

VILLAGE NEWS

Village of Caledonia

April 2009

Caledonia's Western Week & Independence Day Celebration Are Teaming Up!

The second annual Western Week will be held Tuesday June 23rd through June 26th, followed by the Independence Day Celebration on Saturday June 27th. What a great way for family and visitors to enjoy a week in our Village! **Tuesday June 23rd** at 7pm will be the **Softball Game** between the Caledonia Merchants and the Caledonia Fire Department. The Merchant's game plan will be the same as last year, really hose down the department and score lots of runs! It was really fun, plan on attending the game held at Duncan Lake Middle School's ball diamond.

Wednesday June 24th Horses come to the Village featuring "**A Vaulting Connection**" who will be demonstrating gymnastics on horseback. Also back this year the very popular roping demonstrations, Strongman feats and Carriage and pony cart rides for everyone to enjoy.

Thursday June 25th brings back the highly successful Antique Appraisals at Barber School museum, Tack Sale/ Farmers Market, and Caledonia Hair Company's "Hair Makeover", live and on stage. **Taste of Caledonia** is also featured and the day will come to a wonderful family close with a free Outdoor Movie Night.

Friday June 26th enjoy Dancing in the street with performances by Caledonia Dance, and the Get In Liners. The annual truck pull will continue to be held in Lakeside Park. A **Street Dance** caps off the day's festivities.

Saturday June 27 starts at dawn with music filling the streets and at 8:00am, 400 plus runners/walkers will be participating in the **Kilt Klassic 5K**. New this year, a kids run on the track at the Ralph E. Meyers Stadium at 9:15am. Then get your chairs and blankets, choose your favorite viewing spot on Main Street and witness one of the area's largest parades starting at 10:30am. Following the **parade**, we are bringing our festive atmosphere to the downtown streets of Caledonia! From noon to 4:00p.m. enjoy food booths and fun filled afternoon activities, including a kid's fun zone, and frog and turtle races. The end to a perfect day, attend a spectacular firework display at dusk. The best seating for the **fireworks** will be at or near Duncan Lake Middle School.

These are just the highlights, please set this week aside now, bring the family out and attend this year's festivities! Questions and suggestions are welcome. Please contact Terry Muller@ 891-9171 regarding Western Week and Terry Mulvihill, 891-9974, for the Independence Day Celebration.



Village Officials

President:	Scott Williamson
Village Manager/Clerk:	Sandy Ayers
Treasurer:	Jill Harrison
Trustees:	Dan Erskine Glenn Gilbert Craig Mitchell
Administrative Assistant:	Terry Mulvihill Karen Hahn Vacant
Utilities Superintendent:	Lisa Segard
DPW :	Buff Rodgers Roger Loring Jim Tolan

Michigan Citizen Planner Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning

Tuesdays April 14-May 26—6:30-9:00 PM

Michigan Citizen Planner can make a real difference in how communities develop. Citizen Planner training allows your community to deal with challenging new issues with confidence by featuring time-tested educational programs that deal with important local issues like traffic congestion, farmland protection, healthy communities, water quality and quantity, urban design, and smart growth. Classes will be held at the Caledonia Village & Township offices. Participants are encouraged to sign up for the entire course. Each session is designed to be approximately 2 1/2 hours in length and includes hands-on learning and field trips as appropriate. The first seven core sessions provide a basic skill set and are required for certification. Participants with limited time may enroll in individual sessions of their choosing. Call 336-3265, visit <http://www.citizenplanner.msu.edu/> or email willsk@msu.edu for more information.

Friendly Reminders...

Trailer Storage - The parking or storage of campers, trailers, motor homes, boats, boat trailers, or horse trailers, is prohibited in the front yard of any premises located in the R-1, R-2 or R-3 zones, & Glen Valley PUD, except that such items may be **temporarily** parked [**not exceeding three (3) days**] in a front yard for loading or unloading and other temporary purposes. Recreational units shall also include, but shall not be limited to the following: boats, boat trailers, jet skis, snowmobiles, snowmobile trailers, all terrain vehicles, dune buggies, horse trailers, and similar equipment.



Burning - **Trash** burning is **not permitted** in the Village limits. **Brush burning** is allowed between the hours of 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, not on any paved streets or sidewalks, or within 10 feet of any building or lot line. **Call 891-0140 for a burn permit** between 8AM & 4PM Mon-Fri. Any smoke emanating from such open burning shall **always** be controlled, so as not to be a nuisance to your neighbors. **Bonfires** must be a minimum of 25 feet from any building. No person having started either a brush or bonfire shall be absent at any time.



Portable & Temporary Signs, Balloons, Banners, or Sidewalk Signs



Temporary signs are **prohibited** in the C-1, C-2 & I-1 districts. This includes Caledonia Crossroads, Glen Valley Business, Caledonia Village Centre, Cherry Valley Ave, and portions of Main Street. **Please** keep our community attractive and uncluttered by eliminating these from your store fronts. Lack of compliance may result in fines.

Enjoy our newly paved Rail Trail!!! Finally! Our rail trail is paved and ready for you to walk and ride from downtown to the schools! This improvement was long awaited and many are discovering this pleasant passage. Our furry friends are always welcome while on a leash but please remember, their owners are responsible for cleaning up after them. Please show consideration for your fellow travelers! Remember: Dog tags help lost dogs find their way back home!

Building Permits—The how's & whys...

The following are the most commonly overlooked building projects that require **Building permits**:

1. Porches & Decks
2. Swimming Pools (any above ground, prefabricated more than 24" deep and all in-ground)
3. New doors or windows if structural members are changed
4. Finished basements

Projects requiring **Mechanical permits**:

1. Replacement furnaces, gas log fireplaces
2. Air Conditioning

Plumbing permits are required for:

1. Change of location of fixtures such as tubs or sinks

Projects requiring **Electrical permits** include:

1. Service upgrades
2. Wiring for garages and accessory buildings
3. Swimming pools with electrical hookups required for lights or equipment
4. In ground swimming pools for bonding requirements

These requirements are for all of the properties in the Village of Caledonia. Therefore, these requirements must be met if either the property owners or contractors do the work.

Zoning permits are required for every exterior construction project, addition, garage, fence, shed, etc. to determine setbacks and required spacing between buildings. Glen Valley & Martin's Addition (Vine Street) have deed restrictions and/or architectural controls that must also be considered. (Please note however, that private deed restrictions and architectural control compliance is not enforced by the Village.) These documents can be found on the Village website.

This list is for the most commonly overlooked projects that require a permit. This is by no means all inclusive. If you have questions about whether or not a project will require a permit, please call **Imperial Municipal Services at 1-800-442-2794 or (616) 863-9294** and ask to speak to an inspector in that field. IMS is contracted by the Village to administer permitting and zoning interpretation.

One reason many people avoid taking out permits is that they don't want the assessor to know they are improving their home. Township Assessor, Laura Stob advises that "If people are concerned about their taxes going way up because of this, it can be noted that the amount of new (market) value added, is the only amount the taxes can go up besides the normal neighborhood increase. The existing difference between taxable value and the assessed value does not become uncapped because of improvements to the property." Call 891-0070 with questions.

If you do not have the work inspected, and later on if that work causes a fire or other damage, your insurance company could deny the claim. Is it worth the gamble???



Easter Egg Hunt Saturday April 11th



11:00 AM

The Saturday before Easter is traditionally the day for the Village Easter Egg Hunt. Age groups: 4 and under, 5&6 year olds, 7-10 year olds. The Hunt starts promptly at 11:00 AM. Children should bring a basket or bag to collect their eggs in. Some of these eggs contain slips of paper awarding prizes like jump ropes and bubbles! The Alano Club has donated 2 bicycles to be raffled off! Bring your cameras, the Bunny will be there!

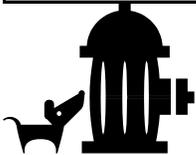
Sincere appreciation is given to the seniors of the Caledonia Resource Center who give generously of their time to stuff the eggs and Boy Scout Troop 202 who lend their boundless energy to hide them. Mark your calendar and join the fun in Caledonia Lakeside Park.

Memorial Day Observances

The Caledonia Post #305 of the American Legion will be holding Memorial Day ceremonies at the following local cemeteries:

Alaska 9:00AM,
Blaine 9:45AM,
Dutton 10:30 AM,
Holy Corners 11:15AM.

In the Village of Caledonia at 12:00, they will gather at the corner of Kinsey and Main to parade to Caledonia Lakeside Cemetery for their final stop to honor our country's fallen heroes.



Dogs in the Village

Responsible dog owners know that their dogs need to stay on a leash or be confined at home and that their dog's dropping need to be picked up. Loose dogs and indiscriminate dog droppings can cause frustration. If you have wondered about the rules and regulations governing dogs, here's the facts...

To paraphrase Michigan Compiled Law 287.262 (2) (which addresses Dogs; licensing, tags, leashes) Dogs must be licensed, and confined to their property, or leashed. Backing that up is the Kent County Animal Control Regulation, section 701 which states "A person who owns or has custody or control of a dog shall prevent the dog from **running at large**. A person who owns or has custody or control of a dog shall, at any time the dog is off that person's property, restrain to dog with a lead or leash no greater than six (6)

April, May, & June Events.

April 13	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
April 23	Tentative PC Meeting
May 5	School Board/Library Election
May 10	Mother's Day
May 11	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
May 16	Plant Exchange 9:00AM
May 28	Tentative PC Meeting
May 25	Memorial Day
	Village Office Closed
June 8	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
June 14	Flag Day
June 21	Father's Day
June 25	Tentative PC Meeting
June 23-26	Western Days &
June 27	Independence Day Celebration

10th Annual Spring Plant Exchange

Saturday, May 16, in the Village & Township Hall parking lot. Starting at 9:00 AM we will hold our spring plant exchange. Please put your offerings in containers marked with the plant name. Contact Lisa at 891-9384 with questions.



feet in length." This violation is punishable by a fine of \$50.00 by the County and is a misdemeanor with up to ninety days in jail and a \$1000.00 fine or 1000 hours community service by the State.

Another nuisance is when dogs are allowed to defecate on property other than their own. The Kent County Animal Control Regulation, section 705 states: "A person who owns or has custody or control of an animal shall prevent the animal from **defecating** on any public (school, government, park, etc.) or private property other than his own or shall immediately collect and properly dispose of all fecal matter deposited by the animal while off his property." This too is punishable by a fine of \$50.00 by the County. Matt Pepper of the Kent County Animal Control department advises not to let things build up to a bursting point. Call 336-3210 for information on licensing or complaints.

Barking dogs should not be tolerated. Call Kent County Sheriff at 336-3113 with those complaints.

Yard waste pick-up

Collections of yard waste will begin soon. Remember that the Village DPW **will not pick up any plastic bags**. Paper yard waste bags are available free of charge from the Village office. Please limit the weight of your bagged organic debris (no stones or gravel) to **30** pounds. Limbs should be 6' long or less and please bundle all twigs for easy pick up.

Remember, no animal waste or trash is to be included in these bags. Please place the bags and debris in the end of your driveway and not in the street or in the range of your sprinklers.



Village of Caledonia

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www.villageofcaledonia.org

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

A friendly, growing community

Caledonia Spring Clean up

Saturday - April 25, 2009 7:30 – 3:00

Imagine your yard or garage clutter free... Residents of Caledonia, both Village & Township, are encouraged to participate in this event. For a nominal charge of 5.00 per vehicle (car, truck, or trailer only) 10.00 vehicle & trailer, you can unload it all. The actual cost at the landfill is 25.00 per vehicle, so this is a great deal. Here comes the fine print... No more 5 yards per address and additional charges may apply for specific items (see below), excess or extremely heavy loads such as shingles or large remodel projects. You must show your driver's license to prove residency.

Household Hazardous Waste must be separated from the rest "Unacceptable Hazardous Waste": weed killer, fertilizer, bug poison, charcoal lighter fluid, pool chemicals, deck cleaner & sealer, oil based paint & stains, wood preservative, cleaning products, metal and wood polish, paint thinner, glue, gasoline, fuel additives, windshield washer fluid, fluorescent light bulbs, mercury thermometers & thermostats, batteries, fire extinguishers, aerosol cans, fireworks, latex paints, medical waste, pharmaceuticals, ammunition, propane tanks.

Waste will be separated into the following categories:

1. Metal
2. Appliances I.E. refrigerators, freezers, washers/dryers, and stoves.
3. Tires \$10.00 ea. "not on rims".
4. Yard Waste - nothing larger than 4" in diameter. Bags must be dumped
5. Electronics - "anything with a battery or a power cord"
All TV's will be \$12.00 each.
6. Trash - Accepted Materials: doors, windows, wood, carpet, padding, insulation, household trash, paper, cardboard, ceramic tile, tubs, sinks, faucets, furniture, sheet rock, paneling, wiring, conduit, glass, wood, tile, and clothing, etc.
7. Motor oil, hydraulic fluid, transmission fluid, and antifreeze. No Gas.



You can find answers to your questions about what can be disposed of at www.accesskent.com/wasteguide. Use the *select a topic* or *search* windows for specific items or call Kent County Department of Public Works -336-2570

Come to the Football Stadium parking lot, Saturday, April 24, from 7:30 & 3:00.

