

Volume 11, Issue 1 • Spring/Summer 2013

SOUTHFIELD

The Official City of Southfield Newsletter & Activities Guide

Living



**Take the Southfield
Safe Streets Pledge**

Water Quality Report

**P&R Spring/Summer
Activities Guide**

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the center of it all™

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Southfield Living is published biannually for all Southfield residents and businesses by the City's Community Relations and Parks & Recreation Departments. Please send your comments or 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 via e-mail at: mmanion@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 248/796-5150.

Southfield Living Editor: Michael Manion | P&R Activities Guide Editor: Stephanie Kaiser

COVER PHOTO: Aerial shot of the beautiful Southfield skyline | PHOTOGRAPHED BY DALE FISHER



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City of Southfield launches Southfield Safe Streets Pledge to curb distracted driving

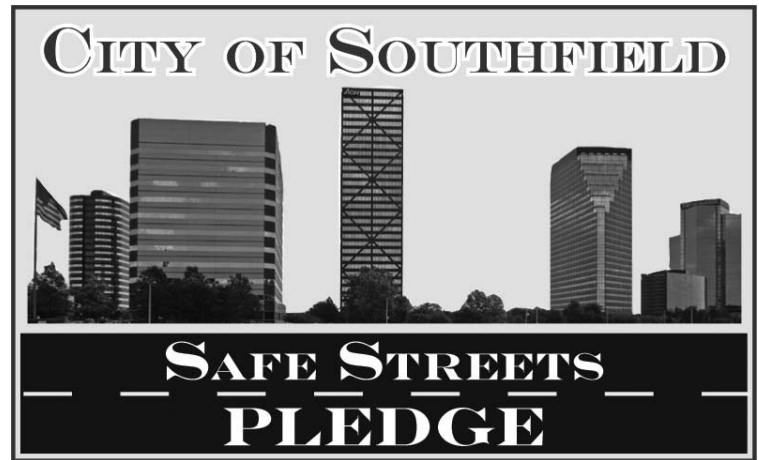
The City of Southfield Police and Fire Departments have launched the Southfield Safe Streets Pledge, a new, proactive approach to public safety designed to improve upon the traditional concept of responding to 911 calls. The Southfield Safe Streets Pledge will redistribute public safety resources and use Proactive and Preventative Policing, Police-Initiated Activity and collaboration with the community to:

- Focus on locations with higher numbers of traffic accidents;
- Focus on distracted drivers;
- Focus on people that are texting while driving;
- Focus on drivers that disobey stop signs and traffic signals; and
- Focus on speeders in residential neighborhoods and near schools.

Southfield Police Chief Eric Hawkins states that Southfield Safe Streets Pledge is a part of the department's overall community policing efforts which includes:

- Operation GOT M – This program encourages residents to contact the police department with complaints relating to three specific issues: traffic, loud music and littering. If any of these three violations are observed, residents may call a non-emergency line at (248) 796-GOT M (4686) and leave a voicemail message with any information they can provide.
- Crime Prevention Bureau – The primary goal of the crime prevention bureau is to educate the community about security awareness.
- Citizen Information Network – An information sharing messaging system that citizens can sign up for at www.citizenobserver.com to receive e-mail messages regarding crime alerts and crime reports.
- School Liaison Officer Program – The liaison officer interacts on a daily basis with faculty, staff and students in a casual, non-threatening school environment. School liaison officers not only enforce laws, but also become counselors, confidants and friends of students.
- Chaplain Program - The police chaplains represent the city of Southfield at many ceremonies and help citizens during times of need and distress.
- Citizen and Youth Police Academies – The police department provides information and demonstrations on crime scene processing, patrol operations, crime prevention and other topics to educate residents and students who then become active participants with the department to keep Southfield safe.

When citizens enter the City of Southfield borders, they can be rest assured that they will be safe and secure. The Southfield Police and Fire Departments are among the best in the nation, and committed to individual's personal safety and well-being



while they are in the City. Southfield public safety professionals pledge to keep Southfield streets safe – and in turn ask citizens to pledge to commit to driving cautiously, obeying all posted signs, laws and never driving while distracted by cell phone calls or texting.

Residents and visitors alike can take comfort in the fact that the average response time to emergencies in Southfield is among the lowest in the nation. Southfield city leaders take great pride in the fact that Southfield is a safe, clean and progressive community that is welcoming to everyone. The City is committed to providing only the highest quality services to its residents and visitors, and maintaining a safe and secure community is a top priority. Numerous national studies have shown that distracted drivers are a leading cause of accidents and other problems on the road, and the city of Southfield takes a zero-tolerance policy towards such violations. To that end, the city of Southfield has launched the Southfield Safe Streets Pledge to crack down on distracted and reckless drivers in an ongoing effort to keep Southfield streets safe and secure for everyone.

Residents and visitors alike are encouraged to take the Southfield Safe Streets Pledge and commit to do their part to keep our streets and community safe. Log on to www.cityofsouthfield.com and follow the links to take the pledge today and to learn more about safe driving techniques, laws and statistics related to distracted driving, vehicular accidents and other important traffic and personal safety information.

For more information about the Southfield Safe Streets Pledge or other public safety programs, contact the Southfield Police Department at (248) 796-5435 or the Southfield Fire Department at (248) 796-5650.

**TAKE THE SOUTHFIELD SAFE STREETS PLEDGE
ONLINE OR RETURN THE FORM ON PAGE 8**



City of Southfield appoints new Police and Fire Chiefs

New chiefs have over 55 years of combined experience

The Southfield City Council unanimously approved the appointments of Eric Hawkins as the new Police Chief and Keith Rowley as the new Fire Chief at a recent City Council meeting.

“Together, these new chiefs represent 55 years of combined experience in protecting and serving the public in the City of Southfield,” commented Mayor Brenda Lawrence. “They will make a great team and will carry on the high standards of the city of Southfield and the Southfield Police and Fire Departments.”

“These outstanding appointments reflect the City’s commitment to the safety and security of Southfield residents, businesses and all those who enter the City on any given day,” added Councilwoman Joan Seymour.



Chief Eric Hawkins joined the Southfield Police Department in 1990, starting as a Police Cadet and appointed as a sworn Police Officer in 1991. Since then, Chief Hawkins has continued to rise through the ranks of the department – serving in the role of Acting Chief since May of 2011. Throughout his career, Chief Hawkins has displayed exceptional

qualities while handling increasing levels of responsibility. His assignments have included: oversight of the department’s tactical unit; command of the department’s downtown sub-station, which involved coordination of all the police department’s community-related programs, including crime prevention, D.A.R.E., traffic, and school officers; and assignment as Patrol Division Coordinator, where he oversaw the research, introduction, and implementation of private security lock-up operations which saved the City of Southfield over \$400,000 annually. Most recently Chief Hawkins, a longtime Southfield resident, implemented initiatives designed to enhance police-community relations, including citizen and youth police academies.

Chief Hawkins earned a Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University, a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from Central Michigan University, and an Associate’s in Business Administration from Oakland



Community College. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Academy, Eastern Michigan University’s School of Police Staff and Command, the FBI Command Institute for Police Executives, and Central Michigan University’s Law Enforcement and School Liaison Program Institute.

“These appointments will serve the public well for years to come,” stated Councilman Sidney Lantz. “The former police and fire chiefs both retired after long and distinguished careers with the City.”

With fourteen months as Acting Fire Chief and over 33 years of experience in the fire service—the last 21 of which were in progressively-responsible supervisory positions—Chief Rowley is extremely familiar with the functions and requirements of the Fire Chief’s position. He has organized and managed numerous major programs and projects within the department, such as expanding the Technical Rescue program and assisting in set up of the Urban Search and Rescue Team. Under his leadership, fire department staff teamed with City Administration and the Department of Homeland Security to reconfigure the SAFER grant to better meet the needs of the City of Southfield. As a result,



Southfield Flower Day May 18

The City of Southfield will host the 11th annual Southfield Flower Day on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the front lawn of City Hall, 26000 Evergreen Road. The event is sponsored by the Mayor and City Council to promote curb appeal and the beautification of Southfield. Many varieties of flowers, plants and vegetables will be offered for sale from several local vendors.

For more information, call Southfield Community Relations at (248) 796-5130.

Basement Flooding Legal Notice

Any resident experiencing an overflow or sewage back up should contact the Water Department at (248) 796-4850. After hours, the message will advise you to call (248) 796-4899 or you can call the Police desk at (248) 796-5500 to be put in touch with the supervisor on call.

Under Public Act 222, any resident having experienced an overflow or back up of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, must file a written claim with the City within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have been discovered. Notice should be mailed to the Office of Management and Budget at the City of Southfield. Failure to provide the required notice to the City will limit your rights under the law. For more information, contact the Office of Management and Budget at (248) 796-5260. The source of the back up must be the City sewer. Problems caused by the property's plumbing are the homeowner's responsibility.

Southfield seeks nominations for 2013 Community Pride Awards

The City of Southfield will soon be accepting nominations for the 2013 Community Pride Awards, which recognizes Southfield residents that have gone the extra mile in their beautification efforts.

The program is coordinated by the City's Neighborhood & Information Center and the Southfield Parks & Garden Club to promote beautification efforts throughout the city. Residents are encouraged to nominate individual homeowners, neighborhoods, condominiums, apartments and even themselves. Public buildings such as schools, churches and synagogues may also be worthy of recognition, and residents are encouraged to nominate them as well. A team of judges will tour neighborhoods and select a list of winners in August. All winners will be honored by the mayor and city council prior to a council meeting in October.

Nomination forms are available at the City's Neighborhood & Information Center located inside City Hall at 26000 Evergreen Road, or they may be downloaded from the City's Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com. Pictures of properties are welcome and the condition of the entire property will be considered for judging. **All nominations must be submitted by 5 p.m. on July 15, 2013.** For more information, call the Neighborhood & Information Center at (248) 796-5140.



Southfield Volunteer Day

Volunteers are needed to clean, paint, rake, repair, plant and prune throughout Southfield on Saturday, April 27 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Work will take place this year on the campus of Vandenberg School (16100 Edwards Avenue) and nearby in Bedford Woods Park (Lathrup & Edwards Street) and Inglenook Park (12 Mile & Bermuda). Volunteers should report to Vandenberg World Cultures Academy, 16100 Edwards Avenue. Workers are asked to bring rakes, brooms and wheelbarrows (if possible). Other tools will be provided such as materials and gloves. Each participant will receive a free T-shirt, continental breakfast and snack. All volunteers should dress for the weather and work.

This is a great opportunity for service clubs seeking a spring project, high school students in need of community service credits, or anyone who wants to help improve their community.

Pre-registration is appreciated. Contact Ollie Colvard at (248) 746-7601 ext. 3 or e-mail at colvardom@southfield.k12.mi.us. For more information on Volunteer Day or to become a sponsor, e-mail Joyce Silagy at joycesilagy@wideopenwest.com or Council President Ken Siver at ksiver@cityofsouthfield.com.

43rd Annual Rouge River Clean Up

Share in the commitment to maintain a clean water system by volunteering for the annual Rouge River Clean Up on Saturday, June 1 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Adults, teenagers, teachers, students, naturalists, contractors and local businesses have an opportunity to improve the environment and everyone is encouraged to take part in this important initiative.

Registration is at Beech Woods Recreation Center, just south of Nine Mile Road on Beech Road. For more information, call (248) 796-4806.

CITY CLERK'S NEWS

Nancy L. M. Banks, City Clerk

2013 Election Information

City Primary Election – August 6, 2013
City General Election – November 5, 2013

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Offices and items to be elected this year are:

Mayor	Treasurer
Council (4 Seats)	Any Proposals
Clerk	

The last day to register to vote:

July 8 – for the City Primary
October 7 – for the City General Election

Michigan election law states that you must be registered to vote 30 days prior to an election. If you are not registered to vote in Southfield, please visit the City Clerk's Office or any Secretary of State branch office. Unsure of your precinct number or voting location, visit the City's Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com for more election information and the Voting Precinct Map and Guide to Voting Precincts.

Absent Voter Information

The City Clerk's Office maintains a "permanent" Absent Voter List. If you are eligible to request an Absent Voter Ballot and want to avoid waiting in long lines, you can also request to be placed on a permanent Absent Voter list. Simply complete the form below and return it to the City Clerk's Office. Prior to each

election, residents whose names are on the Permanent Absent Voter list will automatically receive an Application for an Absentee Ballot. If you choose to sign onto the permanent list, you can still vote in person at any given election simply by not returning the absentee application for processing.

To request an Absent Voter Ballot you must be:

- 60 years of age or older;
- Physically unable to attend the polls without assistance of another;
- Appointed a precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside;
- Expect to be absent from the community which you are registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day;
- Cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion;
- Cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

Any eligible registered voter not on our

Please cut at dashed line and return bottom portion in an envelope.

Mail To: NANCY L.M. BANKS, City Clerk
City of Southfield
26000 Evergreen
P.O. Box 2055
Southfield, MI 48037-2055

**Permanent Absent
Voter Form**

VOTER CONTACT INFORMATION	
Please complete the information below.	
Print Full Name	
Address	
Home Phone:	
Mobile Phone:	
E-Mail:	

Yes, Please add my name to your Permanent Absent Voter List. I understand that I will automatically receive an Absent Voter Ballot Application prior to each upcoming election. I further understand that if I choose to be on the permanent list, and I automatically receive an application for an absentee ballot, that I could still vote in person at the polls simply by not returning my absentee application for processing.

Signature of Absent Voter

_____ Date



Permanent Absent Voter List, and who wishes to receive an Absent Voter Ballot, may request an Application by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (248) 796-5150 or download a copy of the Application form from our web site. (Please be sure to sign and print your full name and address on the Application form).

Michigan law requires that a new Application be completed for each election for which an absentee ballot is needed. Absent Voter Applications resemble an oversized post card. Be sure to sign the card, check the reason why you are requesting an absentee ballot, fold it in half, attach postage stamp where indicated, and return it to the City Clerk's Office.

12th Annual Southfield Shred Day

Identity theft is ranked the No. 1 consumer fraud complaint. Identity theft occurs when someone has stolen a name, credit card, social security number, birth date, or other piece of personal information.

The City of Southfield, in partnership with Southfield Public Schools and Iron Mountain Records Management, Inc., will offer free consumer shredding of documents, the equivalent of 2 copy paper boxes on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., at the Southfield High School parking lot located at 24675 Lahser Road, at Ten Mile Road.

Consumers may bring personal documents such as tax returns, medical records, credit card statements, bank checks, and more to be securely destroyed by Iron Mountain's mobile shredding truck. A fee will be charged for three (3) or more boxes.

Garage Sale Permits

Spring marks the beginning of the garage sale season. Southfield residents may sell used personal property such as clothing, garden tools, toys or other second hand items customarily found in and about the home. The term garage sale also includes

reference to Basement Sale, Attic Sale, and Estate Sale.

The Southfield City Code allows residents to 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 is \$5 which also includes one (1) sign with wire stand. One additional sign may be purchased for an additional \$3 fee. These permits are valid for five (5) 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. VALID GARAGE SALE SIGNS FOR 2013 ARE GREEN. 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 the sidewalk 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) 796-5150.

Business Licenses and Permits

The City Clerk's office is responsible for issuing various types of licenses. Garage sale permits, taxicab licenses, vendor licenses, and certain business licenses to include but not limited to landscaping and snow removal, tree removal, ice cream trucks, etc. Those businesses required to be licensed to operate in the City of Southfield must have a current business license for each location. If you are opening a new business, buying an existing business, or transferring a business to your ownership, you must apply for a new business license.

Oakland County Clerk's Office is responsible for marriage licenses, assumed

names and corporate partnership filings; and notary public applications.

With the summer season around the corner, make sure that any company you contract with for landscape service, tree removal or trimming service has a valid City License.

Solicitor Permits

The spring and summer seasons bring an increase of solicitors in the residential areas. A solicitor is any person who goes door-to-door on private property for the purpose of offering or selling goods or services, or to request a contribution of funds for political, charitable, religious or other non-commercial purposes.

No person shall solicit within the City of Southfield without first obtaining a permit issued by the City Clerk's Office. Legitimate solicitors have been approved by the Police Department. Other than veterans or solicitors within three miles of their residence who solicit for educational, charitable, religious or youth organizations, all persons must first obtain a City permit. The City permit, complete with name, address and photo of the permittee, must be worn and visible while the individual is soliciting or peddling in the City.

Solicitation activities are permitted between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. It is unlawful for any person to conduct solicitation activities where the property owner or legal occupant has posted a sign bearing the words "No Solicitors," "No Solicitation," or words of a similar nature. Let's keep our city safe. Call the police department if you see someone soliciting in your area who is not licensed by the City of Southfield.

Surf the Web

Have you surfed the city's Web site recently? Visit www.cityofsouthfield.com for a wealth of information about city programs and services. Take a moment to view the City Clerk's pages for information and let us know what you think. Call or e-mail your suggestions to be considered for future updates.

NEW CHIEFS, *Continued from page 4*

the City and the Fire Department are now better positioned to maintain the high standards of commitment and care for the community. Chief Rowley, in conjunction with other department staff, also developed and implemented many new state-of-the-art training and firefighting techniques such as the use of Thermal Imaging technology, school bus emergency response, high angle rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and vehicle extrication.

Born and raised in the City of Southfield, Chief Rowley displays a high degree of pride and dedication to the community. Following completion of his undergraduate degree in early 2013, he will pursue a Master's Degree in Staff & Command/Emergency Management at Eastern Michigan University.



Sign up for Southfield's free electronic notification service

System provides instant e-mail or text updates to subscribers

The City of Southfield offers the community a convenient and cost-effective way to stay apprised of the latest City news and events through a free e-mail/text instant notification system.

The service is provided free-of-charge by Oakland County through GovDelivery, the world's leading provider of government-to-citizen communication solutions. Sign-up is free and easy right from the City's Web site. Simply log on to www.cityofsouthfield.com and enter your e-mail address in the field located in the upper right hand corner of the homepage. From here users will verify their e-mail address (and/or wireless information) and set their preferences. Registered users will then begin receiving updates as they are released via their preferred method. For more information, call Southfield Community Relations at (248) 796-5130.

Mayor Brenda Lawrence launches HAVEN Cell Phone Collection Campaign

Donated phones support prevention and treatment of domestic violence

Mayor Brenda Lawrence recently launched a Cell Phone Collection Campaign to support HAVEN, Oakland County's center for the prevention and treatment of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Campaign collects cell phones to be repurposed and setup as 911 emergency phones to help protect the people HAVEN serves. Wireless cellular or PCS phones are accepted regardless of their condition and all personal information is erased. Phones can be donated at several locations throughout the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen Road, including the main lobby in City Hall, the Parks & Recreation building lobby, and the Southfield Public Library lobby, 26300 Evergreen Road, during regular business hours. For more information, contact the Mayor's Office at (248) 796-5100.

TAKE THE SOUTHFIELD SAFE STREETS PLEDGE TODAY!

Residents and visitors alike are encouraged to take the Southfield Safe Streets Pledge and commit to do their part to keep our streets and community safe. Take the pledge today and commit to driving cautiously - the life you save could be your own! I pledge to obey all posted traffic signs and signals at all times - avoiding all cell phone use, texting, eating/drinking, intoxication and other distractions while driving.

Name: _____ Age: _____

E-mail: _____

Address (optional): _____

Phone (optional): _____



Mail completed pledge form back to: Southfield Police Dept., Attn: Lt. Nick Loussia, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, MI 48037-2055. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE PLEDGE TO COMMIT TO SAFE DRIVING!



Maintaining a green, healthy lawn may be easier than you think!

Does the grass look greener on the other side of the fence? If so, maybe you just need a few good lawn tips to learn how to get green grass that will be the envy of the neighborhood. It may seem simple: cut and water your lawn and it will grow green and healthy. But what do you do when a brown patch appears, or your grass is slowly being replaced with moss? And how do you keep your lawn looking its best whatever the season? Read on to find out how to deal with lawn problems and maintenance tips.

Knowing When to Mow

Mowing is essential for your lawn. Ideally, you should maintain a height of 3-4 inches to promote root growth and shade out weeds. **{By City Ordinance, lawn grass cannot exceed 8 inches in height.}** Be careful to not cut too short or the grass will become weak and be in danger of being invaded by weeds. Never remove more than one third of the length of the grass. Using a mulching lawn mower will not only make your lawn greener, it will also reduce the amount of raking and bagging you will have to do. Grass clippings have nutrients that will help maintain a green lawn provided they are not too thick. The good news is there are plenty of times you shouldn't mow your lawn: when it's wet; when it's too hot; or when it's frosty. The bad news is, during the growing season when it's warm and sunny but still moist, you may need to cut the lawn twice a week to keep it looking at its best.

Spring

Now's the time to do a lot of work on your lawn, as the grass begins to grow again. Consider a spring cleanup of dead flowerheads and other debris throughout your landscaping - **Yard Waste Collection begins on April 1.** Feed your grass with a commercial lawn feed after mowing every few weeks. Alternatively, you can

get long-lasting feed that you only need to apply once in four months. Deal with weeds in the spring. If you have small patches of weeds or moss, use selective weed killer that won't damage your lawn. If you have a widespread moss problem, you can buy weed and moss killer that also contains feed for the grass. If you have any resultant bare patches, cover it with a specialist mix that contains grass seed, grass feed and seeding soil for best results. You can even get coated grass seed that withstands the ravages of pet urine.

Summer

On average, lawns should be watered two to three times a week. Use a sprinkler that gives a slow, light watering rather than fast, hard waterings. Early morning just before sunrise is the best time of day to water your lawn, or at dusk if morning is not possible. During the day the grass needs to soak in energy from the sun so shouldn't be covered with water if you can help it.

If you have very compact soil, aerate it with a hollow tine aerator or a simple garden fork. Do this before watering to allow the moisture and feed to get down to the grass roots more easily.

Fall & Winter

Adjust the cutting height on your mower to cut the grass higher as it will be growing more slowly now. You can cut less frequently throughout fall and winter. Instead of mowing, you'll be raking away fallen leaves and other debris. **Remember that yard waste collection ends on your regularly scheduled trash pickup day through November 23.** If you want to feed it before winter, make sure you use a fall specific lawn feed. Don't feed the lawn over the winter, as this will encourage early growth that wouldn't withstand winter weather until the spring sunshine returns.

Free Wood Chips Available for Residents

Did you know that the City of Southfield offers free wood chips for residents? Southfield residents may take advantage of the City's free wood chips program year-round at the Southfield Municipal Complex located at 26000 Evergreen Road. The wood chips are located behind the baseball diamond located directly behind the Southfield Sports Arena. Residents may take up to five yards of wood chips completely free-of-charge while supplies last. Residents must provide their own equipment to load and transport wood chips. They are available year-round from dawn until dusk. Wood chips are provided to Southfield residents only — no commercial contractors or landscapers.

Advertise in the 2013 City of Southfield Calendar

Reach potential customers all year long with just one ad! More than 45,000 copies of the City of Southfield's award-winning calendar are mailed annually to every home, apartment and business in the City. Thousands more are included in information packets distributed throughout the year to prospective new residents and businesses. The calendar advertising insert is an excellent way to reach more than 71,000 Southfield residents and 9,000 businesses for one extraordinarily low price. The return on an investment in a calendar ad reaps dividends throughout the entire year — providing lasting visibility for your business.

Reserve your ad today—space is limited! Call Southfield Community Relations at (248) 796-5130 for more information.

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD**2012 CONSUMERS ANNUAL REPORT ON WATER QUALITY****ATTENTION: THIS IS AN IMPORTANT REPORT ON WATER QUALITY AND SAFETY**

The City of Southfield, The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority and the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) are proud of the fine drinking water they supply and are honored to provide this report to you. The 2011 Consumers Annual Report on Water Quality shows the sources of our water, lists the results of our tests, and contains important information about water and health. We will notify you immediately if there is ever any reason for concern about our water. We are pleased to show you how we have surpassed water quality standards as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

About the System

The City of Southfield purchases water from the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) at fourteen locations. SOCWA provides Detroit water through its member distribution systems to a population of 210,000 within a 56 square mile area. Current members are: Berkley, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township Clawson, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak, Southfield and Southfield Township.

Your source water comes from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, Clinton River, Detroit River, Rouge River, Ecorse River, in the U.S. and parts of the Thames River, Little River, Turkey Creek and Sydenham watersheds in Canada. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and the Michigan Public Health Institute performed a source water assessment in 2004 to determine the susceptibility of potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very low" to "very high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our Detroit River source water intakes were determined to be highly susceptible to potential contamination. However, all four Detroit water treatment plants that use source water from Detroit River have historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards.

DWSD has initiated source-water protection activities that include chemical containment, spill response, and a mercury reduction program. DWSD participates in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit discharge program and has an emergency response management plan. If you would

like to know more information about this report or a complete copy of this report please, contact your water department at (248) 796-4850.

How Do We Know the Water is Safe to Drink?

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department facilities operate twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The treatment process begins with disinfecting the source water with chlorine to kill harmful microorganisms that can cause illness. Next, a chemical called Alum is mixed with the water to remove the fine particles that make the water cloudy or turbid. Alum causes the particles to clump together and settle to the bottom. Fluoride is also added to protect our teeth from cavities and decay.

The water then flows through fine sand filters called beds. These filters remove even more particles and certain microorganisms that are resistant to chlorine. Finally, a small amount of phosphoric acid and chlorine are added to the treated water just before it leaves the treatment plant. The phosphoric acid helps control the lead that may dissolve in water from household plumbing systems. The chlorine keeps the water disinfected as it travels through water mains to reach your home.

In addition to a carefully controlled and monitored treatment process, the water is tested for a variety of substances before treatment, during various stages of treatment, and throughout the distribution system. Hundreds of samples are tested each week in certified laboratories by highly qualified and trained staff. Our water not only meets safety and health standards, but also ranks among the top 10 in the country for quality and value.

Additional Information

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Detected Contaminants Tables

These tables are based on tests conducted by DWSD in the year 2011 or the most recent testing done within the last five (5) calendar years. They conduct many tests throughout the year; however, only tests that show the presence of a contaminant are shown here.

Key to Detected Contaminants Table		
Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant level goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLDG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
ppb	Parts per billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts per million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
ND	Not Detected	
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
HAA5	Haloacetic acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, dichoroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total .
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromoochloromethane and bromoform. Compliance is based on total.
pCi/l	picocuries per liter	a measure of radioactivity
n/a	not applicable	

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.**

Northeast Water Treatment Plant 2012 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Inorganic Chemicals – Monitoring at Plant Finished Water Tap								
Fluoride	8/14/2012	ppm	4	4	0.76	n/a	no	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	8/14/2012	ppm	10	10	0.43	n/a	no	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	6/9/2008	ppm	2	2	0.01	n/a	no	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	6/9/2008	ppb	50	50	1.0	n/a	no	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Disinfection By-Products – Stage 1, 1st Quarter Monitoring in Distribution System								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Feb 2012	ppb	n/a	80	22.2	5.8	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Feb 2012	ppb	n/a	60	16.3	4.3	no	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfection By-Products – Stage 2, 2nd - 4th Quarters Monitoring in Distribution System								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2012	ppb	n/a	80	37	24.2	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2012	ppb	n/a	60	17	7	no	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfectant Residual – Monitoring in Distribution System								
Disinfectant (Total Chlorine Residual)	Jan-Dec 2012	ppm	MRDGL 4	MRDL 4	0.71	0.61-0.81	no	Water additive used to control microbes

2012 Turbidity – Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water Tap			
Highest Single Measurement Cannot exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.19 NTU	100%	no	Soil Runoff
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.			

2012 Microbiological Contaminants – Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System					
Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Number Detected	Violation Yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria > 5% of monthly samples.	0	no	Naturally present in the environment.
E.coli or Fecal Coliform Bacteria	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or E.coli positive.	0	no	Human waste and animal fecal waste.

2011 Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers' Tap								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 th Percentile Value*	Number of Samples Over AL	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2011	ppb	0	15	2.1ppb	1	no	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2011	ppm	1.3	1.3	105ppb	0	no	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
*The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL, additional requirements must be met.								

Regulated Contaminant	Treatment Technique	Running annual average	Monthly Ratio Range	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.				Erosion of natural deposits

2012 Special Monitoring

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	5.21	Erosion of natural deposits



Important Health Information

Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Southfield is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

People With Special Health Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791**.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Questions?

Local Distribution: City of Southfield, Public Works Administration
(248) 796-4850

Southeastern Oakland County Water Supply System – Water Authority offices: (248) 288-5150. Visit their Web site at www.socwa.org.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department – Water Quality Division at (313) 926-8128 or www.dwsd.org.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality – Drinking Water and Radiological Protection

Division – (586) 753-3755 or www.michigan.gov/deq.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791

Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at: www.epa.gov/drink

Other Monitoring

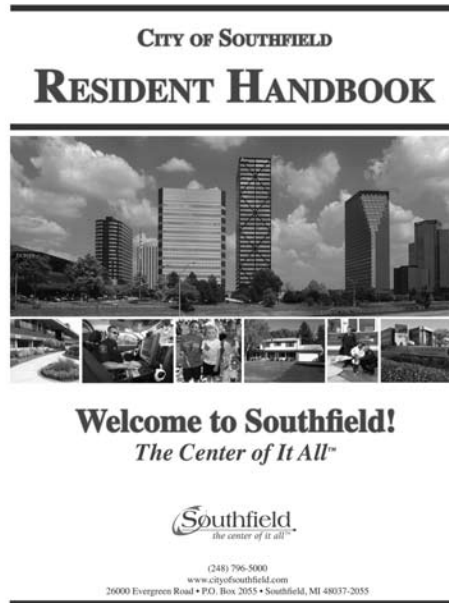
In addition to testing we are required to perform, our water system voluntarily tests for hundreds of additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our water is safe and of the highest quality. If you are interested in a more detailed report, contact the DWSD Water Quality Division at (313) 926-8128.

Updated City of Southfield Resident Handbook now available

An updated Southfield Resident Handbook is now available in both print edition at City Hall and online at www.cityofsouthfield.com.

Whether a long-time resident or new to the City – the revised Resident Handbook provides an overview of (almost) everything one needs to know about living in Southfield. The new handbook has been streamlined to offer the same detailed information about city codes, ordinances, regulations and tips in a clear, concise and easy-to-read format.

The Resident Handbook may be downloaded from the City's Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com under the 'Highlights' section on the homepage.



Residents may also pick up a print edition from the Neighborhood & Information Center located in City

Hall at 26000 Evergreen Road.

Every resident has a vested interest in maintaining property values by keeping Southfield clean and attractive. The City of Southfield encourages every resident to follow these guidelines to do their part to keep Southfield beautiful by maintaining their homes and neighborhoods. If residents observe a potential code or appearance issue, call the City's special hotline Eyes on Southfield at (248) 796-EYES (3937) 24-hours a day, seven-days a week to report it. Together, we can keep Southfield beautiful!

For more information, call the Community Relations Department at (248) 796-5130.

City of Southfield offers new online water bill payment option for residents and businesses

Service is safe, convenient and easy-to-use

The City of Southfield launched a convenient and cost-effective new service to allow online water bill payments through a secure Web site at <https://water.cityofsouthfield.com>.

Southfield's new online water bill payment service is the result of a collaborative effort between the City's Water, Treasurer's and Technology Services Department to provide residents and businesses with a safe and secure method of paying water bills online. The site is Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliant and meets all legal requirements for online credit card payments in order to mitigate the potential for credit card fraud. The site was first developed nearly two years ago – providing Southfield residents and businesses with instant access to

their accounts allowing them to check account balances, view transaction history, and examine usage information with ease. Registered users will now also have the ability to pay water bills online with payments posted to their accounts immediately.

To participate, simply log on to <https://water.cityofsouthfield.com> and click on the 'Utilities' button on the top left-hand side of the page. From here click on the 'New Users' button to create a new account and register for specific services. All users must read the City's Privacy and Refund Policy prior to using the service.

Residents and businesses are also encouraged to sign up for the City's Automatic Bill Payment Plan to have

water bill payments automatically deducted from any participating bank, savings and loan, or credit union account. The service is free, convenient and available to any city of Southfield water customer. To sign up, complete the enrollment form on the City's Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com or <https://water.cityofsouthfield.com> and return the form and a voided check to the Water and Sewer Department, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, MI 48037-2055.

For more information regarding online water bill payments or the Automatic Bill Payment Plan, contact the City's Water Department at (248) 796-4850 or visit www.cityofsouthfield.com.

What's Happening in Southfield?

Spring | Summer 2013

- April 1 -** Yard Waste Collection begins (on your regularly scheduled trash day through November 30)
Spring Break Camp (April 2-5), 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., P&R Building
- April 4 -** Mayor's "State of the City" Roundtable, 7 p.m., Marcotte Room
- April 20 -** Household Hazardous Waste Day, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., RRRASOC Center
- April 24 -** Mayor's "Public Safety" Roundtable, 7 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- April 27 -** 17th Annual Southfield Volunteer Day, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Stevenson Elementary School
12th Annual Southfield Shred Day, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Southfield High School parking lot
- May 4 -** 29th Annual Fishing Derby, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Rouge River (at Valley Woods Trail)
Southfield Youth Baseball Opening Day, Citywide
Tennis Free for All, 10 a.m., Civic Center Tennis Courts
- May 18 -** 11th Annual Southfield Flower Day, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., City Hall front lawn
- May 22 -** Mayor's "Code Enforcement" Roundtable, 7 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- May 24 -** Memorial Day Ceremony, 9 a.m., City Hall
- May 27 -** Memorial Day (observed), City Offices & Library closed; *Rubbish collection delayed one day all week*
- June 1 -** 43rd Annual Rouge River Clean Up, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Beech Woods Recreation Center
- June 3 -** Mayor's Walks begin (every Mon., Wed., & Fri. through July 26), 7 a.m., Inglenook Park
- June 13 -** Eat to the Beat Concert, 12 noon - 2 p.m., City Centre Plaza
- June 15 -** Southfield Sports Arena Pool opens (plus free swimming lesson day), 1 - 8 p.m., Civic Center
- June 17 -** Summer Day Camps begin - Call (248) 796-4620 for more information.
- June 26 -** Family Fun & Safety Night, 5:30 - 9:45 p.m. (Outdoor movie begins at 9 p.m.), City Hall front lawn
- June 27 -** Family Pool Party, 5:30 - 9 p.m., Sports Arena Pool
- July 2 -** Burgh Gazebo Concerts begin, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park (Tuesdays through August 13)
- July 4 -** Independence Day, City Offices & Library closed; *Rubbish collection delayed one day all week*
- July 11 -** Eat to the Beat Concert, 12 noon - 2 p.m., City Centre Plaza
Family Pool Party, 5:30 - 9 p.m., Sports Arena Pool
- July 22 -** Park*It @ The Burgh, 6 - 9:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park
- August 1 -** Family Pool Party, 5:30 - 9 p.m., Sports Arena Pool
- August 2 -** Southfield Junior Metro Open Golf Championship, 9 a.m., Beech Woods Golf Course
- August 6 -** Primary Election, Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m., Citywide
- August 8 -** Eat to the Beat Concert, 12 noon - 2 p.m., City Centre Plaza
- August 10 -** Southfield Open Golf Tournament, 9 a.m., Evergreen Hills Golf Course
- August 11 -** Southfield Open Golf Tournament, 9 a.m., Beech Woods Golf Course
- August 21 -** Senior Appreciation Night (free for seniors 50+), 5:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park
- August 24 -** Last day of general swim, Sports Arena Pool
- September 2 -** Labor Day, City Offices & Library closed; *Rubbish collection delayed one day all week*
- September 7 -** General Skate begins, Southfield Sports Arena

City & Post

SOUTHFIELD
Living

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the center of it all™

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