**Fire Prevention Week**  
Fire Prevention week is October 1 through October 5. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will have their annual open house on Monday, October 8 at the Fire Station from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. There will be games, handouts, and fire truck rides. Firefighters will be on hand to explain fire safety.

**Monster Bash**  
The Beautification Commission is sponsoring a “Monster Ball” on Friday, October 26, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Ferrysburg City Hall, 17290 Roosevelt Road. Kids will have the opportunity to wear their Halloween costumes and learn how to dance to songs such as the “YMCA” and the “Hokey Pokey”. Apple cider and donuts will be provided. Admission is free and kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. All are encouraged to wear a costume.

**Fall Street Edge Leaves Collection Coming!**  
The City’s street edge leaves collection program will begin soon. All City residents are encouraged to take advantage of the pickups that will be provided at no cost to our residents. While this program is intended to pick up loose leaves, crews will accept bagged leaves in paper bags only. Paper bags are available for purchase at City Hall for 5/$2.00. All other types of bags will be left at the curbside and will be the responsibility of the property owner to dispose of in a method other than land filling or burning. Please rake leaves as close as possible to the street or curb.

**Area 1:** Monday, November 5, 12 and 19  
All City Residents east of 168th Avenue and north of Spring Lake.

**Area 2:** Tuesday, November 6, 13 and 20  
All City residents east of 174th Ave, north of Ridge Ave and west of 168th Avenue.

**Area 3:** Wednesday, November 7, 14 and 21  
All City residents north of North Shore Road and West of 174th Avenue.

**Area 4:** Thursday, November 8, 15 and 21  
All City residents south of North Shore Road to the City limits, south of Ridge Avenue and west of Spring Lake.

**Fire Hydrants**  
Last winter there were record snowfalls. As a result, many of the City’s fire hydrants became buried under the snow. If you live near a fire hydrant, we ask that you “adopt a fire hydrant” and keep snow shoveled away from it during the winter season. Doing so will save valuable time when the use of the hydrant is needed.

**Water Rates**  
Water rates in the City will remain the same for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

**Sewer Rates**  
The sewer usage rate will increase $.04 per cubic meter. Improvements are planned for the City’s five (5) Lift Stations, replacing the Force Main under the Grand River, improving the Lift Station for the Force Main, and improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. These projects total nearly $13.5 million, with Ferrysburg responsible for $2.6 million of the cost for these projects. The City will bond to pay for these improvements. Beginning July 1, 2018, those connected to the City’s sanitary sewer system will see an increase of $36.75 per quarter to pay for the debt service on the bonds.

**Payment Options**  
The City accepts cash, money orders, checks, debit cards, credit cards as official forms of payment. Fees for using credit cards or debit cards are paid for by the customer.

**Comcast Offers**  
Comcast offers low income and seniors affordable internet service for $9.95 a month. They have recently added veterans to this program. You can go to www.internetessentials.com or call 1-855-846-8376 to further explore this program.
**Community Garden**
Over the seasons we have received good comments and helpful suggestions regarding the garden. To better plan for next year, if you are interested in a garden plot for 2019, applications are now being accepted. Plots will be assigned when an application is received by the City. For 2019, a resident can reserve two (2) plots. At the end of May 2019, if additional plots are available, gardeners may request an additional plot.

**Back to School Safety**
As the summer comes to an end, we start to think about going back to school. The Ottawa County Sheriff's office wants to remind the citizens of Ferrysburg that getting to and from school safely is our goal. Children will be walking, riding bicycles, and taking the bus to school. Students walking and riding bicycles should always use bike paths and sidewalks where they are available. Where there are no sidewalks, students should walk along the side of the road facing traffic. Students should wear light colored clothing and avoid using electronics and headphones. If riding a bicycle, wear a helmet, ride with traffic, and always ride on the bike path where available. Students should seek crosswalks when crossing roadways.

Motorists should be aware of speed restrictions around schools and be alert for students walking and riding bicycles. Motorists are reminded that they must stop for any school bus that has its flashing red lights activated. Motorists should be aware that crossing guards are present at some intersections to assist children safely cross the roadways and must stop when indicated. Motorists should be aware that traffic will increase around schools prior to school and at dismissal time and may need to leave extra time to make their trip.

**Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve**
On Sunday, September 16, the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve Board will host visitors from 2 – 4 p.m. The hike will be led by former Board Member Lynne Kinkema who will point out various plants and animal species that can be observed at the Preserve. The Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve is owned by the City of Ferrysburg. The Preserve is approximately 112 acres, one-half of which was donated by Connie Lindquist, Gerald Lindquist and Harold V. Hartger. The other half was purchased primarily with the financial assistance of the Nature Conservancy and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grand.

**Recreational Fires**
For a complete list of all regulations regarding recreational fires contact Ferrysburg City Hall or visit our website at www.ferrysburg.org City Code Chapter 92.

**Reminder:**
Do not blow grass clippings or other yard waste onto the street. This will prevent these items from being washed into the storm drain which dump into the lake.

**Opportunities**
There are openings on the City’s various Boards and Commissions. Positions are available on the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve Board, the Recreation Commission, the Construction Board of Appeals, and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. If you would like more information or would be interested in applying, contact City Clerk Debbie Wierenga at 842-5803.

**Carol Sing**
The annual Carol Sing is scheduled on Saturday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m., at Wm. Ferry Park. The Ferrysburg Fire Department will deliver Santa Claus to the park where he will give out candy canes. The Fire Department will start a bonfire and Christmas carols will be sung. Pine Street Café will provide hot chocolate and Leppink’s will provide donut holes.

**Prescription Drug Disposal**
The Ottawa County Sheriff’s Department aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse and medications. There is a drug collection box at the Spring Lake Township Fire Station/Ottawa County Sheriff’s Branch Office located at 106 North Fruitport Road. Any liquids or sharp items are not permitted. Those living in Ferrysburg are urged to use the Ottawa County Sheriff’s Spring Lake Branch drop off.
**WINTER TIPS**

**SHOVEL**
Shovel snow onto vegetated areas. Grass and plants will act as a natural filter once snow melts, reducing runoff that goes down stormdrains directly to rivers and streams.

**PLAN AHEAD**
Shovel and scrape early and often. De-icers work best when there is only a thin layer to remove.

**USE LESS**
A little salt goes a long way. Apply sparingly, and remove slush once the snow melts to prevent refreezing.

**RECYCLE**
Save money by reclaiming salt for re-use by sweeping or vacuuming the solids from the sidewalk after the storm.

**STORAGE**
Practice good housekeeping by storing salt or other de-icers under a roof or other cover to minimize polluted runoff.

**VEHICLES**
Winterize vehicles so that there are no leaks. Do not wash the car in the driveway - ensure that dirty washwater is not entering the storm sewer.

VISIT WWW.LGROW.ORG FOR MORE INFO
Blue Piping
In the 1970’s and 1980’s, many homes were connected to the City water system with polybutylene piping (blue pipe). Over time, this type of pipe has been known to leak and give trouble. Property owners are responsible for water lines beginning at the street right-of-way. If you have this type of water pipe leading into your home or in your house, you may wish to consider replacing the polybutylene piping.

Openings: Ferrysburg Fire Department
The City of Ferrysburg is looking for a few good men and women who are interested in a unique and rewarding opportunity to serve their community. The Ferrysburg Fire Department is a volunteer Fire Department, and is always accepting applications from individuals who are willing to become firefighters for the City of Ferrysburg. You must be at least 18 years old, a high school graduate, have a valid driver’s license, and be able to respond to fires at any time of the day. Firefighting experience is a plus, but is not required.

Smoke Detector Safety
Have you recently checked the batteries in your smoke detector? Is your smoke detector working properly? If you have answered “NO” or if you are not sure how to answer, the Ferrysburg Fire Department can help! Call Ferrysburg City Hall at 842-5803, to schedule an appointment. A member of the Ferrysburg Fire Department will then contact you to set up an appointment to check your smoke detector “free of charge”.

Meetings
City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission meets the 1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals meets the 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Beautification Commission meets the 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Recreation Commission meets 2nd Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
Other Boards and Commission meet on an irregular schedule.

Brush Chipping
With the upcoming arrival of winter, the City crew will discontinue chipping brush October 19. In April they will continue brush chipping. A reminder that there is no burning in the city limits of Ferrysburg.