

# City Of Orchard Lake Village Newsletter

Volume 14.7 ♦♦♦♦ April 2016



## Severe Weather Awareness Week

On Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 1 PM, Oakland County Homeland Security Division will conduct a special test and activation on the Outdoor Warning System.

## City Hall will be closed

- Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day
- Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day



## Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Spring is here and the songbirds are back in our beautiful City. Soon the snowbirds will be back as well. What a pleasant change this past winter was from the year before. Thankfully our City crew had a lot less snow to push around this year and we certainly used much less salt. Most importantly, life was a lot easier for most of us who stay here through the winter. Sorry for the skaters and fisherman who were on thin ice most of the time.

I am also sorry for the unforgivable omission of congratulations to Jim Talpos in my last message. Of course he was re-elected to Council in November. I don't know what this City would be without the insight and historical knowledge that Jim has always brought to the table. Even through periods where health issues caused him much pain, he has been a dependable rock and I have relied upon him for his reasoned input as long as I have been on Council.

This is the annual season of two major activities of your Council and work groups with much assistance from staff. We are working on the new budget for our fiscal year starting July 1. It is always a challenge to make our available dollars stretch to provide the services that our citizens need and want. Only 7.56 mils of your total tax bill goes to fund City operations. Council is authorized to collect up to 10 mils but have so far managed to keep the tax right where it is. Fortunately, over many years and with lots of sound fiscal management, we have built sufficient reserves to fund most of our obligations and keep our rolling stock mostly up to date. There is one area though that we have little control over. That is retiree benefits and health care. Those costs have become a huge and growing line item in our budgets. Orchard Lake has done better than most communities in providing for these needs but there is still going to be a shortfall of major proportions in a few years. Eventually this will be much less of a problem as all new hires are on a defined contribution plan rather than defined benefits.

By the time this hits your mailbox, our road workgroup will have done their annual evaluation of the City streets. They will set the priorities for repairs and replacements. It is impossible to do everything we would like, but we will take care of the most pressing needs. Pontiac Trail, Orchard Lake and Commerce roads are owned and maintained by Oakland County. Recently the Road Commission, West Bloomfield Township and Orchard Lake made a passionate plea to the committee that controls Federal funding for County roads. This would have rebuilt Pontiac Trail from Orchard Lake to Haggerty in 2019. But the committee voted to spend the money on smaller projects in other communities instead. We will continue to push all resources for funding of this and other needed projects.



## Dog Licenses

The 2016 Dog Licenses are available. Licenses must be purchased by June 1, 2016 to avoid any late fees. Bring a current rabies vaccination certificate to City Hall. Fees for current licenses are \$7.50 for spayed/neutered and \$15 for intact. Delinquent licenses are \$30.00 each.

## Election Workers Needed

Any qualified, registered elector in the State of Michigan may apply to work as an election inspector. Applications are available in the Clerk's Office.

Training is required at the Oakland County Complex located in the vicinity of Telegraph and Pontiac Lake Road. Morning and evening shifts are available. For more information, contact the City Clerk.

In case you might have missed it, this is a major election year. Although the presidential politics have sucked most of the air out of the room, there are many other offices up for grabs including our state legislature, county positions and school boards. Due to term limits there is a lot of shifting going on. Whatever your political leanings, please get involved on some level. Our democracy depends entirely on an informed and active citizenry.



As always, I give thanks to our wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers who help our great City staff and Police Department keep Orchard Lake the fine community that it is. My hope is for an especially happy, healthy and fruitful Spring season for all.

Please don't hesitate to contact me through City Hall or email me at [nfinkelstein@cityoforchardlake.com](mailto:nfinkelstein@cityoforchardlake.com) if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you,  
Norm Finkelstein, Mayor

Interested in being part of the great City? Volunteer positions are available for the City of Orchard Lake Board of Review and Nature Sanctuary Board. For more information, please contact City Hall.

City of Orchard Lake Residents are welcome to attend Robert's Rules of Order Class on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 6 PM at City Hall, 3955 Orchard Lake Rd. Please RSVP to City Hall at 248-682-2400 or [asstclerk@cityoforchardlake.com](mailto:asstclerk@cityoforchardlake.com)



### What is WEST NILE VIRUS?

A mosquito-transmitted virus causes most cases of West Nile infection. Most people infected with West Nile virus either don't develop signs or symptoms or have only minor ones, such as fever and mild headache. However, some people develop a life-threatening illness that includes inflammation of the spinal cord or brain. To learn more about West Nile Virus and how it can be prevented, please visit <https://www.oakgov.com/health/information/Pages/West-Nile-Virus.aspx>

### What is ZIKA VIRUS?



Zika virus disease is a disease caused by the Zika virus that is spread to people primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. The most common symptoms of Zika are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). The illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting for several days to a week after being bitten by an infected mosquito. People usually don't get sick enough to go to the hospital, and they very rarely die of Zika. For this reason, many people might not realize they have been infected. Once a person has been infected, he or she is likely to be protected from future infections. For more information, please visit <https://www.oakgov.com/health/information/Pages/Zika-Virus.aspx>

## Water Quality Concerns?

The Oakland County Water Resources Commission website has great information about water quality and other water related issues.

Please Visit

<https://www.oakgov.com/water>



*The City of Orchard Lake Village* wants to remind you to help keep the watershed clean!

Many items found in homes, garages, and yards can cause serious stormwater pollution if they are washed into the storm drains and allowed to flow untreated into the Clinton River, its tributaries and Lake St. Clair. Everyone can prevent stormwater pollution by taking simple steps;

1. Never dispose of paint or paint-related products into the gutters or storm drains. This is illegal dumping.
2. Do not blow, sweep, or hose fertilizer into the street, or storm drain.
3. Clean up after your pet
4. Choose earth friendly landscaping. Use non-toxic products for your garden and lawn whenever possible. Use pesticides sparingly.
5. Conserve water whenever possible.

## What is Lead?

**Lead** is a naturally occurring element found in small amounts in the earth's crust. While it has some beneficial uses, it can be toxic to humans and animals causing health effects.

Federal and state regulatory standards have helped to reduce the amount of lead in air, drinking water, soil, consumer products, food, and occupational settings.

Lead found in tap water usually comes from the corrosion of older fixtures or from the solder that connects pipes. When water sits in leaded pipes for several hours, lead can leach into the water supply.

**Please know that the City of Orchard Lake Village Water Supply System is a newer system that is operated and maintained by Oakland County Water Resources and complies with all Safe Drinking Water Act Standards and Testing Requirements.**



**NEW**

City of Orchard Lake Village allows the installation of a secondary water meter for water that is used strictly outdoors that will not enter the sewage system. Water flowing through the secondary meter will only be charged for water, not for sewage treatment. Anyone drawing water from the lake or a well for lawn irrigation would not benefit from this secondary meter. For more information, please visit [http://www.cityoforchardlake.com/departments/water\\_and\\_sewer](http://www.cityoforchardlake.com/departments/water_and_sewer)





# City of Orchard Lake Village

3955 Orchard Lake Rd Orchard Lake, MI 48323

Mayor Norm Finkelstein

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce McIntyre

- Councilmember Mark Hoffman
- Councilmember Jerry Kosmenschky
- Councilmember Jennifer Oram
- Councilmember James Talpos
- Councilmember Bruce Tobin

## Household Hazardous Waste Event

Orchard Lake residents will be entitled to participate in the West Bloomfield Household Hazardous Waste Disposal event on Saturday, May 7, 2016; from 9AM to 2PM at West Bloomfield Civic Center off Walnut Lake Road west of Orchard Lake Rd.

Please organize with your neighbors as the cost to the City is \$50.00 per car. For more information on the type of waste collected, please contact the information hotline at (248) 451-4834.



## Join the Memorial Day Parade(s)

Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>  
From 9AM to 12PM

Walk or bike in the Monday Memorial Day parades! Or bring your vintage car!

To participate contact DuAnne at 248.683.1542 or [duannesonneville@hotmail.com](mailto:duannesonneville@hotmail.com).



### Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary Spring Nature Walk

Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>  
From 2 PM to 3 PM

Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary,  
4700 Pontiac Trail  
Join Naturalist Carol Fink for a guided tour. Walk through rolling terrain and explore the breathtaking spring flowers.

## Apple Island Tours

Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> & Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
From 11 AM to 5 PM.

Orchard Lake Museum  
3951 Orchard Lake Road

Semi-guided tours of Apple Island First come, first served. No reservations.

3:30 p.m. is the last departure.  
\$15 adults, \$10 children 5-12 years  
(No kids under 5).  
\$5 for GWBHS and Time Travelers members



## St. Mary Polish Country Fair

Memorial Weekend  
Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> - Monday,  
May 30<sup>th</sup>

Experience the fun and excitement of a breezy summer day overlooking Orchard Lake where you can enjoy the latest rides, food, entertainment and shopping.

For more details, please visit [www.stmaryspolishcountryfair.com](http://www.stmaryspolishcountryfair.com)