

Halloween Pumpkin Carving Party

The Halloween Pumpkin Carving Party was a great success!

Our Comcast representative was on hand with Cider and Donuts!

Thirty seven pumpkins were carved and decorated by Pittsfield families, and the chili dogs were a hit!

The little goblins left with bags of treats, and smiles on their faces!

We plan to make this an annual tradition here in our Village!



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Monday – Friday

8:30am - 5:00pm

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Design and Nature Photography

Karen Tuttle of klizaDESIGN.com

Cheers, PV. It's been a pleasure!



Pittsfield Village

Communications
Committee

Bulletin

PEST PROBLEMS?

During the months of November through April, Eradico Pest Control's service schedule goes from weekly to monthly.

We anticipate our regular day to be the 2nd Thursday of the month as before.

If you are experiencing an issue with a pest or rodent, please contact the office at 971-0233.

HELP WANTED: HONEYBAKED HAM

Twenty holiday job openings!

\$9.00 per hour, ten to thirty hours per week, starting Nov. 10th.

All the jobs are thru the beginning of the year.

Apply in person.

3446 Washtenaw

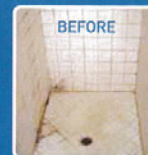
Monday thru Saturday, 10am to 6pm

734-677-8500.

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IN THE GARDEN

By Lisa Joseph, Horticulturist

My favorite sight in autumn is a majestic Sugar Maple in glorious fall colors of orange-red and yellow against an azure sky. Fall is as busy for the gardener as is springtime. There are fall clean ups to get done, bulbs to plant, perennials to divide, garden art and hoses to put away. Be sure to also keep your plants watered well until the ground freezes.

During the blustery days in mid October, as I was desperately trying in vain to stake up my fallen Dahlias, I chastised myself. Every spring I say that I must stake the plants that flop, such as Dahlia, tall Zinnia, Cone Flower, and Garden Phlox as soon as they emerge. How heartbreaking it is to find a large branch broken off because the plant was left to fend for itself against the wind. I find that peony rings, also called grow-through rings, work the best. They come in various heights and widths to fit all plant sizes. This staking method has to be installed while the plants are still short so that their stalks will grow through the squares. I've already placed my order for more peony rings so I'll be ready to stake the late summer languishing plants early next spring.

Aphids are destructive garden pests. As I've said before, I choose to fight them without using insecticide because I don't want to harm any of the beneficial insects that feed on aphids. Identifying an aphid is easy. They are small, soft-bodied, pear-shaped insects with a pair of cornicles (tail pipes) projecting from their hind end. They come in colors of green, brown, red, black, and yellowish. Aphids are drawn to the color yellow. Set a shallow dish of soapy water near aphid-infested plants. Aphids will jump in and perish. I read recently about another little trick to help get a handle

on a large infestation of aphids. Wrap a long piece of tape, sticky side out, around your fingers and blot off the aphids. It works like a charm, and it's fun too.

At this time of year, my old house is inundated with Asian Lady Beetles, Boxelder Bugs, and lately another interesting critter. I first incorrectly identified it as an Assassin Bug, a predator insect and garden helper. However, once I handled one and was dosed with its defensive odor, I quickly realized that it was not as I thought! The odor isn't particularly offensive. I find that it smells like very strong green apple. This insect is called the Western Conifer Seed Bug and becomes a household pest when the weather starts to turn cold, and they seek cozy digs in which to overwinter. These insects are almost an inch in length and are brown with black and white checkers along the back margins. On their lower hind legs is a widened section that looks a bit like a tiny leaf.



LISA'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

FOTHERGILLA 'MT. AIRY'- Dwarf Fothergilla (5' x 5')

This medium-sized shrub provides multiple seasons of interest. Beginning in spring, the white bottlebrush-like flowers emerge before the foliage and smell of sweet honey. The lush summer foliage is bluish green. My favorite show is in autumn when the foliage changes to brilliant shades of yellow, orange, red, and wine. It is truly spectacular.

Fothergilla enjoys a spot in full sun or partial shade, though it will also tolerate heavier shade. It thrives in rich organic soil so I like to add compost around the base of mine in the spring.

While my crew and I were completing the fall clean up on the grounds, I noted many creative autumn displays. Some of them were Halloween presentations with spooky ghosts, witches, and skeletons. Many residents made tasteful, artistic displays with pumpkins and gourds, fall plants, and corn stalks. The many inspired landscape plantings and garden art all contribute to making the community more inviting and charming. Well done!

I read that famed gardener Gertrude Jekyll felt that the best plant markers were flat river stones lettered with plant names. What a fabulous idea. Sharpie Extreme is a fade-resistant permanent marker that works perfectly for this task. Now we have a winter project!

Get out and play.



1	2	3 6pm M&M Committee meeting	4	5 6pm Landscape Committee meeting	6	7
8 2pm You and Your Dog!	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Office Closed Thanksgiving	27 Office Closed	28
29	30	<div data-bbox="592 1016 959 1211" data-label="Image"> <p>Pittsfield Village GREEN SPACES • GREAT NEIGHBORS November 2015</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1086 1024 1510 1213" data-label="Text"> <p><i>NOTE: the November and December board meetings typically are combined into one meeting in early December. Date: TBD and will be posted on www.pittsfieldvillage.com</i> <i>All meetings to be held in Pittsfield Village Community Room unless otherwise noted.</i></p> </div>				

