



# The Villager

The Official Newsletter for Beverly Hills Residents

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## Halloween Hoot

The Halloween Hoot returns Saturday, October 26, 2024!

This event is growing larger each year as children of all ages enjoy trick-or-treating around the friendly hoot trail at Beverly Park! Beverly Park is located at 18801 Beverly Road. Trick-or-treating will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We encourage you to wear a costume and bring a flashlight! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Since we have so many generous sponsors around town, this event is free to attend! If you are interested in sponsoring, volunteering, or donating a bag of candy, please email:

[beverlyhalloweenhoot@gmail.com](mailto:beverlyhalloweenhoot@gmail.com).

Happy Halloween!





**18500 W. 13 Mile Road**

**Hours of Operation**

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Office Closed**

Monday, September 2, 2024  
Monday, November 11, 2024  
Thursday, November 28, 2024  
Friday, November 29, 2024

**Administrative Staff**

Tom Trice, Interim Village  
Manager

Kristin Rutkowski, Assistant  
Village Manager/Village Clerk

Sheila McCarthy, Finance  
Director

Peggy Linkswiler, Treasurer

Neil Johnston, Public Services  
Director

Susie Stec, Planning & Zoning  
Administrator

Carissa Brown, Economic  
Development Associate

Matt Young, Code Enforcement  
Officer

Jacob Townsend, Building Official

Holly Townsend, Building/  
Rental Inspector

Chandá Simmons, Utility Billing  
Clerk

Jay Blenkhorn, Deputy Manager

# Village Office Notes

## Village Manager Search

This fall the Village Council will be working with a search firm to recruit our next Village Manager. It is anticipated that a new manager will begin after the first of the year.

We would like to thank Council President John George for stepping in as Acting Manager, as prescribed by the Charter, for the month of August.

The Council appointed Tom Trice to serve as Interim Manager at a Special meeting held August 28, 2024. Tom Trice previously served as the Village’s Interim Public Services Director in 2022 and is familiar with all of our ongoing infrastructure projects. Mr. Trice has been tasked with helping with the Executive Search process.

## Elections

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Polling locations are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at the following locations:

- Precinct 1 Greenfield Elementary School
- Precinct 2 Beverly Elementary School
- Precinct 3 Southfield Township Offices
- Precinct 4 Berkshire Middle School
- Precinct 5 Groves High School
- Precinct 6 Bingham Farms School
- Precinct 7 Franklin Community Church

Absentee ballots can be dropped off in the drop box located outside of the Township Office, 18550 W. 13 Mile Road.

For questions regarding voting, polling locations, absentee ballots, or to view a sample ballot, please contact the Southfield Township Clerk’s Office at 248-540-3420 or visit [mvic.sos.state.mi.us](http://mvic.sos.state.mi.us)

## Subscribe to Our Weekly Email Blast!

The Village of Beverly Hills uses GovDelivery to send out weekly emails and emergency alerts. The weekly email goes out every Friday and contains important updates and information about community events, public meetings, and construction projects. The Village also uses this system to notify residents of snow emergencies. To subscribe using your mobile device, scan the QR code to the right. From there you can enter your email address and select your preferences.



# Public Safety

## How to Keep Hackers Out of Your Accounts

*Excerpts from the Federal Trade Commission, [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov)*

Like most people, you probably use a strong password to protect your accounts. But hackers can steal your passwords through phishing attacks. And scammers can buy passwords exposed in a data breach.

The best way to protect your accounts? Use two-factor authentication. More and more sites and apps are offering two-factor authentication. But you usually have to turn it on.

So, spend a few minutes to turn it on now – and save yourself the countless hours it'll take to recover a hacked account later.

### Use Two-factor Authentication to Protect Your Accounts

There probably isn't a day that goes by without you logging in to at least one account – maybe you check your email, post to your social media, pay bills, send money to your friends and family, or buy something online. Your accounts can store a lot of personal and financial information. That's why you protect them with a password. Unfortunately, passwords are vulnerable to cyber-attacks. But there's a simple way to make your accounts more secure: turn on two-factor authentication.

### Why a password alone isn't enough

Like most people, you probably use a strong password to protect your accounts. But hackers use different tactics to steal or guess your passwords.

Hackers use phishing attacks to trick you into giving up your login credentials. Scammers buy credentials stolen in data breaches, using your username and your password to log in to the account where the breach happened. (That's why it's important to change your password right away if you find out that your information may have been exposed in a breach.) Hackers might also try to use the username and password to log in to another one of your accounts. This works only if you use the same username and password in more than one place – and is a reason to never re-use the same username and password. If hackers only have your username, they can use software to guess your password. If the site doesn't have safeguards to detect this type of attack, the hacker's software may be able to try many different passwords.

Taking steps to keep your password secure is an important first line of defense against hackers. But the best way to protect your accounts is to use two-factor authentication, sometimes called two-step verification or multi-factor authentication.

### The most common methods of authentication

More and more sites and apps are offering two-factor authentication. Some let you choose which authentication method to use. Others only give you one option. These are some of the most common authentication methods out there.

#### 1. One-time passcode via text message or email

With this type of authentication, you get a verification passcode by text message or email. It's typically six digits long but can be longer. It's only good for one log in and expires automatically.

Getting a passcode by text message is a common and simple method of authentication that only requires a phone that can get text messages. But it has its drawbacks. Hackers can take over your phone number through a SIM card swap attack and get text messages sent to your number, including those with a verification code, before you realize someone stole your number.

#### **Beverly Hills Public Safety Department**

##### **Address:**

18600 W. 13 Mile Road  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

##### **Non-emergency number:**

248-540-3400

##### **Emergency: 911**

##### **Website:**

[www.beverlyhillspolice.com](http://www.beverlyhillspolice.com)

# Public Services

## Let's All Dispose of Fats, Oils, and Grease Properly

Never pour kitchen fats, oils and grease (FOG) down your sink drain. Pouring or washing FOG down your kitchen drain can build up and block pipes which is costly to you and the Rouge River. FOG enters sewer pipes through restaurant, residential and commercial sink drains. Once in the sewer, FOG sticks to the inside of the pipe, thickens, and can eventually block the entire pipe.

Blockages in sewer pipes can send sewage backwards and up through floor drains and toilets into homes or businesses, and/or out of manholes into streets and rivers. These sewage overflows pollute our homes, businesses and our environment. Cleanup costs can be expensive, and the cost can be much higher if your home has a septic system.

Preventing sewer backups from FOG blockages saves residents and business owners money and protects the water quality of the Rouge River. Residents and business owners can help control the problem by properly disposing of fats, oils and grease.

Practice and share these healthy habits with your family, friends, and neighbors:

- DO** pour or scrape greasy or oily food waste into a container or jar and allow grease to cool or solidify in the container before throwing in the trash.
- DO** use a paper towel or a scraper to remove residual grease from dishes and pans prior to washing.
- DO** mix liquid vegetable oil with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds in a sealable container before throwing it in the trash.
- DO** keep drains clean by pouring 1/2 cup baking soda down the drain followed by 1/2 cup vinegar, wait 10 to 15 minutes and then rinse with hot water.
- DO NOT** pour fats, oils or grease down drains or garbage disposals.
- DO NOT** use hot water to rinse grease off cookware, utensils, dishes, or surfaces.
- DO NOT** put 'disposable' wipes down a drain or toilet - they do not dissolve and will cause clogs.

FOG buildup in sewer pipes requires your local public works staff to go to the site and remove the blockage. Cleaning FOG buildup from sewers increases maintenance costs for you and everyone else in your community. Keep our environment clean and avoid unnecessary maintenance costs by keeping fats, oils and grease out of our sewers. For more healthy habits you can practice at home or work to protect water quality in the Rouge River, visit [www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/watershed.html](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/watershed.html).

## Keep Storm Drains Clear!

Storm drains are drains found on streets, curbs, sidewalks and on other impervious surfaces to prevent flooding and divert rainwater and melted snow off the streets and into local water bodies. Too many leaves or debris around/entering the storm drain causes excess nutrients, sediments, and pollutants to enter the rivers. As water runs across landscapes and streets into storm drains, it picks up and carries away pollutants such as cigarette butts, trash, salt, vehicle fluids or yard waste. These pollutants can have harmful effects on aquatic ecosystems and human health.

This fall and winter, keep the storm drains clear! Don't blow or rake leaves into the storm drain! Help keep our streets and bodies of water clean.



Keep kitchen fats, oils and grease (FOG) out of the Rouge River. Pouring FOG down the drain can cause sewer backups and overflows that are messy, costly and a potential threat to your health and the environment.

Put it in the trash after . . .

- Pouring FOG into a container or jar allowing it to cool & solidify.
- Using a paper towel or scraper to wipe FOG off dishes & pans.
- Mixing liquid FOG with cat litter or coffee grounds in a sealable container.

To learn more changes you can make, visit: [www.allianceofrougecommunities.com](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com)



# Public Services

## A Message from JH Hart, Urban Forestry

It sure took a “Village” to recover from the June 17<sup>th</sup> storm! Beverly Hills was devastated by a micro burst of straight-line winds that crippled the area. Forestry and DPW staff were dispatched to Devonshire and Beverly Road between Riverside and Inglewood at 9:14pm, after dozens of uprooted and fallen trees blocked roads and impacted homes. The most heavily impacted areas were 13/14 Mile from Greenfield to Evergreen, but nearly every street in the Village was affected.

Multiple companies assisted the Village during this epic event. I would like to extend a special thank you to Johnson’s Landscaping, Jason’s Landscaping, Davey Tree, Kappen Tree Service and of course the dedicated DPW staff, including the JH Hart team.

In our 31 years of working for the Village, I have never experienced such a weather event! It was difficult to decide where to even begin cleanup! DPW Director Neil Johnston immediately brought resources and contractors into the Village for a swift and comprehensive response.

We were most appreciative for how kind, patient and helpful residents were with us and each other. Simply helping us rake streets, yards, and neighbors’ yards with a common goal of cleaning up our Village together. Thank you! I spoke with SOCRRA personnel who noted yard waste tonnage almost doubled for 2 weeks following the storm.

From a forestry perspective moving forward, countless trees were impacted and some damaged severely enough to require complete removal. We are now focused on surveying the most impacted streets and will assess each tree for trimming and/or removal as necessary. All streets will be addressed in due time. I would like to request your patience as this will take months to properly complete.

On behalf of the DPW and Forestry Department, thank you for your assistance and understanding. The town really bounced back thanks to you all.

Yours truly, Judd Hart - Contract Village Forester

**We Want To Hear From YOU!**

Where have you experienced roadway safety issues in Oakland County? The Road Commission for Oakland County is developing a Safety Action Plan to identify potential safety infrastructure projects in your community.

Please visit our project website to learn more about the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) project. You can use the interactive map to share your comments and areas of safety concern by **September 30<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information, please visit [bit.ly/RCOC-SS4A](http://bit.ly/RCOC-SS4A)

**ROAD COMMISSION**  
for OAKLAND COUNTY

### Meal Delivery Kit Disposal Guide

- CARDBOARD BOX**  
Recycle after emptying and flattening
- FIBER INSULATION PACKS**  
Reuse or recycle
- ALUMINUM CANS**  
Recycle after emptying and rinsing
- FOOD SCRAPS**  
Trash or compost
- ICE BAGS**  
Reuse or trash
- RECIPE SHEETS**  
Reuse or recycle
- RIGID PLASTIC CONTAINERS**  
Recycle after emptying and rinsing
- CONDIMENT PACKETS**  
Trash
- PAPER BAGS**  
Recycle if clean and empty. Otherwise, trash.
- PLASTIC WRAPPERS**  
Trash all thin, flexible plastic

SOCRRA

# Economic Development

## Celebrate Downtown Day!

Please join your fellow Michiganders on **Saturday, September 28, 2024**, in celebrating Downtown Day! Downtown Day was launched in 2020 by the Michigan Downtown Association and has been celebrated on the fourth Saturday of September since its inception. The mission is simple - visit any downtown area and take in all it has to offer. This may include calling up a friend and trying that hip dining spot you keep seeing all over social media. Or visiting the local gem that draws up sweet memories of yesteryears. And it definitely includes supporting small business owners because after all, they are essential to every community.

We encourage you to stop in at one of our many businesses in the Village Center district in Beverly Hills. In case you don't know, the Village Center district is the retail/commercial area located on the west side of Southfield Road between 13 Mile Road and Beverly Road. We may be biased, but the people in our business community are some of the most personable and kindhearted people you will ever have the chance to meet. Their commitment to their business, the services they provide, and dedication to making the Village of Beverly Hills better, is unrivaled. So come on out on Downtown Day and experience all of Beverly Hills!

After celebrating Downtown Day, please keep an eye out for some up-and-coming initiatives, such as Small Business Saturday (November 30<sup>th</sup>) and the November long Shop Small Oakland County Local Gems Sweepstakes, encouraging you to shop at small and local businesses during the holiday season. Whenever you shop at a local Beverly Hills business, you are supporting the growth and economic strength of your community. Not only do businesses pay taxes that help fund public services, but they also contribute to the community by sponsoring events and donating to local organizations.



# Around the Community

## BBCC

**Join the movement for a brighter, healthier future with the Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition (BBCC)!** We're revolutionizing the way communities tackle substance abuse prevention, mental health, and overall wellness with our vibrant, youth-led approach. Through the combined efforts of BBCC and the Youth Action Board (YAB), we offer education, tools, activities, and support to help youth rise above life's challenges. Our mission empowers them to make informed decisions about their safety, health, and wellness, while motivating adults to be their unwavering support.

**What is the YAB?** For high school teens, the Youth Action Board (YAB) offers opportunities to earn community service hours, build leadership skills, and create healthy connections—all while having fun! By getting involved with YAB, teens are not only enhancing their own futures but also contributing positively to their community. Plus, we meet primarily in-person throughout the year, and our teens consider this a safe space to share and connect. Our annual YAB Kick-Off Meeting will be in October 2024!

**Did you know?** For 8th grade students, the Mid Action Board provides a platform to make a real difference. This program empowers young students to have a positive voice and presence in their schools and wider community. By focusing on substance use prevention, building confidence, creating positive peer influences, and supporting mental health and overall wellness, our 8th graders are developing crucial skills that benefit both themselves and their peers.

Discover the wide range of programs and services we offer for students, parents, schools, and community groups! Visit our new website at [bbcoalition.org](http://bbcoalition.org).

## Next

Today's seniors are different than any others before them. They are the healthiest, both mentally and physically of any previous generation, they are more educated and more active.

Next, Beverly Hills' designated senior service provider, has been serving the community for over 45 years and continues to evolve to meet the diverse interests of today's residents over the age of 50.

Next is located at 2121 Midvale, Birmingham MI — (248) 203-5270.

## Baldwin Public Library

**Friends of the Baldwin Public Library Fall 2024 Used Book and Media Sale**

**Library Lower Level**

*Friends Memberships available at the door.*

Saturday, October 26 – Sunday, October 27. See [baldwinlib.org/book-sales](http://baldwinlib.org/book-sales) for up to date information.

**\*\*PLUS!** Don't forget to shop the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Sales, happening most months.

**Baldwin's Bibliophile Bonanza**

Saturday, November 9; 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Join us at the library for our first ever local author fair, where you can meet local authors and illustrators, and learn more about their books. Find full details at [baldwinlib.org/youth](http://baldwinlib.org/youth)

## BYA

Birmingham Youth Assistance is excited to host Kids Zone at Birmingham Farmers Market this season:

**September 22nd and October 27th**

Fun times with seasonal crafts and pumpkin decorating!

The Farmers Market is held at 660 N Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan.

## Beverly Hills Lions Club

The Beverly Hills Lions Club is a proud sponsor of the 2024 Java & Jazz series at the Beverly Park pavilion! Join us for live music and free coffee on Sunday, October 20th from 9:00 am to noon!

The Lions Club's annual Adopt-a-Road Clean Up event will be held on Saturday, September 21st! Thank you Lions for keeping our community clean!

The Lions Club is welcoming new members! For more information, please call 313-492-8232 or email [bhmi.lions.info@gmail.com](mailto:bhmi.lions.info@gmail.com). The Lions generally meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Grand Tavern Restaurant in Troy from September to June. We would love to welcome you to a meeting to learn more about our community service and fundraising efforts.





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www.villagebeverlyhills.com

**Council President**

John George

**President Pro-Tem**

Racheal Hrydziuszk

**Council Members**

Rock Abboud

Andrew Drummond

Tracy Kecskemeti

John Mooney

Ryan O’Gorman



Printed on recycled paper

# Community Calendar

**September**

- 2 - Labor Day
- 3 - Village Council Meeting
- 8 - Grandparents Day
- 9 - ZBA Meeting
- 11 - Patriot Day
- 15 - Java & Jazz at Beverly Park
- 16 - Last day to pay summer taxes
- 17 - Village Council Meeting
- 18 - Cable Board Meeting
- 19 - Parks & Recreation Meeting
- 23 - Curbside Chipping this week
- 24 - Planning Commission Meeting

**October**

- 1 - Village Council Meeting
- 2 - Rosh Hashana Begins
- 11 - Yom Kippur Begins
- 14 - Zoning Board of Appeals
- 15 - Village Council Meeting
- 17 - Parks & Recreation Meeting
- 20 - Java & Jazz at Beverly Park
- 21 - Curbside Chipping this week
- 23 - Planning Commission Meeting
- 26 - Halloween Hoot
- 31 - Halloween

**November**

- 3 - Daylight Saving Time
- 5 - Election Day
- 6 - Village Council Meeting
- 11 - Veterans Day
- 12 - Zoning Board of Appeals
- 18 - Curbside Chipping this week
- 19 - Village Council Meeting
- 20 - Cable Board Meeting; Planning Commission Meeting
- 21 - Parks & Recreation Meeting
- 28 - Thanksgiving
- 29 - Black Friday