

Vol. 1, Issue 1 • Spring/Summer 2003

SOUTHFIELD

Premier Issue

living

SOUTHFIELD
Spring Cleanup

THE NEW
Southfield Public Library

PARKS & RECREATION
Spring/Summer Programs

Southfield
the center of it all™

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Southfield Living is published for all Southfield residents and businesses by the City's Community Relations and Parks & Recreation Departments. Please send your comments and suggestions for the City newsletter portion to: The Editor, *Southfield Living*, Community Relations Department, City of Southfield, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, MI 48037-2055, or contact our editor at: m_manion@cityofsouthfield.com. The Parks & Recreation Activities editor may be reached at s_kaiser@cityofsouthfield.com

The City of Southfield's intent is to operate its programs and services, so when viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with a disability. To ensure equally-effective communication, upon request, the City will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as sign language interpreters, Braille-translated material, large-print documents, etc. Advance notice is required. To make arrangements, contact the City Clerk's Office at 248/354-9380 (voice) or 248/354-4831 (TDD).



On the Horizon

by Donald J. Gross, City Administrator

Welcome to the first edition of *Southfield Living*. This is a combined publication of *The Southfielder* and the Parks & Recreation quarterly program brochure. This consolidated publication has been prepared to save tax dollars and to provide you with a single place to get information about the City of Southfield. I hope you like the new format.

The City of Southfield will reach a significant milestone this spring with the celebration of our 45th birthday on April 28. The City has gone from a booming suburb to a maturing urban center during the past 45 years. This transition has presented some new challenges as well as some exciting new opportunities. The City of Southfield continues to prosper, although our growth and development has always been tempered with a sense of responsibility and commitment to the community.

The Downtown Development Authority, created in 1988, continues to improve the economic vitality of the area surrounding Providence Hospital and Northland Center. The area, known as the Cornerstone District, is also home to the recently refurbished Millennium Theatre. The theatre is part of the burgeoning entertainment and recreational offerings

that the City has been working to attract to the community. Several new restaurants and retail stores have also opened within the past several months, giving residents more dining and shopping options here in Southfield.

The new Southfield Public Library is nearing completion and will celebrate its grand opening on Sunday, June 15. Every resident is encouraged to attend this historic occasion to get a firsthand look at the impressive facility and resources available. Check this issue of *Southfield Living* for more information about the new library and grand opening celebration.

While Southfield has a strong economic base, the City, much like the rest of the county, state and country, has been adversely impacted by the current economic environment. However, the sound management philosophy Southfield has embraced through the years has enabled the City to establish a fund balance to help ease the strains of a slow economy. Despite budget constraints, our number one priority is always to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community. During the next year, the City will be examining the “3 P’s” - *Programs, Process and People*. Every program and service will be carefully examined to ensure that your tax dollars are

well spent. Every process will also be examined and addressed to ensure that the health, safety and welfare of the community remains our top priority. And lastly, the people who comprise the workforce here at the City will also be examined. We anticipate the need to reduce the workforce, however, it is essential that key City services and programs remain intact.

It is during these most difficult times that one’s sense of “community” often becomes even more important. The current state of the economy and the world may at times seem dire, however, we can all find solace in our families and in our community. In difficult times, it is important that we all do a little more to help our neighbors, improve our homes and neighborhoods, and become active and involved in our community. This spring and summer, I encourage every Southfield resident to take advantage of the many programs and services available to the community which can be found in this new publication of *Southfield Living*. Be sure to take advantage of the new library and the many wonderful resources available there. Refer to this issue of *Southfield Living* for more information on the Spring Clean Up program as well as other opportunities for home and community improvement. The “curb appeal” of the City should continue to be a top priority for every Southfield resident and neighborhood association. I encourage everyone to become actively involved in their neighborhood and community now and *On the Horizon...*

Southfield Community-wide Red Cross Blood/Marrow Drive

The City of Southfield and the American Red Cross will sponsor a community-wide blood/marrow drive on March 25 and March 26. The need for blood and marrow donations is greater than ever and everyone who is able to donate is strongly encouraged to do so. The drive will take place in three convenient locations throughout the city as follows:

Tuesday, March 25, 2003 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Southfield Pavilion - 26000 Evergreen Road at 10 1/2 Mile Road

Wednesday, March 26, 2003 from 1 - 7 p.m.

Howard Johnson (formerly the Ambassador) Hotel - 16400 J.L. Hudson Drive

Beech Woods Recreation Center - 22200 Beech Road



“America’s blood banks are currently facing a critical shortage of blood. Replenishing our supply of this life-giving resource is an urgent national priority,” said U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson. “Donating blood is a simple, safe, life-saving and selfless gift that millions of Americans can give. Please make an appointment today to give the gift of life and alleviate critical shortages to our blood supply.”

In order to donate participants must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. There is no upper age limit. Light refreshments will be available. Appointments are encouraged and may be made by calling Southfield Community Relations at (248) 354-4854, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For general questions regarding blood/marrow donations or procedures, call the American Red Cross at (313) 494-2779.

It's Spring Clean Up Time in Southfield

S

pring has sprung! It's time to clean, paint and plant throughout Southfield.

While strolling through the community, you will notice the beautifully maintained lawns and landscapes in our neighborhoods, along residential streets and down the main roads.

Everyone contributes to keeping Southfield beautiful. It is through the commitment, pride and effort of residents, the business community and public facilities that we maintain our homes, commercial buildings and property.

This year's residential Spring Clean Up will be held on five consecutive Saturdays beginning on April 26 (see the map at right for schedule).

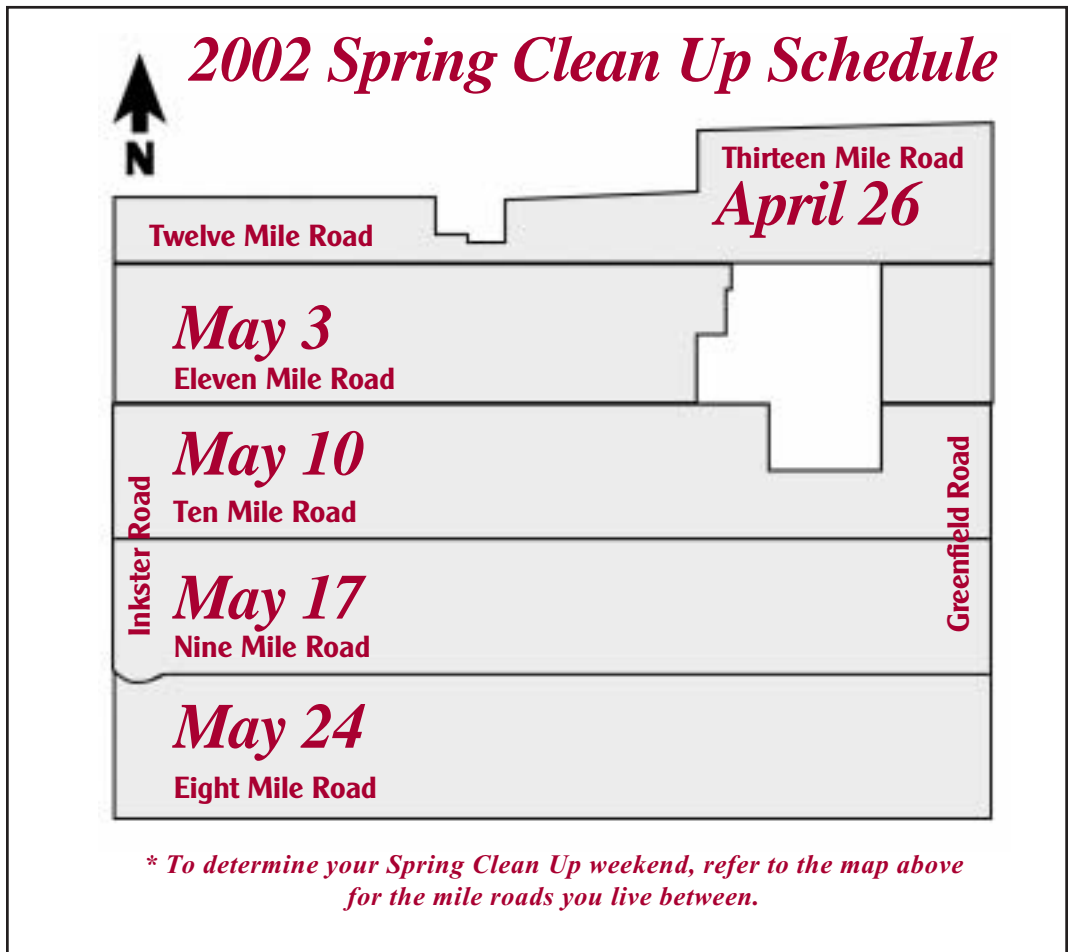
Homeowners and renters are encouraged to discard unwanted items from their attics, basements, garages, yards, and toolsheds.

Pick up crews only come through a neighborhood once, so make sure your trash is out on time. All items for pick up must be placed at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on the homeowner's designated day. Residents have the option to place trash on the curb after 6 p.m. on Friday evening if Saturday morning is not feasible.

Household hazardous waste materials are not accepted during the Spring Clean Up pick up, however, these items will be accepted at Household Hazardous Waste Day, May 17

Concrete (two cubic yards maximum) is accepted, but only if it is generated by the resident and is not a result of contract work.

Branches and bushes placed at the curb will be removed by workers with brush chippers. Remember to place them with their cut ends to the curb.



We ask you to be patient; depending upon the amount of branches at the curb, it may take longer than your designated day to take care of them. To preserve the community's natural beauty, a City ordinance forbids cutting down trees until the Planning Department has checked them first - a permit may be required! Contact the Planning Department at 248/354-9540 before considering tree removal.

Homeowners are encouraged to not save their spring cleaning items just for Spring Clean Up weekends, since most items can be placed at the curb during regular weekly trash collection. Spring Clean Up provides a once-a-year opportunity to discard large volumes of unwanted items.

If you're not sure where to start, try this checklist to help you with Spring Clean Up projects:

- ___ Clean common areas and entranceways, tidy plantings and add flowers
- ___ Remove and replace old shrubs
- ___ Clear debris from yards
- ___ Maintain subdivision islands and berms
- ___ Clear culverts, storm drains and ditch lines
- ___ Replace broken and falling gutters
- ___ Improve landscaping around homes and businesses
- ___ Keep sidewalks clear of debris
- ___ Keep lawns mowed and pick up dead leaves (or use as mulch around shrubs)
- ___ Renovate the outside of buildings
- ___ Spruce up signs
- ___ Paint homes and businesses

The New Southfield Public Library: *Yours to Explore*

The new Southfield Public Library is nearing completion and will soon be ready to open its doors to the public. *Southfield Living* spoke with City Librarian Douglas Zyskowski to learn more about the new library and what it has to offer residents.

Southfield Living: *When is the new Southfield Public Library scheduled to open?*

Zyskowski: The grand opening dedication ceremony for the new Library is scheduled for Sunday, June 15 from 1 - 5 p.m. The dedication is open to the entire community and everyone is encouraged to attend this historic occasion.

Southfield Living: *What are some of the activities planned for the grand opening?*

Zyskowski: The event will feature live entertainment from both the Southfield and Southfield-Lathrup High School Madrigals as well as local singers and musicians Buddy Budson, Ursula Walker, Oneta Sanders and Todd Richardson. The dedication ceremony will also feature a unique group ribbon cutting, refreshments, giveaways and guided tours conducted by library staff.

Southfield Living: *What are some of the unique or unusual features the new library will offer?*

Zyskowski: The new library is filled with a wide variety of interesting and engaging areas and points of interest around every corner. There are three outdoor terraces: "The Fountain Terrace" by the Library Café; the "Imaginarium Garden" near the childrens' Worlds of Wonder; and "The Observation Deck" on the second floor.



The new Southfield Public Library

The new library will also feature a fireplace on all three floors, each set-up as a unique lounge area perfectly suited for reading and relaxation.

Another very unique feature of the new library will be the library café. Patrons can take a break from their day and go to the convenient library café for a cup of coffee or a light snack. The café will offer residents a refreshing roster of beverages and a scrumptious selection of snacks and sandwiches. The café is the perfect place for a light snack, a healthy lunch, or just a quick bagel or cookie.

The new library will also offer Southfield residents with a very unique Southfield History Room on the third floor. The history room will contain a variety of materials relating to Southfield past and present. Residents will be able to learn more about their community, the history of Southfield, its founders and much more.

Southfield Living: *What new programs or services will be offered at the new library?*

Zyskowski: Along with the new facility, patrons can also expect to find several new programs and services designed with patron convenience in mind. Perhaps one of the most innovative and convenient new services will be the drive-through book return/service window. With this service a patron may call in and ask for materials to be set aside if they are available. Patrons may then simply drive through the pick-up window and receive the book or other material without ever leaving their car. Residents may also return materials in this fashion.

Another exciting aspect of the new library is the emphasis placed upon technology as it relates to the access and retrieval of information. There will

(Continued on next page)

(Library - Cont. from page 5)

be over 250 computers in the new library all connected to the library's network, giving users access to both the internet and the library card catalog. Wireless access will also be available for laptop users in addition to over 1000 data drops, most of which will provide access to voice, video and data through the library's network. There will also be two computer training labs which will be used for hands-on training on the use of computers and various software.

Another very useful new technological feature will be satellite access to programs in a remote area. This satellite access will allow an individual computer user or an entire audience in the auditorium to view a remote program through a satellite uplink. This could include a network connectivity seminar provided by the Microsoft Corporation or a social policy lecture at Harvard University.

Southfield Living: *What types of special children's features or materials will be available in the new library?*

Zyskowski: The new Southfield Public Library was designed with children and young people in mind. The children's area is labeled *Worlds of Wonder* because it symbolizes the library's fundamental goal to cultivate an interest in reading and to encourage a sense of discovery and imagination among youth. The Worlds of Wonder will feature a butterfly bench, a 20-foot high sculpture of books and an impressive selection of quality children's materials. The area will also have an impressive Space Station where stories will be read; a Reader's Treehouse where children can climb in and read in an unusual and interesting environment; and a Storybook Castle which will be made entirely out of books. The castle will also include a Reading Throne made out of books which will be a special place where a parent and child can read together. Perhaps one the most exciting features for children will be the

mysterious Sleeping Dragon. Children can go into the Dragon's Den where they will find the dragon fast asleep. When a child begins to read to the dragon, it will slowly begin to wake up. As the child continues reading, the dragon eventually begins to move and to flutter its eyes much to the child's delight.

Southfield Living: *Will the new library operate under the same hours as the old library? Will the same guidelines apply regarding circulation policies, due dates, late fees, etc.?*

Zyskowski: Yes. The hours of operation and general policies and procedures of the library will remain the same as before.

Southfield Living: *Are their general public meeting rooms available for groups to utilize? Are their any fees involved?*

Zyskowski: Yes, there are a number of meeting facilities designed to meet the needs of most patrons. There is an auditorium which will hold approximately 170 people. There will also be a general meeting room which can hold up to 200 people. A small fee is charged for these facilities. In addition, there are several small group meeting rooms as well as 16 group study rooms that are available at no charge. Reservations are required and accepted based upon availability.

Southfield Living: *How will Southfield's new state-of-the-art library compare with other communities the size of Southfield?*

Zyskowski: We envision that the new Southfield Public Library will become one of the foremost libraries in the country for a community this size. We feel that the stunning architecture and the varied and unique programs, features and services that are offered are totally unique and innovative. We anticipate the new library will receive

several local and state awards for its progressive architecture and design. Further, we believe that the new library will convey a very positive message about Southfield to both residents and non-residents alike. The new library will convey the importance that Southfield places on learning, literacy and education in our community.

Southfield Living: *In what ways might residents become more actively involved in the new library and its programs or services? What volunteer opportunities exist?*

Zyskowski: There are several ways in which every resident might become more actively involved in the new library. First and foremost, I would encourage every Southfield resident to attend the grand opening celebration on Sunday, June 15. Secondly, I would encourage every resident to become an active user of the new library. There are wonderful materials and resources that will benefit anyone who uses them. I would strongly encourage every resident to take advantage of the new Southfield Public Library and the many resources, programs and services that we offer.

Lastly, I would encourage residents to volunteer their time and energy by joining the *Southfield Friends of the Library*. The main function of this group is to support library programs and services. The Friends of the Library sponsor many events that would not otherwise be possible without their support. Programs such as the Battle of the Books, the Friends Film Series, the Book Sales, the Humanities Series, and several other major events and programs are funded and coordinated by this group. The Friends of the Library are the very instrumental and indispensable volunteer arm of the library. I would encourage every resident to consider becoming involved with this wonderful group.

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***SOUTHFIELD CITY PHONE NUMBERS
WILL SOON BE CHANGING. WATCH
YOUR MAIL FOR A COMPLETE
LISTING OF NEW CITY TELEPHONE
NUMBERS TO ARRIVE SHORTLY.***

Household Hazardous Waste Day — May 17

Household Hazardous Waste Day is an annual day devoted to discarding household hazardous waste materials. The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) continues to coordinate these events. This year, Saturday, May 17 has been designated Hazardous Waste Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the RRRASOC center, located at 20000 W. 8 Mile Road. The program is sponsored by the City of Southfield with services provided by Clean Harbors.

Southfield residents may also take advantage of additional Household Hazardous Waste Days in the following RRRASOC communities:

Wixom on Saturday, April 12 at Wixom Dept. of Public Works, 2041 Charms Road, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Farmington on Saturday, May 10 at the Castick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lyon Township on Saturday, June 7 at Lyon Township Park, 58000 Grand River, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Novi on Saturday, September 20 at Novi City Hall, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Please limit your waste to 10 gallons. Please be prepared to show proof of residency; Hazardous Waste Materials from businesses will not be accepted.

Items not accepted include large quantities of unknown materials, radioactive waste, including smoke detectors, explosives, unstable wastes,

pressurized fire extinguishers, unknown gas cylinders, and substances regulated by the Drug Enforcement Agency. If an item is judged unacceptable, it will be repackaged if necessary, so that the resident can work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to dispose of it properly.

The following items **ARE ACCEPTED** on Household Hazardous Waste Days:

Household

Bug Sprays, Floor Care Products, Furniture Polish, Metal Polish with Solvent, Expired Medicine, Nail Polish, Drain Openers and Cleaners, Computer Equipment

Garden

Fungicides, Herbicides, Insecticides, Pesticides

Garage

Automatic Transmission Fluid, Auto Batteries or Battery Acid, Brake Fluid, Car Wax with Solvent, Diesel Fuel, Fuel Oil, Gasoline, Kerosene, Metal Polish with Solvent, Motor Oils, Other Oils, Antifreeze

Workshop

Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Cutting Oil, Glue (Solvent Based), Oil Based Paint, Automobile Paint, Paint Thinner, Paint Stripper, Primer, Turpentine, Varnish, Wood Preservatives

For more information, call Southfield Public Works Department at 248/827-0610 or RRRASOC at 248/208-2270.

(Library - Cont. from page 6)

Southfield Living: *What do you see in the future for the new Southfield Public Library?*

Zyskowski: The mission of the Southfield Public Library is to encourage reading and to provide public access to information. The new library will provide us with a better environment and tools to accomplish this mission. In the future, we envision a much greater use of the new library by all segments of the community of both resources and meeting room facilities. We also envision the library as becoming a true community center where everyone can find a comfortable place to read, study or access information.

The Library Board was very conscious of the role technology now plays in the access of information and we envision the use of technology to be ever-increasing. The new library will provide residents with the easiest and most expansive access to information through technology of any public library in Michigan. However, books and reading-related programs, services and activities will remain our primary function.

Through the *Southfield Reads!* program we see just how important reading and literacy are to the entire community. We believe the new library will encourage all residents to become more interested and involved in reading and literacy. The library will provide the community with a world-class facility that will encourage reading and a lifelong love of books.

The new library was conceived as a place of learning that encourages exploration and discovery. The exterior design shows a different view of the library wherever one stands around the perimeter of the building. It continues to change, evolve and create interest around every corner. The entry tower was conceived as a beacon of knowledge that the library provides. This beacon will draw people to the new library, the municipal complex and the great City of Southfield for years to come.

City Clerk's News

Nancy L.M. Banks, City Clerk

Southfield City Clerk's Office Accepts Passport Applications

On January 6, 2003, the Southfield City Clerk's Office became a Passport Acceptance Facility, authorized by the U.S. Department of State to accept passport applications as an added service to the community. Southfield residents and visitors alike who plan to travel outside of the United States may visit the City Clerk's Office to apply for a U. S. passport.

Individuals who wish to apply for a passport must present original documentation of citizenship such as a previous U.S. Passport, Certified Birth Certificate, Naturalization Certificate, Certificate of Citizenship or Report of Birth Abroad. Proof of identification is also required, such as a valid Driver's License, State Identification Card, a previous U.S. Passport, Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate, or official Military Identification. Two recent (2 inch by 2 inch size) photographs of good likeness (full face), on a white or off-white background are also required.

Application fees are \$55 for adults 16 years of age and older; \$40 for minor applicants 15 years of age and younger. A processing fee of \$30 is also required. Routine applications take approximately six weeks to process; applicants with confirmed travel arrangements may expedite their applications within seven to ten business days for an additional \$100.

For more information, contact the Southfield City Clerk's Office at (248) 354-9380.

City Election 2003

Southfield voters will go to the polls on three occasions in 2003, for a *City School Election on June 9, 2003*; *City Primary Election on Tuesday, September 9, 2003*; and for the

City General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2003. In addition to local charter amendments on the ballot, positions to be elected in 2003 include four (4) seats for City Council (regular terms) and one (1) seat for City Council (unexpired term). The top three Council candidates who receive the most votes will win a seat for a four-year term. The fourth-place candidate will win a Council seat for a two-year term. The candidate with the most votes for the unexpired term will serve until November, 2005, fulfilling the unexpired term of former Councilman Paul Condino. The last day to file petitions for the City elections is June 17, 2003.

Garage Sale Permits

Spring marks the beginning of the garage sale season, wherein Southfield residents may hold a garage sale once every six months. Residents may obtain their garage sale permits from the City Clerk's Office. The cost of the permit includes either 1 sign or 2 for a small fee. These permits are valid for five consecutive days, issued at least six months apart, and may not be apportioned to run over two weekend periods.

Items for sale must be sold between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Garage sale signs can be placed on private property with the permission of the property owner. Garage sale signs cannot be placed in any public "right-of-way", generally described as an area where street signs, traffic signs, fire hydrants and utility poles are located, and those areas that span from sidewalks to the roadway surface. Any garage sale signs located in the public right-of-way will be removed by the City and discarded.

For more information on obtaining a garage sale permit, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 354-9380.

Volunteer Day 2003

Plan to be a part of Volunteer Day 2003 and make a difference in our community.

Volunteers are needed to clean, rake, plant and prune throughout Southfield on *Saturday, April 12 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.*

Work will take place at Southfield-Lathrup High School, Bussey Center for Early Childhood Education, McIntyre School and Inglenook Park.

Workers are asked to bring rakes and wheelbarrows (if possible). Other tools will be provided as well as gloves, a continental breakfast and a free t-shirt.

All volunteers should report to Southfield-Lathrup High School on April 12 to check in and confirm work assignment.

To volunteer, call Volunteer Impact at (248) 559-4950 ext. 3. *Early registration is appreciated!*

For additional information on National Volunteer Day, call Kenson Siver, Southfield Public Schools Information Director, at (248) 372-2567. To sign on as an event sponsor, contact Joyce Silagy at (248) 746-8554.

33rd Annual Rouge River Clean Up

Share in the commitment to maintain a clean water system by volunteering for the Rouge River Clean Up on Saturday, June 7 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Adults, teenagers, teachers, students, naturalists, contractors and local businesses have an opportunity to improve the environment.

Registration is at Beech Woods Recreation Center, just south of Nine Mile Road on Beech Road. For more information, call 248/354-5344.