

Village office

Residents and commercial property owners are encouraged to contact village staff with any questions or concerns. See below for contact information. Office hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday. Village Administrator Ken Marten's email is kmarten@binghamfarms.org.

Office closures

The office will be closed for the following holidays:

- Presidents' Day, Mon. Feb. 21
- Good Friday, Apr. 15
- Memorial Day, Mon. May 30
- Independence day, Mon. July 4

What time is it?

Daylight Saving Time 2022 begins Sun., Mar. 13. Clocks should be turned forward one hour at 2 am.

Recycling questions and answers

The village office fields occasional phone calls about trash and recycling. The most common concern is the following: "The guy is throwing recycling and garbage into the same truck!"

Explanation 1, Split Trucks: The village's rubbish contractor, Car Trucking, has two trucks that are split down the middle internally. One compartment is used for trash and the other for recycling. It's nearly impossible to tell a split truck from a regular truck except when viewing directly from the rear.

Explanation 2, No Dedicated Trucks: Car Trucking doesn't have separate, marked, dedicated trucks for rubbish, recycling and yard waste. A truck used for garbage one day could be used for recycling the next day after cleaning.

Explanation 3, Contaminated Recycling: If a homeowner includes trash or yard waste in their recycling bin (presumably by mistake), the crew treats it as trash. Trash mixed with recyclables can cause problems for the sorting machines and personnel at material recovery facilities ("MERFs"). This is a nationwide concern that has birthed the guideline, "when in doubt, throw it out," rather than dropping a questionable item in the recycling bin.

For the same reason, avoid "packing and stacking" cardboard boxes and leaving them on top of, leaning against, or standing alone near the recycling cart. Crews also follow "when in doubt, throw it out" and toss the stack in the trash; stacks often include non-recyclable items like plastic bags or Styrofoam; crews can't possibly know what's in every stack and don't have time to sort it at the curb.

The best practice is to break down cardboard and cram it in the recycling cart. Have more cardboard than will fit in the cart? Save the excess for next week.

Explanation 4, Employee Error: Refuse collection is a difficult and competitive – yet unglamorous – business. Good help is hard to find; turnover is high. Inexperienced loaders (the guy who hangs off the back of the truck and loads the stuff inside) may make mistakes and drivers, who tend to be more experienced, don't always catch it right away.

Reminder: All rubbish and recycling must be "curbside" by 7 a.m. on collection day.

Bingham Farms Post Winter 2022

Snow removal guidelines

Plowing public roads: Snow plows hit public roads as soon as two inches have fallen. In heavy storms, the contractor will plow several times to keep the roads passable. The village will request additional work when conditions warrant.

Salting is based on the assessment of the police department. Similar to last year, the village will salt public roads when necessary. If you have a concern regarding snow removal from public roads, please – pretty please! – call the village office rather than the village's contractor.

Respect your neighbors: Village ordinances prohibit plowing snow from one property and depositing on another -- public or private. Snow must remain on the property on which it falls. Violators may be ticketed. Please inform your snow removal contractor.



24255 Thirteen Mile Rd.
Suite 190
Bingham Farms, MI 48025

☎ 248-644-0044

🌐 www.BinghamFarms.org

Emergency: 911

Police/Fire Dispatch: 248-626-5444

DTE: 800-477-4747

Police Office: 248-626-9672

Consumers Energy: 800-477-5050

Fire Office: 248-626-9862

Water Resources: 248-858-0958

Council meetings

Village Council typically meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 pm. Council holds occasional study sessions on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. Public attendance is encouraged.

Meeting notices along with Zoom links are published on the village website approximately 72 hours prior.

Meeting dates

Dates are adjusted for certain holidays; some fall on the third Monday.

- January 24
- February 28
- March 28
- April 25
- May 23
- June 27
- July 25
- August 22
- September 19
- October 24
- November 28
- December 19



Dispose of fats, oils & grease (FOG) properly

Never pour or wash kitchen fats, oils and grease (FOG) down your sink drain. It 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 can send sewage backwards and up through floor drains and toilets into homes or businesses, and/or out of manholes into streets and rivers. Cleanup costs can be expensive, and the cost can be much higher to homeowners with septic systems.

Preventing sewer backups from FOG blockages saves homes and businesses money and protects the water quality of the Rouge River. Folks can help by properly disposing of fats, oils and grease.

Practice and share these healthy habits:

- **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 local public works staff to go to the site and remove the blockage. Cleaning FOG buildup from sewers increases maintenance costs for communities – a needless consumption of tax dollars. Keep the environment clean and avoid unnecessary maintenance costs by keeping fats, oils and grease out of our sewers. For more healthy habits that protect water quality in the Rouge River, visit

www.allianceofrougecommunities.com/watershed.html.

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.

Alliance of Rouge Communities
OURS TO PROTECT
Working together, restoring the river

To learn more changes you can make, visit:
www.allianceofrougecommunities.com

COVID-19: Protecting yourself and others

There are many ways to protect against COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) offers guidelines.

GET VACCINATED. The various vaccines are effective at preventing you from getting sick. COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. “Taking your shot” is the best way to slow the spread of COVID-19. The CDC recommends that everyone who is eligible stay up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines, including folks with weakened immune systems.

WEAR A MASK. Everyone age 2 and older should wear a well-fitted mask indoors, in public, in areas of substantial or high community transmission, regardless of vaccination status. In general, masks aren’t necessary when outside. However, if someone is in prolonged close contact with others outdoors, a mask is recommended.

Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth is required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and while indoors at U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

GET TESTED. There are many types of tests. Regardless of type, a positive result means you’re infected and should isolate and inform your close contacts to avoid spread. Over-the-counter self-tests can be used at home or anywhere, are easy to use, and produce rapid results. Anyone can use self-tests, regardless of their vaccination status or whether they have symptoms.