

VILLAGE NEWS

Village of Caledonia

April 2007



MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Summer is fast approaching and before you know it the construction season will be upon us. The Village will be having some construction woes of our own this year, but it is very exciting to envision the final results.

We will be doing a total reconstruction of Main Street from Kinsey Street east to Chemical Bank. This time we will be installing new storm and sanitary lines along with water, and a Streetscape plan for our Downtown area. The construction will start immediately after our Independence Day Celebration and we are asking all of our residents to please be patient with the upheaval we will be experiencing. It will be messy for awhile, but the end result will be worth everyone's efforts. We will have some detours but one lane will be open every evening for residents to get back and forth from their homes.

During construction the Main Street businesses will still be open to serve all the merchants needs. Please be sure to please visit the businesses during the construction time.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call me. 891-9384

Sandy Ayers, Manager



Village Officials

President:

Scott Williamson

Trustees:

Dan Erskine

Glenn Gilbert

Karen Hahn

Daniel Inman

Terry Mulvihill

Michael Maviglia

Village Manager/Clerk:

Sandy Ayers

Treasurer:

Jill Harrison

Administrative Assistant:

Lisa Segard

Utilities Superintendent:

Buff Rodgers

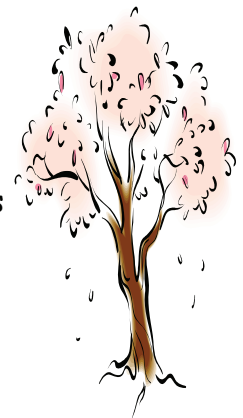
DPW Manager:

Roger Loring

State of Michigan—Department of State—Press Release

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Seven Michigan counties to benefit from more than \$3.6 million in Federal Transportation Enhancement grants. Kent County—The Village of Caledonia will enhance the downtown business district on Main Street where it connects with the downtown to M-37. The streetscape project includes decorative colored sidewalks, street tree and perennial plantings, and decorative lighting. The project budget is \$367,950, including \$294,360 in federal funds and \$73,590 in matching funds from Caledonia.




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, 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. 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 Cherry Valley, and portions of Main Street. Please keep our community attractive and uncluttered by eliminating these from your store fronts. Lack of compliance could result in fines.

Building Permits—The hows & 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. Copies of 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 7th
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 kites, jump ropes, silly putty and bubbles! 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 again will lend their boundless energy to hide them. Mark your calendar and join the fun in Caledonia Lakeside Park. !

April, May, & June Events.

April 7	Easter Egg Hunt 11AM
April 9	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
May 8	School Board Election – REMEMBER TO VOTE!
May 13	Mother's Day
May 14	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
May 28	Memorial Day Village Office Closed
June 11	Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM
June 14	Flag Day
June 17	Father's Day
June 30	Celebration in the Park

Caledonia Community Cable Corporation

Programs, Volunteers, & Event Information Wanted.

640 Emmons - P.O Box 288

891-9330



Spring Plant Exchange On Saturday, May 20,

we will hold our Spring Plant Exchange in the parking lot of the Village & Township Hall, 250 S. Maple from 9:00 – 11:00AM. Please put your offerings in containers or plastic bags marked with their name and color. Contact Lisa at 891-9384 with questions. Come join the Fun!!!



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 countries fallen heroes.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The annual Fourth of July Celebration is our biggest community event. It takes many willing hands to make it come together. Volunteers are needed to help: Set up & clean up the park, Setting up/Managing the entertainment stage, Parade Organizing, Headquarters Tent, and Games Committees. Fund Raising Food Booths from non-profit community groups are always welcome. Volunteers, Float or Vendor participation questions, should contact Terry Mulvihill 891-9974 or E-mail Address: mulvihillt@sbcglobal.net

The 2007 Celebration is on Saturday, June 30th. Plans are being made for the second annual Kilt Klassic 5K run to begin at 8:30 AM starting from the Stadium parking lot. The Parade starts at 10:30am; park activities, including food and entertainment begins at noon. Fireworks will start at dusk. They can be seen from the D&W/Caledonia Village Centre parking lot & Kraft Meadows Middle School.



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.



Village of Caledonia

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www.villageofcaledonia.org

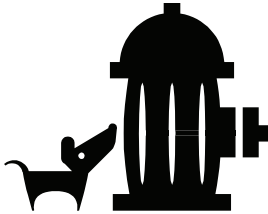
Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

A friendly, growing community



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) 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." (That does not mean drop it down the storm drain!!!) 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.