



# *the* ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

## 4TH of July Celebration - 2010

The 2010 4TH of July Celebration will take place on Saturday, July 3rd this year:

9:30 am

Parade Line-up in the parking lot near McDonalds

10:00 am

PARADE

11:00 am

“ON THE GREEN” activities

11:00 am to 6:00 pm

NEW Classic Car Show!  
Thornapple River Drive

DUSK

FIREWORKS in the Village!

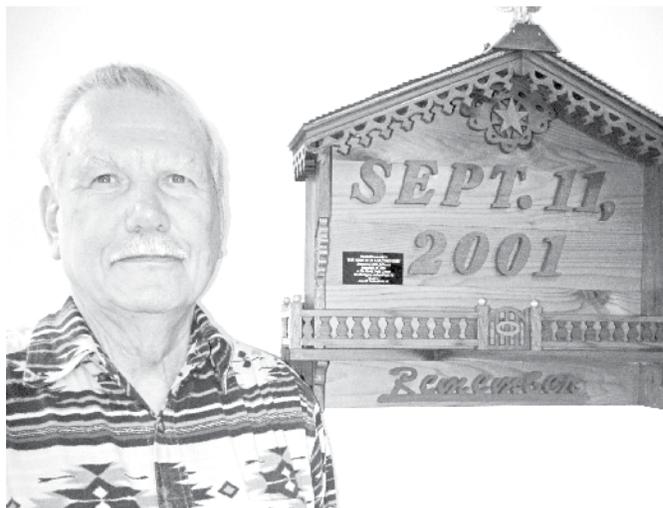
If you want to be in the Parade, go to the parking lot near McDonalds by 9:30 a.m., to be placed in line.

### BIKE DECORATING DAY

Ada Park; Friday, July 2,  
10 a.m. - 12 noon.

Decorate your bike in time for the 4th of July Parade! \$4 (includes helpers and supplies) for kids 4 - 12 years old who show up with a parent or guardian. ALL KIDS ON BIKES WHO WANT TO BE IN THE PARADE be in the parking lot by McDonalds by 9:45 a.m.

### GRAND MARSHALL FOR 2010



Our **Grand Marshall** for this year's 4TH of July Parade will be Jim Decker. Jim lives next door to the Ada Township offices on Thornapple River Drive, and so has been a friendly, often seen neighbor for many years.

Jim and his wife Patricia were married on August 19TH, 1960, and moved to Ada Township in 1970, into the house they

still live in today, and where they raised three sons: Eric, Aaron, and Andrew. Jim taught remedial reading and English at South High School and Westwood Middle School before retiring and taking up woodworking as a hobby.

Working in his woodshop one September morning that also happened to be his birthday, he decided to go back into the house and watch the news. It was on that morning that he watched in horror the events of 9/11. It was this historic day that triggered his passion for these projects: framed pictures, on behalf of the people of Ada Township, to the World Trade Center and Pentagon; a wooden notebook containing 3,000 signatures of Ada residents for the World Trade Center Museum; and most recently, a walnut wood project honoring the seven crew members and thirty-three passengers of Flight 93, taken to Somerset PA to be placed in "The Flight 93 Museum". These were just a few of the many projects Jim has undertaken, not to mention the thousands of American flags he has distributed through the years, at his own expense. He is also a proud contributor to the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of Michigan and Disabled Veterans National Fund.

Jim Decker has truly earned the honor of being our Grand Marshall for the 2010 Ada Township 4TH of July Parade! Give him a big cheer as he passes by!

## FIREFIGHTER OF THE ISSUE



Lieutenant David Murray joined the Department in 1987. Lt. Murray heads up the Departments Fire Prevention Program and is known as Fireman Dave to many of the school children who have attended his Fire Safety presentation at the Elementary and

Preschools Schools in Ada. He is active with the Safe Kids Coalition and is a child and infant seat installation specialist for them.

David has been an Ada resident for over 30 years. Between him and his wife, Andrea, they have three children between the ages of 8 and 19 who have all attended Forest Hills Schools. David has been active in the community and has served as president of the Ada Business Association.

## Tuesday, August 3, 2010 - State Primary

Tuesday, July 6, 2010 - last day to register

## COMING THIS FALL:

### Ada/Cascade Township Clean-Up Day

Saturday, October 16 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

### Ada Township Leaf Pick-Up dates:

Monday, October 4 last day to register

Tuesday, October 26 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Thursday, November 2 State General Election

Tuesday, November 16 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\*Bags can be purchased at the Treasurer's office, for \$.75 each. The cost of the bags includes the pick-up service.

## ADA FARMERS' MARKET CONTINUES TO GROW

### Emphasis on Fresh, Healthy and Local

Opening two weeks earlier this year on June 22 and staying open two weeks later until September 28, the Ada Farmers' Market continues to grow. The Market is determined to continue its reputation, recognized last year by vendors and customers alike, as "the friendly Market". Currently there are 34 seasonal vendors who will be in the Market for much of the new, expanded season and they will be occupying a record 50 spaces. Daily vendors may be added on a week-to-week basis. Taking place again in the parking lot of The Community church, hours have changed slightly with the Market opening every Tuesday at noon and staying open until 6 p.m. Seven new vendors have been carefully selected to be added to the Market and many of last year's vendors have taken more spaces in the Market. One of the Market's newest vendors will be the kids participating in the **Ada Village Kids Garden** project adjacent to the Market. For information on the Kids Garden program for 9 - 12 year olds, call the Parks Department at 676-0520. Also new to the Market will be prepared food vendors with lunch and early supper offering for shoppers. For the latest on the Market, become a friend or fan of the Ada Village Market on Facebook or check out the Market at [www.adafarmersmarket.com](http://www.adafarmersmarket.com).

**Volunteers are still needed every Tuesday to assist in the smooth operation of the Market. Please call the Township offices at 676-9191 ext. 0 to join the Market's all volunteer staff.**



*The New Ada Village Kid's Garden Awaiting Planting and an Active Kids Garden and Market Program*

# Open Space

## HELP SAVE NATIVE WILDFLOWERS

It has already been growing since early spring when the winter snows receded from the woods, and has already produced flowers. However, it's not too late for you to help keep this invader at bay by removing it before its seeds are distributed in late summer.

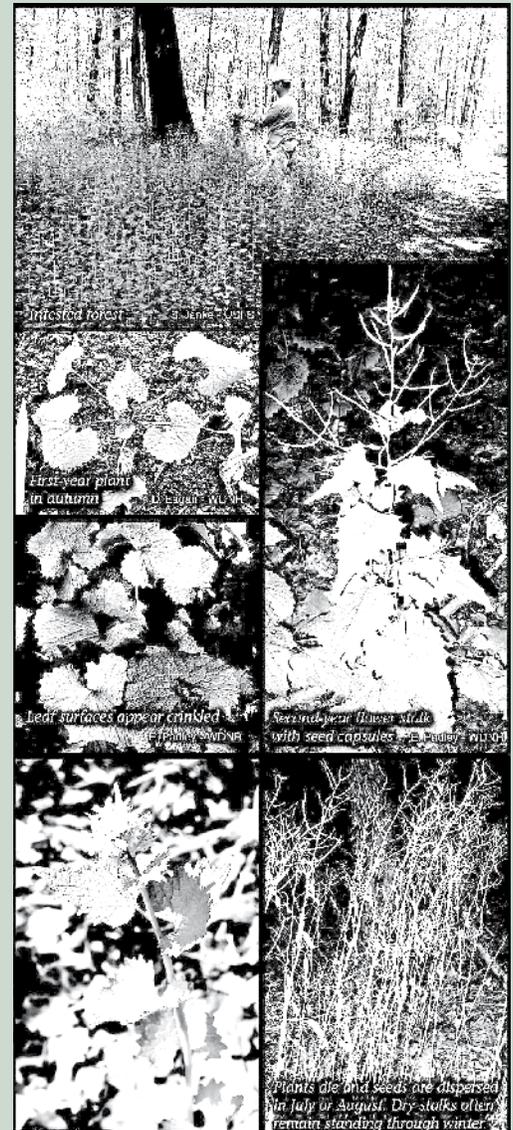
Garlic mustard is one of the few non-native herbs capable of invading and dominating forest understory communities. It crowds out and eliminates native spring woodland ephemeral plants such as liverworts, toothworts, solomon-seal, trilliums, trout lilly, sweet-cisley and many others. Because it begins growing very early in the spring, garlic mustard has a head start on other flowering plants and tree seedlings.

Native woodland flowers are in danger of disappearing from our landscape because of this invader.

The photos on this page illustrate the varying forms this plant takes during its 2-year life cycle.

Pulling individual garlic mustard plants by hand is the simplest and most effective approach to managing small or isolated infestations. When pulling plants, it is important to remove the upper portion of the roots as well as the stem, since buds in the root crown can produce additional stems. All pulled plants should be removed from the site and bagged, as seed ripening continues if plants are pulled and left on the ground. Repeatedly hand pulling of garlic mustard is reported to be effective for control in small areas but has limitations. Because seeds remain viable in the soil for up to five years, it is important to pull all garlic mustard plants in an area every year until the seed bank is exhausted and seedlings no longer appear. This will require multiple efforts each year as rosettes can continue to bolt and produce flowers over an extended period (April-June).

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS YEAR!!**



## ELECTIONS:

**PRIMARY, August 3RD, 2010 • GENERAL, November 2ND, 2010**

Elections are coming up in August and November this year. Here is a short overview of what will be on the ballot for the **August Primary Election**. (We will cover the November Election in the next issue of the AdaView.)

The August Primary will be an election in which you will vote either all Republican or all Democratic; no "split" ballots! You will be voting for the following partisan offices: State Legislature 86th District; State Senate 28th District; US House of Representatives 3rd District; the Governor / Lieutenant Governor; State Education Boards; County Drain Commission; County Commission 4th District; and precinct delegates. Additionally, there will be nonpartisan judicial seats on the ballot, and possibly some county level proposals.

Also on the ballot in August will be a referendum on the Heliport Ordinance. The language will appear as: *"The submission of Ada Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 0-011209-5 (which imposes regulations on Heliports within Ada Township and was approved by the Ada Township Board on January 12, 2009) to the Electors for their approval."* If you would like to read the ordinance, you may find it on the Township website: [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com).

The November General Election will allow for "split-ticket" voting. Additionally, the Secretary of State and Attorney General positions will be on the November ballot.

It is extremely important that everyone exercise their right to vote. **Please vote on Tuesday, August 3rd, 2010!**

# Assessor's Office

## TAX PAYMENT METHODS

Tax bills are scheduled to be mailed out the last week of June. These bills are due by September 14, 2010, 5:00 p.m. Remember the Township DOES NOT accept postmarks as date received. You have several options in paying your bill:

- As always you may come into the Township offices Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except for holidays when the offices are closed. There is a drive-up drop box located at the end of the sidewalk at the Thornapple River Dr entrance to the Township offices.
- You can sign up for ACH, which allows the Township's bank to deduct payment from your bank. Call our offices for more information. Forms are also available on our website.
- You can also make payments with a credit card either by phone (800) 272-9829 or log onto our website: [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com). See the back of tax bill for further instructions. There is a fee of 3% of the tax bill charged by the credit card clearinghouse. **CREDIT CARDS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES.**
- You can mail your payment to our office by using the enclosed envelope. **REMEMBER THAT POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS DATE RECEIVED. ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 14, 2010, 5:00 p.m. TO BE CONSIDERED ON TIME.**
- The Township does accept partial payments after July 1ST when tax bills are released. Appropriate interest/penalties will apply to the unpaid balance after September 14TH.

## SENIORS AND DISABLED CITIZENS OF ADA TOWNSHIP

**Please take note:** you can apply for a deferment for 2010 summer tax if your household income **did not** exceed \$40,000 for the preceding calendar year and you meet at least one of the following requirements:

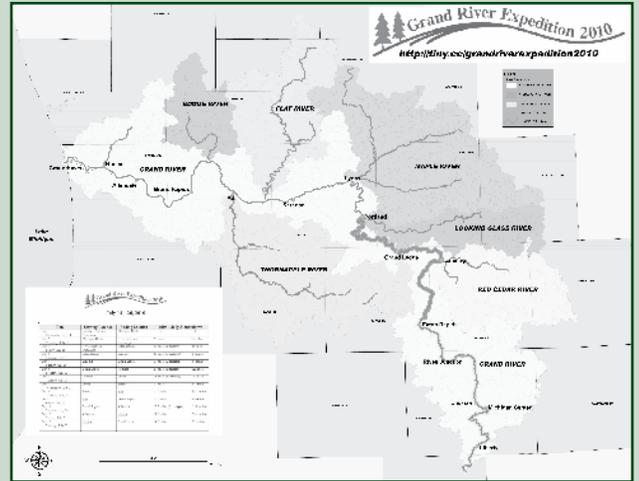
- You are 62 years or older
- Paraplegic or Quadriplegic
- Eligible serviceperson, veteran widow or widower
- Blind person
- Totally and permanently disabled

You may pick up a form at the Township Treasurer's Office at 7330 Thornapple River Dr or call (616) 676-9191 ext. 27 to have a form mailed to you. The form is due September 14, 2010 by 5:00 p.m. If you had a deferment for 2009 a form will be or already has been mailed to you.

## FIELD INSPECTIONS

The assessor's office will be working on all open building permits for the year as well as those permits pulled for new construction since January 1ST, 2010.

The assessor's office will also continue to be working on neighborhood reviews. We will be in a marked red jeep and will have identification.



## THE GRAND RIVER EXPEDITION 2010

**Coming through Ada July 22–23.**

Paddling the entire Grand River from Jackson Michigan to Grand Haven. Overnight stop and displays at Chief Hazy Cloud Park Thursday, July 22. **For details contact the Park office or see:** <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/issues/greatlakes/Articles/gre2010html>

# Ada Historical Society & Museum

## MUSIC ON THE LAWN

Our annual summer concert series is back for its 10TH season. Gather your family, friends, and your lawn chairs and enjoy a different musical group each Tuesday night throughout June, July and August. Most concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. and are free of charge, donations accepted. For the full lineup, check online at [www.adahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.adahistoricalsociety.org) or stop by the museum for a schedule. Come stroll the Ada Farmer's Market, have dinner in the village and then enjoy the sounds of summer at Ada Historical Society's Music On the Lawn!

- June 8      13TH HOUR, playing 60s and 70s classic folk-pop tunes
- June 15     Koul Band, playing jazz and popular standards
- June 22     The Otters, playing Americana, folk and roots music
- June 29     Tony Reynolds, playing American classics from the 50s to 80s
- July 6       Tiki O'Riley, playing Celtic music
- July 13      Chris Vallillo, a folk performer
- July 20      Voices of Freedom, singing patriotic acapella music
- July 30      The Nowhere Band, playing Beatles music \*\*special Friday, 6:30 show\*\*
- August 3     The Red Tailights, playing Americana and roots music
- August 10   Adams Family Band, playing folk and minstrel music
- August 17   Crossroads Country Band, playing country and gospel music
- August 24   Apple Country Dulcimers, playing acoustic string instruments
- August 31   Java Jive, playing favorites in a swinging style



### Contact Information

Address: 7144 Headley St., Ada  
 Phone: 616.676.9346  
 E-mail: [adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com)  
 On the Web: [www.adahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.adahistoricalsociety.org)

## OTHER EVENTS/ACTIVITES

**June 12, 2010:** Membership Meeting. 10:30 a.m. at the museum. All are welcome.

**June 18, 2010:** Family Fun Night. Come play at the museum! From 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., we will play old-fashioned games, make a craft, and listen to traditional folk tales from a professional Storyteller. Gather all generations to celebrate the start of summertime.

**July 3, 2010:** Ada Fourth of July Celebration. We will join with the township to celebrate Independence Day with a float in the parade, a tent on the green and special museum hours.

**August 6, 2010:** August in Ada. Come visit our tent on the green for Ada's annual children's celebration.

**August 8, 2010:** Robinson Family Reunion.

**August 10 & 11, 2010:** Pioneer Days at the Museum. We will partner with the Ada Parks and Recreation Dept. to offer summer campers a chance to relive the 'good ole days.' 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the museum. Pre-register with the Parks Dept. at 676.0520 or email [mfitzpatrick@adatownship.mi.com](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownship.mi.com).

**August 14, 2010:** Membership Meeting. 10:30 a.m. at the museum. All are welcome.

**August 17, 2010:** Visit the Museum's Gardens. AHS will host an event highlighting the bounty of our gardens and an opportunity to connect with our volunteer master gardeners. 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

# Parks & Recreation Department

## Contact Information:

**Phone:** 616-676-0520 **fax:** 616-676-5870  
**E-mail:** [mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com)  
**Web site:** [www.adatownshipmi.com](http://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](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com)

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

## Ada Township Parks:

### Ada Park & Locke Arboretum

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



**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, wetlands, prairie, woods, Grand River shoreline.

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

## 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 Reservations:**  
 For rates, availability and use policies, contact the Park office.

**Athletic Fields:**  
 are used in the summer and fall for area leagues and instructional programs. Contact the Park office for information, schedules or reservations.

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



## Your Input is Requested

As part of updating the Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, we will be hosting a series of public input sessions over the summer and next fall. Incorporated in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is our "5-year plan" used in planning and budgeting and master plan goals for each park. The input session will focus on our goals for Roselle Park. Two sessions will be held at Roselle Park on Thursday, August 12, one at 10:00 a.m. and the other at 7:00 p.m. Please come out to join us and provide your ideas

## Update on Park Improvements

### Ada Township Park Highlights

Plans are coming together to put in a volleyball court in Ada Township Park this year. It will be located near the basketball court and open for public use. The Parks & Recreation Department submitted a grant proposal to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Water & Conservation Fund for improvements to the park playground and parking facilities. The grant is for work to be done in 2011. A design process for the playground renovations will take place this summer and fall. Your input and recommendations are welcome.

### Roselle Park Stream and Drain work

When the old Ada Beef Plant was built, drain systems were put in place to divert water away from the building site and farm fields. As part of a Phase 1 of converting that property into Roselle Park, some renovations to the drain system were done but more work is needed prior to further development of the park site. This summer a section of a stream that was once diverted and buried will be re-opened to allow for a natural flow of surface water runoff. In addition, sections of blocked culverts in the main drain through the property will be cleared or replaced. It will look like some construction on site for a couple weeks, but the end result will be better flow of water through the site during rain and river flooding events, and a more natural appearance.

# Parks & Recreation Department (con't)

## Summer Recreation Programs

Pre-registration requested by calling 676-0520  
or email [mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com)

### "Senior Specials" at Ada Park Learning Center

Enjoy camaraderie and healthy activities in Ada Parks by participating in one of the events below. \$2/event.

**Lunch with Punch** Wednesday, June 9 12-1 pm  
**Morning Stretch** Thursday, July 15 9-10 am

### Pickle Ball

On Wednesday afternoons and evening Ada Park tennis courts #5 and #6 are marked and reserved for this fun game and free lessons. Contact the park office for details.

### NEW: Fall Adult Softball Program

Ada Parks & Recreation will host new fall leagues from August 10- September 18 this year. Games will be held on weeknights and include both men's slow pitch and co-ed leagues. Applications are due from interested teams by July 25<sup>TH</sup>. Contact the Park Office at 676-0520 or [rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com) for an application or more information.

### Schools & Scout Programs

School groups & Scout groups are welcome to the resources of Ada Parks & staff to help complete curriculum goals and badge requirements through field trips, service projects or facility rentals. Contact the Park office for details, fees and scheduling.



**Evening Fishing** Ada Park Free  
**Thursday, June 17 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Open fishing for youth with their families at the Ada Park pond. Poles, bait, assistance and snacks provided.

**Bike Decorating Day** Ada Park \$4/youth  
**Friday, July 2 10 a.m. - 12 noon**

Decorate your bike in time for the 4th of July Parade!  
For 4 - 12 year olds with parent or guardian.

### Ada Village Kids' Garden

**For youth 8-12 years old Next to The Community**

Through September on Tuesdays and Thursdays.  
Learn to garden, attend workshops, help at the Farmers' Market. Contact the Parks office for details.

**Tennis Lessons** Ada Park \$25/session

Session 1 June 15, 16 & 17  
Sessions 2 June 29, 30, and July 1  
5-7 year olds 10:00 a.m.  
7-13 year olds 11:00 a.m.  
13-18 year olds 12:00 p.m.

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

**Ada Park \$4/youth**

For Pre-Schoolers along with a parent or guardian to have fun, educational discovery experiences outdoors.

**Jump, Frog, Jump!** Wednesday, June 2  
**Butterflies, Flying Flowers** Wednesday, July 21  
**Water Fun** Wednesday, August 18

**Young Explorers** Ages 5-7  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00** Ada Park \$4/youth

Fun mornings of nature study, hands-on activities and crafts. Inside and outdoor activities.

**Fishing Fun** Tuesday, June 29.  
**Incredible Insects** Tuesday, July 13  
**Rock Hounds** Tuesday, August 17

**Junior Naturalist** Ages 8-11 \$5/youth  
**9:30 a.m. - 12:00** Ada or Roselle Parks

Hands-on science activities, crafts, games, snacks and outdoor adventure based outings.

**Fishing Frenzy** Wednesday, June 30 Ada Park  
**Bikes** Wednesday, July 14 Roselle Park  
**Racquet Sports** Tuesday, July 20 Ada Park  
**Rocks & Fossils** Thursday, August 19 Ada Park

### Summer Day Camp Adventures

**Ages 6-12 Dates Vary**

Two - four day sessions on various weeks from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Half day sessions for 6-7 year olds. Camps start at Ada Park with some days held at Roselle Park or the Ada Museum. Fees range from \$40 to \$90 per session. Pre-registration required. Contact the Park office for forms.

Session 1: **Arts in the Park** June 15, 16 & 17  
Session 2: **Sports Spectacular** June 22, 23 & 24  
Session 3: **Water Wonders** July 7 & 8  
Session 4: **Michigan Wildlife** July 27, 28 & 29  
Session 5: **Pioneer Camp** August 10 & 11  
**Session 6: Adventure Camp August 2-5**  
**NEW for youth 10 - 12 year olds**

### Volunteer Opportunities

Ada Parks Department is recruiting volunteers to assist with grounds, gardens, program instruction and clerical tasks. Contact the Park office at 676-0502 or [mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com) for an application, interview or schedule of events

**CALENDAR {2010}**

**June**

- 1 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30 p.m.
- 7 Downtown Development Authority - 8:30 a.m.
- 10 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd - 4:00 p.m.
- 14 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
- 22 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 28 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 29 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**July**

- 3 **4th of July Celebration**
- 4 Township Office Closed - Holiday
- 6 Downtown Development Authority - 8:30 a.m.
- 6 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 8 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd - 4:00 p.m.
- 12 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 13 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 13 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30 p.m.
- 15 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Ethics Board - 6:15 p.m.
- 20 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 26 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 27 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**August**

- 2 Downtown Development Authority - 8:30 a.m.
- 3 **State Primary**
- 3 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 3 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30 p.m.
- 9 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 10 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 12 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd - 4:00 p.m.
- 17 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 19 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Board Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- 24 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
- 31 **Farmers Mkt - 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION** *(remove & save)*

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

616-676-9191  
[www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)

**HOURS:**

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

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Ext. 21, [sburton@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:sburton@adatownshipmi.com)

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Norm Rhoades  
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