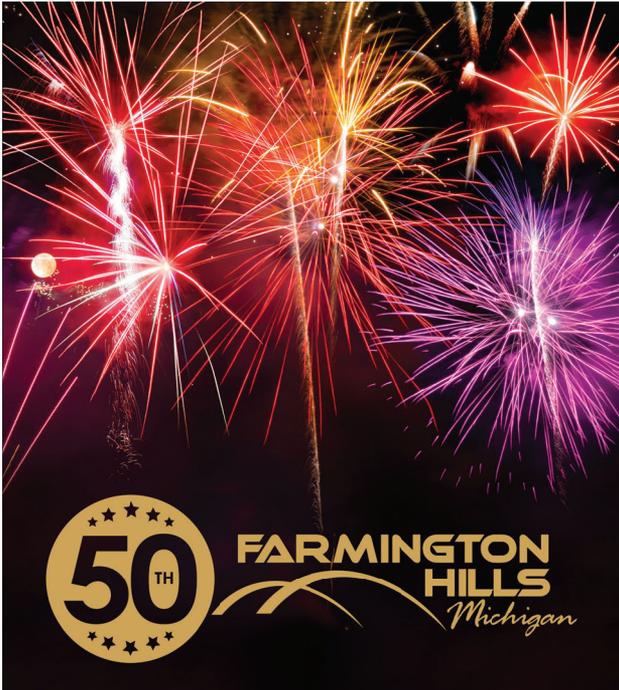




FARMINGTON HILLS FOCUS

Summer 2023



FARMINGTON HILLS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION JULY 6, 2023

The City of Farmington Hills will celebrate its Golden Anniversary this year! Festivities are planned for the community on July 6, 2023 at Founders Sports Park, at 36000 W. Eight Mile Road. All are invited! Expect free family entertainment, activities for the children, opportunities for free community prizes, a fireworks show and more!

Farmington Hills is one of Oakland County's largest and most diverse communities and is known for its beautiful parklands and family friendly events.

For more details on the Farmington Hills Golden Anniversary activities, visit www.fhgov.com or follow the City Facebook and Instagram pages.

Summer Car Safety Tips for Parents

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

VEHICLE TEMPERATURE

outside F°	inside F°	
	10 mins	30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°



Leaving the windows open has **little effect** on how hot it is inside the car.

1. Never leave children in a vehicle unsupervised, even if you plan to walk away for just a moment. It's easy to become distracted and let time get away from you.
2. Use drive-through services that allow you to stay in your car with your child when possible.
3. Open the back door and check the backseat EVERY TIME you get out of your car, even if you think your child is not with you.
4. Put an important item like a purse, wallet or phone in the backseat that will remind you to LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAVE.
5. Communicate with other adults in the car when exiting a vehicle. Make sure no one is left behind.
6. Ensure children cannot get in vehicles on their own. Keep car keys out of children's reach.
7. Search nearby vehicles first if your child is missing, even if vehicles are locked.
8. Teach children to honk the horn if they become stuck inside of a vehicle.
9. Ask your child's day care provider or school to call you immediately if your child is late.
10. When the car is stationary, it should be locked. Roll up the windows and lock the doors and trunk to prevent kids from climbing in without being noticed.



THE FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDS YOU TO PRACTICE EXTRA CAUTION DURING TIMES WHEN YOUR DAILY SCHEDULE IS INTERRUPTED, SUCH AS DURING A HOLIDAY OR EMERGENCY.



Farmington Hills Police Department Promotes “Click It or Ticket” Campaign & Reminds Drivers to Buckle Up

As summer approaches, the Farmington Hills Police Department reminds drivers about the importance of seat belt use. This annual campaign is part of the national “Click It or Ticket” high-visibility enforcement period running throughout May and June. The national seat belt campaign, which runs concurrent with the start of the busy summer travel season, has a goal of reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries.

“During the ‘Click It or Ticket’ campaign, we’ll be working with our fellow law enforcement officers across the state to ensure the message gets out to drivers and passengers to buckle up,” said Farmington Hills Police Chief Jeff King. “We cannot overstate the importance of wearing a seat belt. Buckling up is the law – plus it’s the simplest thing you can do to limit injuries or save your life during a crash.”

Statistics show that 47% of passengers who died in motor vehicle crashes were not wearing seat belts. The Police Department is committed to saving lives by increasing awareness and encouraging drivers and passengers alike to buckle up.

Avoid Being a Victim of Larceny from Autos



The Farmington Hills Police Department warns residents that warm weather always brings a rise in Larcenies from Automobiles (LFA). Common places where larcenies from autos are committed include daycare centers, schools, parks, gyms, and even your own driveway! Criminals are opportunists that are targeting unsuspecting people who leave items in their cars while they go about their daily tasks.

Here are some safety tips on how to avoid becoming a victim:

- At least 70% of larcenies are committed on unlocked vehicles. Lock your vehicle and remove any valuable items including purses, wallets, money, electronics, and firearms.
- If you must store any items in your car, lock them in the trunk out of sight.
- Set a routine time before dark each evening to double check that the vehicles in your driveway are locked or better yet, park your locked vehicles in the garage, if possible.
- Remember to Practice TLC. TLC stands for TAKE out your valuables; LOCK your vehicle; and CLOSE your windows and sunroof.

Please report any suspicious activity you may observe. If you find yourself a victim of an LFA, contact the Farmington Hills Police Department at 248-871-2600 immediately – BEFORE going through the vehicle.

REMEMBER - LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!

FIRE DEPARTMENT

▶ SEVERE WEATHER AND TORNADO SAFETY

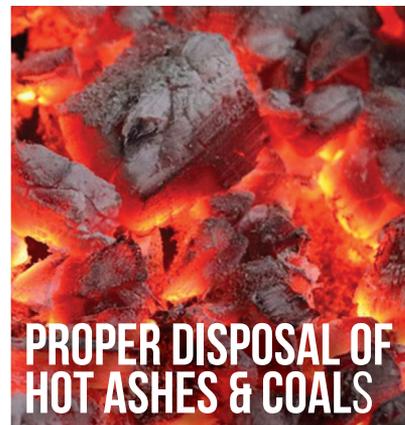
Michigan averages 16 tornadoes annually with most occurring April through August between 3 and 9 p.m. (although tornadoes have been known to occur any time of the day or night.) The average Michigan tornado is on the ground less than ten minutes and travels about five miles.

A Tornado Warning means a tornado has been sighted or is strongly indicated by radar.

A Tornado Watch means there is a strong possibility of a tornado developing in the area. A tornado has not been seen, but conditions are very favorable for one to occur at any moment.

Local Warning Sirens in Oakland County are activated when the National Weather Service issues a Tornado Warning or a Severe Thunderstorm Warning. When sirens are activated, a three-minute tone indicates a tornado has been sighted or is strongly indicated on radar and/or a severe thunderstorm with 70 mph winds or greater is in the area. Seek shelter immediately and listen to the radio or television for more information.

It is important to know that the sirens in Oakland County are an “outdoor” warning system and are not intended to be heard indoors. All residents are encouraged to have a weather radio for indoor warning; these devices will wake you if you are sleeping.



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

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

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

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

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

JOIN OUR TEAM



APPLY AT
[HTTPS://FHGOV.COM/DEPARTMENTS-SERVICES/FIRE/EMPLOYMENT-OPPORTUNITIES](https://fhgov.com/departments-services/fire/employment-opportunities)

- 24-hour Schedule/42 Hour Week
- 24hrs on 2 days off, 24hrs on 4 days off
- \$93,899 After 3 Years
- 2.8% Defined Benefit Pension
- Retirement Health Savings Plan
- ALS Bonus/Paramedic Stipend
- Student Loan Payout
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Longevity Bonus





Farmington Hills Fire Marshal Jason Baloga urges generator users to "Take It Outside."

FARMINGTON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT URGES GENERATOR USERS TO "TAKE IT OUTSIDE"

Whether it involves rain, snow or ice, every season can bring severe storms in Michigan. If you own a generator to help you survive the resulting power outages, the Farmington Hills Fire Department urges you to learn some valuable safety tips.

When severe weather hits and the power goes out, portable generators can be a lifesaver. They provide temporary emergency power to run refrigerators and freezers, sump pumps, lights, furnaces, air conditioning, and more. But unfortunately, improper use of portable generators can have deadly consequences. "The emissions contain carbon monoxide, a deadly gas that's tasteless, colorless, odorless, and impossible for human senses to detect," said Farmington Hills Fire Marshal Jason Baloga.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department joins with the Portable Generator Manufacturers' Association in promoting the "Take It Outside" campaign. This message emphasizes the importance of NEVER using generators inside homes, garages, basements, crawlspaces, sheds, or any other enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. "Using fans or opening doors and windows will not help," said Baloga. "Carbon monoxide can quickly build up and linger for hours, even after the generator is turned off."

Portable generators should only be operated OUTSIDE and must be placed far away and downwind from windows, doors, and vents to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide gas accumulating and potentially being drawn toward living areas. Always install battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms or plug-in alarms with battery backup according to the manufacturer's instructions. Smoke alarms cannot detect carbon monoxide gas.

Be aware that symptoms of low-level carbon monoxide poisoning can be similar to those caused by cold, flu, food poisoning, or other illness. If you or a family member feel sick, dizzy, weak, or are experiencing any other symptoms, get outside to fresh air immediately and call 911 so that the Fire Department can provide medical attention and air monitoring.

For more information, call the Farmington Hills Fire Department at 248-871-2800 or visit www.TakeYourGeneratorOutside.com.



FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN KNOX HOMEBOX PROGRAM



The Farmington Hills Fire Department is participating in a pilot program that will provide qualified residents with a free temporary Knox HomeBox. The Department prides itself on offering programs that enhance community risk reduction, improve response times, and provide service options to residents. Because of their excellent standing in the Fire Prevention community, the Farmington Hills Fire Department was one of only six Fire Departments in the nation selected to take part in the Knox HomeBox Pilot Program.

The Knox HomeBox provides first responders with a quick and secure way to access residences. The device was developed for use with non-ambulatory, chronically ill, special needs, and homebound community members. Participants in the pilot program will be chosen according to established eligibility criteria, allowing them to receive a free temporary Knox HomeBox. A next of kin or responsible person is identified on the application when the Fire Department is contacted for a Knox HomeBox loaner. The responsible party then contacts the Fire Department to return the Knox HomeBox when it is no longer needed so that it may be loaned out again.

“Being part of a pilot program allows us to brainstorm with other fire service personnel while we implement a new service to the community,” said Fire Marshal Jason Baloga. “The HomeBox gives firefighters a safe and efficient way to enter the homes of vulnerable residents.”

The HomeBox provides firefighters quick access to a locked residence during a medical crisis, fire, or other emergency. Each HomeBox has wall or door mounting options and a compartment for holding one key. Using the HomeBox not only prevents costly damage to doors and windows that can occur during a forced entry but also makes it easier and faster to resecure the property after the call has ended.

Fire Chief Jon Unruh underscores the importance of this new program and its impact on the safety of the community. “Our number one concern is getting inside the house to provide aid to someone in need,” said Chief Unruh. “This program saves us precious seconds by allowing us to gain entry very quickly. It has the distinct potential to positively influence the call’s outcome and to save lives.”

If you would benefit from the FREE Knox HomeBox Loaner Program, call the Farmington Hills Fire Department at 248-871-2820; supplies of Knox HomeBoxes are limited. If you are interested in purchasing a Knox HomeBox, go to <https://www.knoxbox.com/Products/Residential-KnoxBoxes>.



Fire Chief Jon Unruh and Fire Marshal Jason Baloga with residential Knox HomeBoxes.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

The City of Farmington Hills is currently hiring for several full-time and part-time positions in various City departments. To find out more about these positions, go to www.fhgov.com and click on Departments & Services/ Human Resources or stop by the Human Resources Department located upstairs in Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road on the corner of Orchard Lake Road.

Employment applications are available at www.fhgov.com or from the Human Resources Department. Email completed applications and supporting documents to hr@fhgov.com or bring them to the HR Department for consideration. If you have any questions, please call 248-871-2490. The City of Farmington Hills is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Human Resources Department • 248.871.2490 • hr@fhgov.com



FARMINGTON HILLS **ALERT**

Sign up today
at fhgov.com 

Get notified about emergencies and important community news.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

TREASURY/ASSESSING OFFICE REMINDERS

- The City of Farmington Hills 2023 Summer Tax Bills will be mailed on or about June 30, 2023. They are payable from July 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 without penalty. Postmarks are not accepted by the City. Payments received at the City after August 31, 2023 are subject to a 4% penalty that will be added starting September 1, along with 1/2% interest per month.
- Every property should receive a property tax bill, even if the tax bill is to be paid via an escrow account. If you do not receive a summer property tax bill by July 15, or if you have any questions about your property taxes, call the Treasurer's Office at 248-871-2480.
- By law, failure to receive a tax bill does not waive tax or penalty. Tax bills are mailed to the address of record and not forwarded by the Post Office unless it is a temporary forwarding order only. Changes of mailing address should be filed with the Assessor's Office.
- Applications for deferment of 2023 summer taxes for qualified persons are available on the City website at www.fhgov.com or at the Treasurer's Office. Applications must be filed by September 14, 2023.

OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR TAXES

The Treasurer's Office, located inside City Hall, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to accept tax payments.

Checks are accepted as conditional payment. If checks are not honored by the bank, a \$30 fee is applied and taxes are considered unpaid and subject to any and all penalties.

Additional options for paying taxes include:



- By mail to the Treasurer's Office, 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.
- By electronic check (eCheck) at <https://www.fhgov.com/departments-services/finance/tax-payment-options> - \$3 fee for payments up to \$10,000; \$10 fee for payments over \$10,000. Paying by electronic check is highly recommended if you want your payment to be received at the time of your choosing.
- 24/7 via the silver drop box located near City Hall in front of Police Headquarters at 31655 W. Eleven Mile Road.

If you have questions about paying your taxes, please call the Treasurer's Office at 248-871-2480.

DOG LICENSES

Licenses are required for all dogs four months of age or older. Dog licenses may be purchased at the City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division January 1 to November 30 with proof of rabies vaccination. Proof of neutering is required for neutered/spayed discount. New animals over four months of age may be licensed at non-delinquent rates if the license is purchased within 30 days of acquisition. The City does not require that cats be licensed.

For questions regarding dog licenses, please contact Oakland County Animal Control at 248-858-1070 or the City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division at 248-871-2480.

2022 dog licenses are available from the following:

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

City of Farmington Hills Treasury Division counter (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm): Cash/check, credit card (additional 3% third-party fees apply, \$2 minimum)

Pay by mail from June 2 – November 1.

To pay by mail, send a request form along with a copy of a valid rabies certificate, a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a check or money order in the amount of the corresponding license fee.



One Year:	Delinquent One Year:	June 2 - November 30
Spay / Neutered	All	\$40.00
Male / Female		
Senior* Spay / Neutered		
Senior* Male / Female		

Three Year:	Delinquent Three Year:	June 2 - November 30
(Requires three-year rabies vaccination valid thru 2025)		
Spay / Neutered		\$55.00
Male / Female		\$85.00
Senior* Spay / Neutered		\$52.00
Senior* Male / Female		\$79.00

*Senior (pet owner) = 65 years or older

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

- A puppy turning four months of age
- Moving into Farmington Hills

Pets need to be licensed because:

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

Need a replacement dog tag?

Contact Oakland County Animal Control at 248-452-9890 to request a replacement dog tag to be mailed to you.



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

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



Door to Door Peddlers + Solicitors

Warm weather typically brings out peddlers and solicitors. Persons peddling door-to-door selling goods or services must be licensed with the City and have photo identification issued by the City Clerk's Office. Persons may only peddle/solicit between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Please be advised that State Law dictates that peddling/soliciting cannot be prohibited within the City, however licensed peddlers/solicitors must adhere to City ordinance requirements.

Certain groups are exempt from the City's licensing provisions; however, they still should be able to provide photo ID from their respective organizations and are asked to comply with local time requirements.

Youth groups such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts or other similar youth organizations are also exempt if they are soliciting within three miles of their residence. For questions on licensing, contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410.

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

Complaints regarding any peddler/solicitor should be directed to the City's Police Department at 248-871-2610. It is helpful if you can provide the name of the organization for which the person was peddling/soliciting and your address or subdivision name.

STAY INFORMED! UPDATE YOUR HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION CONTACTS



Do you belong to your homeowner association? Stay informed about important developments that may affect your subdivision by updating your officers' names and contact information on the City Clerk's Homeowner Association list. Please email your new information to lrai@fhgov.com. Please remember to do this annually or when there is a change in leadership.

PERMANENT ABSENT VOTER LIST

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



PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CITY SEEKING SEASONAL LABORERS FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Do you like to spend time outside in the fresh air instead of sitting at a desk looking at a computer all day? Apply for a job as a seasonal employee at the Division of Public Works! The best part is that you will only work Monday through Friday, keeping your evenings and weekends free.

The City of Farmington Hills is accepting applications for temporary full-time (37.5 hours per week) Seasonal Laborers in the Division of Public Works to assist road maintenance crews. Applicants must have a valid Michigan driver's license, a high school diploma or equivalent, and be at least 18 years of age. Prior landscaping, grounds maintenance and/or construction experience is helpful but not required. Responsibilities include assisting in pavement replacement, litter control, mowing, weed cutting, traffic counts, traffic control, and cemetery maintenance.

Employment applications are available at www.fhgov.com or from the Human Resources Department at Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 West Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Email the completed application and supporting documents to hr@fhgov.com or bring them to the HR Department for consideration. If you have any questions, please call 248-871-2490. The City of Farmington Hills is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





YARD WASTE GUIDELINES

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

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

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

HOLIDAY GARBAGE & RECYCLING COLLECTION SCHEDULE

For the holidays listed below, there will be no curbside collection of trash, recycling, or yard waste. If your regularly scheduled collection day is Friday, collection will be on Saturday.

Memorial Day - Monday, May 29, 2023: Monday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4, 2023: Regular collection on Monday. Tuesday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

Labor Day - Monday, September 4, 2023: Monday - Friday routes on a one-day delay.

FREE SHREDDING AVAILABLE FROM THE RESOURCE, RECOVERY AND RECYCLING AUTHORITY OF SOUTHWEST OAKLAND COUNTY (RRRASOC)

Did you know the self-serve industrial paper shredder is FREE to use for all RRRASOC community members including all residents of Farmington Hills? If your household has personal documents waiting to be shredded, stop by the RRRASOC Materials Recovery Facility at 20000 Eight Mile Road in Southfield from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays to try it out!

The entrance to the shredder is located at the front of the main building, near the Drop-Off site. Look for the door with the Document Shredder signage and follow the instructions inside.



PREPARING YOUR RECYCLABLES

Getting your recyclables ready for their journey to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) is easier than you think. As technology improves, much less preparation is necessary. Here are a few curbside recycling tips to make sure your recyclables travel through the MRF with ease:

- Rinse out any items that contain bits of food and empty containers of all liquid. This not only keeps the rest of the load from being contaminated, but also keeps odors and pest problems at a minimum. Examples of items that could be rinsed out include condiment bottles and jars, plastic containers of leftovers, and beverage containers. No need to fully wash your recyclables with soap - we're not looking for perfection! If possible, allow your recyclables to dry before placing them in the bin to prevent water from pooling at the bottom.
- Do not bag your recyclables. Bags are not opened at the facility, which means bagged recyclables do not make it to the sorting process. Additionally, plastic bags get caught in the machinery, leading to slower sorting and equipment downtime. By keeping your recyclables loose, you are keeping them easily identifiable and easily sortable.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



GREAT QUALITY OF LIFE

- Safe and friendly neighborhoods
- Over 20 daycares throughout the City
- 24 minute average work commute
- Unique museums, dining, and events year-round
- 10+ higher education institutions in less than 15 miles

BUSINESS FRIENDLY

- Streamlined development processes
- Talent resource connections
- Workforce training opportunities
- Immediate access to I-696, I-275, and M-5
- Infrastructure advantages
- Positive and strong government relations



DISCOVER FARMINGTON HILLS

Click, email, or call the Economic Development Department.

Cristia Brockway
Economic Development Director
248-871-2506
cbrockway@fhgov.com

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



SUMMER HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS

Keep neighborhoods in Farmington Hills looking fresh and help keep property values high by regularly maintaining your home. Review this checklist to see what projects you can tackle when the weather is warm.

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

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

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

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

AIR CONDITIONING – Remove debris from around the cooling unit and change the filters to increase efficiency.

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

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

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

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

LANDSCAPING – Clear out debris, trim overgrowth, and plant fresh items in your garden to spruce up your home.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

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

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

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM HOME REPAIR LOANS

Funding for zero-interest, deferred home repair loans is provided by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Office (HUD). Homeowners may be eligible for loans to replace roofs, windows, furnaces, septic fields, or hot water tanks. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy a home in Farmington Hills and the family must meet Federal income guidelines. A family of four, for example, must have a gross income of less than \$71,600. For information, call the Community Development Office at 248-871-2543 or go to www.fhgov.com, and search for Housing Rehabilitation Program.

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

COMMON ZONING COMPLAINTS

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

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



SPRING PLANT + SEED SWAP COMING IN MAY TO HERITAGE PARK

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

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

The Beautification Commission, Garden Club members, and Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions. For more information, call Planning and Community Development Director Charmaine Kettler-Schmult at 248-871-2543.

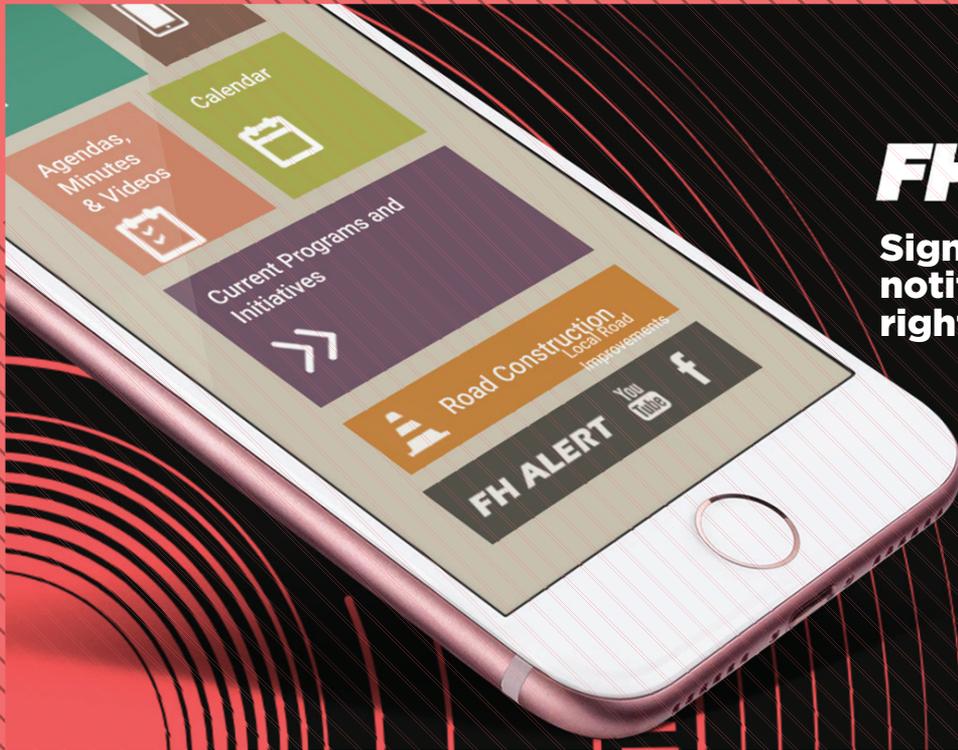


YARD FENCES AND POOL BARRIERS

Are you planning to put a fence in your yard or a barrier around your swimming pool? There is a difference between a yard fence and a pool barrier, however a yard fence can be a pool barrier with the correct design.

- Pool barriers are installed per the State of Michigan Building Code and are inspected by the City's Building Division.
- Yard fences are installed per the City's Zoning Ordinance and are inspected by the City's Zoning Division.
- New pool applications are submitted to the Building Division for permits; they must include the barrier requirement design on the submitted plans. If the proposed barrier is a yard fence, it will be inspected by the Building Division.
- For yard fencing only, apply to the Zoning Division for a permit.

Questions about permits? Call the Zoning Division at 248-871-2520 or the Building Division at 248-871-2450.



FH ALERT

Sign up to receive notifications right on your phone.

▶ **Get notification about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for the FH Alert Program.**

This system enables the City to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, field & building closures, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.



Sign up today @ fhgov.com