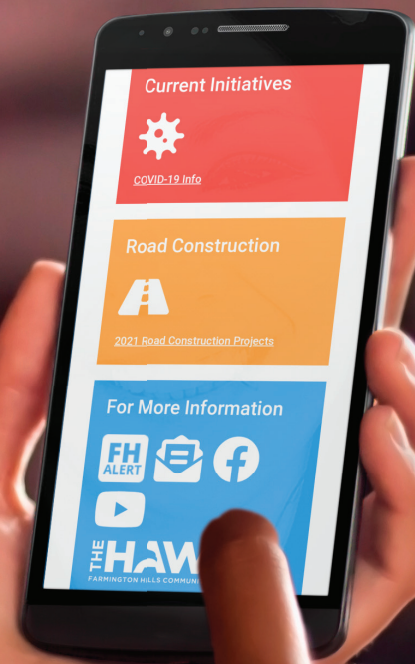


FARMINGTON HILLS FOCUS



Spring/Summer 2022

► Stay Informed and Involved!

Want to be in the know about all the latest happenings in the City of Farmington Hills? There are many different ways to get detailed information on a range of topics that are important for residents to know:

Website – Go to the City website at www.fhgov.com for all the Latest News updated daily. Click on the Resident tab for information on everything from dog licenses to passports. Click on the tiles for employment listings, public notices, City Council meeting agendas, the City calendar, and more.

City eNewsletter – Get direct emails when you register for the City eNews at www.fhgov.com. Go to the Resident tab, click on News and Information, then eNews/Listserv. Follow the links to subscribe to the City eNews, Road Construction Updates, Election News, and more.

Facebook – Click on the Facebook icon at www.fhgov.com and follow the news feed for all the latest updates on City events and programs.

FH Alert – Click on the FH Alert icon at www.fhgov.com to subscribe to time-sensitive notifications about emergencies including road closures, missing persons, and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.

YouTube – Click on the YouTube icon at www.fhgov.com and subscribe to the City of Farmington Hills YouTube Channel to view videos on public safety, cultural arts, the Nature Center, City Council meetings, and more.

Contact Us – Click on the Contact Us tile at www.fhgov.com for the names and phone numbers of City employees in different departments. Follow the link to report a concern and fill out the required information.

The Hawk – Click on The Hawk icon at www.fhgov.com and link to the special website for The Hawk/Farmington Hills Community Center to find out about fitness passes, book a party room, and register for classes.

If you do not have access to a computer, call 248-871-2400 or stop by Farmington Hills City Hall located at 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road. Regular hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY POLICING DASHBOARD

The Farmington Hills Police Department has created a new Community Policing Dashboard to facilitate open and transparent communications with the public. The Dashboard data is obtained from Police Department programs that track statistics related to police services in Farmington Hills. This new tool further illustrates the Police Department's commitment to maintaining the safety and quality of life in this community through the delivery of superior police services without prejudice or partiality.

Data provided in the Community Policing Dashboard is obtained from a variety of internal software programs used by the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Categories include:

Calls for Service – Calls for service are generally represented as calls to “911” for emergency assistance and may also include calls to non-emergency numbers.

Citations – A citation or ticket is a legal notice to a person or motor vehicle charged with a violation of law, especially a minor violation.

Arrests – Arrest is defined as when a person is taken into the government’s custody and detained.

To access the Community Policing Dashboard, go to the City website at www.fhgov.com and click on the Police Department webpage at <https://portal.arxcommunity.com/dashboards/community/mi-ci-farmingtonhills-pd>.

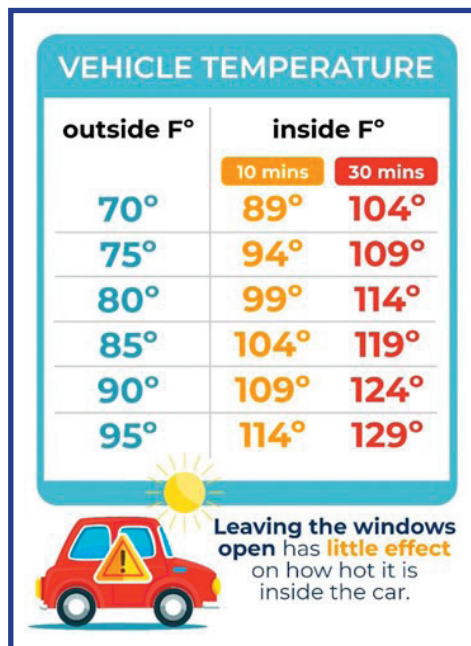


Summer Car Safety Tips

Children dying from heatstroke in cars, either because they were left or became trapped, has increased in recent years. The majority of hot car deaths happen because someone forgets a child in a car. You may be asking yourself - how does this happen? Families who lost a loved one thought the same thing at one point, but then the tragedy happened to them.

The Farmington Hills Police Department reminds everyone that YOU can help prevent hot car deaths. Parents and caregivers should get in the habit of always looking inside the car before locking the doors.

Remember - PARK. LOOK. LOCK.



Follow these safety tips to help prevent a tragedy:

- Never leave children in a vehicle unsupervised, even if you are planning to walk away for just a moment. It's easy to become distracted and let time get away from you.
- Use drive-through services that allow you to stay in your car with your child whenever possible.
- Open the back door and check the backseat every time you get out of your car, even if you think your child is not with you.
- Put an important item like a purse, wallet or cell phone in the backseat that will remind you to look before you leave.
- Communicate with other adults in the car when exiting a vehicle. Say out loud who has helped each child exit to make sure no one is left behind.
- Ensure children cannot get in vehicles on their own. Keep car keys out of children's reach and always keep vehicles locked.
- Search nearby vehicles first if your child is missing, even if vehicles are locked.
- Teach children to honk the horn if they become stuck inside a vehicle.
- Ask your child's day care provider or school to call you immediately if your child is late.
- Practice extra caution when your daily schedule changes during a vacation or emergency.



Lieutenant Mike Connolly, Chief Jeff King, and Assistant Chief John Piggott received the Re-Accreditation recognition on behalf of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Free Gun Locks for Residents



The Farmington Hills Police Department is giving away FREE cable gun locks to residents. Visit the Police Department Command Desk located at 31655 Eleven Mile Road and open 24/7/365.

Each year in the U.S., hundreds of children are accidentally injured or killed by firearms that are not properly secured. By choosing to keep a firearm in your home, you are legally responsible for ensuring that the weapon is stored in a safe manner, and not easily accessible to children or other unauthorized individuals.

► Police Department Achieves Prestigious Re-Accreditation Status

In 2018, the Farmington Hills Police Department was one of the first agencies in Michigan to receive Accreditation recognition from the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC). There are currently 588 law enforcement agencies in Michigan; only 38, including the Farmington Hills Police Department, have achieved Accredited status.

In 2021, the Farmington Hills Police Department successfully completed the Re-Accreditation process with the MLEAC. It is now one of only eight law enforcement agencies in the State to achieve Re-Accreditation status, and currently is the largest Police Department to accomplish this prestigious and difficult feat.

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performance. The foundation of accreditation lies in the voluntary adoption of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives.

A team of MLEAC assessors conducts a review and verifies that applicable standards have been successfully implemented into written directives and certifies that the agency is in compliance. This recognition remains a source of pride for the Department and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all the employees of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

► FIRE DEPARTMENT REMINDS MOTORISTS TO “SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER” WITH NEW GRANT-FUNDED TRAFFIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT

The Farmington Hills Fire Department has undertaken an important initiative to ensure that motorists “Slow Down and Move Over.” New roadway safety equipment secured through grant funding includes 75 traffic safety vests, nine “Emergency Scene Ahead” signs, and five LED road flares. Generously supplied through a partnership with AAA, this new critical equipment will make roadway situations safer for everyone.

Michigan law requires motorists to “Slow Down and Move Over” for most vehicles in the roadway including first responders, tow trucks, municipal vehicles, utility vehicles, and road maintenance vehicles. In 2021, the Farmington Hills Fire Department responded to more than 450 roadway incidents. In addition to the flashing lights on Fire Department vehicles, this new equipment helps alert motorists that emergency personnel are working in the roadway and provides another reminder that drivers need to go slower and get to the other lane.

Every single year, approximately 23 workers and first responders – the equivalent of one person every two weeks – lose their lives at the roadside. In addition, hundreds more are injured while tending to disabled vehicles. Despite the “Slow Down and Move Over” law being passed in all 50 states, 71% of Americans are unaware of these important laws that require drivers to reduce their speed and switch lanes to protect workers.

To improve highway safety and protect roadside workers, AAA offers these tips:

- Always remain alert. Avoid distractions and focus on the task of driving.
- Watch for situations where emergency vehicles, tow trucks, utility service vehicles or disabled vehicles are stopped on the side of the road.
- When approaching an emergency vehicle with lights flashing on the side of a two-lane roadway, drivers should slow down to a speed that is safe and approach with caution unless otherwise directed by an emergency worker on the scene. Some states recommend slowing to a speed 10 to 20 mph less than the posted speed limit.
- On multi-lane roadways, slow down when you see an emergency vehicle’s flashing lights, and if possible, move over into an adjacent lane. If you are unable to switch lanes, slow to a safe and reasonable speed 10 to 20 mph less than the posted speed limit.

For more information, contact the Farmington Hills Fire Department at 248-871-2800.



(l-r) Fire Marshal Jason Baloga, Senior Firefighter Stan Bailey, Senior Firefighter Justin Perkey, and Probationary Firefighter Jacob Anderson with the Fire Department’s new safety equipment.



PROPER DISPOSAL OF HOT ASHES & COALS

Did you know that ashes and coals from fires and grills can remain hot enough to start a fire for many days after you think the fire is out? Fire Department investigations have determined that multiple home fires in Farmington Hills have been caused by the improper disposal of ashes or coals.

The exact amount of time needed for complete extinguishment and cooling depends on many factors such as how hot the fire was, what materials were burning, or how much unburned fuel remains. To be extra safe, treat all ashes and coals as if they are hot, even if you think they’ve had enough time to cool.

Follow these recommendations from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

- If possible, allow ashes and coals to cool for several days in the area where you had the fire. These devices are designed to contain heat safely.
- When it’s time to dispose of ashes or coals, transfer them to a metal container and wet them down.
- Keep the metal container outside your home and away from any combustibles until the refuse is hauled away.
- DON’T place any other combustible materials in the metal container.
- DON’T ever use a combustible container.

If you have questions regarding open burning or the disposal of ashes and coals, please call the Fire Prevention Division at 248-871-2820.



SAFETY TIPS WHEN CHARGING DIGITAL DEVICES

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) urges caution when using and charging laptops and other digital devices at home. According to the NFPA's most recent electrical fires report, an average of 900 computer or computer equipment fires occurred in U.S. homes each year between 2014 and 2018, resulting in 50 civilian injuries and \$50 million in direct property damage.

With more people working from home, households may be using and charging more electrical devices on a daily basis than usual. This additional use of equipment means a greater opportunity for misuse and misapplication, which can contribute to an increased fire risk.

When it comes to using and charging laptops, smartphones, and other digital devices, following simple precautions can help minimize the risk of electrical fires:

- Only use a charging cord that is UL listed and/or manufactured for the specific device.
- Discontinue use if the device or charger becomes excessively hot or emits a burning smell.
- Make sure electrical cords and wires are in good condition. Discard frayed or damaged cords.
- Unplug devices when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock and fire.
- Ensure that the plug is fully inserted into the outlet and remains that way while in use.

Call the utility company or a qualified electrician immediately when experiencing any of the following:

- Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers.
- Discolored or warm wall outlets.
- Flickering or dimming lights.
- Sparks from an outlet.
- A plug no longer stays plugged into an outlet on its own.

If you have questions regarding the use of chargers, please call the Fire Prevention Division at 248-871-2820.

FIREWORKS SAFETY

The Farmington Hills Fire Department does not advocate the use of fireworks by non-trained professionals due to safety reasons; however, if individuals choose to use fireworks, here are some safety rules to follow:

- Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area only.
- Always keep a bucket of water or a working water hose nearby.
- Only use fireworks as intended. Don't try to alter them or combine them.
- Never relight a dud firework. Wait a minimum of 20 minutes, pick it up with a long-handled tool, and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Spectators should keep a safe distance from the fireworks handler and the handler should wear safety glasses.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a designated adult fireworks handler.
- Do not use homemade fireworks or illegal explosives.
- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Read and follow all instructions on the label.
- Dispose of used fireworks in a metal container kept outside. Never place used fireworks in a combustible box or store them inside the home or garage.

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS FIREWORKS ORDINANCE

The current City of Farmington Hills Fireworks Ordinance states that fireworks may only be discharged during the following times:

- New Year's Eve to New Year's Day – 11:00 a.m. on December 31 to 1:00 a.m. on January 1
- The weekend before Memorial Day – Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.
- June 29 through July 4 – 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. each day
- July 5, but only if that date is a Friday or Saturday – 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.
- The weekend before Labor Day – Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.

Please keep in mind that it is unlawful to discharge fireworks on public property (including public streets), school property, church property, or the private property of another without express written permission.

It is also unlawful to discharge fireworks of any type while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. An individual who violates this ordinance may be issued a municipal civil infraction, which is punishable by a civil fine of \$1,000 for each violation. Additionally, it is unlawful to discharge fireworks if a fireworks ban has been implemented by the Fire Chief due to dry conditions.

FIREWORK ALTERNATIVES

Outdoor movie night. Set up a screen and projector.

Use glow sticks, they glow in the dark and are a safe alternative to a sparkler.

Red, white and blue silly string...fun for all ages.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

REMINDERS FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE

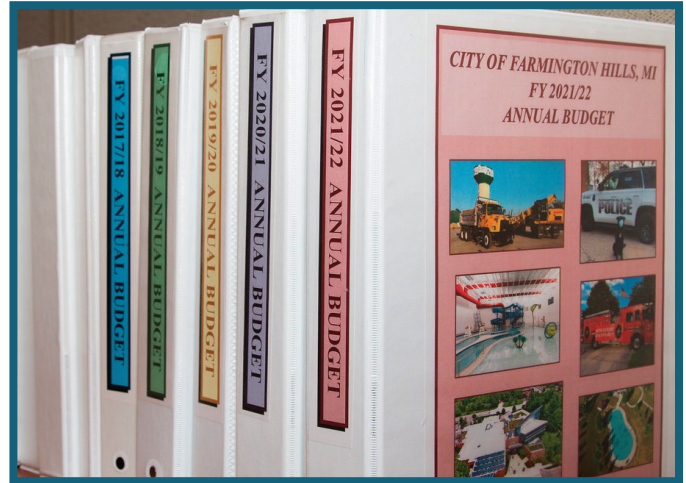
- The City of Farmington Hills 2022 Summer Tax Bills will be mailed on or about June 30, 2022. They are payable from July 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022 without penalty. **Postmarks are not accepted by the City.** Payments received at the City after August 31, 2022 are subject to a 4% penalty that will be added starting September 1, along with 1/2% interest per month.
- Every property should receive a property tax bill, even if the tax bill is to be paid via an escrow account. If you do not receive a summer property tax bill by July 15, or if you have any questions about your property taxes, call the Treasurer's Office at 248-871-2480.
- By law, failure to receive a tax bill does not waive tax or penalty. Tax bills are mailed to the address of record and not forwarded by the Post Office unless it is a **temporary** forwarding order only. Changes of mailing address should be filed with the Assessor's Office.
- Applications for deferment of 2022 summer taxes for qualified persons are available on the City website at www.fhgov.com or at the Treasurer's Office. Applications must be filed by September 14, 2022.

For questions about your property assessment or taxable value, call the Assessing Division at 248-871-2470.

OPTIONS FOR PAYING TAXES

- Pay by electronic check (eCheck) at www.fhgov.com (\$3 fee for payments up to \$10,000; \$10 fee for payments over \$10,000.) **Paying by electronic check is highly recommended if you want your payment to be received at the time of your choosing.** You will receive confirmation of payment from the processing company, which will serve as your receipt.
- Pay 24/7 via the drop box located next to City Hall in front of Police Headquarters at 31655 W. Eleven Mile Road, or via the drop box/slot on the wall at the south entrance to City Hall at 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road. Please do not place cash payments in the drop box. You may request a receipt and must include a self-addressed stamped envelope.
- Pay by mail to Treasurer's Office, 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. You may request a receipt and must include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Checks are accepted as conditional payment. If checks are not honored by the bank, a \$30 fee is applied, and taxes are considered unpaid and subject to any and all penalties.

For questions about your taxes, call the Treasurer's Office at 248-871-2480.



FARMINGTON HILLS RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) announced that the City of Farmington Hills received the GFOA's 2021 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This is the 37th consecutive year that the City has received this prestigious award for its budget.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award represents a significant achievement by the City. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. To receive the budget award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.

These guidelines are designed to assess how well a budget serves as:

- a policy document
- an operations guide
- a financial plan
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories, in order to receive the award. When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved the award. This award has been presented to the City of Farmington Hills Finance Department.

There are over 1,600 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

DOG LICENSES

Licenses are required for all dogs four months of age or older. Dog licenses may be purchased at the City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division January 1 to November 30 with proof of rabies vaccination. Proof of neutering is required for neutered/spayed discount. New animals over four months of age may be licensed at non-delinquent rates if the license is purchased within 30 days of acquisition. The City does not require that cats be licensed. For questions regarding dog licenses, please contact Oakland County Animal Control at 248-858-1070 or the City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division at 248-871-2480.

2022 dog licenses are available from the following:

Oakland County Animal Control. Go to www.oakgov.com/petadoption to: Pay with a credit card, schedule an appointment, or pay by mail

City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division counter: Cash/check, Credit card (additional 3% third-party fees apply, \$2 minimum)

Pay by mail from January 1 – June 1.

To pay by mail, send a request form (find it on the City website at <https://www.fhgov.com/Government/Departments-Divisions/Finance/Dog-Licenses.aspx>), along with a copy of a valid rabies certificate, a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a check or money order in the amount of the corresponding license fee.



One Year:	January 1 - June 1	Delinquent One Year:	June 2 - November 30
Spay / Neutered	\$15.00	All	\$40.00
Male / Female	\$25.00		
Senior* Spay / Neutered	\$14.00		
Senior* Male / Female	\$23.00		

Three Year:	January 1 - June 1	Delinquent Three Year:	June 2 - November 30
(Requires three-year rabies vaccination valid thru 2024)			
Spay / Neutered	\$40.00	Spay / Neutered	\$55.00
Male / Female	\$70.00	Male / Female	\$85.00
Senior* Spay / Neutered	\$37.00	Senior* Spay / Neutered	\$52.00
Senior* Male / Female	\$64.00	Senior* Male / Female	\$79.00

*Senior (pet owner) = 65 years old or over

An Oakland County license must be purchased within 30 days of:

- Purchasing or acquiring a new dog.
- A puppy turning four months of age.

Pets need to be licensed because:

- It's the law since 1919.
- Licensed pets have a better chance of being found.
- It proves ownership.
- Fees support Oakland County Pet Adoption Center.

Need a replacement dog tag?

Contact the Oakland County Animal Control Licensing Department at 248-452-9890 and they will mail you a replacement dog tag.



To learn about the City's Dog Park, go to www.fhgov.com/Activities/Parks-Facilities/Dog-Park.aspx

CLERK'S OFFICE



Door to Door Peddlers + Solicitors

Spring typically brings out door-to-door peddlers/solicitors. Persons peddling door-to-door selling goods or services must be licensed with the City and have photo identification issued by the City Clerk's Office. Persons may only peddle/solicit between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Certain groups are exempt from the City's licensing provisions, but they should still be able to provide photo ID from their respective organizations and are asked to comply with local time requirements. Youth groups such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts or other similar youth organizations are also exempt if they are soliciting within three miles of their residence. For questions on licensing, contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410.

If you do not wish to have peddlers/solicitors come to your door, please consider posting a "No Peddling/No Soliciting" sign on your property. Peddlers/solicitors are not permitted on property that is signed as such. Subdivision associations may also choose to post similar signage at the entrances to their subdivisions.

Please be advised that State Law dictates that peddling/soliciting cannot be prohibited within the City, however licensed peddlers/solicitors must adhere to City ordinance requirements. Complaints regarding any peddler/solicitor should be directed to the City's Police Department at 248-871-2610. It is helpful if you can provide the name of the organization for which the person was peddling/soliciting and your address or subdivision name.

ELECTIONS 2022

AUGUST 2, 2022
State Primary Election

NOVEMBER 8, 2022
State General Election

Important Deadlines for the August 2, 2022 State Primary Election

- **Monday, July 18** - Last day to register to vote in any manner other than in-person at your local Clerk's Office.
- **Tuesday, July 19 - Tuesday, August 2 until 8 p.m.** - A person may register to vote in-person at their local Clerk's Office with proof of residency.
- **Friday, July 29 at 5 p.m.** - Deadline to request an absent voter ballot to be mailed via first class mail.
- **Monday, August 1 until 4 p.m.** - Last day for registered voters to request an absent voter ballot in-person at the Clerk's Office. Photo ID or completion of an Affidavit Not in Possession of Photo ID is required.
- **Tuesday, August 2 until 8 p.m.** - A person registering on Election Day in-person in the Clerk's Office may obtain and vote an absent voter ballot or vote in their proper precinct.

More details for the 2022 August and November Elections will be posted to the City website www.fhgov.com as the Election dates get closer.

Permanent Absent Voter List

If you wish to be placed on the permanent absent voter list to automatically receive an absent voter application for each Election, call the City Clerk's Office at **248-871-2410** or email permlist@fhgov.com.

Applications for the August 2, 2022 State Primary Election will be mailed out to those on the permanent absent voter list at the end of May, approximately 75 days prior to the Election.



PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CITY RECEIVES APWA PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The City of Farmington Hills received the 2021 Project of the Year Award from the Michigan Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) for the Halsted Road and Minnow Pond Drain Project. The Project of the Year Award represented the Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair in the \$1 to \$5 Million category.

For many years, after storms or rapid snowmelts, the City had to close Halsted Road at the Minnow Pond Drain crossing south of 14 Mile Road, causing safety concerns since first responders regularly use this critical north/south corridor. Working with the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, Fishbeck Engineering and Consulting, and Davis Construction, the City elevated Halsted Road, realigned drain flows, and constructed a culvert to improve drainage and provide flood protection.

The City received additional kudos for effectively communicating with residents, maintaining residential access, and completing the project under budget and earlier than anticipated.



Farmington Hills DPW Superintendent Kevin McCarthy, Farmington Hills Public Services Director Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills City Engineer Jim Cubera, APWA Michigan Chapter President Duane Poole, Fishbeck Engineering Project Consultant Dave Potter, and Farmington Hills City Manager Gary Mekjian

HOLIDAY GARBAGE/RECYCLING/YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

For the holidays listed below, there will be no curbside collection of trash, recycling, or yard waste. All other holidays throughout the year will not affect curbside collection schedules. If your regularly scheduled collection day is Friday, collection will be on Saturday.

Memorial Day - May 30, 2022: Monday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

Independence Day - July 4, 2022: Monday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

Labor Day - September 5, 2022: Monday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

Thanksgiving Day - November 24, 2022: Thursday and Friday routes on a one-day delay. No delay Monday - Wednesday.

Christmas Day - December 25, 2022: No delays.

New Year's Day - January 1, 2023: No delays.

Please note: Yard waste pickup will start during the week of April 11, 2022 and end during the week of December 12, 2022.

▶ SPRING/SUMMER REMINDERS



GIVE BACK TO YOUR LAWN - GRASSCYCLE!

During spring and summer, grass clippings account for up to 50% of your total yard waste. As a simple, natural approach to lawn care, grasscycling is the practice of leaving grass clippings on the lawn or using them as mulch. Grass clippings are 75% to 85% water and decompose quickly, releasing nitrogen and other valuable nutrients. This results in a greener, healthier lawn without the use of fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides.

There are many benefits with grasscycling:

- There's no raking and bagging, which means less time spent on lawn care.
- It saves money by eliminating the use of bags, fertilizer, and gas for the mower.
- It reduces harmful greenhouse gas emissions with fewer stops and starts of the lawn mower to bag grass and decreased overall running time for the mower.
- It reduces the excessive application of fertilizer that contributes to pollution of waterways and impacts the health of wildlife and aquatic species.

Replace your conventional lawn mower blade with a mulching blade or use a mulching mower. Mulching mowers and blades are designed to allow the yard debris to be cut multiple times during the mowing process.

Mow grass to no more than three inches tall. For healthier grass, remove only one-third of the grass blade at a time, and no more than one inch in total. Leave the grass clippings where they fall and allow them to decompose.

Mow when the lawn is dry. For wet lawns, raise the initial cutting height and gradually lower to the proper height on follow-up passes. Direct clippings onto the lawn. Any clips that blow from under the mower onto sidewalks or driveways should be swept back onto the lawn to prevent them from ending up in surface water or drains. This adds nutrients to surface water and increases the growth of algae and other aquatic plants that can deplete oxygen.

YARD WASTE PICKUP RESUMES APRIL 11, 2022

Yard waste collection will resume in the City of Farmington Hills starting on Monday, April 11, 2022. As of that date, all yard waste placed at the curbside in acceptable containers will be collected by the yard waste truck on your regular garbage day. Yard waste pickup will end during the week of December 12, 2022.

Acceptable yard waste includes leaves, grass, shrub clippings, twigs, and plant materials. There are three options available for yard waste disposal:

- Place yard waste in a trash can (35-gallon size limit) with a yard waste sticker on both sides. Yard waste stickers are available free from City Hall or the DPW.
- Put yard waste in brown paper yard waste bags. Please do not overstuff bags.
- Use a mulching mower and recycle leaves and grass clippings back into the lawn.

Small limbs (six inches in diameter or less) and brush must be tied in bundles that do not exceed four feet in length or weigh more than 60 pounds per bundle. Unbundled brush, large limbs, and large quantities of dirt or sod are NOT accepted for pickup. Brush or twigs placed in cans or bags should not stick out above the top of the container.

Christmas trees saved for composting must be cut and bundled according to yard waste pickup guidelines. For more information, call the DPW at 248-871-2850 or visit www.fhgov.com.



Paper cups are now recyclable! This includes fast food cups, Dixie cups, and more. The introduction of paper cups to the recycling stream is a positive step forward in keeping our community clean and sustainable for the future.

Remember to rinse your paper cups before placing them in your recycling bin, and don't forget to throw away lids, straws, and stirrers. Hot beverage cups that are foam or foam-lined are non-recyclable and should go in your household garbage.

For more information about what's acceptable in your recycling cart, check out the Recycling Directory at www.rrrasoc.org.

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



SPRING HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS

Keep neighborhoods in Farmington Hills looking fresh and help keep property values high by regularly maintaining your home. Review this checklist to see what projects you can tackle now that spring is here.

ROOF – Inspect your roof on a ladder or use binoculars to check for damaged or missing shingles and signs of rusting, cracking, or leaking or call a professional to help you assess the damage.

GUTTERS – Clear all leaves and debris out of gutters and downspouts, and if they're sagging, reattach or replace them. Use caulk to seal holes and prevent leaking, and make sure downspouts face away from the foundation for proper drainage.

CONCRETE – Look for cracks in the driveway, walkways, or pool deck and fill them with concrete filler or silicone caulk. If damage is severe, you may need to replace concrete areas.

FAUCETS – Inspect hose faucets for freeze damage. Make sure water is flowing freely and pipes aren't damaged.

AIR CONDITIONING – Remove debris from around the cooling unit and change the filters to increase efficiency. Spring is the ideal time to schedule a professional HVAC tune-up.

DECK – Check for stains, discoloration, warping, and rusty or loose nails. Make sure the railings and stairs are safely secured and replace any rotting boards.

WOODWORK – Refurbish wood structures such as fences, railings, and trellises since they are prone to rot and decay.

SPRINKLERS – Check if the system is working properly and look for leaks or broken sprinkler heads. Adjust them so they spray the grass rather than the house, sidewalks, or porches.

WINDOWS – Check for cracks and repair glass as necessary. Use a window screen repair kit to fix holes or tears that bugs can get through.

LANDSCAPING – Clear out debris, trim overgrowth, and plan fresh additions to your garden to spruce up your home.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Housing discrimination is prohibited by law. Everyone has a right, by law, to rent, purchase or obtain financing or insurance for housing without discrimination based upon RACE, COLOR, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, AGE, MARITAL, FAMILIAL or DISABILITY STATUS. Both State of Michigan and Federal laws apply to the actions of owners, real estate brokers or agents, apartment managers, cooperatives, condominiums, mortgage lenders, appraisers, or residential insurers, and they prohibit, with few exceptions, any differences in treatment based on any of the protected characteristics.

For more information on housing discrimination, visit www.hud.gov/fairhousing. If you have a housing discrimination complaint, contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at 313-456-3700 or the HUD hotline at 1-800-669-9777 or 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM HOME REPAIR LOANS

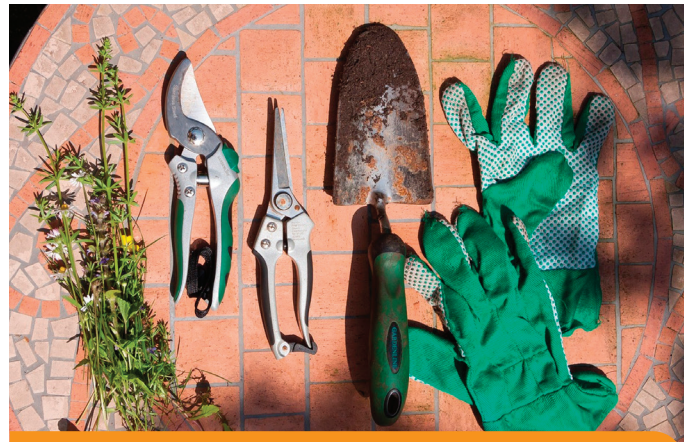
Funding for zero-interest, deferred home repair loans is provided by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Office (HUD). Homeowners may be eligible for loans to replace roofs, windows, furnaces, septic fields, or hot water tanks. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy a home in Farmington Hills and the family must meet Federal income guidelines. A family of four, for example, must have a gross income of less than \$64,000. For information, call the Community Development Office at 248-871-2543 or go to www.fhgov.com, and search for Housing Rehabilitation Program.

For more information, contact the Community Development Office at 248-871-2543.

SEVEN COMMON ZONING COMPLAINTS

- 1. High grass** – Grass cannot be higher than eight inches.
- 2. Vehicles** – Automobiles must be properly licensed and operative, otherwise they must be stored in a garage.
- 3. Property maintenance/blight** – No peeling paint on the house or accessory structures, windows must be kept in good condition, gutters that have weeds in them or are not hanging properly are not allowed. Trash or debris in the yard or around trash cans is unsightly and is a violation.
- 4. Fencing** – Fences must have a permit, be in the proper location, and need to be kept in good condition. Please see your subdivision association rules if applicable for allowable types of fencing.
- 5. Trash out too early/too late** – Please contact the Division of Public Works at 248-871-2850 for the allowed trash schedule for your area.
- 6. Recreation vehicles** – Boats and/or campers cannot be stored in the front yard. Please see your subdivision association rules if applicable on allowable recreation vehicles.
- 7. Trash around dumpsters in commercial areas** – This is not allowed and will result in enforcement. In addition, potholes must be filled in commercial areas and landscaping may not be neglected.

There are four Zoning Inspectors whose primary duty within the City is to enforce the zoning ordinance and portions of the City Code relating to property such as the blight ordinance. They are scheduled in the office from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. In order to assist the public with the Zoning Ordinance and City Code, a staff member will be available at City Hall during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The rest of the time, the Zoning Inspectors are in the field or involved in duties related to enforcement resulting from field inspections. If you have questions, contact the Zoning Division at 248-871-2520.



SPRING PLANT + SEED SWAP COMING IN MAY TO HERITAGE PARK

Get your garden ready for spring with the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission's Annual Spring Plant and Seed Swap coming in May! The event takes place every year – rain or shine – at the Heritage Park Visitor's Center parking lot, located at 24915 Farmington Road between Ten and Eleven Mile Roads. Watch the City website at www.fhgov.com and the City Facebook page for the date and more details.

Every year, both amateur and Master Gardeners bring plants from their gardens, eager to swap them for new and sometimes exotic species. Come prepared, bright and early, with gloves, wagons, pots, plants, and seeds to trade with other gardeners!

The Beautification Commission, Garden Club members and Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions. For more information, call Charmaine Kettler-Schmult in the City of Farmington Hills Community Development Office at 248-871-2543.



CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS NOW HIRING SEASONAL POSITIONS!

During the spring and summer, the City hires a large number of employees in a variety of positions from part-time (20 hours) to temporary full-time (40 hours). Positions include landscaping, road work, parks and golf course maintenance, building attendants, camps, lifeguards, and recreation programs. Hourly pay rates vary based on qualifications and job responsibilities. Open positions are advertised on www.fhgov.com under Employment and on the City's Facebook page or contact the Human Resources Department at 248-871-2490 for an application.