

The City of Rochester Hills Hills Herald

News & Information

Fall/Winter 2015



Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor

A Message from the Mayor

Wow! What a year. Friends, the City of Rochester Hills is absolutely on a roll. As we head into the traditional season of Thanksgiving, I stopped briefly to think of all the things we as a community have to be grateful for and the many things I am personally thankful for.

We are blessed to live in a beautiful area with an abundance of natural resources. I am thankful that we live so close to the Clinton River and Paint Creek Trails which provide unparalleled beauty this time of year. I'm grateful for Yates cider and donuts, high school football, and *A Christmas Carol* at Meadow Brook Theatre.

I am thankful for our first responders, and the men and women who protect and serve our community. Our team of professionals do their jobs so well, we were recently named the safest city in our entire state and that's certainly something we can all be grateful for.

“Our team of professionals do their jobs so well, we were recently named the safest city in our entire state. That’s certainly something we can all be grateful for.”

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*Artist Margaret Glinke
www.glinkestudio.com*

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We are blessed to have our award winning school systems and the outstanding teachers, support staff, and administrators who invest their considerable talent and expertise in the education of our children. My wife, Corrin, and I are thankful for all they do for our sons, and for the thousands of students in our community. Kids aren't 100% of the population, but they are 100% of our city's future and I'm grateful they are learning from the best.

Every week we are introduced to a situation of need and every week an individual, family, church group, or nonprofit rises to meet the challenge, often without recognition or reward. I'm grateful our residents consistently pay it forward.

I'm thankful our road construction projects are nearly done (can I get an Amen!) We have aggressively worked to improve and invest in our roads over the last few years and now Tienken, Hamlin, John R, Walton, Rochester, Brewster, Avon, Auburn, and M59 are all in good shape. Man, am I thankful those are behind us!

We are blessed to live in a community that supports and celebrates families. I am so thankful for my family, for my wife and sons who remind me every day about what is truly important. I'm thankful my kids still want to be snuggled and tucked in every night.

I'm thankful for my Mom and all of the other courageous people facing health challenges. She has taught me so much about priorities, faith, and selfless service to others. She is, and always has been, my hero.

Finally, I'm thankful for the privilege to serve as your Mayor. I am truly blessed to have been given the opportunity to hold a job I love. Every morning, for the past nine years, I wake up excited about serving our community. From working with the best employees on the planet to meeting new residents and seeing all the things we've been able to accomplish, it remains my high honor to serve each week as your Mayor.

The bottom line is simple: we are all blessed to live in one of the Top 10 best places anywhere in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you for the part you play in helping us achieve excellence. The City of Rochester Hills is thankful for you!

God Bless,

Bryan K. Barnett

What are you thankful for?



Hills Herald

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Mayor Barnett Named “Mayor of the Year”

On June 19, Mayor Bryan K. Barnett was presented with the “Mayor of the Year” award at the 83rd Annual Conference of Mayors for his commitment to increasing recycling in Rochester Hills.

“Mayor Barnett is a true Recyclebank champion. His leadership from day one has made the program one of the most successful in the nation,” said Javier Flaim, CEO of Recyclebank. “He optimized our partnership with Rochester Hills and rallied the community to recycle more. Mayor Barnett’s actions prove how partnerships can work to improve the sustainability efforts of cities and towns.”

Mayor Bryan K. Barnett was the first to bring Recyclebank to Michigan in 2009 and has proactively engaged city residents through his hands-on approach, which included ensuring that Rochester Hills schools participated in the Recyclebank Green Schools program. Over \$25,000 has been awarded to ten Rochester Community Schools to implement projects ranging from outdoor learning centers and weather stations to garden boxes in support of Raising Rochester.



A champion of recycling efforts, Mayor Barnett has supported the Recyclebank program to help make it the Midwest’s leading municipal account and securing the highest percentage of overall members who redeem their Recyclebank rewards in the region. From April 2009 to April 2015, Rochester Hills has diverted more than 76 tons of materials from the landfill, and residents have earned more than \$15 million in rewards.

“Being named Mayor of the Year is a tremendous honor. I am so proud of how we have changed the culture of recycling in Rochester Hills and grateful the nation is taking note,” stated Mayor Bryan K. Barnett. “This innovative partnership with Recyclebank is one of the many reasons Rochester Hills has been recognized as a top ten place to live in America.”

If you are not already a Recyclebank member, you can easily sign up by visiting www.recyclebank.com/recycle and following the quick prompts to set up an account.

“From April 2009 to April 2015, Rochester Hills has diverted more than 76 tons of materials from the landfill and residents have earned more than \$15 million in rewards.”

Rochester Hills Named Safest City in Michigan



The City of Rochester Hills received an outstanding report from Munetrix, a Michigan-based government transparency and data evaluation corporation, naming Rochester Hills the safest city in the State of Michigan.

Munetrix looked at Michigan communities with populations over 50,000 and used total crime as the metric. Their report focused on 15 local governments that were consistently ranked in the top 15 over a three year period. In the end, Munetrix found Rochester Hills had the lowest crime rate at 2.47% per capita in 2014. Since 2008, the crime rate in Rochester Hills has consistently decreased.

The Oakland County Sheriff’s Office provides police protection for the City of Rochester Hills and does so in an economic fashion. Not only was Rochester Hills named the safest city in Michigan, but it was named the most cost efficient for police services.

The Sheriff’s Office has many partnerships throughout the community that contribute to our decreasing crime rates, including the School Liaison Program with Rochester Community Schools and the Rochester Police Department. This program educates some of our youngest residents about crime prevention and awareness, stopping crime before it happens.

When Mayor Barnett received the report, he said, “All of the awards and recognitions we receive would be irrelevant if not for our community being a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.” He added, “To be named Michigan’s safest city is perhaps the greatest recognition our community can receive. It represents the fabric of what makes a community desirable.”

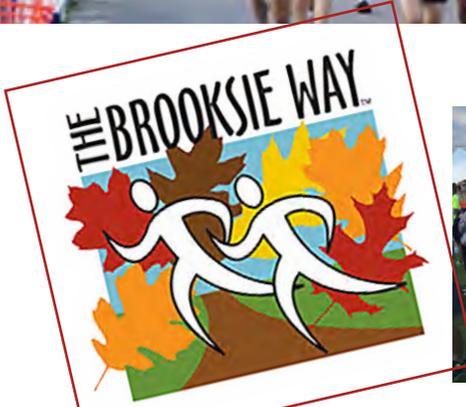
Mark Your Calendar
City Offices will be closed on the following days:

Thanksgiving	November 26 & 27
Christmas	December 24 & 26
New Years Eve	December 31
New Years Day	January 1
MLK Day	January 18
President’s Day	February 15
Good Friday	March 25

Out & About in Rochester Hills



The Annual Brooksie Way Half Marathon brought out many to enjoy the health benefits and camaraderie of the race in our beautiful Rochester Hills.



A great time was had by all. Special thanks to the runners, sponsors, family members, and those who came to cheer!



In support of the fight against ovarian cancer, the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance strives to save women's lives by promoting the early detection of ovarian cancer and improved treatment outcomes. During the month of September, the Village of Rochester Hills joined the fight with their "Turn the Village Teal" campaign fund raiser.



An "Evening in the Garden" with the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association is an enjoyable and interesting event for all.

Out & About in Rochester Hills



The Safest City in Michigan press conference was a opportunity to appreciate the men and women who keep our city safe on a daily basis!



It was truly a summer of celebrations, recognitions, and remembrances for the City of Rochester Hills:

The Avon Hills Tree Dedication Ceremony.

The Remembrance Day ceremony held at the RHFD on September 11.

Mayor Barnett receiving the "City Livability Award" from the US Conference of Mayors on behalf of the Mayor's Business Council.

A. Raymond Company celebrating their 150th Anniversary at the newly renovated RayConnect facility in Rochester Hills.



Rochester Hills Fire Department

CPR – You Can Make A Difference

Captain Tim Matz - EMS Coordinator and Nancy Butty - Fire and Life Safety Educator

Anyone can learn Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and should, because you never know when this life saving skill will be needed. Cardiac arrest occurs in the home 88% of the time and on-scene bystander CPR can make all the difference for a loved one.

Why should you learn CPR?

- Four out of five cardiac arrests occur at home.
- The life you save will likely be a family member or friend.
- Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim's chance of survival. Unfortunately, only 32% of cardiac arrest victims get timely CPR from a bystander.

What is the difference between a heart attack and sudden cardiac arrest?

- Sudden cardiac arrest occurs when electrical impulses in the heart become rapid or chaotic, which causes the heart to suddenly stop beating.
- A heart attack occurs when the blood supply to part of the heart muscle is blocked. A heart attack may cause cardiac arrest depending upon the seriousness of the blockage. Some symptoms of a heart attack include tightness or pain in the chest, neck, back, or arms, as well as fatigue, lightheadedness, abnormal heartbeat, shortness of breath, the feeling of indigestion, and anxiety.

Both of these cardiac emergencies require immediate attention and 9-1-1 should be called immediately. The City of Rochester Hills Fire Department understands the importance of bystander CPR. Although there are different levels of certification for CPR, there is also Hands-Only CPR for the general bystander to provide care until the emergency responders arrive. Follow these simple steps to provide Hands-Only CPR care:

1. Call 9-1-1
2. Push hard and push fast at the center of the chest

For a **Hands-Only CPR** video and demonstration of how easy it is to help someone who needs CPR care go to www.heart.org, and in the Search Box type: **HANDS ONLY CPR**. For more details and to schedule CPR classes provided by the Rochester Hills Fire Department contact our Community Risk Reduction Division's Fire and Life Safety Educator Nancy Butty at 248-656-4720.



Who is the Rochester Hills Fire Department?

Sean Canto - Chief of Fire and Emergency Services

What is the mission of the Rochester Hills Fire Department?

A mission statement guides the actions of the organization, spells out its overall goals, provides a path, and guides decision-making. The mission of the Rochester Hills Fire Department is to protect and preserve life, property, and the environment through a highly trained and dedicated team.

We make our decisions based on three questions: 1. What is best for the community? 2. What is best for the Department? 3. What is best for the member? However, does that describe who we are and strive to be?

What is the Rochester Hills Fire Department?

Recently we unveiled our new department Motto and Vision Statement. These statements help guide the Rochester Hills Fire Department and express the aspirations and goals of our organization.

Vision Statement: The Rochester Hills Fire Department will continue to provide the best emergency services and community risk reduction through innovative training, education, and equipment. We are committed to developing all of our resources, both internal and external, to their fullest potential, while empowering each member with the authority needed to effectively and efficiently perform the duties with which we are entrusted.

Simply put: **We are Driven To Be the Best**, which has become our new Department Motto! On August 10, 2015, the City of Rochester Hills hired nine additional Firefighter/Paramedics. These individuals have begun a strenuous 12-week training process to include fire suppression and emergency medical techniques as well as other areas of instruction. Additionally, each morning these individuals participate in a physical fitness routine that includes strength and conditioning training. The hiring of these individuals would not have occurred without the support of the community.

Oakland County Sheriff's Office

A Message from Sheriff..... Michael J. Bouchard



Hunter Safety

With deer hunting season rapidly approaching, many sportsmen and women will take advantage of the opportunity to share time with their friends, relax, and enjoy the outdoors. The hunting season offers much in the way of sportsmanship and camaraderie, but it also poses some obvious inherent dangers. Every year we hear of tragic, fatal accidents that occur because simple precautions and care are not being used with firearms. Do not let what should be an enjoyable and memorable time turn into a tragedy.

Taking a hunter safety course is an excellent idea. Hunter education in Michigan has taught thousands of people safe hunting techniques, firearm handling, and hunter ethics. Hunter safety is required if you were born after January 1, 1960 and you want to purchase any Michigan hunting license, or if you are planning an out-of-state hunting trip. A hunter safety certificate or previous hunting license is required to purchase any Michigan Hunting License. Hunters can be licensed at age 10. A hunter must be at least 12 years old to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm. Hunters age 12-13 may hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm only on private land, including lands enrolled in the Commercial Forest program.

If you have your license, it is a good idea to remind yourself of some simple rules and laws to follow before you go out hunting.

These important firearm safety tips will make everyone safer:

- Before you go on your hunting trip, let a family member or friend know where you are hunting and when you plan on returning.
- If you plan on hunting on someone else's land, always be sure to get permission from the property owner and if obtained, make sure they know when you will be there.
- One of the most important rules is to always treat every firearm as if it is loaded. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction and always keep your finger outside the trigger guard and off the trigger until ready to shoot. Be certain of your target, and what is beyond it.
- As far as apparel goes, all firearm hunters must wear a hat, cap, vest, jacket, or other outer garment made of "Hunter Orange" that consists at least 50% of the surface area. The hunter orange must be visible from all sides. All hunters, including archers, must comply during gun season. Camouflage Hunter Orange is legal provided 50% of the surface area is solid Hunter Orange (Exceptions: waterfowl, crow, and wild Turkey hunters, and bow hunters for deer during open archery season).
- Hunting from a tree, raised platform or scaffold with a firearm is legal, but extra caution must be used when climbing up or down. Do not carry a loaded weapon as you climb. Falls are one of the fastest growing injuries to sportsmen and women.
- It is also illegal to hunt while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

These are a few important rules that should help keep your hunting trips safer. For more information on hunter safety and other seasonal information, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has an abundance of information on their website at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

**HUNT SMART
HUNT SAFE**

“Hunter education in Michigan has taught thousands of people safe hunting techniques, firearm handling, and hunter ethics.”



Rochester Hills Parks

THE FORECAST IS IN~~~100% CHANCE OF FUN IN ROCHESTER HILLS PARKS

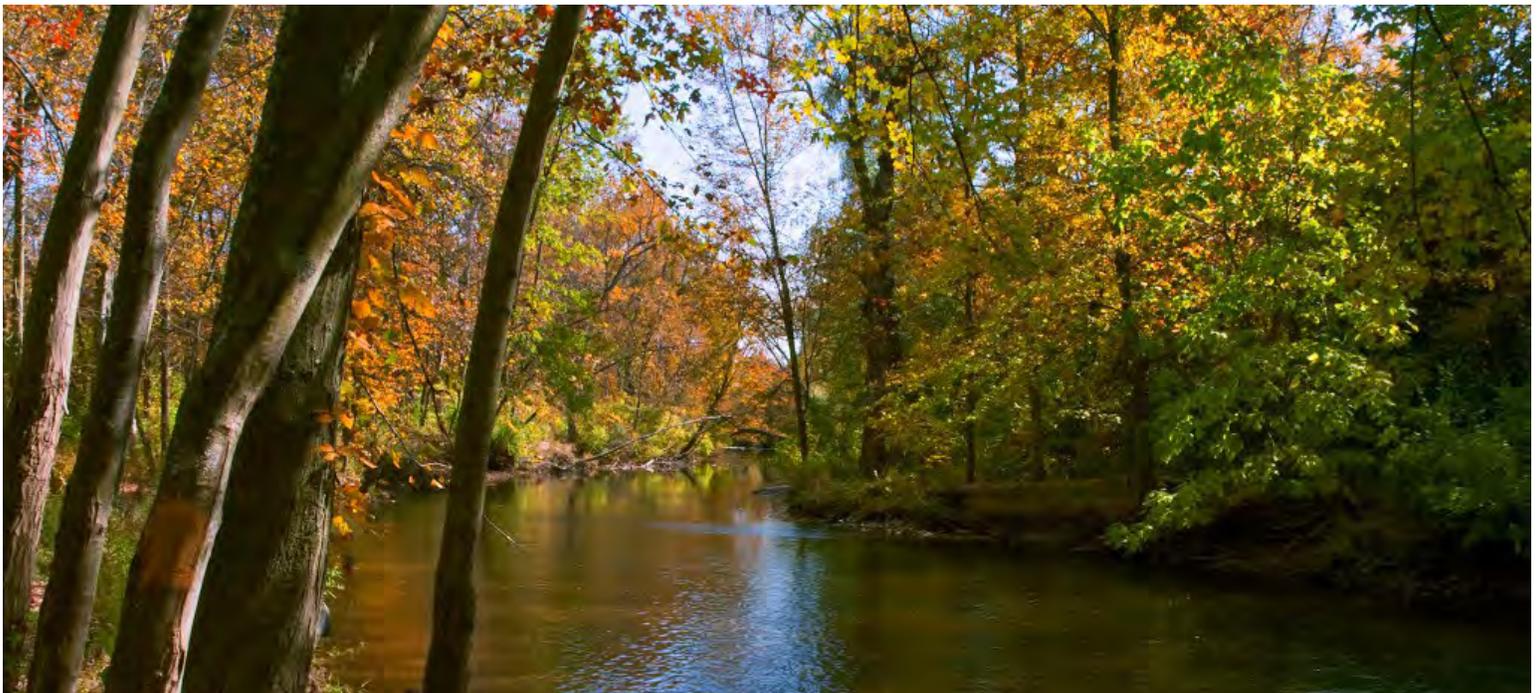
Autumn is already signaling its arrival with its vibrant kaleidoscope of colors, and before long the stark white landscape of winter will arrive. But don't despair! You are just moments away from the perfect spot to embrace the cooler weather – a Rochester Hills park!

Autumn is a fantastic time to go hiking or biking on the Clinton River Trail, watch animals prepare for winter in the Avon Nature Area, collect colorful leaves, or just breathe in the cool, crisp air. Of course, there is the annual Stonewall Pumpkin Festival October 10 at the Rochester Hills Museum. November 11 is Veterans Day and a great time to check out Veterans Memorial Pointe. The Clinton River flows along Yates Park which is right across the street from cider and donuts...how convenient.

The glistening landscape of winter lasts a long time here in Michigan and Rochester Hills Parks offer a variety of adventures to entice hibernators to come outdoors. Bundle up and try your luck at ice fishing at Spencer, do some sledding at Bloomer, make snow angels at Borden, or cross country ski on our trails (ungroomed). And Starry Starry Night (an Environmental Education program) comes to the Museum on December 28.

If we can't entice you to come outdoors, we offer some indoor activities too. At the Museum, Santa and Mrs. Claus are expected on December 5 and an Old Fashioned Christmas celebration will take place there on December 19. Spencer Park offers a warm shelter with a fireplace where you can watch skaters, relax by the fireplace, or play games. Visit the [Museum's Web Page](#) for ticket information.

A great way to kick those winter blues is to discover a winter wonderland right outside your front door. Just like every snowflake is unique so are each of your 14 Rochester Hills parks! Begin your adventures at rochesterhills.org.



OCTOBER IS DEER AWARENESS MONTH IN ROCHESTER HILLS

With the arrival of fall comes an increase in deer activity, and motorists should be more aware of the greater potential for deer to dart across roadways.

Deer Feeding Ban

Efforts to decrease the large deer population, traffic hazards, deer/human interaction, the spread of deer-related diseases, and damage to private property resulted in City Council passing a citywide ban on feeding deer in Rochester Hills in 2008. It is unlawful to place on the ground, or within five feet of the ground, any fruit, berries, grain, vegetables, nuts, salt or other edible materials that may attract or feed deer unless such materials are covered or protected in a way to prevent deer from feeding on them.

Don't Veer for Deer!

To prevent deer/vehicle crashes, please be on the lookout for deer by the roadways. Deer/vehicle crashes are a year-round problem, but deer are most active in the spring and during the fall mating season. (October 15 - December 15)

Flashing your high-beam headlights or honking your horn won't deter deer. When startled by an approaching vehicle, they can panic and dart out from any direction without warning.

According to [SEMCOG's website](#):

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- ◆ Buckle up, stay awake, alert, and slow down.
- ◆ Always use your safety belts.
- ◆ Heed deer crossing and speed limit signs.
- ◆ If you see one deer, please slow down because chances are there are others nearby.
- ◆ Be especially alert for deer at dawn and dusk.

IF A CRASH IS UNAVOIDABLE

- ◆ Don't swerve! It is safer to strike the animal rather than a hit a tree, telephone pole, or other vehicle.
- ◆ Brake firmly.
- ◆ Hold onto the steering wheel.
- ◆ Stay in your lane.
- ◆ Bring your vehicle to a controlled stop.

AFTER A CRASH

- ◆ Pull off the road, turn on your emergency flashers, and be cautious of other traffic if you leave your vehicle.
- ◆ Don't attempt to remove a deer from the roadway because an injured deer's sharp hooves can easily hurt you.
- ◆ Report the crash to the nearest police agency and your insurance company.

During this active deer season, please remember to Buckle Up, Stay Alert, and Slow Down!

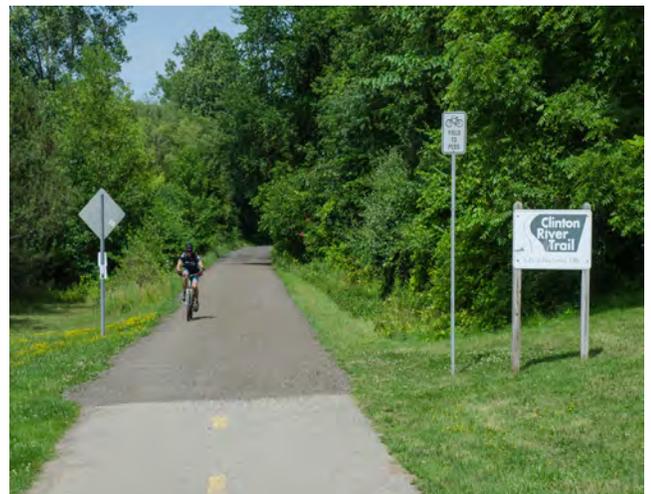


Clinton River Trail Resurfacing

The Clinton River Trail spans the Cities of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, Pontiac and Sylvan Lake. This multi purpose trail offers many recreational opportunities to our residents along the beautiful Clinton River corridor. In addition, the Clinton River Trail connects to the Paint Creek Trail, the Macomb Orchard Trail and the West Bloomfield Trail.

This summer, the 4.9 miles of trail within the City of Rochester Hills was resurfaced for the first time using the same material that was used to construct the trail in 2007. The material used for the resurfacing was pulverized, recycled asphalt that looks and acts like dark gravel. This surface provides a softer surface for runners and walkers.

Take advantage of this recreational gem throughout the year with a walk, run or bike ride. You can fish, kayak and canoe the Clinton River during the warmer months or cross country ski the trails in the winter. Detailed information and maps can be found at www.clintonrivertrail.org.



Department of Public Services

Dear Rochester Hills Community:

Reflecting back, we have persevered through some of the harshest winters in recent history along with delivering several significant infrastructure projects. This construction season has been no different. Though it has been a struggle at times, your understanding and patience has allowed us to maintain and invest in our infrastructure to improve the quality of life in Rochester Hills.

Understanding these events probably inconvenienced you a time or two, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the great teamwork within our Department of Public Services (DPS). Whether it was working countless days and nights to clear snow from the 280 miles of roadway under the City's jurisdiction, to assisting thousands of residents, to developing and administrating over \$16 million dollars of public infrastructure projects in 2015, we really have had a year to remember.

Facts, Figures, and Recognitions from our 2015:

- The North Oakland County Water Authority (NOCWA) was formally created between Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Rochester Hills, and Orion Twp. This innovative partnership will collectively save \$3.8 million dollars in water commodity expenses between all agencies.
- Over 38,000 square yards of concrete and 25,000 tons of asphalt were placed, mostly in residential areas, as part of public infrastructure projects.
- The DPS Fleet Services Division was recognized for a second straight year as a Top 100 Fleet in North America by *Governing* magazine, the only Michigan Fleet to be recognized.
- Partnered with the Road Commission for Oakland County and advanced constructed Tienken Road from Adams to Livernois Rd. two years early. Federal funds were programmed for 2017 but the City stepped up and covered the Federal funds portion of the project which will be reimbursed.
- Recognized with two American Public Works Association (APWA) State Chapter awards for government collaboration under \$1 million dollars and government collaboration under \$5 million dollars.

As fall approaches, we are buttoning up the construction projects started earlier this year and preparing for another winter season. Our past, current, and future success would not be possible without your support.

Your support of our services helps to provide safer roads and reliable water and sewer utilities, enhance our vibrant character, and incorporate amenities that continue to make our City the premier community of choice to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding during 2015.

Allan Schneck, Director
Department of Public Services



Winter Operations - Snow Removal in Rochester Hills

During the winter months, the Department of Public Services is responsible for snow and ice control on 242 miles of local roads and 38 miles of city major roads. By operating an effective winter road maintenance service, the city is able to provide a safe roadway system during the colder months.

Every winter storm is characterized by a unique combination of temperatures, precipitation, duration, and intensity. Our winter road maintenance policy is as follows:

- The city is divided into six routes with two plow trucks assigned to each route.
- The routes begin on the east and west sides of the city and progress towards the middle.



WINTER STORMS ARE CATEGORIZED AS:

CATEGORY 1: SNOWFALL OF LESS THAN FOUR INCHES

- MAJOR ROADS AND EMERGENCY ROUTES – 38 miles of major roads that are plowed and salted on a 24 hour basis, seven days a week as needed.

CATEGORY 2: SNOWFALL OF FOUR OR MORE INCHES THROUGHOUT THE CITY

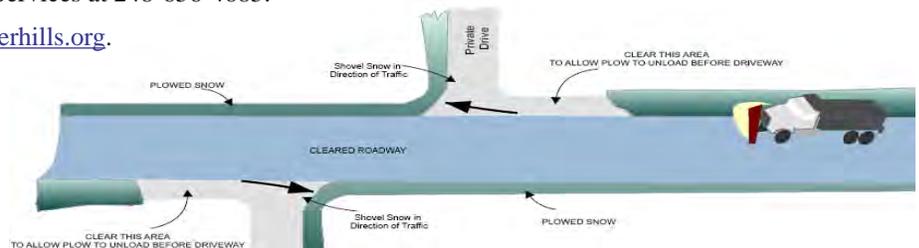
- MAJOR ROADS AND EMERGENCY ROUTES – see above.
- LOCAL ROADS – 242 miles of local roads are plowed and salted on an as-needed basis, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- In order to maximize efficiency, plow routes are designed to allow for continuous plowing which minimizes all stopping, backing up, and turning around.
- The utilization of fourteen 4x4 pickup trucks allows this continuous plowing to occur because they have better maneuverability and can access areas that cannot be easily addressed with a plow truck.
- Depending on the size of the snow event, our drivers will work up to 16 hour shifts.

Ways you can help:

- Remove vehicles from the street during a snowstorm.
- Do not shovel snow into the street, which is not allowed per the Michigan Vehicle Code.
- Allow enough time for travel.
- Report concerns to the Department of Public Services at 248-656-4685.

For additional information, please visit www.rochesterhills.org.

An illustration of how to minimize the chance of snow blocking your driveway



City of Rochester Hills Department of Public Services Shared Services Initiative

The City of Rochester Hills Department of Public Services (DPS) has received national recognition for their award winning Shared Services Initiative. The Shared Services Initiative was developed by the DPS leadership team as a way to address the challenges of keeping the high level of service Rochester Hills residents had come to expect with fewer personnel and reduced revenue. The leadership team took the economic downturn as a opportunity to evaluate their operations to formulate a plan that would ultimately not only optimize their internal efficiencies, but would enhance services on a regional basis.

The Rochester Hills Shared Services Initiative was highlighted in the September 2015 *American Public Works Association* magazine. To read the APWA article detailing the award winning program and learn more about how your city government works for you, please click [here](#).



Hills Happenings

Activity, Art, and Assistance at OPC this Fall!



Renee Cortright,
Executive Director

The Older Persons' Commission (OPC) provides something for everyone 50+ with a wide array of personal enrichment, fitness, aquatic, social, and travel offerings. There are also supportive senior services like Meals on Wheels, Adult Day Service, transportation, and more. The center is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 8:45 pm and Saturdays from 7:00 am to 3:45 pm. Rochester Hills residents 50+ are automatically members of the 90,000 sq. ft. center; just come in and register. OPC is located at 650 Letica Drive in Rochester or visit www.opcseniorcenter.org for a full listing of offerings.

Activity! A sample of fitness classes offered this fall include Beginning Low Impact Ballet, Ballet & Barre Stretch, Stretch & Strength for Parkinson's, and Eccentrics "Aging Backwards." Enjoy the fall colors of the Clinton River Trail with the Nordic Walking Group, or participate in the October 17 Yoga Day with three classes from 9:00 am to Noon.

Art and Enrichment! Attend a lecture by an Oakland University Professor, learn a new language, throw a pot on the pottery wheel, or attend a class in the woodshop. Enjoy the fall musical, "The World of Music & Rhythm" at OPC. For adventure seekers there are travel opportunities to local historic venues, DSO concerts, or theatre productions, plus extended trips in and outside the U.S.

Adult Day Service is a specialized program that offers a healthy, active place for a loved one to spend the day. Our program provides a full curriculum of activities for seniors who may function somewhat independently, but who are socially isolated. This is a welcome respite for the caregiver.

Supportive Services are available to seniors and their families. Services include: Resource advocates who assess each individual's needs and make referral to appropriate resources in the community; Medical equipment loans of walkers, wheelchairs, and bath benches for short term use; five support groups that meet regularly at OPC include Grief, Caregivers, Stroke, Visually Impaired and Parkinson's.

Transportation Assistance is a vital service to Rochester Hills citizens 60 years and older and disabled persons under 60 who are no longer able to drive. The door to door transportation service provides citizens the ability to attend medical, dental, grocery shopping, and personal appointments within Rochester Hills, Rochester and Oakland Township, Oakland University or the Troy Beaumont Medical Center.

In 2014, OPC mini-buses traveled 400,162 miles with a total of 53,638 trips. That is approximately 150 to 200 trips a day. Between 2005 through 2014 the demand for the transportation service increased by 30% and will continue to increase as the 60+ demographic grows 22% over the next ten years. (2015-2025 SEMCOG demographic forecast for Rochester Hills 60+ population)

On November 3, Rochester Hills voters will be asked to renew the 2005 transportation millage of \$0.0891 along with a \$0.0109 increase on the taxable value of all property assessed generating a total millage of \$0.1 mill to be levied in the City for eleven (11) years, beginning 2016 and continuing through 2026. This will enable OPC to increase vital senior transportation services. A Rochester Hills property owner who owns a home with a market value of \$200,000 would pay \$10.00 per year for this important service.

The OPC Transportation Service supports the "Aging in Place" of the Rochester Hills citizens and provides a high level of customer service to those serviced. Thank you for your continued support and your consideration of the OPC Transportation Millage Proposal.

Come see why OPC is a great place to be 50+!



A masterpiece in the making!



Our outstanding transportation assistance is a vital service to Rochester Hills citizens 60 years and older, and disabled persons under 60 who are unable to drive.

The Largest Project in Leader Dog History



Leader Dogs for the Blind empowers people who are blind, visually impaired, or Deaf-Blind with skills for a lifetime of independent travel, opening doors that may seem to have closed with the loss of sight.



A lot has changed since 1939 when Leader Dogs for the Blind was founded in Rochester Hills. Roads are wider, roundabouts have popped up, and quiet cars hit the roads throughout the U.S. The result? A busy, difficult-to-maneuver environment—especially if you're a person who is blind or a guide dog.

This increasingly challenging environment is why Leader Dog is renovating its kennel into a state-of-the-art Canine Development Center. Today's guide dogs must be trained to a higher standard to provide safe, independent travel for their human partners. Leader Dog has learned a lot about dog training and behavior since the 1960s when the existing kennel was built, and they designed the new Canine Center to increase the mental and physical lifetime health of their dogs.

An Area Just for Puppies

The new Canine Center will have a large area designed for the care and nurturing of young puppies. The puppies will have access to outdoor play areas full of stimulating and confidence-building toys to create a strong foundation for their future guide training.

Open Housing Villages

The housing suites will sit along the perimeter of each area so the dogs can watch the activity in the "village square" where dogs interact with volunteers, get bathed and groomed, stretch their legs, and play with their favorite toy. The high level of visual stimulation keeps the dogs mentally engaged, helping to lower stress levels.

Space to Share

Dogs are social creatures and many prefer sleeping in pairs or groups. The housing suites will be large enough for dogs to cohabitate if they desire. This helps relieve stress and also increases the facility capacity to 400+ dogs. "Having the ability to house more dogs is important to our future," says Rod Haneline, chief programs and services officer. "It gives us the potential to increase the number of clients we serve each year."

Veterinary Clinic Expanded

A larger veterinary clinic will accommodate the current work load and have space for new equipment and technologies in the future. "Every year we care for 450 puppies and 100 breeding stock dogs in addition to the 200 dogs matched with our clients," reports Dr. David Smith, director of veterinary services. "We do dental and endoscopic procedures, surgeries, X-rays and more right here. Our dogs are everyday heroes, and they deserve the best care possible."

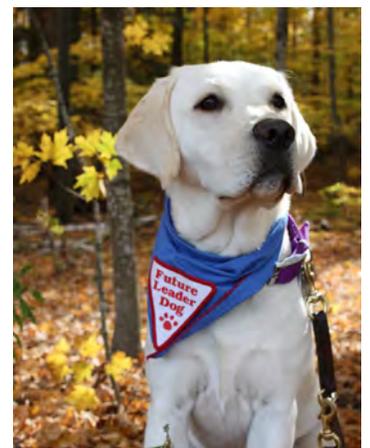
\$1 Million Still Needed for Renovation

As of September 2015, Leader Dog has raised \$13.5 million of the \$14.5 million needed for the Canine Development Center.

They are asking the local community for help raising the final \$1 million.

To donate online, or to learn more, please go to [www. LeaderDog.org](http://www.LeaderDog.org) or, please drop off donations in person

Monday–Friday
8:30 am – 5:00 pm
in the Leader Dog lobby



Rochester Hills Building Department Updates

Preparing for Winter

Fall has arrived and soon the winter months will be upon us. As you enjoy the last warm days of this year and prepare to button up for the winter, the Ordinance Compliance inspectors have a few friendly reminders.

If you plan on storing your recreational vehicle on your property, it may be stored in the rear yard, at least five feet from the side and rear property line. Recreational vehicles, including utility trailers, are not allowed to be permanently stored in the front yard. Side yard storage requires the unit be at least 10 to 15 feet from the side property line, depending on your zoning district.

If you have been working on the yard and have brush piles or leaves, remember the last day for yard waste pick up for our Single Family homes is December 10. As you know, open burning is no longer allowed in our city, so yard waste material must be disposed of properly.

Finally, if you have sidewalks in front of your house, take time to tune up the snow blower or locate the snow shovel so you will be ready for the snow. Property owners must remove snow and ice from their sidewalks within 48 hours after the snow has fallen and must maintain them free from ice at all times.

If you have any questions for the Ordinance Compliance inspectors, please contact the Rochester Hills Building Department at 248-656-4615.

Smoke Alarms

Did you know that:

- Roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires in the small percentage of homes with no alarms.
- Homes with smoke alarms (whether or not they are operational) typically have a death rate that is 40-50% less than the rate for homes without alarms.
- A 2004 U.S. telephone survey found that 96% of the households surveyed had at least one smoke alarm.

In one-quarter of the reported fires in homes equipped with smoke alarms, the devices did not work. Households with non-working smoke alarms now outnumber those with no smoke alarms.

- Why do smoke alarms fail? Most often because of missing, disconnected or dead batteries.

The State of Michigan rules regarding smoke alarms in homes include the following requirements:

- Smoke alarms in each sleeping room and on every floor of the home including the basement.
- Power supply for smoke alarms supplied by 110 volt wiring with a battery back up or by a battery capable of proving power for at least 5 years.

The Rochester Hills Building Department, as a regular part of our permit and inspection activities, will be checking existing homes for the required smoke alarms. You should note, studies show that approximately 40% of the smoke alarms do not work. A smoke alarm, like any home appliance, should be updated and maintained.

- If your home has smoke alarms, you should consider when you last updated them. It is recommended that they be replaced every 10 years. Here are some other tips to make sure your smoke alarms are working properly:
- Test your smoke alarm monthly.
- Replace batteries once a year or as soon as you hear the alarm “chirping” to warn of a low battery.
- Do not disable smoke alarms even temporarily. If your smoke alarm is sounding “nuisance alarms,” try relocating it further from the kitchen or bathrooms where cooking fumes and steam can cause the alarm to sound.
- Consider upgrading to smoke alarms with long-life batteries.
- Replace smoke alarms that are over 10 years old.

Please contact the Rochester Hills Building Department at 248-656-4615 or email building@rochesterhills.org, if you have any questions.

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

MAKE SURE YOUR SMOKE ALARMS PERFORM AS INTENDED
– WHEN YOU NEED THEM THE MOST

- **TEST** smoke alarms monthly
- Change the **BATTERIES** every year
- Beware of **CHIRPING** smoke alarms – it’s time to replace the batteries
- Replace older smoke alarms – **REPLACE** alarms that are more than 10 years old
- Know the **SOUND** of the smoke alarm and what to do if the alarm goes off



REMEMBER, ONLY WORKING SMOKE
ALARMS CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE!

Keep Your Heating System Working Efficiently All Winter

With the arrival of fall, cold weather is not far behind. Have you had your furnace tuned up this fall to get it ready for winter's worst?

If you have not, here's something you should know: An annual check-up will not only save you money, it will also help you sleep more easily. That's because an inefficient heating system wastes fuel and your hard-earned dollars. More important, a furnace that's not operating properly can endanger your health by spilling carbon monoxide and other gases into your home. For savings, safety and comfort, routine maintenance of your oil or gas furnace is a must.

Furnace maintenance is not a "do-it-yourself" job. A qualified licensed contractor should be called to perform a safety inspection once a year.

Lower Your Heating Costs this Winter with Furnace Maintenance

- Dial down your thermostat five degrees for some real savings.
- Don't heat a room that you don't regularly use.
- Replace your old thermostat with a programmable one that allows you to automatically set the temperature.
- Replace your air filter.

Most forced air units have a filter that cleans the air before heating and circulating it throughout the home. The filter should be checked monthly for the buildup of any dirt during periods of furnace use and cleaned or replaced as necessary. When installing a new or cleaned filter, be sure to:

- Turn off electrical power to the unit.
- Look for the door or panel that conceals the blower; sometimes this is marked "filter". Lift this door or panel off of its holding hooks or unscrew its retaining screws to remove it. Standard filters are mounted next to or under the blower motor.
- Slide the filter out along its tracks. Check to see whether it is a disposable filter or intended to be cleaned and replaced. This should be marked on the filter's edge, along with directions for cleaning, if applicable. If it's a disposable filter, its size will probably be printed on the frame's edge also. Make a note of its size and type, so you will have that information with you when you buy new filters.
- Install the new filter by sliding it back into place, noting that arrows stamped on the edge indicate the proper direction of airflow.

A simple way to remember to change your furnace filter is to buy a box of filters and leave the box right beside your furnace. Every time you walk by your furnace, you'll see the box and that will remind you to change the filter.

Is it Time to Repair or Replace that Furnace?

It is rarely easy to decide whether to repair or replace an expensive appliance when the time comes. If the cost of repairing your furnace exceeds the cost of replacing it, the decision is easy, but that is seldom the case. The first step in your decision whether to repair or replace, should be to get the opinion of a licensed heating expert. Have your furnace thoroughly inspected and get an estimate for both repair and replacement of the unit. The heating contractor will assess the potential for increased energy savings and can suggest the expected short term and long-term costs of both repair and replacement. When you have that information be sure to get one, if not two, expert opinions so you are able to make a balanced decision. The issues that you and the furnace experts will need to take into account are:

- Age of the existing furnace
- Cost of operating the existing furnace versus a new furnace
- How long will you live in the home
- Your peace of mind

SAFETY NOTE: *Having a carbon monoxide detector in your home is a good idea and can save lives. Make sure you follow the installation instructions. They usually recommend a minimum height above the floor for best results.*



Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

Become a Member at the Rochester Hills Museum Today!

Now is the perfect time to become a member of the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. As a museum member you receive:

- Free admission to the many special events, lectures, and tours.
- Invitations to member-only events and exhibit openings.
- One-year subscription to the Museum Visitor newsletter.
- Preregistration period for classes, lectures and special events.
- Unlimited general admission to the:
 - o 1840 Van Hoosen Farmhouse
 - o 1850 Red House
 - o 1927 Van Hoosen Dairy Barn
 - o "A Lively Town: The History of the Greater Rochester Area 1817-1952" exhibit
 - o Well-designed and informative temporary exhibits

Visit www.cfound.org/rochester-hills-museum to see membership types, prices, and how to pay online.



Coming Events

Rochester Hills Public Library Holiday Home Tour Sunday, November 15

This year the Rochester Hills Museum is partnering with the Rochester Hills Public Library and will open our 1840s Farmhouse, 1850s Red House, 1920s Dairy Barn and completely renovated Calf Barn to kick off the holiday season. Visit www.rochesterhills.org/museum for more information to be announced

Santa's Visit Saturday, December 5 9:00 am – 4:00 pm \$ 4 members \$ 7 non-members

Santa and Mrs. Claus visit the Museum to meet with the children of our community. A wagon ride takes guests from the Dairy Barn to the Van Hoosen Farmhouse where delicious fresh baked cookies await you. Don't forget your camera! Limited tickets are sold for each hour and must be purchased in advance – online at www.rochesterhills.org/musprograms or stop by the Museum on Fridays and Saturdays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Tickets will go on sale starting November 9.

Old Fashioned Christmas Saturday, December 19 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm \$ 4 members \$ 7 nonmembers in advance \$ 10 at the door

Join us for old fashioned holiday fun! Check in at the 1927 Dairy Barn. Guests can then go and see All Aboard! Model Train display in the Calf Barn. Wagon rides will also take guests to all of our Museum buildings for musical entertainment, crafts, snacks, theatre groups, and even chestnuts roasting over an open fire! Tickets can be purchased online at www.rochesterhills.org/museum or by phone at 248-656-4663.



Environmental Programs in Rochester Hills

Happy Hibernation

Saturday, November 28

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Where did all the bears, bats, frogs, and turtles go? Come to the Rochester Hills Museum for a fun afternoon learning about why some animals sleep through the winter. This program will include a story and fun outdoor games. Ages 6 and up are welcome. The program is free for Rochester Hills Museum members. The cost for non-members is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. To register for this program, call 248-656-4663 or e-mail rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org



Starry Starry Night

Monday, December 28

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Star light, star bright, first star I see tonight. Stars are amazing. What better way to enjoy these dark winter nights than to spend some time outdoors staring at these far off balls of light. A telescope will be available to look through, but guests are encouraged to bring their own telescopes too. This environmental program is free for Rochester Hills Museum members. The cost for non-members is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. To register for this program, call 248-656-4663 or e-mail rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org



Exhibits at the Rochester Hills Museum

Quilts Past and Present

The Historic Quilter's Guild that meets at the Museum three times a month will be displaying some of their fabulous creations in the Farmhouse and Dairy Barn. Quilts Past and Present will on display from November 15 through December 31.



Stoney Creek Model Railroad Club

The Stoney Creek Model Railroad Club has been planning the upcoming model train exhibit for one year and can't wait to share it with the public. They will fill the Calf Barn with modules that they have painstakingly built in scale that show locations near and far. This wonderfully detailed exhibit, All Aboard!, will be open to the public from November 27 – December 31.



Planning a Wedding?

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm is the perfect location for your wedding ceremony and reception. Outdoor ceremonies can take place at our garden gazebo located under a maple and walnut grove bordered by Stoney Creek or right alongside Stoney Creek amidst 16 acres of beautiful gardens and grounds. Indoor wedding ceremonies can take place in the 1927 Calf Barn.

Receptions can take place inside our restored 1927 Calf Barn.

Please visit our website www.rochesterhills.org/wedding, contact us at 248-656-4663, or by email at rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org for pricing and availability or to make an appointment to visit our site.





Enroll in our Automatic Tax Bill Payment service and give yourself a little more time to enjoy Mother Nature!

The tax amounts will be available beginning **November 10, 2015** at www.rochesterhills.org/taxlookup

The 2015 Winter Property Tax bills will be mailed out mid-November and are due on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. Postmark will not be honored so please allow, as the post office recommends, **five business days** for first class postal delivery. Payments placed in the City drop box - located in front of our visitors parking lot - by midnight on February 16, 2016 will be considered on-time. Also,

payments placed by midnight February 16 via credit card or our electronic payment system (system will state payment date as 2/17/16 or 2/18/16) will also be considered on-time. On February 17, a 3% penalty will be added to the balance of all unpaid 2015 property taxes. Please note: If your 2014 property taxes or any amount of your 2014 property taxes went delinquent (were unpaid as of March 2, 2015) a notification may appear on your 2015 tax bills. This is a State law requirement. Beginning March 1, unpaid 2015 property taxes become delinquent and must be paid to the Oakland County Treasurer with additional late fees.

We offer Recurring Automatic Bill Payment for property taxes (and water/sewer bills) using your specified checking or savings account. Do yourself a favor, and sign-up for this convenient and time-saving service! This service allows you to choose either the summer and winter tax due dates or the summer tax due date and the last business day of December for the winter tax. For those enrolled in this service, your 2015 Winter Tax payment will take place either on December 31, 2015 or the due date of February 16, 2016 - whichever you designated. Enrollees who provide an email address will receive an email reminder of the pending payment withdrawal approximately 2-weeks prior to the withdrawal dates. Also, the tax bill will indicate your enrollment in automatic payment and the withdrawal date. For an enrollment form and our other convenient payment options, please visit Treasury Department's Payment Options page, www.rochesterhills.org/paytaxes. Note: For those who prefer to initiate an electronic tax payment, we will continue to provide our user-initiated electronic payment system at <https://eps.mvbanking.com>.

rochesterhills.org/paytaxes
rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?NID=516

or scan the following QRcode



Dog Licensing

State law requires all dogs four months and older to be licensed. The primary purpose of the dog license is to ensure that the pet is current with their rabies vaccination. To obtain a dog license, a current rabies vaccination certificate is required. If you have a rabies certificate valid through 2018, you have the option to purchase a three-year dog license for 2016. **The 2016 dog licenses will be available for renewal this December.** If you plan to renew the license at the City's Treasury Department in December, please contact us at 248 656-4675 to verify we have received the dog licenses from the County.



For information on purchasing a dog license, please contact Oakland County at www.oakgov.com/petadoption or the City of Rochester Hills Treasury Department. The 2016 dog licenses can be purchased for the non-delinquent fee beginning December 1, 2015 through Wednesday, June 1, 2016. Please visit the City's website at www.rochesterhills.org for more information.



Experience the Magic of Meadow Brook Hall

44th Annual Holiday Walk ~ November 27 - December 28, 2015

The beauty of Meadow Brook Hall is never more apparent than when it is dressed in holiday splendor during the annual Holiday Walk. The Tudor-revival style mansion, known as “America’s Castle,” will be all aglow with historic and holiday treasures.

Meadow Brook Hall is the fourth largest historic house museum in the United States and is renowned for its superb craftsmanship, architectural detailing and grand scale. Built between 1926 and 1929 as the residence of Matilda Dodge Wilson (widow of auto pioneer John Dodge) and her second husband, lumber broker Alfred G. Wilson, the 110-room, 88,000-square-foot, Tudor-revival style mansion is complete with vast collections of original art and furnishings.

To learn more about this festive occasion, please visit the [Meadow Brook Hall](#) page of the Oakland University website.

Rochester Hills Museum - Let us host your family event!

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm is the perfect location for your next family event.

- Wedding Ceremonies and Receptions
- Anniversary, Birthday, and Graduation Parties
- Bridal and Baby Showers
- Meetings of organizations, craft and hobby groups, and social groups
- Engagement, Wedding, Senior, Homecoming & Family photographs

Are you planning a wedding reception, anniversary party, graduation party or other family event? The 1927 Calf Barn is ready for you! The Calf Barn has 2,700 square feet of unobstructed space with exposed beams. It will seat up to 160 guests. Rental includes access to the Dairy Barn for viewing of exhibits and use of restrooms, as well as exclusive use of the grounds surrounding the barns. Call the Museum to check availability and fees.

Our garden gazebo located along Stoney Creek, and our 16 acres of beautiful gardens and grounds make the ideal backdrop for your outdoor events and photographs.

Your special event can take place any day of the week. Please contact us at 248-656-4663, www.rochesterhills.org, or by email at rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org for pricing and availability, or stop by for a visit and check us out!



Veterans Memorial Pointe Veterans Day Ceremony

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony will be held at Veterans Memorial Pointe on Wednesday, November 11 starting at 11:00 am sharp! Guest speakers will be Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor of Rochester Hills, and Post Commanders from our local VFW, DAV and American Legion Posts. Councilman Mark Tisdell will lead the national anthem.

We welcome you to join us as we recognize and honor the men and women who serve and have served in our armed forces.

“On Veterans Day, we honor ALL American veterans, both living and dead. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING veterans for dedicated and loyal service to their country. November 11 of each year is the day that we ensure veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made in the lives to keep our country free.” ~ *US Military*



Eagle Scout Projects at the Pointe

Ryan Chatterjee of Boy Scout Troop 360 has installed a sundial at Veterans Memorial Pointe as his Eagle Scout final project. It is located at the south end of the park near the rest area. The sundial has the Boy Scout Law and the Scout Oath incorporated in its design. Please come out and check the time on Eagle Scout, Ryan Chatterjee’s sundial called, “Eagles Watch.”

Matthew Schlitters of Boy Scout Troop 298 will begin working for his Eagle Scout Badge by inventorying all bricks that have been engraved and installed at Veterans Memorial Pointe. Once the inventory has been completed, the information will be put on the City website so it will be easily accessible. There are over 3500 engraved bricks and they have not been inventoried for over ten years. This project, while not flashy, will mean so much to those who are looking for their loved ones bricks at our beautiful memorial park.



Keep Michigan Beautiful 2015 Merit Award Winner! Eagle’s Landing

Great news! Eagle Scout Adam Kiwor’s final project, proudly named Eagle’s Landing, has been awarded the **2015 Keep Michigan Beautiful Merit Award!** Adam’s project, a four-rack kayak holding station, offers canoeist and kayakers a place to launch or set in for a rest off the river.

Eagle’s Landing is a beautiful addition to the corner of Avon and Livernois. What began as fields, has developed, through love and care, into a beautiful and peaceful park.

Special Thanks

Once again, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett and program coordinator Ed Leafdale would like to express their sincere thanks to the many Eagle Scouts and their friends and families for all of the hard work they have done over the years on projects throughout the city. The planning, financing, and building these projects is the sole responsibility of the Scout, and there is no cost to taxpayers. The projects are one of the final steps necessary for Scouts to earn the highly esteemed rank of Eagle Scout. At the same time, our residents and visitors enjoy these projects, and the City of Rochester Hills is made better because of them. It is truly a situation where everyone benefits, and to all involved, we say, “Thanks for a job well done!”

Memorial & Scout Brick Order Form and Price Information

Buying a Memorial Brick is a simple way to leave your mark of remembrance. This is your opportunity to become a part of something special in our city. Your help will enable us to maintain this place of honor, and by buying a brick, you or your loved one will become a part of this memorial forever.

In addition to Memorial Bricks, you may purchase a brick to honor an Eagle Scout or Girl Scout Gold Award. These bricks are a lasting tribute to young men and women who have attained the highest rank in Scouting.

The price of each brick is \$55.00 for bricks ordered prior to January 1, 2016. After January 1, 2016, the per brick price will be \$75.00. The increase will help offset rising prices. All proceeds will go toward the upkeep of Veterans Memorial Pointe.

If you have not done so, please take a moment to visit this lovely and peaceful memorial park located on the southeast corner of Livernois and Avon.

Please print clearly - one character per box. Include spaces where necessary. There is a limit of 12 characters per line, including spaces. Bricks will be inscribed exactly as shown.

The Memorial Bricks are meant to be a lasting tribute to a friend or loved one. Once the bricks are placed, they cannot be relocated.

Beautification Clock Update

Veterans Memorial Pointe was created to honor all veterans who have served this great country. Each war and conflict has a memorial to honor the veterans who served. We continue to make this park a beautiful lasting tribute to those brave veterans.

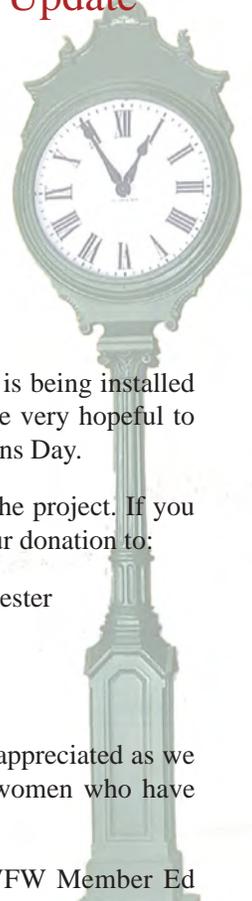
The next improvement will be a large clock at the northwest corner of the park. The clock base and underground wiring is being installed and ready for the clock to arrive. We are very hopeful to have it up and running in time for Veterans Day.

Donations are still needed to complete the project. If you would like to contribute, please send your donation to:

Community Foundation of Greater Rochester
Veterans Memorial Pointe Clock Fund
PO Box 431
Rochester MI 48308

Any donation, large or small, is greatly appreciated as we continue to honor our brave men and women who have served our country.

This project is in collaboration with VFW Member Ed Leafdale and Dr. Jeffrey Buller of Buller Chiropractic Clinic.



Please print clearly or type all information

Purchaser's Name _____

Address: _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

NOTE: Price of \$55 (through December 31, 2015) includes 24 characters, including spaces. For orders received after January 1, 2016, the brick price is \$75.00. Additional characters may be added for \$1/ character. Please print the following information. In honor of:

Check box if person spent time in the service. A star will be added to their brick at no extra charge. Please fill out this Brick Order Form and mail with a check made payable to:

Community Foundation of Greater Rochester / VMP
PO Box 431
Rochester, MI 48308-0431 (Please note on check: Veterans Memorial Pointe Fund)

Upon receipt of your check and order form, you will be sent an acknowledgement letter. Bricks are installed in the park twice a year in late October and May.

For information and additional order forms, please call the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester at 248-608-2804 or the Mayor's Office at 248-656-4664.

Moody's Investors Service Issues Rochester Hills a 'AAA' Bond Rating

Strong Fiscal Management & Financial Practices Cited

The City of Rochester Hills is proud to announce that it has received an AAA bond rating from Moody's Investors Service. This represents the third rating service that has issued the City an AAA rating. Both Standard and Poor's, and Fitch Ratings have previously issued the City a AAA rating for the City's bonds. AAA credit ratings are the highest credit ratings an organization can earn.

According to Moody's assessment, "the city's strong tax base and economic profile; a multi-year trend of net operating surpluses, revenue raising flexibility, solid available fund balance, and ample liquidity bolstered by strong financial management practices are anticipated to contribute to the long-term maintenance of a healthy financial operation."

"We are very pleased that the rating agencies are recognizing the hard work that the Administration and City Council have put into keeping the city on a strong financial footing" states Keith Sawdon, Director of Finance. "The city's use of three-year budgeting, coupled with a long range financial forecasting model, an established fund balance reserve policy and strong financial operations, including five years of net operating surpluses have positioned us well to meet the future. The City now has the triple crown of bond ratings with all three agencies (Moody's, S & P and Fitch) issuing the City an AAA rating, an accomplishment that not many Cities are able to achieve."

"We continue to grow our financial stability through innovative strategies and fiscal responsibility," stated Mayor Bryan Barnett. "The recognition by all three rating agencies continues to demonstrate that rating agencies have the highest level of confidence in the City of Rochester Hills."



"Strong financial operations"

Purchasing Division is the Winner of Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award

The City of Rochester Hills Purchasing Division has been awarded the prestigious 20th Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award (AEP) for 2015 from the National Procurement Institute (NPI). The AEP Award is earned by public and non-profit organizations that obtain a high score based on the program's criteria. The criteria is designed to measure the organizations attributes in the procurement function under these categories: Innovation, Professionalism, E-Procurement, Productivity, and Leadership

This program encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually.

For 2015, the City of Rochester Hills is one of only two agencies in Michigan and one of only 65 cities in the United States and Canada to receive the award. This is the twelfth consecutive year the City's Purchasing Division has received this award.

"The Achievement of Excellence in Procurement validates the innovation and leadership our City's purchasing professionals gives to Rochester Hills each and every day. Receiving this award over multiple consecutive years demonstrates the high standards we maintain", said Mayor Barnett.

The National Purchasing Institute established the program in 1995 to recognize organizational excellence in public procurement with criteria that measures innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement and leadership attributes of the procurement organization. The award is open to all levels of government and all sizes of organizations. The City's utilization of the MITN e-procurement site with approximately 140 other agencies, and acting as lead agency for cooperative purchasing initiatives are just a couple examples of the great things we are doing in the City of Rochester Hills that gives us this level of recognition.

New Water and Sewer Billing Software

The City is in the process of implementing a new water and sewer billing system.

The new system will bring efficiencies to the production of the water and sewer billing process and will provide improved customer friendly online access through web based tools to better serve our water and sewer customers. The new software will also enhance the amount and type of information provided on our water and sewer bills. The launch of the new software is planned for this December. Look for more information as we get closer to December.



Rochester Hills Gives Back

Mayor Bryan Barnett announced the launch of the city's second annual 30 Days of Giving campaign, which asks City employees to donate their time and talent to their community. "We are so grateful and thankful for the many service organizations that support the needs of this community," Mayor Barnett stated. Mayor Barnett began the program last year as a way to recognize the city's 30th birthday. Rochester Hills employees, well known for their generosity, were quick to step up to help with everything from serving meals to residents of Grace Centers of Hope and delivering Meals on Wheels for OPC, to helping a disabled veteran build a handicap ramp and sorting donations at Neighborhood House. These are just a few of the ways your City employees gave back to our community.

The program was so well received by both the employees and the grateful agencies and individuals they helped, Mayor Barnett decided to make this an annual event. With that, November has become the month of giving back. We look forward to serving our community and look forward to another year of giving.



The City of Rochester Hills is very pleased to be a drop-off site for Sheriff Michael Bouchard's annual Coat Drive, Coats for the Cold. Our drop-off box will be located in the lobby of City Hall from November 1 through November 30. Please bring clean new or gently used coats during City Hall office hours, Monday - Friday from 8:00 am- 5:00 pm. All coats collected during the coat drive will be given to charitable organizations for free distribution to those most in need. Thank you for your generous donation.

Neighborhood House Holiday Giving Tree

Rochester Area Neighborhood House (RANH) will soon be kicking off their annual Holiday Giving Event, and Rochester Hills City Hall is proud to participate. Starting November 9, the giving tree will be decorated with gift tags listing items needed. RANH has asked that all gifts be returned by December 7. A member of the Neighborhood House Elf Squad will collect the gifts and take them to the Holiday Event site where families will be able to pick gifts for their children.

Support of the Holiday Giving Program is vital to its success. Please help us put happiness in the hearts and smiles on the faces of our local children in need this December. If you have questions, please contact the Mayor's Office at 248-656-4664 or RANH at 248-651-5836. Thank you for your interest in this wonderful holiday program.



Tree Maintenance Reminder

The Rochester Hills Forestry Division has an ongoing street tree maintenance program conducted by Parks & Forestry and contracted crews.

Under the program, trees and shrubs that impede the passage of vehicles along streets, or pedestrians on pathways, interfere with safe sight distance requirements, or pose a hazard to the right-of-way will be addressed.

Although some work will occur in various locations throughout the city, the main emphasis of the 2015-2016 program will be in the east side of the city.

The adjacent property owner is responsible for removing encroachments or obstructions when trees or shrubs growing on private property interfere with the use of streets or pathways, as required by ordinance specifications. Property owners may be notified regarding what action is required of them. No notification will be given for trees and shrubs growing on city right-of-way.

If you have questions about the program or its requirements, please contact the Forestry Division at 248-656-4673.



Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of Rochester Hills will once again allow its residents to dispose of natural Christmas trees by dropping them off at the Clinton River Watershed Council at 1115 W. Avon Road, just west of Livernois, on the following dates and times **ONLY**:

Saturday, December 26, 2015	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, December 27, 2015	12 noon – 4 pm
Saturday, January 2, 2016	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, January 3, 2016	12 noon – 4 pm
Saturday, January 9, 2016	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, January 10, 2016	12 noon – 4 pm



Christmas trees will be accepted subject to **ALL** of the following conditions:

- Residents of Rochester Hills may drop off trees during the announced days and hours only.
- Trees shall be dropped off at the designated area only. Any other disposal, at or near the designated site, will constitute improper disposal and violators will be subject to ticketing.
- Only natural Christmas trees will be accepted. No mass or commercial disposal is permitted. No disposal of any other materials, natural or artificial, is permitted.
- All non-woody material, such as lights and wires, ornaments, rope, garland, stands and braces, bagging, etc., must be removed **before** drop off.
- Volunteers will inspect trees for compliance with this order before accepting them for disposal. Trees or other matter that do not meet the restrictions will not be accepted.

Under contract with the City of Rochester Hills, Republic Waste Services will collect discarded Christmas trees devoid of any ropes, lights, metal, plastic or other hangers during Christmas week and the following three weeks. Trees measuring greater than six feet tall must be cut in half prior to placement at curbside. Republic will deliver the trees they collect to a compost site rather than a landfill or disposal facility.



City of Rochester Hills Spring 2016 Tree Planting Program

Planting the right trees in the right locations along city streets provides environmental benefits and improves the “livability” of our city. To encourage this, the city is offering a free street tree planting program in 2016.

Although it is too late to participate in the fall 2015 Tree Planting Program, it is not too early to mark your calendars for the Spring 2016 Tree Planting Program. One free street tree will be offered to the first 250 homeowners and businesses to order a tree for planting on the public right-of-way adjacent to their property next spring. The city’s budget for this initiative will come from its Tree Fund. The trees will be planted, maintained, and guaranteed for one year by the city’s landscape contractor. The Forestry Division will work with the homeowner to determine the specific location within the city’s street tree ordinance guidelines.

Street trees are planted every spring and fall (spring planting occurs in late April/early May, fall planting in November). Quantities are limited, so interested homeowners should order early. The order form for the program will be available January 4, 2016. **March 4, 2016** is the deadline for ordering trees for the Spring 2016 planting.

All trees are 2-inch caliper (stem diameter) and approximately 8-10 feet tall. The following tree species are normally available (not all varieties are suitable for all locations): Maple, Hornbeam, Hackberry, Beech, Honeylocust, Coffeetree, Sweetgum, Tuliptree, Blackgum, Oak, Baldcypress, Linden, Elm. (Note: Due to over-planting, red maples and flowering pears are no longer offered.) Other varieties are sometimes available – please contact the Parks & Forestry office at 248-656-4673 for any additional information or visit our website at:

<http://www.rochesterhills.org/treelist>

(Photos and descriptions of the trees are included on this web page.)



Rochester Hills Became the First Healthy Pet Community in the Country

The City of Rochester Hills was the first of hundreds of communities that joined the new Healthy Pet Community program. Recently, cities across the country unanimously approved a resolution on Creating Healthy Pet Communities through the United States Conference of Mayors. The resolution was authored by Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan K. Barnett, who strongly urged mayors across the U.S. to prioritize pet safety and proper care.

This resolution outlines 14 action items that can positively impact the treatment of a community’s pets, including encouraging public education on animal issues, promoting the adoption of shelter animals, and providing information regarding useful services/resources for animals on the city website.

"The unanimous adoption of this resolution is a huge win and a key step in ending animal homelessness locally and across the nation," states Mayor Bryan K. Barnett. "A key element in a community’s quality of life can be measured by its humane treatment of companion animals, and I am proud to support the good work that is being done by the Michigan Humane Society here in Rochester Hills and throughout our state."



Mike Palmer, Owner of Premier Pet Supply and Matthew Pepper, CEO of the Michigan Humane Society join Mayor Barnett for the announcement of the new Healthy Pet Community.

As the oldest and largest animal welfare organization in the state, the Michigan Humane Society (MHS), which operates three centers for animal care, including one in Rochester Hills, touches the lives of more than 100,000 animals each year. Since January 2010, MHS has found homes for 100% of the healthy dogs and cats in their care.

"The Michigan Humane Society applauds the adoption of the Healthy Pet Communities resolution nationwide and especially the leadership role taken by Mayor Barnett in its introduction," said Matthew Pepper, MHS President and CEO. "This is a strong statement that we as a larger community – not just those who work, volunteer or support animal welfare in Rochester Hills or the State of Michigan– value our animal companions and have a responsibility toward all pets in our communities whether they are already someone’s beloved pet or are homeless, abused or stray."

Our 2015 Festival of the Hills was a spectacular success!



Thanks to our Generous Sponsors



Rochester Hills City Council

Greg Hooper, President ~ District Three



This has been an interesting experience for me serving you on City Council. From my appointment to fill the vacant District 3 Representative on May 7, 2006, through two elections in 2008 and 2012, I have been blessed and honored to be a part of City Council. I have told this story many times that I NEVER planned to get into politics. When the vacancy occurred I was asked to consider serving and my response was that I am too busy with work and life and that was somebody else's seat to fill. After reflecting on those comments and looking at some of the "somebody else" who were serving me at the Federal, State and Local levels, I decided that I needed an attitude adjustment because if everyone took my line of thinking we would end up with "somebody else" serving us and in some cases that was exactly who was elected!

I have had the extreme honor to be selected by my fellow City Council members as your President of City Council for the last eight years. There is good and not so good with every position we serve in and that certainly rang true with being President as I established, conducted and managed our open meetings among many other duties. There are too many stories to share about this role but my focus was always to treat everyone equally whether I agreed with them or not and conduct our meetings like a professional business.

I never shied away from issues and refused to continue the "kick the can down the road" way of dealing with major City Council business. I never understood why we did not have a single hauler for our trash pickup. I heard many times on the campaign trail for my 2008 election and pledged I would do my best to make a change. When I was elected that was the first thing I personally brought forward, served on the subcommittee level and with my fellow City Council members enacted the change to a single hauler that cut my bill in half, reduced the wear and tear on the roads and changed the pickup days to weekdays only and not having trash pickup on the weekends in our community.

I heard many complaints about the deer and tried a solution that met opposition at the City Council meetings. The final result of that was creation of the resident driven Deer Management Advisory Committee that provides annual updates and recommendations for City Council to act upon.

Water purchase from DWSD is our largest single annual cost. Through extensive research the optimal solution was some type of water storage that would allow us to even out our peak demand and significantly reduce our cost of water. This has been proven in several other communities and I pushed for installation in Rochester Hills. Unfortunately the support on City Council did not continue and the project was shelved. Other small improvements have been made, but the cost of our water and sewer bill will continue to rise.

The Police funding situation was created 30 years ago by the Township Board/City Council at that time when they decided to not fund the Police from a tax solely collected and dedicated for that purpose, but instead fund it from that tax and General Fund. Over 30 years the amount from general Fund dwarfed the dedicated Police Tax and was always subject to four votes on City Council, as General Fund can be spent on anything. The unintended consequence of that was the lack of funding on our roads. Had to tackle this one head on and created the Police and Roads Subcommittee. I have had the distinct pleasure on serving with this committee for the last seven years and after 75+ meetings this resident driven committee developed numerous action plans that City Council acted upon, including the final solution that the voters approved setting the Police Funding on a dedicated firm foundation.

The roads have been a much thornier issue, but those recommendations to City Council that have been approved by the voters included repurposing expiring millages (no new tax) to be dedicated to the perpetual maintenance of our local road system. In addition, I was part of the decision to make a significant (\$15M) investment in rebuilding our local subdivision roads from our savings account.

The last Public Safety issue was our Fire and Emergency Services Department. Knowing that our Fire Millage was maxed out, and having no desire to follow the failed solution of City Councils years ago to split the funding with General Fund, our reformulated Public Safety and Infrastructure Subcommittee (was Police and Roads) reviewed Chief Canto's analysis and made a series of recommendations. Finally the voters overwhelmingly supported the resetting of our dedicated Fire Millage that will create the finest Fire and Emergency Services in the State. Along with this was passage of a multimillion dollar renovation of our Fire Stations by City Council.

Last but not least has been my privilege to serve on the Planning Commission since 1999. I have truly enjoyed this and hope that I have made a difference in our community as a whole. There have been numerous projects, policies, rezonings and recommendations to City Council that has been the best part about serving the City.

My wife, Jane, and I have been residents of the City of Rochester Hills since 1987, our two children, Joshua and Sara, both graduated from Rochester Schools and wherever my travels take me and the question comes up where I live, I proudly tell them I live in the City of Rochester Hills.

I promised to fulfill one objective of the City Council to promote teamwork and foster trust between City Council, administration, business and residents. To that end I always encouraged open professional communication with my fellow council members and Mayor Barnett and his administration whether I agreed with them or not.

I will always continue to urge each and every one not to believe everything they read or everything they hear, but become informed, understand the facts, research the pros and cons, seek additional input and make reasonable, intelligent and unemotional decisions.

Because this is exactly how I conducted myself.

Thank you for this humbling experience.

Respectfully, Greg Hooper



Mark Tisdel, Vice President ~ At Large

Taxpayer Dollars Stewardship

My activities this Summer have taken me door-to-door in several Rochester Hills neighborhoods. One resident—and frequent voter—asked, “what’s the City doing to save the taxpayers money?” Excellent question.

For several years, Rochester Hills has declined to add an administrative fee to the City’s assessing and tax collection service—a fee applied by about 80% of cities in Oakland County. This saves taxpayers more than \$1 million annually.

Since 2008, the City’s Human Resources Department has avoided tens-of-thousands of dollars higher costs by effectively managing employee health insurance benefits and choices. In 2016, for example,

our core medical plan renewal (that determines the City’s medical plan cost) will be a mere 1.7% increase, compared to the 2016 projected US average increase of 6.5%.

In 2010, Rochester Hills entered into a contract with Oakland County to provide Fire and EMS dispatch services to begin in 2011. Fire and EMS dispatch expenses went from \$752,880 in 2010 to \$170,730 in 2011. That’s \$582,150 in savings for just 2011, alone. The program and savings continue.

In 2011, Rochester Hills became the first city in Oakland County to submit and pass a three-year budget. The extended budgeting process helps us identify and react to fiscal challenges. This puts the City in a proactive versus reactive posture. The three-year budget process, along with several very difficult personnel and spending reductions, brought Rochester Hills through the “Great Recession” with higher fund balances. I don’t know of another city of Oakland County, or Michigan, with a similar performance.

Between 2006 and 2014, the City reduced its full-time work force by 20% from 256 to 205. Those reductions represent significant savings and extremely difficult choices made by the Administration and City Council. In 2014, voters approved increased Fire / EMS funding. Rochester Hills added nine (9) full-time Fire / EMS personnel. That brings the City up to 214 full time employees.

Department of Public Services (DPS) has been a busy place. In 2015, DPS was awarded a \$2 million Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) Grant. This will allow the City to purchase new technologies and implement best practices in the maintenance and management of our storm and sanitary sewer systems.

DPS also successfully participated in creating of the North Oakland County Water Authority (NOCWA) consisting of Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, Orion Township and the Pontiac-Oakland Water Resources Commission. NOCWA will allow participating communities to purchase water from the new Great Lake Water Authority at Tier 1 wholesale rates. This will save Rochester Hills residents more than \$1 million a year.

DPS has *Shared Service* “in-sourcing” agreements with Rochester, Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Rochester Community Schools, North Oakland Transportation Authority, Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan, Road Commission for Oakland County and Oakland County Water Resources Commission that generate more than \$90,000 a year in revenue.

One of our City’s great success stories is the post-recession boom in residential home building. That means our building inspectors are busier than ever. Rochester Hills negotiated a “personnel sharing” agreement with Shelby Township (2011) and Sterling Heights (2012). Participation in this program has also been extended to other surrounding communities. These building inspectors go where needed—crossing city limits—to ensure timely approval of new housing construction. Further, Rochester Hills is leading an effort for electronic access to standardized building, plumbing, electrical and mechanical codes as mandated by the State of Michigan. This effort, with the cooperation and shared funding of Shelby Township and Sterling Heights, will save approximately \$20,000 in the first year it is implemented.

These are just some of the ways City Hall effectively manages taxpayer dollars. We are fortunate that our experienced Department Directors, Field Managers and employees are so dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in resident services. This starts at the top, in the Mayor’s office, requires the support of current and past City Councils, but must be driven by the Department Directors. Thank you City employees!



Stephanie Morita ~ District One

I really struggled this September with the reality that I am now the mother of a 5th grader. While the four shoes sizes he blew through over the last year would have been enough to make any parent a little queasy, I have become increasingly aware of, and frightened by, how little time we have to teach him how to be an economically self-sufficient human being who will also be a good steward of our society and planet. Along with everyday lessons like, “brush your teeth”, and “tie your shoes”, we also work on economics such as, “if you don’t have it, you can’t spend it”, (mostly in reference to video games) and general ethics like “tell the truth”, “own your mistakes”, and “always keep your word”.

Frankly, being on City Council provides me with less time to teach him important life lessons. Or so I thought. According to my 5th grader, when asked if he learned anything from me being on City Council, here is what he said:

It is hard and takes a lot of work.

People tell you what to fix and what is wrong with the City, which means you have to be responsible or there will be chaos.

People yell at each other, but you still have to work together to find a solution.

You can help people and the City by being involved.

Keep in mind this is coming from a 10-year-old who usually does not get past the “public comments” portion of our meetings before it is time for him to go to bed. He said that in addition to watching the meetings (with my husband), he also learned from tagging along with me on trips to City Hall and tours of our parks, and listening to me speak with residents and other Council members on the phone.

One project encompassed all four lessons (minus the yelling, but included “heated” discussions) and will definitely make our City better and safer for years to come. Our new fire millage that passed a year ago, took hours of discussions with other Council members and Fire Chief Canto to get agreed upon ballot language for the amount of the millage and the number of new officers. I found our nine new cadets at the Village teaching the public CPR and defibrillator use this August. Here are three of them who were there that day:

Another project that took a lot of hard work, listening, and responsibility was finding another location inside the City into which Coastal Automotive could expand. Pam Valentik, the City’s Economic Development Manager, over the past two years, worked with Coastal to help them find a second location within the City. They had their Grand Opening in August. What is Coastal? If you are a NASCAR fan and see blue foam (which absorbs impact) on the track after a crash, it is their foam. It may be in the car you drive too and it is from right here in Rochester Hills.

As always, it is my honor and pleasure to serve you. On behalf of myself and my family, thank you for placing your faith in me.



**CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
GENERAL ELECTION**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

To the Qualified Electors of the City of Rochester Hills:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a Special Election will be held in the City of Rochester Hills, County of Oakland, State of Michigan on

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

THE POLLS will be open 7 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock p.m.

AT THE POLLING PLACES LISTED BELOW:

- Precinct # 1 Faith Church, 160 W. Hamlin Rd.
- Precinct # 2 Bellbrook, 873 W. Avon Rd.
- Precinct # 3 Meadows Upper Elementary School, 1435 W. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct # 4 North Hill Elementary School, 1385 Mahaffy
- Precinct # 5 Reuther Middle School, 1430 E. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct # 6 Avon Clubhouse, 2600 W. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct # 7 West Middle School, 500 Old Perch
- Precinct # 8 VanHoosen Middle School, 1339 N. Adams Rd.
- Precinct # 9 Rochester High School, 180 S. Livernois
- Precinct #10 Brewster Elementary School, 1535 Brewster Rd.
- Precinct #11 Reuther Middle School, 1430 E. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct #12 Hamlin Elementary School, 270 W. Hamlin Rd.
- Precinct #13 Deerfield Elementary School, 3600 Crooks Rd.
- Precinct #14 West Middle School, 500 Old Perch
- Precinct #15 St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R
- Precinct #16 Brooklands Elementary School, 490 E. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct #17 Meadow Brook Elementary School, 2350 Munster
- Precinct #18 Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.
- Precinct #19 Long Meadow Elementary School, 450 Allston
- Precinct #20 Brooklands Elementary School, 490 E. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct #21 Hart Middle School, 6500 Sheldon Rd.
- Precinct #22 St Luke's Church, 3980 Walton Blvd.
- Precinct #23 Danish Village, 2566 Walton Blvd.
- Precinct #24 Rochester Hills Offices, 1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
- Precinct #25 Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.
- Precinct #26 VanHoosen Middle School, 1339 N. Adams
- Precinct #27 St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R
- Precinct #28 Hampton Elementary School, 530 Hampton Circle
- Precinct #29 Rochester Adams High School, 3200 W. Tienken Rd.
- Precinct #30 St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R
- Precinct #31 Reuther Middle School, 1430 E. Auburn Rd.
- Precinct #32 Hart Middle School, 6500 Sheldon Rd.

**ALL POLLING PLACES ARE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE
BRAILLE AND AUDIO VERSION SOF VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE**

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

City of Rochester Hills	MAYOR – Vote for not more than One (1) – Four Year Term
City of Rochester Hills	COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE – Vote for not more than Two (2) – Four Year Term
City of Rochester Hills	COUNCIL MEMBER 2ND DISTRICT – Vote for not more than One (1) – Four Year Term
City of Rochester Hills	COUNCIL MEMBER 3RD DISTRICT – Vote for not more than One (1) – Four Year Term
City of Rochester Hills	LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER – Vote for not more than Two (2) – Six Year Term

AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS:

OLDER PERSONS COMMISSION MILLAGE

ROCHESTER-AVON RECREATION AUTHORITY (RARA) MILLAGE RENEWAL

**REGISTERED VOTERS LIVING IN THE ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL ALSO VOTE ON
THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL:**

BOND PROPOSAL

Absentee ballots are available at the City Clerk's Office, 1000 Rochester Hills Drive, Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309. The Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

IN ADDITION, THE CLERK'S OFFICE WILL BE OPEN ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2015 FROM 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The last day to obtain absentee ballots by mail is Saturday, October 31, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Questions concerning the General Election should be directed to the Clerk's Office at 248-656-4630.
Tina Barton, City Clerk
City of Rochester Hills
1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309

The City of Rochester Hills
1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

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The Village of Rochester Hills ~ Tree Lighting

Join the Village and the City of Rochester Hills to "Light the Village" on Friday, November 20. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the season and the excitement of the City of Rochester Hills Holiday Lights Display! Gather around the stage in Fountain Park at 7:00 pm to help us celebrate the simple joys of the holidays. Mayor Bryan Barnett will lead the countdown for Santa's arrival and children's eyes will sparkle when they flip the magical switch to illuminate the Village's 25-foot Christmas tree. Be sure to look to the sky for an extra special display of lights sure to delight both the young and the young at heart. It's the perfect way to kick off the season, and it's only at the Village of Rochester Hills.