



City of Otsego Agenda

A Publication of the City of Otsego

Fall 2012

FALL LEAF PICK-UP



As the end of summer draws near, it is once again time to think about our annual FALL LEAF PICK-UP. Dates for the pick-up have not yet been decided; however, this pick-up usually occurs sometime in mid-October to mid-November. Actual dates are determined after leaves begin to fall. Watch for the announcement of actual dates in the "Shoppers Guide", "Union Enterprise" or call City Hall.

The City's policy is to canvass all streets twice during the two week pick-up period. **REMEMBER: With the exception of Allegan Street, all leaves are to be raked into the street next to the curb.** Announcement of actual dates will advise residents when the leaves should be out to be picked up. **If the leaves are not in the street they will not be picked up.**

Please do not place anything except leaves in the street. The City places these leaves on a compost pile and therefore, branches, twigs and other yard waste must not be included. Brush and other yard waste may be taken to the City's Transfer Station at any time free of charge. It is the City's policy to canvass the City two times. If leaves are placed in the street after completion of the canvassing, it is the resident's responsibility to dispose of the leaves at the Transfer Station.



GENERAL ELECTION November 6, 2012

The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and remain open until 8:00 p.m. **Tuesday, November 6, 2012**, for the General Election. Electors will be voting for National, State, Local candidates, and Local and State ballot proposals. **Because this is a Presidential election year, voter turn-out is likely to be very high. In order to expedite the process at the polls, please check prior to election day to make sure that you are a registered voter of the City of Otsego.**

HAVE YOUR PHOTO ID READY AT THE POLLS!

You may call Angela Cronen, City Clerk, at 692-3391 or email at acronen@cityofotsego.org to check on your voter registration status.

**Absentee Voter Applications
are available at City Hall**



Come join us to recognize our City of Otsego being selected as a Michigan Main Street City Associate Level and learn more about this program and how you can participate to create a new environment for the downtown area.

**CITY OF OTSEGO
Michigan Main Street Meeting**

Date: 8/28/2012 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Date: 9/19/2012 7:00-8:00 a.m.

Downtown Otsego: 113 E. Allegan
Edward Jones office, conference room.

Contact person: Molly Wieber
Phone: 269-744-1431
E-Mail: missmollyanne@gmail.com

25th Annual Creative Arts Festival



Mark your Calendar for September 22!

Just a few short weeks until the **25th Annual Otsego Creative Arts Festival** occurs and there is still plenty of time to get involved. The Chamber is expecting another great turn out! We are thankful for the participation and support of our local businesses, organizations, and citizens. Again this year, the festival will include a **Car Show, Parade, Motorcycle Show, Tractor Show, Pet Parade, Firemen's Waterball Competition, Arts & Crafts, Children's Activities, Entertainment Stage, Food Court and much more!** Let's show our visitors and residents why Otsego is such a great place to Work, Play and Stay! We appreciate your support of this event. If you would like to be involved in any way or have questions regarding the events, please contact the Otsego Chamber at 694-6880.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Otsego Water Department will flush all fire hydrants **September 17th through September 28th**. This is done to remove any stale water that may be in the system and insure that the fire hydrants are working properly. You may experience some reduced pressure and discoloration during this process. If discoloration occurs, let your water run until it clears.

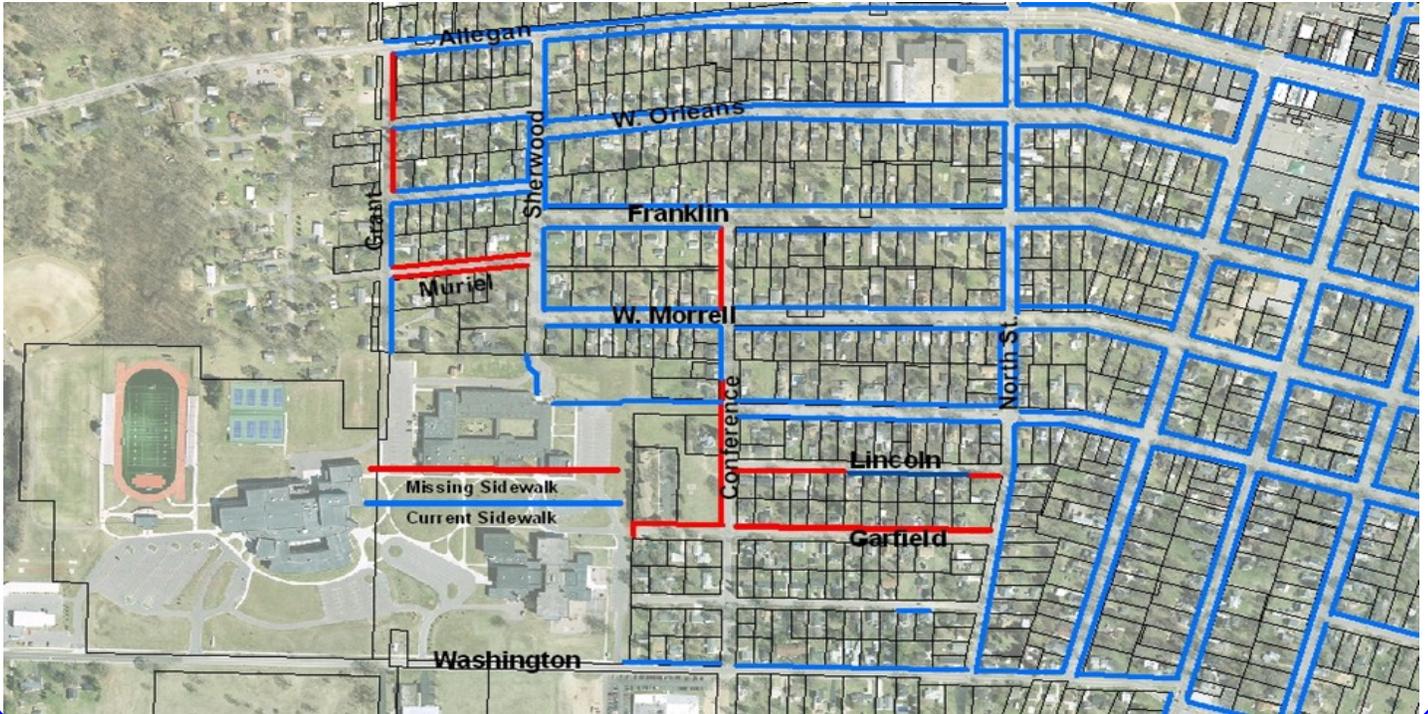


CITY MANAGER'S VIEW



City Manager, Thad Beard

Complete Streets: Some of you may recall that the City was one of several who adopted the Complete Street Principles. One of the underlying goals of Complete Streets is to provide safe routes to and from school for all forms of traffic, including pedestrian traffic, on foot. The Planning Commission completed a survey of the City and identified "gaps" in the sidewalk system and plans to begin filling in those gaps in the spring of 2013. Below is a map showing the area of the City where the first phase of sidewalks is being planned. This work will be done through the Special Assessment process, which includes a 50% contribution from the City and the property owners in which the sidewalk crosses. Property owners will be provided much more information over the winter months, as we complete the plans for spring construction.



OTSEGO FIRE DEPARTMENT



Otsego Fire Dept. Up-coming Events:

September 22, 2012

Creative Arts Festival at the Otsego Fire Station:

- ◆ The history of the Otsego Fire Department
- ◆ 9/11 Memorial Fund
- ◆ Smoke house
- ◆ Emergency Vehicle Show
- ◆ Waterball
- ◆ Sparky the Fire Dog

- Fire Prevention Week - Fire Prevention Week started in 1922, and has been observed Sunday-Saturday of the week in which October 9th falls within. In addition, the President of the United States has proclaimed Fire Prevention Week every year since 1925.
- McDonalds 9/11 Fundraiser - October 24, 2012 from 4pm-8pm, 15% of all sales will go to the 9/11 Memorial Fund.
- Candy Checks - October 31 will be the annual candy check at the Fire Station.

November 2012 - Fire Truck Bond

On the ballot in November, there will be bond issue for a new Fire Truck. We want to replace Engine 12, as it has been in service going on twenty years and has had recent maintenance problems.

TWITTER

Otsego Fire has is now on Twitter. Please follow us @OtsegoFire for the latest, up to the minute road closures, recalls, news and daily activities of our Fire Department.

QUESTION?

Please, send any Fire related or EMS question to kbaker@cityofotsego.org One question will be selected to be featured in the next newsletter.

Winter Parking Rules



Beginning November 1, parking is once again PROHIBITED on any public street in the City of Otsego from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. Parking is restricted during the months of November through April in order to facilitate snow removal. Violators will be ticketed.

2012 DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW

The December Board of Review will be meeting on December 11 2012, 8:30 a.m., at City Hall If you disagree with the percentage shown for your Principal Residence Exemption on your Winter 2011 taxes, you must contact City Hall **before** Friday, December 7, 2012.

OTSEGO FIRE DEPARTMENT - FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED

The Otsego Fire Department is accepting applications for the position of firefighter. The Otsego Fire Department is a paid on-call department and firefighters respond to fires and emergency situations as their own schedules allow. Each member is expected to attend all Regular and Special Department Meetings, Trainings and answer all alarms and calls when humanly possible. Specific information and an application can be found at www.cityofotsego.org. Individuals available to respond to daytime calls for service are encouraged to apply.



City Hall Will be Closed

November 22 & 23
December 24 & 25 & 31
January 1, 2013

Applications are being accepted until September 26, 2012, at Otsego City Hall, Attn: City Clerk, 117 E. Orleans St., Otsego, MI. 49078 EOE/M/F/H



Police Chief, Gordon Konkle

OTSEGO POLICE DEPT.

Summer is just about over and soon school will be starting back up again. Every year, I try to remind everyone to use caution, especially in the mornings for children walking or riding bikes to school. Everyday now it gets darker sooner and lighter later in the morning. On your morning commute you also have to crank up the defroster again to clear the windshield of dew and (this is scary) frost. Please make sure you give yourself that extra small amount of time to do so. An accident is expensive and one causing injury or death is traumatic and life altering, especially if it involves a child. It wouldn't matter if it was your fault or that of the child's it would live with you for the rest of your life. So please, as drivers, take the extra time to keep your windows clear and use caution in areas where children are walking or riding bikes to and from school.

Now, parents of children walking or riding bikes to school, please talk to your children and reinforce the safety

rules to make sure they are as prepared as possible. Many people have asked what side of the road should their children either walk, or when riding a bike, ride on. I'll cover that shortly, but the first piece of advice I can suggest is that while shopping for school clothes and supplies that you purchase something that glows in the dark for their backpacks and jackets. Make sure they can be seen regardless of the weather or light conditions. Before we go into what side of the road they should be walking or riding on make sure they understand that if there are sidewalks then that's where they need to be. It sounds so simple and of course I'm sure you stress it, but all you have to do is drive down any of the side streets after school and see where the kids are walking. The percentage of these kids walking in the street will shock you. I somehow managed to raise four children without pulling all of my hair out so with that background I believe I am qualified to make the following observation. These little angels grow up to become teenagers and when they do sometimes it's hard to find that reasonable loving child that always listened and happily did whatever you told them. If you have or had children I think you know what I'm talking about. So with that in mind, those

children walking in the street are by in large teenagers. Even though I'm certain that you have made it crystal clear that sidewalks are there for a reason, there is just something about walking in the road with a large group of friends that is irresistible for them. And believe or not, it's even more fun for them if they don't get out of the way for traffic. So please, do what we all did and keep telling them the things they need to do because sooner or later (I promise) it will sink in.

Okay, so what if your child walks to school and there are no sidewalks. Michigan law requires pedestrians to walk on the very edge of the street in the direction of oncoming traffic. If they are riding a bike, the law requires bike riders to ride in the same direction as vehicular traffic. They must be as close to the curb or side of the roadway as possible and can have no more than two bike riders riding abreast. Again, clothing made to reflect lights can't be stressed enough whether walking or riding a bike. With these simple rules/guidelines and a lot of vigilance on all our parts hopefully everyone will have a safe and happy school year.

REMEMBER!
NOVEMBER 4TH



CITY OF OTSEGO CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER, 2012

3	CITY HALL CLOSED		
4	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
4	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
4	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
6	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
10	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
17	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
19	MAIN STREET MEETING 7AM-8AM EDWARD JONES BUILDING		
22	CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL		
24	PLANNING COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL

OCTOBER, 2012

1	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
2	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
2	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
4	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
8	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
15	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
22	PLANNING COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
31	HALLOWEEN		

NOVEMBER, 2012

1	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
5	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
6	PRESIDENTIAL/GENERAL ELECTION		
6	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
6	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
12	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
19	CITY COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL
22 & 23	CITY HALL CLOSED		
26	PLANNING COMMISSION	7 P.M.	CITY HALL

DECEMBER, 2012

3	CITY COMMISSION		
4	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
4	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
6	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
10	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
11	BOARD OF REVIEW	8:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
17	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL
24	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL
24	CITY HALL CLOSED		
25	CITY HALL CLOSED		
31	CITY HALL CLOSED		

JANUARY, 2013

1	CITY HALL CLOSED		
3	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
7	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL
8	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
8	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
14	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
21	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL
28	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL

FEBRUARY, 2013

4	CITY COMMISSION		
5	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY		
5	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY		
7	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY		
11	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M.	CITY HALL
14	WINTER 2011 TAXES DUE		
28	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL
25	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M.	CITY HALL

CITY CONTACTS

Police & Fire Emergency.....	911
Fire Non-Emergency.....	694-4390
Police Non-Emergency.....	692-6111
Chief of Police.....	692-6111
City Manager	694-6146
City Clerk	692-3391
Finance Director	692-2741
Dept. Public Works	694-6636
Treatment Plant.....	694-9194

Website: www.cityofotsego.org



The Agenda is a quarterly publication of the
CITY OF OTSEGO

Tom Gilmer.....	Mayor
Kathy Misner.....	Mayor Pro-Tem
Stacy Rogers.....	Commissioner
Molly Wieber.....	Commissioner
Cyndi Trobeck	Commissioner
Thad Beard.....	City Manager
Angela Cronen.....	City Clerk
David Dutton.....	DPW Supervisor
Tom Dunn.....	WWTP Superintendent
Gordon Konkle.....	Chief of Police
Matthew Storbeck.....	Treasurer
Chad Tackett.....	Fire Chief

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