

Volume 7, Issue 1 • Spring/Summer 2009

# SOUTHFIELD

*The Official City of Southfield Newsletter & Activities Guide*

# *Living*

**Southfield Goes Green!**

**Water Quality Report**

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

**Southfield**  
*the center of it all™*



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## *In This Issue...*

- 3 SOUTHFIELD GOES **GREEN!**
- 5 TWELVE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT
- 6 COMMUNITY PRIDE AWARDS
- 6 CITY CABLE 15 NEWS
- 6 SOUTHFIELD VOLUNTEER DAY
- 7 SOUTHFIELD FLOWER DAY
- 7 SOUTHFIELD FARMER'S MARKET
- 7 SOUTHFIELD PARKS AND GARDEN CLUB
- 8 CITY CLERK'S NEWS
- 10 SOUTHFIELD POLICE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM
- 10 CITY TREASURER'S NEWS
- 11 SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS
- 14 SOUTHFIELD ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT
- 19 PARKS & RECREATION ACTIVITIES GUIDE

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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 (voice) or 248/354-4831 (TDD).



# SOUTHFIELD GOES GREEN!



## *City to launch new “green” Web site and environmental awareness campaign April 1*

**G**reen cities don't just happen by accident. They are the result of an entire community—it's residents, businesses and government—working together to create an environmentally-friendly and sustainable city. There are many things that each of us can do, as individuals, families or companies, to reduce our “carbon footprint” or impact upon the environment. As a result, green cities experience a higher quality of life through clean air and water, beautiful parks and green spaces, clean and efficient energy use, local and organic food, and green jobs and building policies—improving the health of residents and ensuring long-term economic vitality.



Southfield's beautiful new Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve

The City of Southfield has always been a progressive, ecologically-friendly city that has strived to protect the environment with its policies and programs. Southfield elected officials have long been committed to protecting and preserving natural areas for future generations. City leaders and planners make every effort to be good stewards and protectors of the environment with every site plan reviewed and ordinance enacted. We must also each do our own part to curb global warming by recycling, reusing and conserving energy in our daily lives. Global warming is a big problem, but we can tackle it if we work together. Just a few practical steps can significantly reduce your carbon footprint, save money, clean up our air and water, create new jobs and

industries and fight global warming—two percent at a time. That's what it will take to stabilize our climate—just a two percent reduction in carbon emissions each year for the next 40 years. But to reach the goal of 80 percent reduction by 2050, we all must be part of the two percent solution.

The City of Southfield has already taken many practical steps that are both proactive

and progressive. The City received the 2008 Quality of Life Award from the Michigan Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers for the Southfield Municipal Complex South Parking Lot project. The project involved removing the existing concrete pavement and installing a new pervious asphalt pavement, base and bioswale, a central depressed planted area that utilizes the excess rainwater. The new lot was designed and constructed utilizing new technology and materials that make it environmentally-friendly, reducing storm water runoff by one-third and filtering it before it reaches streams and other waterways. This approach not only helps to protect the environment, but also to reduce the impact upon the immediate habitat.

Another important part of protecting our environment is preserving natural areas such as forests, meadows and wetlands. As a proud Tree City USA Award recipient for the past 24 consecutive years, Southfield has long been committed to protecting woodlands and wetlands with

## Southfield Goes Green, *Continued from page 3*

380 acres of natural areas set aside for preservation. The new Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve is yet another excellent example of the City's commitment to preserving green spaces. The preserve features 42-acres of mature Oak-Hickory woodlands, forested wetlands and native meadows overlooking the beautiful five-acre Carpenter Lake. The use of porous paving and other storm water management features were also incorporated into the parking lot to provide control of water runoff. This method greatly reduces flooding and pollution of the Rouge River. A new nature interpretive center will be constructed beginning in 2010, adding another important educational component to the preserve. The Carpenter Lake Nature Interpretive Center will utilize "green," sustainable architectural design and feature hands-on displays to educate the public about local flora and fauna. The center will also educate the public about eco-friendly lifestyle choices, from landscaping with native plants, to preventing fertilizer runoff. The building itself will also be designed to demonstrate "green" or sustainable architecture in ways that people can apply to their own living environments.

In June of 2007, the Cornerstone Development Authority and St. John's Providence Hospital partnered together to launch the very successful Southfield Farmer's Market at the Millennium Centre. The Farmer's Market provides locally grown fruits, vegetables, flowers, plants, jams, breads, and baked goods sold by the farmers that produce them. Buying food grown locally helps the environment by eliminating additional packaging and transportation—while



also giving you fresher produce! You can even purchase an eco-friendly reusable shopping bag from the City's Neighborhood & Information Center for just \$3—helping to eliminate thousands of plastic and paper bags over its lifetime. The Southfield Farmer's Market is open every Thursday, rain or shine, June through October.

There are many simple steps that each of us can take to reduce our impact upon the environment. Everyone has a role to play—you, businesses, government. By making different, smarter decisions right now about how we use energy at home, at work and as a nation, we can cut our carbon emissions and curb climate change. To do our part, the City will launch the "Southfield Goes Green" environmental awareness campaign on April 1. This campaign will seek to raise awareness about this important issue while also providing sensible ideas and solutions—empowering people to take action and to spread the word. As part of the campaign, the City of Southfield will launch a new "green" City Web site that will include an expanded section on the environment and green living. The site will include detailed information for both residents and businesses regarding

practical things that each of us can do, as individuals or organizations, to help improve our environment. The City's revamped "green" Web site will offer numerous tips to help get you started living a more green, environmentally-friendly lifestyle. It will include news, facts and suggestions that encourage eco-friendly choices as well as additional links to other educational and environmental Web sites. The updated Web site will also include new pictures throughout as well as an entirely new green color scheme. Log on to [www.cityofsouthfield.com](http://www.cityofsouthfield.com) on April 1 to see our exciting new "green" City Web site and expanded environmental section. Together, we can make a difference today for future generations tomorrow.

### *Did You Know?*

- The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50 million homes for 20 years.
- Eighty-four percent of a typical household's waste—including food scraps, yard waste, paper, cardboard, cans, and bottles—can be recycled or composted.
- Americans throw away about 40 billion soft drink cans and bottles every year. Placed end to end, they would reach to the moon and back nearly 20 times.
- If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we would save about 25 million trees a year.
- By turning the heat down, Americans could save more than 500,000 barrels of oil each day—that's over 21,000,000 gallons.

## 12 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

### 1. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost

Reusing packaging material saves more energy than recycling. By avoiding extra packaging, you save both energy and landfill space. Yard and kitchen waste (leaves/grass/vegetable scraps) are 30 percent of trash. Reduce this amount by composting. Also be sure to re-use plastic bags, or better yet... refuse them! Use a reusable shopping bag and you can eliminate thousands of needless plastic and paper bags. You can even buy one from the City's Neighborhood & Information Center for just \$3!

### 2. Replace Incandescent Light Bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Bulbs

Compact fluorescents produce the same amount of light as normal bulbs, but use about a quarter of the electricity and last ten times as long. Each switch you make helps clean the air today, curb global warming, and saves you money on your electricity bill.

### 3. Commute Smarter: Bike, Use Public Transit, Carpool to Work, Drive Slower, Keep Your Tires Inflated

One-third of all traffic is commuters. Use alternative transportation when possible. If you must drive, go slower with proper tire inflation. It saves both fuel and tires, and lowers emissions. It also saves lives.

### 4. Conserve Energy: Lower Your Thermostat in the Winter, Raise it in the Summer

Adjust your thermostat and start saving—for each degree you lower your thermostat in the winter, you can cut your energy bills by three percent!

### 5. Support Clean, Renewable Energy

Renewable energy solutions, such as wind and solar power, can reduce our reliance on coal-burning power plants, the largest source of global warming pollution in the United States. Call your local utility and sign up for renewable energy. Visit <http://my.dteenergy.com/products/greenCurrents> to learn more about what you can do to help.

### 6. Conserve Water

Install low-flow showerheads and faucets and you'll use half the water without decreasing performance. Then turn your hot water heater down to 120°F and see hot-water costs go down by as much as 50 percent!

### 7. Don't Use Pesticides/Herbicides on Your Lawn

Along with nitrogen fertilizer runoff, these are major water pollutants.

### 8. Buy Local and Organic

Did you know the average American meal travels more than 1,500 miles from the farm to your plate? Think of all the energy wasted and pollution added to the atmosphere—not to mention all the pesticides and chemicals used to grow most produce! So go to the local Southfield Farmer's Market every Thursday June-October to get your fruits and veggies.

### 9. Dispose of Old Paint, Chemicals, and Oil Properly

Don't put batteries, antifreeze, paint, motor oil, or chemicals in the trash. Household Hazardous Waste Day is your annual opportunity to discard household hazardous waste materials at the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) Recycling Center. This year's event will be held on Saturday, April 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the RRRASOC Center located at 20000 W. 8 Mile Road (please enter from Mapleridge, one block east of Evergreen Road).

### 10. Buy Energy-Efficient Electronics and Appliances

Replacing an old refrigerator or an air conditioner with an energy-efficient model will save you money on your electricity bill and cut global warming pollution. Look for the Energy Star label on new appliances or visit their Web site at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) to find the most energy-efficient products.

### 11. Volunteer/Lobby for the Environment

Mount a local grassroots campaign against global warming. Work locally and globally to save natural places, reduce urban sprawl, lower pollution and prevent the destruction of wilderness areas for timber and oil. Educate your friends and neighbors about how they can cut global warming pollution.

### 12. Plant a Tree with a Child

Protecting forests is a big step on the road to curbing global warming. Trees "breathe in" carbon dioxide, but slash-and-burn farming practices, intensive livestock production, and logging have destroyed 90 percent of the native forests in the United States. And you can take action in your own backyard—planting shade trees around your house will absorb CO<sub>2</sub>, and slash your summer air-conditioning bills. Teaching our children to love and care for the planet is the most important thing we can do to insure the future of humankind.

## Southfield Volunteer Day 2009

Plan to be part of Southfield Volunteer Day 2009 and make a difference in your community. Volunteers are needed to clean, paint, rake, plant and prune throughout Southfield on Saturday, April 18 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Work will take place this year at Brace-Lederle K-8 School, Southfield Regional Academic Campus, Bauervic Woods Park and Brace Park. Volunteers should report to Brace-Lederle, 18575 W. 9 Mile Road, and check-in at the cafeteria. Shuttle buses will run between sites. Workers are asked to bring rake, brooms and wheelbarrows (if possible). Other tools will be provided as well as gloves, snacks, beverages and a free t-shirt.

Volunteers may work the entire shift or donate just a few hours. 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.

To volunteer, call Ollie Colvard at the Southfield Education Center, (248) 746-7601. For additional information on National Volunteer Day - Southfield or to sign on as a sponsor or donor, call Ken Siver, Southfield Public Schools Deputy Superintendent at (248) 746-8565.

## 39th 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 6 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.

## Southfield seeks nominations for 2009 Community Pride Awards

The City of Southfield and the Southfield Parks and Garden Club is seeking nominations for the 2009 Community Pride Awards, which honor individuals, multi-residential complexes and neighborhoods that have gone the extra mile to beautify their community. Residents are encouraged to nominate their neighbors, neighborhoods, family, friends, 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 Southfield City Hall's Neighborhood and Information Center, located at 26000 Evergreen Road, or they may be downloaded from the City's Web site at [www.cityofsouthfield.com](http://www.cityofsouthfield.com). Nominations must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5, 2009. For more information, call the Neighborhood and Information Center at (248) 796-5140.

## City Cable 15 News

A lot of innovative projects are on the horizon for City Cable 15 viewers. City Cable will unveil video-on-demand and streaming services in the near future. With so many scheduling demands, we understand that flexible programming is what viewers want. Offering these programming options will give viewers the ability to select the best time for them to see their favorite Cable 15 shows. We'll keep you posted.

## Health, Elections & Finances

This spring, City Cable 15 will be out and about producing even more new programs. A new DMC health series will be taped at the Southfield Library. This health series will spotlight different illnesses as well as new breakthrough treatments. Check the monthly program guide for airing days and times.

Additionally, watch for the 2009 Treasurer's Series on Channel 15. The series will feature different experts to assist Southfield residents to better manage their money. If you're looking for practical ways to rev up your finances, you will want to tune in.

City Cable 15 will also keep residents informed about the upcoming elections in our community. From "15 News" to Candidate's Forums to our Electronic Bulletin Board, City Cable is always here to provide important information regarding primary and general elections.

## Southfield Flower Day May 9

The City of Southfield will host the 7th annual Southfield Flower Day on Saturday, May 9 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.

## Southfield Parks and Garden Club seeks new volunteers

The Southfield Parks and Garden Club (SP&GC) is seeking volunteers to assist with the Emmanuel Community Farm and the Club's many other community service and beautification activities.

Formed in 2005 as a charitable community service organization, the SP&GC is comprised of volunteers who work to beautify the city. The Club regularly conducts litter pick-ups, plantings, cleaning up landscapes for elderly residents, and clearing and mapping city park trails. SP&GC broke ground on the Emmanuel Community Farm in 2008 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church located at 23425 Lahser Road, north of Nine Mile Road. The all-volunteer farm uses organic seed and agriculturally sustainable farming methods to grow a wide variety of produce that is donated to Forgotten Harvest, an organization that distributes food to soup kitchens and food pantries throughout southeast Michigan. This year, the Farm will expand the planting area to approximately 2,400 square feet and the minimum age for youth volunteers has been reduced to nine-years-old (with adult supervision). The Farm will kick off the 2009 season on March 24 from 4-7 p.m. The regular hours of operation will be Tuesdays from 4-7 p.m.; Thursdays from 8-11 a.m.; and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. (an hour earlier in mid summer).

The Southfield Parks and Garden Club membership and projects reflect a wide cross-section of residents, skill levels and interests. Gardening enthusiasts and community-minded individuals of all backgrounds are encouraged to join and participate as their schedule permits. The Club holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month (beginning March 11) at 7 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation building located at 26000 Evergreen Road. The Southfield Parks and Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Membership is annual, March through November, with dues of \$25, or \$200 for lifetime membership. Dues are tax-deductible as are gifts and donations.

For more information, call SP&GC President and Founder Jonathan Adams at (248) 356-2281 or visit [www.parksandgarden.org](http://www.parksandgarden.org).

## SUPPORT GOOD HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT *at the*



**EVERY  
THURSDAY**  
**JUNE 4 - OCTOBER 29**  
**9 A.M. - 3 P.M.**

*Located in the*  
**Millennium Theatre**  
**Parking Lot**  
*next to Northland Mall*

The Farmer's Market provides locally grown vegetables, fruits, flowers, plants, jams, salsas, breads, seafood, gourmet cheeses and wines sold by the farmers who produce them every Thursday (rain or shine) June through October. The market offers free parking, admission and live music in addition to a large variety of fresh, locally grown produce.

**For more information, call  
Cornerstone Development  
Authority at (248) 796-5196 or visit  
[www.southfieldfarmersmarket.net](http://www.southfieldfarmersmarket.net).**

# CITY CLERK'S NEWS

*Nancy L. M. Banks, City Clerk*



## Garage Sale Permits

**Did you Know?** 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. The cost of the permit is \$4 which also includes one (1) sign with wire stand. One additional sign may be purchased for an additional \$2 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 2009 are Red. 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, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 796-5150.

## 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.

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.

## Protect Your Personal Identity

**Did you Know?** Identity theft is ranked 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 up to 100 lbs. (the equivalent of 2 copy paper boxes) on Saturday, April 25, 2009, 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 documents weighing more than 100 lbs.

## Passport Applications

**Did you Know?** The City Clerk's Office is a Passport Application Acceptance Facility, authorized by the U.S. Department of State to accept and process applications for U.S. passports.

All U.S. citizens traveling by air outside the U.S. including Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda, are required to have a U.S. Passport! The U.S. Department of State now offers the option of a Passport Card to expedite entry and document processing at U.S. land and sea ports-of-entry. The Passport Card is not valid for international travel by air. The Card is designed for the specific needs of border resident communities.

U.S. citizens interested in applying for a U.S. Passport Book or Passport Card must submit proof of citizenship, such as a certified birth certificate, a previous U.S. Passport, Naturalization Certificate or Report of Birth Abroad; plus identification such as a valid Driver's License, Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate, or official Military Identification Card; plus two recent 2" x 2" photos on white or off-white background, and the appropriate application fees.

Application fees for a Passport Book are \$75 for adults 16 years of age or older; \$60 for minors 15 years of age and younger, payable by check or money order to the U.S. Department of State. There is also a \$25 execution fee required for each application, payable by cash, certified check or money order. Application fees for a Passport Card are \$20 for adults and \$10 for minors, payable to the U.S. Department



of State. An execution fee of \$25 is also required. Routine applications take 4-6 weeks to process; expedited applications are processed within 2-3 weeks from the date received by the Passport Agency, for an additional \$60 (payable by check or money order). Express mail service is available for an additional fee.

Southfield residents, business persons and visitors are welcome to apply for a U.S. Passport at the City Clerk's Office. The City Clerk's Office accepts passport applications Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

### Election News 2009

**Did you know?** Southfield voters will be going to the polls on September 15 for the City Primary Election, and November 3 for the City General Election. As in all elections, the polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Election Day.

**Offices to be elected this year:**

- Mayor
- City Council (4 seats)
- City Clerk
- City Treasurer
- Southfield Public Schools Board of Education (2 seats)

**Did you know?** The last day to register to vote in the September 15 City Primary Election is August 17, 2009. The last day

to register to vote for the November 3 City General Election is October 5, 2009. 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 for more election information and the Voting Precinct Map and Guide to Voting Precincts.

### Absent Voter Information

**Did you Know?** 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 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 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.

*Please cut at dashed line and return this 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

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.

**X** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Absent Voter Date

## Southfield Police Neighborhood Watch Program

The Southfield Police Crime Prevention Bureau provides residents and businesses with a number of resources in addition to Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Watch programs. The Southfield Police Department is dedicated to educating the community about security awareness and to increasing home and business owners safety and security by increasing their knowledge.

To that end, the Police Department offers a free security survey to all Southfield residents and business owners. Officers will inspect homes or businesses and make recommendations regarding the security of the premises. Officers survey the physical aspects of the property, including doors, windows, lighting and landscaping. They also evaluate the operational practices of businesses. Areas of potential concern may be money handling procedures, key control, personal safety or security practices in general.

The Southfield Police Department is also expanding its community policing efforts by revitalizing the Neighborhood Watch Program. Neighborhood Watch allows for greater involvement by the residents and Homeowner Associations in the city. The Southfield Police Department believes that a strong, active Homeowner's Association provides the backbone needed for a strong, viable program.

Some of the GOALS and BENEFITS of Neighborhood Watch include:

- Allowing citizens and the Police Department to work together;
- Allowing neighbors to get to know one another;
- Increasing a sense of ownership and pride in neighborhoods; and
- Allowing the concerns of neighborhood groups to be shared with the Police Department.

In an effort to promote the Neighborhood Watch Program, the Crime Prevention Bureau is working with all Southfield neighborhood associations to seek residents' help in making this program a great success. Contact the Southfield Police Crime Prevention Bureau if you are interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch group in your area. The Crime Prevention staff believes that citizen awareness is the key to preventing crime. Free crime prevention presentations and educational materials are also provided to any resident or business in the City of Southfield.

For more information on Crime Prevention or Neighborhood Watch, call (248) 796-5400.

## City Treasurer's News

Irv Lowenberg, *City Treasurer*

### Southfield Homeowner Property Tax Info

#### Two tax bills are issued each year payable to the City of Southfield:

July 1 - The City/School (summer) tax bill is issued. *This bill is payable through August 31 without penalty;* and

December 1 - The County/School (winter) tax bill is issued. *This bill is payable through February 14 without penalty.*

#### Taxes are based on the Taxable Value

In Michigan, when a property is sold, the capped value is dropped and the state equalized value becomes the taxable value. This may result in a higher tax for the new owner than paid by the previous owner. For more information, contact Southfield City Treasurer Irv. M. Lowenberg at (248) 796-5200.



**Teen Summer Program  
2009**

**Express Yourself**  
@ your Library



**Youth Summer Program  
2009**

**Be  
Creative**



To learn more about our Youth and Teen Summer Programs,  
go to our website: [www.southfieldlibrary.org](http://www.southfieldlibrary.org)

Southfield Public Library

# BUSINESS StartUp Center

An information neighborhood dedicated to small business & nonprofit organization start-up & growth.

**FIND RESOURCES FOR...**



**Southfield Public Library...**  
**Helping you plan, finance, manage and grow.**

# Business StartUp Center

## BUSINESS LIBRARIAN'S TOP TEN RESOURCES

### 10. Entrepreneur Magazine's How to Start a ... Business Series (books)

A series of books, each is tailored to just about any business you can dream up. Each one of these volumes contains information specific to a different business plus general start-up.

### 9. Small Business Resource Center (online)

This online resource is an excellent starting point for start-up research. In it you'll find sample business plans, reference works on entrepreneurship, magazine articles and legal forms.

### 8. Census.gov and the Statistical Abstract of the United States (online & book)

From agriculture to ZIP code statistics, you can find data on just about anything using these two sources. **Librarian's Tip:** In the Statistical Abstract, always look at the footnotes; they'll lead you to more sources of data.

### 7. SRDS Lifestyle Analyst (book)

Use this source to research populations in your target market area. Find details such as age, race, marital status and whether they subscribe to an Internet service provider.

### 6. Trade Association Directories (books)

National Trade & Professional Associations of the US (book) and Encyclopedia of Associations (book) There's an association for pretty much every topic you can think of and those associations are indispensable sources of information. They often conduct studies, hold trade shows or publish a newsletter, all of which will help you learn about an industry or a target market.

### 5. BusinessDecision (online)

This online resource makes demographic research almost easy! BusinessDecision gives you access to ZIP code-specific market research that usually costs a fortune.

### 4. Financial Ratios (books)

How in the world do you forecast sales? How does your firm compare to the rest of your industry? These questions are answered by a trio of publications that contain financial statement data organized by industry. They are:

- RMA Annual Statement Studies (book)
- The Almanac of Business and Industrial Financial Ratios (book)
- Industry Norms and Key Business Ratios (book)

### 3. Industry Overviews (online)

In these info-rich reports, you'll find industry trends, analysis, history and lists of major competitors. They are:

- Business & Company Resource Center (online)
- Plunkett's Industry Almanacs (book & online)
- Standard & Poor's Industry Surveys (online)

### 2. ReferenceUSA (online)

It's like a giant online yellow pages. Create and download lists according to several criteria. Generate leads lists, direct marketing lists or just look up a competitor.

### 1. Librarians

You have a tax professional. You have a legal professional. You have an accounting professional. Now you've got an information professional! Call, email, IM or visit us to ask whatever question you're struggling with. We can help tease out the best source to fulfill your information needs.



**CITY OF SOUTHFIELD****2008 CONSUMERS ANNUAL REPORT ON WATER QUALITY****ATTENTION: THIS IS AN IMPORTANT REPORT ON WATER QUALITY AND SAFETY**

**T**he 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 2008 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, Clawson, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak, Southfield and Southfield Township.

Your source water comes from the Detroit River (treated at the Springwells Plant), situated within 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 the 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 to obtain a complete copy, please contact your local water department.

**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 2008 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. The table on the next page is a key to the terms used in the tables.

Key to Detected Contaminants Tables		
Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
<b>MCLG</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
<b>MCL</b>	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.
<b>MRDLG</b>	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
<b>MRDL</b>	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
<b>ppb</b>	Parts per billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
<b>TT</b>	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
<b>AL</b>	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
<b>HAA5</b>	Haloacetic acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
<b>TTHM</b>	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
<b>n/a</b>	Not applicable	
<b>&gt;</b>	Greater than	

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.**

**Springwells Water Treatment Plant  
2008 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables**

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>Inorganic Chemicals – Annual Monitoring at Plant Finished Water Tap</b>								
Fluoride	9/9/2008	ppm	4	4	0.89	n/a	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	9/9/2008	ppm	10	10	0.26	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	n/a	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
<b>Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection By-Products – Monitoring in Distribution System</b>								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Feb-Nov 2008	ppb	n/a	80	17.7	4.1-31.5	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Feb-Nov 2008	ppb	n/a	60	10.0	4.4-16.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfectant Chlorine	Jan-Dec 2008	ppm	MRDGL 4	MRDL 4	0.67	0.61-0.72	No	Water additive used to control microbes

<b>2008 Turbidity – Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water Tap</b>			
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
0.16 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.			

<b>2008 Microbiological Contaminants – Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System</b>					
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	in one month	No	Naturally present in the environment.
<i>E. coli</i> or fecal coliform bacteria	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or <i>E. coli</i> positive.	entire year	No	Human waste and animal fecal waste.

<b>2008 Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers' Tap</b>								
Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value*	Number of Samples Over AL	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2008	ppb	0	15	0 ppb	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2008	ppm	1.3	1.3	31 ppb	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

**2008 Special Monitoring**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.80	Erosion of natural deposits

Information and tables provided by Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) ML Semegen. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants. Beginning in July of 2008, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) began monitoring quarterly for unregulated contaminants under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 2 (UCMR2). All the UCMR2 contaminants monitored on List 1 and List 2 in 2008 were undetected.



## Important Health Information

### Lead

Since 1992, with the cooperation of many Southfield residents, DWSD has been testing homes with plumbing systems that may contribute lead to the household water supply. Our latest round of testing shows 0 out of the 14 homes tested has lead levels above the action level. If your home has a lead service line or piping that has lead soldered joints, you can take the following precautions to minimize your exposure to lead that may have leached into your drinking water from your pipes.

- Run your water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes or until it feels cold. This practice should be followed anytime your water has not been used for more than 6 hours.
- Always use cold water for drinking, cooking or making baby formula.
- Use faucets and plumbing material that are either lead free or will not leach unsafe levels of lead into your water.

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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](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**.

### Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Cryptosporidium was detected once, during a twelve-month period at our Detroit River intake plants. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause Cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants

and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

### Questions?

Local Distribution: City of Southfield, Public Works Administration  
(248) 796-4880

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

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department – Water Quality Division at (313) 926-8127.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality – Drinking Water and Radiological Protection Division – (586) 753-3755.

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.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com).

### 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) 926-8127.

# What's Happening in Southfield?

Spring / Summer 2009

- March 25** - Southfield/Red Cross Community Blood & Bone Marrow Drive, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Southfield Pavilion
- March 28** - Audubon Society Wildlife Program, 9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., P&R Bldg., Register at [www.detroitaudubon.org](http://www.detroitaudubon.org).
- March 28** - EGGs'travaganza, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Southfield Pavilion
- April 1** - **Southfield Goes Green! Log on to [www.cityofsouthfield.com](http://www.cityofsouthfield.com) to check it out!**
- April 6** - Yard waste collection begins (through November 27)
- April 6** - Spring Break Camp (March 6-9), 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., P&R Building
- April 6** - Spring Break Open Gym (March 6-10), 10 a.m.-1 p.m., & 2-6 p.m., Beech Woods Recreation Center
- April 18** - Household Hazardous Waste Day, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., RRRASOC Center
- April 21** - Treasurer's Financial Series: Your Money Matters, 6 - 7 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- April 21** - Treasurer's Financial Series: Your Own Home, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- April 24** - 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Southfield Business Expo, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Southfield Town Center Garden Atrium
- April 25** - Personal Privacy Day, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Southfield High School parking lot
- May 1** - SRO Productions "The Farndale Ave. Murder Mystery" opens (runs May 1-3, 8-10 & 15-17), The Burgh
- May 2** - Fishing Derby, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Rouge River (at Valley Woods Trail)  
Tennis Free for All, 10 a.m., Civic Center Tennis Courts
- May 9** - 18-Hole Junior Optimist Golf Tournament, 9 a.m., Beech Woods Golf Course
- May 9** - Southfield Flower Day, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., City Hall front lawn
- May 12** - Audubon Society Southfield Parks Bird Watch (led by Karl Overman), 8 a.m., Meet at Municipal Complex Playground
- May 14** - Treasurer's Financial Series: To Your Credit, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- May 15** - 9-Hole Steak & Ale Golf Scramble, 5 p.m., Evergreen Hills Golf Course
- May 16** - American Heart Association Heart Walk, 8 a.m., City Hall front lawn
- May 22** - Memorial Day Ceremony, 9 a.m., City Hall
- June 6** - Rouge River Clean Up, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Beech Woods Recreation Center
- June 8** - Mayor's Walks begin (every Mon., Wed., & Fri. through July 31), 7 a.m., Inglenook Park
- June 9** - Treasurer's Financial Series: Pay Yourself First, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- June 13** - Southfield Sports Arena Pool opens (plus free swimming lesson day)
- June 15** - Summer Day Camps begin - *Call (248) 796-4620 for more information.*
- June 17** - Burgh Gazebo Concerts begin, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park (Wednesdays through August 12)
- June 18** - Eat to the Beat concerts begin, 12 noon - 2 p.m., City Centre Plaza (Thursdays through September 10)
- June 19** - 9-Hole Steak & Ale Golf Scramble, 5 p.m., Evergreen Hills Golf Course
- June 22** - Star Spangled Southfield Fireworks, 6 p.m., City Hall front lawn
- June 26** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Southfield Sports Festival (June 26-28), 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Southfield Municipal Complex
- June 29** - Family Pool Party, 5:30 - 9 p.m., Sports Arena Pool
- June 30** - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Southfield Kids' Day, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., City Hall front lawn
- July 10** - Junior/Senior Golf Appreciation Day, 9 a.m., Beech Woods Golf Course
- August 22** - Southfield Open Golf Tournament, 9 a.m., Beech Woods Golf Course
- August 23** - Southfield Open Golf Tournament, 9 a.m., Evergreen Hills Golf Course

**SOUTHFIELD**  
*Living*

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**Southfield**  
the center of it all™

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