



CROSSWINDS

WWW.SPRINGLAKEVILLAGE.ORG

FALL 2015

Village Hall
102 W. Savidge
Spring Lake, MI
49456

P: 616-842-1393

F: 616-847-1393

- **Village Manager**
Chris Burns
- **Village President**
Jim MacLachlan
- **Council Members**
Megan Doss
Bill Meyers
Mark Miller
Steve Nauta
Mark Powers
Scott VanStrate

Find us on Facebook!

Spring Lake Village



Village Hall Holiday Hours

Village Hall will be closed on the following dates:

November 11	Veteran's Day
November 26-27	Thanksgiving
December 24-25	Christmas
December 31(p.m.)	New Year's Eve
January 1	New Year's Day

FALL BRUSH COLLECTION

The Village of Spring Lake will collect brush on the third Monday in September. All Village residents must have their brush at the curb before 7:30 a.m. on Monday, September 21st, but no earlier than September 14th. The DPW will make one pass by each home. The Village does not collect brush for private developments that are part of an association.

DON'T FLUSH MEDICATIONS!

If you have unused medications (prescriptions or over-the-counter, including pet meds) please do NOT flush them down the toilet. Place the medications in a plastic zipper bag and dispose of them in our secure drop box located in the lobby of the Spring Lake Village Hall during regular business hours. The meds are incinerated by the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office. Items that **DO NOT** belong in the drop box:



needles, sunscreen,
creams & ointments

FALL LEAF COLLECTION

The Village of Spring Lake will provide the fall leaf pickup program from October 26th thru November 25th. **Leaves must be raked onto the street and off of the lawn, except for the leaves on M-104 (Savidge Street) ~ leaves must be bagged.** The hose on the vacuum truck is limited in length; therefore piles on the lawn are hard to reach. Please do not rake twigs into the leaf piles as they damage the hose.



FALL CLEAN UP

The Village will conduct it's fall clean-up on 10/07/15. Property owners are responsible for any trash left on the curb after 10/01/15. The following items will **NOT** be collected as part of this program:

- Tree stumps, automotive parts, concrete, blacktop, batteries, paints/solvents/cleaners.
- Construction material.
- Pipe will be only accepted in 6" or shorter lengths.
- Only one appliance, which cannot use Freon, will be collected per address.
- Place numerous items in one container, such as a cardboard box.
- Container must weigh less than 35 pounds.
- Call 842-1393 for more information.

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE NUMBER

In the event you have a concern that is not an emergency, but you would like to reach the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, please call

1-800-249-0911

Ottawa County Sheriff's Office

Office Hours—The OCSO maintains regular office hours at 106 S. Buchanan Street. Walk-in customers can meet Kathy; she is happy to answer any questions you may have regarding police protection in the Village. During non-business hours, call 1-800-249-0911.

Website—Everything you need to know about requesting the Speed Trailer, purchasing a handgun or submitting a Home Security Request is available on-line at www.springlakevillage.org. Click on **Departments** and look for the button labeled **Police (Ottawa County Sheriff)**. You will find tons of valuable information regarding the services that are provided by OCSO.

Business Contacts—The OCSO has been working with local business owners to update emergency contact information. If you are a business owner, you should have had a Deputy stop in, introduce himself and leave a form for you to complete. If you have not met with a Deputy, please contact us so that OCSO can get a Deputy to your business ASAP.

Common Ordinance

Violations

Listed below are the most common Zoning Ordinance violations that may elicit a visit from the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office. A complete copy of the Zoning Ordinance is available on the Village's website.

Inoperable Vehicles (Sec. 3.8)

Blight (Sec 3.8)

Vehicles for Sale (Sec 11.3 & 11.4)

Front Yard Parking (Sec. 16.1)

The most common Code of Ordinance violation during the summer is tall grass and weeds (Sec 30-111 ~ 30-116). The Code is available in its entirety, including newly adopted ordinances, at www.municode.com. We ask that property owners make every attempt to be good neighbors. When in doubt, call the Village *before* you receive a citation, so we can let you know if your activity violates any Village ordinance.



Trick-or-Treat



Bring your little ones down to Village Hall from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. on October 31st to meet OCSO staff. Sergeant Kik (*pictured—right*) will have a special treat ready for your little ghosts and goblins!



NO WIPES IN THE PIPES

Sure, the container *says* they are flushable but we are here to tell you that WIPES ARE NOT FLUSHABLE! When you flush cleaning cloths such as Clorox disinfecting wipes or baby wipes down the toilet, it can cause a great deal of damage to our sewer system as the wipes can wrap around pump parts and cause sewer back-ups. Regardless of what the packaging says, they should NEVER be flushed down the sanitary sewer or into a septic system.



VILLAGE/TOWNSHIP OPEN HOUSE



Come on down and check out the recent changes made at Village Hall to accommodate our Township friends. We will be celebrating this collaboration on September 14th starting at 2:00 p.m. with tours of the facility, cake and refreshments. Presentations begin promptly at 4:00 p.m.

Water Service Questions?

Do you have questions regarding your water service? Call Mary at 842-1393. She can schedule a final read, water turn-on/turn-offs and answer your billing questions. For non-emergency service requests, kindly give us 24 hours notice. **For after-hours water and sewer emergencies, please call 1-800-249-0911.**



The Village uses Facebook to disseminate information to residents between newsletters. Just search for *Spring Lake Village*, click "Like" and keep up on all the latest happenings in the Village! You can also sign up for a Constant Contact (electronic newsletter) by logging on to our website www.springlakevillage.org and submitting your email information.

WINTER IS COMING!

When removing snow from your driveways, it should **not cover fire hydrants** or be piled in a manner that causes vision obstruction for drivers. If a fire hydrant is near your home, do not pile snow around the hydrant. A snow covered hydrant may be unusable to the fire department in an emergency situation.

- If the hydrant in your area gets snow covered, **please clear away the snow.** 
- Keep your snow on your own property. **Residents and private snow plowing contractors may not deposit snow on public streets.** This is a Village ordinance; property owners may be ticketed for snow left in the street or piles that block sidewalks.
- If you drive a vehicle with snow removal equipment, all safety precautions must be taken including an amber oscillating light.
- On garbage day please keep cans & recycle bins in your driveway not on Village streets. 
- Ice and snow removal should be completed within 24 hours of the snowfall.
- **It is the responsibility of the property occupant or owner to keep sidewalks clear of snow & ice.** If the work load allows time to clear sidewalks, Village employees will give priority to sidewalks that are in the immediate vicinity of the Spring Lake Area Public Schools.
- **Shake your mailbox!** Now is the time to make repairs and ensure your mailbox is securely fastened to its post. Village policy states the DPW is not responsible to replace mailboxes when snow knocks the box off its post. 

A Message from Your Village President

As we begin our new fiscal year, I'd like to provide you with an update regarding Village activities and finances. We've enjoyed an exceptional year in many ways, as our financial position continues to strengthen and improve, and as we continue to enhance the level of services we provide to our citizens. Furthermore, the Village has been able to cut costs and increase revenues to such an extent that we were able to reduce your operating millage from 10.0462 to 9.5 mills and reduce your debt millage from 1.0157 to .86 mills. These lower rates were reflected on the tax bills which were just distributed in July. Although this reduction is not likely to change anyone's standard of living, it does recognize your Council's diligent efforts to be good stewards of the tax revenues we receive and to control the operating costs we incur in providing the services our citizens want and deserve.

It's been a little over a year since we completed our conversion from our own Police Department (shared with Ferrysburg) to the contracted services with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department. The new arrangement has been greeted with a great deal of enthusiasm and satisfaction from our deputies and citizens alike. The Police Commission has commended our law enforcement officers for a seamless conversion process and a notable increase in the level of services available to our Village residents. We have also recognized significant cost savings through reduced operating costs and a reduction or elimination of substantial legacy costs (unfunded pension liabilities and other post employment benefits). In fact, our unfunded pension liability has morphed onto a surplus during the first year of our contract.

Other collaborative efforts (including the contracting of planning services, zoning services, and the services of our Treasurer/Finance Director) continue to generate significant ongoing savings. Furthermore, by providing shared space in our Village Hall to the Township, we will now receive a significant income stream, while our citizens will experience an immediate improvement in customer service. You'll now be able to pay your utility bills, pay your real estate taxes, file an absentee ballot, inquire about your property tax assessments, etc., all under the same roof. As you will see on the reverse side of this message, we continue to reduce outstanding debt, to reduce our expenses, and we have enjoyed increased revenues from park fees, dock rentals, and the like. This year we will also receive bike path millage from the Township and roads millage from the County for the first time.

If you have any questions regarding this report, or any Village matters, please don't hesitate to contact myself, any member of Council, or your Village Manager at 842-1393.

Sincerely,

Jim MacLachlan

Village President



VILLAGE STATISTICS	Fiscal Year 2011/2012	Fiscal Year 2012/2013	Fiscal Year 2013/2014	Fiscal Year 2014/2015	
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS					
Miles of Sidewalks Cleared of Snow	9.40	9.40	9.56	13.52	
FINANCE					
Street Debt	(150,000)	(105,000)	(55,000)	-0-	
Harbor Transit Debt	(33,870)	(28,225)	-0-	-0-	
Village Hall Bond Debt	(1,220,000)	(1,225,000)	(1,150,000)	(1,075,000)	
Water Debt	(289,906)	(245,420)	(211,357)	(166,466)	
Brownfield Loan Debt	(142,363)	(92,265)	(81,515)	(70,551)	
Debt per Capita	(790)	(730)	(645)	(565)	
Grand River Greenway (Budget Deficit)	(486,688)	(70,071)	-0-	-0-	
Unfunded Pension ~ Non-Union	(441,996)	(488,972)	(503,961)	(560,592)	
General Fund - Fund Balance	280,577	301,377	289,400	315,707	
Fund Balance - As a % of Budget	20.46%	22.77%	20.70%	20.84%	
Real Property Tax Revenues	797,976	848,362	851,579	864,086	
Audit Contract	(18,500)	(18,000)	(10,475)	(10,750)	
Bank Fees	(4,912)	(4,907)	(6,571)	(3,855)	
Funds Protected by FDIC Insurance	267,000	267,000	267,000	1,000,000	
BARBER SCHOOL					
Rentals	3,935	8,840	7,195	6,605	
PARKS					
Tanglefoot Park Revenues	65,250	59,507	77,717	85,177	
Launch Fee Revenues	7,253	4,260	4,190	4,685	
Boat Dock Revenues	10,700	12,375	11,425	12,685	
POLICE					
Village Contribution for Police Services	469,759	508,620	473,137	473,137	
Total Unfunded Pension ¹	(533,243)	(624,660)	(633,783)	35,677	
Calls for Service (Calendar Year)	5617 (2011)	5854 (2012)	4717 (2013)	4476 (2014)	

¹ Shared with the City of Ferrysburg



Each year the Spring Lake Fire Department spends some time before or during Fire Prevention Week, visiting each of the elementary schools in the village and township, to teach the children about fire safety. Be sure to spend some time with your children asking them to share with you about what they have learned. Fire Prevention Week wraps up with our annual Fire Prevention Open House.

SLFD FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 8, 6pm-8pm

Spring Lake Fire Station #1

148th Ave, just south of M104 (Cleveland)



A family fun night filled with food, prizes and learning about fire prevention and safety. There will be hot dogs, popcorn, chips and drinks for all! Have fun meeting your firefighters and learning about many of your local emergency teams. Watch as we do a live burn house demonstration to show just how quickly a fire can spread in your home. You can even go on a fire truck ride!



Board & Committee Vacancies

Vacancies for various Boards & Committees occur throughout the year. If you are interested in serving your community, you can download an application from the Village website at:

www.springlakevillage.org



Sign up for Nixle to be "in the know" for all emergencies within the township or village. It's free to sign up and you can opt out if we inundate you with irrelevant information (which we promise not to do!) <https://local.nixle.com/register/>

102 W. Savidge Street
Spring Lake, MI 49456

