with any questions.

Month of September

For the month of September, we join with the Parks Dept. at River Festival, to enjoy exhibitors, hands-on kids' activities, live music, food, and lots more fun. River Festival is September 28th from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Roselle Park, 1010 Grand River Dr. in Ada. The Society also will host two events. A Volunteer Recognition event will allow us to celebrate the many, many hours contributed by our dedicated volunteers. We are also currently planning for a Quilt Show and Talk. Please check our website or call for details. Also...



How Bout Them Apples? An early photo of the Niles Farm at apple harvest time. Note the ocean of apples piled in the farmyard. The Niles farm was located and also operated a cider mill near the present corner of Grand River and Fulton Streets.

Month of October

In October, we celebrate the harvest! We will use products from the harvest and the fields to host a Fall Door Decoration Class. Details will be forthcoming.

Month of November

Please plan on joining us in honor of Veteran's Day, November 11th. Look for a flyer, on the website, and in our newsletter for more information soon. Do you enjoy decking the halls? Do you have unique ideas to honor Christmases past? November 19th, we decorate the museum for the holidays. We welcome any and all to help us get into the spirit. The barn doors will swing wide as our annual Wreath Sale Fund-raiser begins November 22nd. A full listing of open days and hours will be available in October.

New Temporary Exhibit

Meet Me At the Grove: Yesterday and Today. Every August, Ada dwellers of decades past would have



The Ada Band was a frequent performer at The Grove.

reveled in the community's favorite summer tradition: the Old Settlers Picnic. This tribute to Ada's pioneer residents saw thousands of attendees from throughout West Michigan gather for a day of good food, wonderful music, engaging speeches, and wistful remembrance in the shade of the Grove. From 1886 until the event died out in the 1930s, the community gathered in celebration of Ada's past, present, and future on the land near the corner of Ada and Thornapple River drives—behind what is today the gas station. Now, with the Ada Village Design Plan in process, the story of the Grove and its picnics takes center stages at the Ada Historical Society, reminding us of the value of a central, communal space and an event around which we all can gather.

SCHOOL MILLAGE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 5th, 2013, Ada Township will hold an election for the Lowell and Forest Hills School Systems.

Forest Hills and Lowell School Systems will each be placing a millage question on the ballot in November.

As the township does for all school elections, we will be consolidating the precincts:

- If you usually vote in precinct 1 or 2, 6 or 7, you will go to St. Roberts on Ada Dr. to vote.
- If you usually vote in precinct 3, 4 or 8, you will go to Ada Congregational on Fox Hollow to vote.
- If you usually vote in precinct 5, you will go to Fire Station #2 on Knapp St. to vote.

The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on November 5th.

The last day you can register to vote for the November election will be October 7, 2013.

Save the Date! Saturday, September 28, 2013 "Roselle Park River Festival" & "The Grand River-Run"

1010 Grand River Drive NE, Ada, MI

Come out for the Run 8K Run at 9:00 a.m. 2K Run at 10:15 a.m.

The GRAND RIVER-RUN features both an 8K combo timed race, consisting of trail and paved paths and a 2K Family-Friendly Fun Run/Walk. The 8K course offers a mostly flat, yet challenging scenic tour of the 240-acre nature preserve as it takes runners on trails alongside the Grand River, by wetlands, woodlands, meadows, and streams. The 2K course is a flat, paved scenic mini-tour of the park and is perfect for families with children,

Top 8K finishers will receive medals and prizes! All children participants will receive Finisher's Ribbons! Register at: www.GRANDRIVER-RUN.com

Stay for the Fun! The Roselle Park River Festival

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Roselle Park River Festival is a family friendly day full of FREE fun at the Park. Take part in the runs and then stay for the fun, or come on out any part of the day. Enjoy live music from various bands, good eats, live animal presentations, hands-on activities and crafts, artists, nature walks, children's games and activities, river conservation displays, hiking, bicycling, a Monarch butterfly releases, and much more!

Yes, it is Free! (Donations are always appreciated.)

first-time runners and walkers, and is stroller-friendly.

Ada Township's Parks & Recreation Department is hosting the 6th Annual Roselle Park River Festival and the 2nd Annual Grand River-Run Saturday, September 28 at Roselle Park, 1010 Grand River Dr.















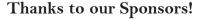
































For details contact the Ada Township Parks Office at 616-676-0520 or www.grandriver-run.com www.adatownshipmi.com







ADA & FINDLEY CEMETERIES

As stated in the Ada Township Cemetery Ordinance, our cemeteries "shall be open to the general public from dawn to dusk each day. No person shall be permitted in the township cemeteries at any time other than the foregoing hours, except upon permission of the township clerk or authorized representative of said clerk..." Any trespassers on cemetery grounds before or after open hours are subject to prosecution.

Findley Cemetery has gates that are open to cars on Wednesday only, between April 15 and November 15. However, people may walk in through pedestrian openings in the gate.

FIELD REVIEW NOTICE

The Assessor is required to appraise, for tax purposes, all real and personal property within the Township. Michigan Statute requires that all property be evaluated annually based on current market conditions. This evaluation requires an inspection of each property in the Township.

This includes measuring all buildings and other property improvements on the property, taking current digital photos of the property, verifying the buildings current physical condition reviewing the amenities present, and interviewing the property owners to determine bedrooms, baths, and type of basement, etc.

The State of Michigan has recommended that 20% of properties in a governmental unit be visited each year to review assessment record accuracy and to ensure that properties are being appraised and assessed at 50% of the market value. In efforts to continually improve our excellent standards, the Assessor's office strives to enhance the annual review process and better meet or exceed the State of Michigan's expectations. The goal is that the Assessing office will review at least 20% a year of the Township, then every single property is visited at least once every 5 years.

If one of the inspectors from the Township arrives wearing a Township issued I.D. badge and carrying a clipboard and digital camera and knocks on your door requesting to review your property, please welcome them. Accurate assessments benefit everyone in the community.

PLEASE INFORM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE OF YOUR MAILING ADDRESS UPDATES

Please contact our office within thirty days after a change of address occurs to update your mailing information. This will help with the delivery of assessment change notices and tax bills. Our office number is (616) 676-9191, ext 26.

REGISTER TO VOTE:

The last day you can register to vote in the November Election (Nov. 5th) will be October 7th. You can register at the following offices:

- Secretary of State Branch Office
- County Clerk's Office
- · Ada Township Clerk's Office

YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO VOTE IF:

- You are a Citizen of the U.S.
- You are at least 18 years of age on or before the next scheduled election.
- You have been a resident of Michigan for at least 30 days before the election.
- You have registered on or before the close of registration preceding the election.

ABSENTEE VOTING PROCEDURES:

You can obtain an absentee Ballot from the township if you are registered. You may apply for an Absent Voter Ballot if any of the following conditions exist:

- You expect to be absent from your community the entire time the polls are open on Election Day.
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without assistance.
- You cannot attend the polls because of religious beliefs.
- You have been appointed a precinct inspector outside of your community.
- You are 60 years of age or older.
- You are in jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

You can apply for an Absent Voter Ballot by:

- Letter or email (<u>sburton@adatownshipmi.com</u>)
- Postcard
- Absentee ballot application
- In person at Ada Township Clerk's office
- If you are eligible, with a Federal Postcard Application

(One or more of the above mentioned statutory conditions must be included to receive an Absent Voter ballot.)

NO ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS WILL BE SUPPLIED THROUGH A TELEPHONE REQUEST. THEY MUST BE REQUESTED IN WRITING!

ADA/CASCADE FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

For Ada and Cascade residents, we are again hosting the FALL Clean-Up Day.

When: Saturday, October 12th, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

What: Non-hazardous yard and household waste and electronics (computers, TV's, etc.) will be accepted. No hazardous material will be accepted.

Where: The Kent County Road Commission Garage at the end of Fase Street. **Note:** the gates will close promptly at 2:30 p.m. – no items can be accepted after that!

In the Image will be at the Covered Bridge (Leonard Field) for your gently used items. There will also be a document shredding company, **Shred-It** available at the same location to do "on-site" shredding (up to 100 lbs.) of your <u>personal</u> sensitive documents.

<u>Identification is required</u> to verify your residency within the townships of Ada or Cascade (if you live in Grand Rapids Twp. but your mailing address is Ada, you DO NOT QUALIFY).

For questions, call Ada Township Hall (616) 676-9191, M – F, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Or Cascade Township (616) 949-1500.

LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS

Tuesday, October 22nd & Tuesday, November 12th, 2013

Trash bags can be purchased at the Township Office prior to the dates above for \$.75 each. Please have all bags out to your curb by 6:00 a.m.

*(Restricted area only, south of Fulton to Township line)

DEPUTY ROE – EAST PRECINCT

BACK TO SCHOOL

Summer is coming to a close and Fall will be upon us. Kids are headed back to school and buses back in the morning commute. Last year we had some problems with school buses being passed while they had the flashers going. I thought this year I could add some clarification.

THE BUS WILL SLOW AND TURN ON YELLOW FLASHERS

• Use caution as the bus is going to stop shortly.

THE BUS TURNS ON RED FLASHERS AND STOPS, AN ARM PERTRUDES FROM THE DRIVERS SIDE

• Stop your vehicle completely, even if you are on the opposite side of the road. The exception is if the roadway is divided by a median.

FROM THE TREASURER.....

Summer 2013 tax bills are due in our office by 5:00 p.m., September 16, 2013. After this time, penalty/interest will be added to all tax bills no exceptions. If you choose to make a payment through your on-line banking you MUST give your bank at least seven (7) business days to process and mail us the check. POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED as date receipted.

If you have your taxes are escrowed, a mortgage company is listed on your bill and they have also received a copy of your tax bill. If so, please keep this copy for your tax records. Some mortgage companies utilize a taxing service to gather all of your tax information. If there is a different name or code on your bill other than your mortgage company, it will indicate the taxing service name that your mortgage company utilizes. (Example: If Fifth Third is your mortgage company, they may utilize CoreLogic Tax Service. On your bill the mortgage code is COREL.)

The usual payment options still apply; by mail, in person, by credit card (see the reverse side of your tax bill for instructions). Credit cards are <u>NOW</u> accepted at the Township. For credit card payments there is a fee of 3% of tax bill. Additionally, you may sign up for ACH electronic payments. Please contact our office for more information about ACH.

Winter tax bills will be mailed the week of November 25, 2013. The due date for the winter tax is February 14, 2014 by 5:00 p.m. Remember **POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED** as date receipted. All payments received in our drop box between December 31, 2013 and 8:00 a.m. January 2, 2014 will be posted as "received" December 31, 2013. After March 1, 2014 all unpaid real property taxes will be turned over to the Kent County Treasurers Office for collection.

Dog licenses for 2014 will be available in our office starting December 1, 2013 through March 1, 2014. The State of Michigan requires all dogs age 4 months and older to be licensed. In order for a 2014 license to be issued, a current rabies certificate, and proof of neuter/spay must be presented. You can secure a copy of these documents through your veterinarian.

Norm Rhoades, Treasurer 616-676-9191 ext 23 nrhoades@adatownshipmi.com

Gina Olszewski, Deputy Treasurer 616-676-9191 ext 27 golszewski@adatownshipmi.com

Ada Parks & Recreation Department

Contact Information:

Phone: 616-676-0520 Fax: 616-676-5870 E-mail: mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com

Web site: www.adatownshipmi.com

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

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

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

mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

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

Ada Township Parks and Preserves:

Ada Park & Locke Arboretum 1180 Buttrick Ave. 57 acres. Parks office, Learning Center and Locke Arboretum. Softball and soccer fields, tennis, pickle ball and basketball courts, playground, fishing pond, accessible trails, picnic areas, pavilion, gazebos.

Leonard Field & Ada Covered Bridge 2 acres.
7490 Thornapple River Drive. Softball field, bike path,
Thornapple River overlook deck, Ada Covered Bridge.
Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE, 247 acres.
Bike path, trails, picnic area, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

Grand River Natural Area Grand River Drive SE Enter via Ada Park or McGraw Park, 110 acres. Nature areas, trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline. Carl Creek Crossing Preserve 6230 Grand River Dr. Still under development – open for walking.

Facility Use

Park Hours:

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



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

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Ada Park Shelter & Gazebo Rentals and Reservations: Available April through October. For rates, availability, use policies or reservations, contact the Park office.

Athletic Fields: Baseball & soccer fields at Ada Park and Leonard Field are used seasonally for area leagues and instructional programs. Contact the Park office for information, schedules or reservations.

Basketball & Tennis Courts at Ada Park are open to the public except during scheduled lessons and programs. Check with the office for schedules or to reserve a time.

"Roselle Park River Festival" & the "Grand River-Run"

Saturday, September 28

9:00 a.m. 8K Run

10:15 a.m. 2K Family Fun Run

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Festival Activities Roselle Park

1010 Grand River Drive, Ada, MI 49301

Enjoy Ada Township's Roselle Park on the shores of the Grand River! There will be activities for all ages plus food, music and river stewardship information.

* Free Admission for the Festival – Donations welcome * For details on the runs and festival contact the Park office or the web site: www.grandriver-run.com



Update on Roselle Park Roselle Park Construction Project

This year's project included the construction of a new park entrance, driveway and parking area across from Michigan Street and north of the current entrance. Eventually this will become the main entrance to the park. The parking lot area was left as gravel for the short term and will be paved next year. This phase of work is preliminary to building a Community Center on the site, possibly as early as 2014.

In addition, the climbing holds on the silo were upgraded and a playground area was established next to the silos. Some of the adventure-based playground equipment has been installed while other items are waiting for donations.

Over the next few months we will be working on design plans for the Community Center building. Watch for postings regarding public input sessions.

Anyone interested in making a donation, memorial or otherwise, towards the playground equipment, new building or other park amenities should contact the Park office or website for details.



Ada Parks & Recreation Department (con't)

Family and Youth Programs

Pre-registration requested by calling 616-676-0520 or email mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

"Critters of the Night"

Wednesday Evening, October 23

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Ada Township Park Learning Center

A special program for all ages about animals that are active in the night time. Presented by the Outdoor Discovery Center with live birds, reptiles, amphibians plus wildlife artifacts. \$5 per person.

Pre-registration required by contacting the park office.

Discovery Days At Ada Township Park

At Ada Township Park 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Ages 3-5 \$5/youth/session Once a Month

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

"Be a Nature Detective?"
"Go Batty"

"Super Squirrels"

September 11 & 12 October 9 & 10 November 13 & 14



Summer Day Camp Adventures 2014

The Discovery Day Camps in Ada Parks provide great summer adventures and educational opportunities for youth 6-11 on a range of themes. Contact the park office for details, registrations open in January.

Tennis Lessons at Ada Township Park

Group and private tennis lesson are offered at Ada Park afternoons and evenings by the Southeast YMCA of Grand Rapids. To registration or details contact the "YMCA" at (616) 855-9622 or nherrema@grymca.org

Schools Based Programs

PreK-12 guided field trips and service learning projects in the parks. Contact the Park office for details.

Boy and Girl Scout Programs

Park staff to help with badges, field trips, service projects & facility use. Contact Park office for details.

Adult Programs

Ada Adult Summer/Fall Softball Program

Adult Fall softball leagues are now active at Ada Township Park and Leonard Field. Games are held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings until the middle of October.

For the 2014 Spring/Summer Leagues, the team registration process will begin in February of 2014. Contact Rob McCormick at 616-862-0263 or email rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com for more information or a team application.



Volunteer Opportunities

Ada Parks & Recreation Department has volunteer opportunities to assist with grounds, gardens, trails, habitat stewardship, clerical, youth programs, Festival support and runs. Habitat Stewardship work days are set for most Tuesdays in September and October, 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon. Contact the Park office for an application, interview or schedule of events.

Thornapple River & Grand River Annual "Clean-Up Day"

Saturday, Sept. 14 8:00 – 1:30 p.m. Leonard Field Help care for our local waterways by picking up trash along the shores and in the rivers and nearby streams. You can join either a "land team" (on the shores) or a "water team" (canoes, kayaks) to collect trash along the Thornapple and Grand Rivers that run through Ada Township. Supplies, gloves, snacks and lunch provided. Pre-registration required by contacting the Park office prior to September 12. Meet at Leonard Field Park by the Covered Bridge for check-in on Sept. 14.

Local land owners with river or stream access in Ada please join us in this initiative to work on your property and local waterway. Contact the Park office for support.





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

CALENDAR (2013) FALL ISSUE

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day Office Closed!
- 3 Ada Farmer's Market 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- 3*-6 Weeklong Design Workshop -Ada Village Design Plan
- 9 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Ada Farmer's Market 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- 10 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30 p.m.
- Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- 14 River Clean-up Day 8:00 a.m.
- 16 Downtown Development Authority – 8:00 a.m.
- 16* Summer Taxes Due by 5:00 p.m.
- 17 Ada Farmer's Market 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.
- Farmers' Market Last Day
 "Roselle Park River Festival" –
- 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & "The Grand River-Run" – 9:00 a.m.

OCTOBER

- 1 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30 p.m.
- 10 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- 12 Ada/Cascade Clean-Up Day
 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 14 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Downtown Development Authority – 8:00 a.m.

- 15 Ethics Board 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Leaf & Yard Waste Collection Day All Day
- 23 Critter Night Ada Park 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 5[★] ELECTIONS-Lowell/Forest Hills
- 5 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30 p.m.
- 11 Veterans Day Office Closed!
- 11 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Leaf & Yard Waste Collection Day All Day
- 14 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- Downtown Development
- Authority 8:00 a.m.
 21 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Ada Township Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.
- 25* Winter Tax Bills mailed
- 28 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed!
- 29 Day After Thanksgiving
 - Office Closed!

*See article

Coming in December: Tinsel, Treats & Trolleys, opening with the "Bridge Lighting" on Friday, December 6th.

Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7th.

PRSRT. STD. US POSTAGE PAID Grand Rapids, MI Permit No. 657

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (remove & save)

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

TELEPHONE: 616-676-9191, www.adatownshipmi.com

HOURS: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Closed Holidays

Ada Township Board Supervisor

George Haga, Ext. 50, P.O. Box 370, Ada, 49301 ghaga@adatownshipmi.com

Clerk

Susan Burton, Ext. 21, P.O. Box 370, Ada, 49301 sburton@adatownshipmi.com

Treasurer

Norm Rhoades. Ext. 23, P.O. Box 370, Ada, 49301 nrhoades@adatownshipmi.com

Trustee: Paul LeBlanc

pleblanc@adatownshipmi.com

Trustee: Bob Proos

bproos@adatownshipmi.com

Trustee: Jackie Smith

jsmith@adatownshipmi.com

Trustee: Catherine Jacobs cjacobs@adatownshipmi.com

Editor: Susan Burton, Ada Township Clerk

Co-Editor: Renee Larsen

Design & Printing: Falcon Printing