

Annual Meeting

May 11 at 6:30

Pittsfield Elementary School
Multi-Purpose Room

Come discuss important
topics that affect us all
here at Pittsfield Village!



It's almost here!

The Flower Giveaway!

**Saturday, May 16
11am -1pm**

We Want You!

Kat Irvin
Treasurer

Are there things going on in Pittsfield Village that you really like? Are there things you are unhappy about? Do you have ideas for how this could be a better place to live? Do you think it's good to have new people

join the Board every few years so that the community's direction is influenced by new ideas and perspectives? Or, have you never thought about any of this before? If not, perhaps now is the time. There are two Board seats up for election at our Annual Meeting on May 11, and we need YOU to consider running. The Board is a key part of our community's leadership, and it's a great way to get involved. Anyone in our



community can run, as long as they own and reside in a condominium unit.

This is my third year on the board. I have learned a lot about many different things, worked with some great people and I've been able to influence the direction of our community for the past years.

I've agreed to be the current Board member contact for anyone interested in running. If you might be interested, or if you just have questions about what it means to be a Board member, send me an email (kat.irvin@pittsfieldvillage.com) or give me a call at (734) 477-0380. I hope you will consider running—our volunteer leadership is only as strong as those willing to get involved!



Board of Directors

Aaron Pressel

President

(734) 678-4074

aaron.pressel@pittsfieldvillage.com

Sarah Deflon

Vice President

(734) 358-1946

sarah.deflon@pittsfieldvillage.com

Zach Bloomfield

Treasurer

zach.bloomfield@pittsfieldvillage.com

Kat Irvin

Secretary

(734) 477-0380

kat.irvin@pittsfieldvillage.com

Frank Lotfian

Member at Large

Frank.Lotfian@pittsfieldvillage.com

Committee Chairs

Margarita Garcia-Roberts

Finance Committee

Lizzy Hurwitz

Landscape Committee

Ellen Johnson

Modification &

Maintenance Committee

Management Office

Terri Leirstein

Community Manager

Tracy Vincent

Administrative Manager

Wanda Buster

Bookkeeper

Monday—Friday

8:30am - 5:00pm

2220 Pittsfield Blvd.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Phone (734) 971-0233

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office@pittsfieldvillage.com

www.pittsfieldvillage.com

Facebook.com/PittsfieldVillage

Design and Nature Photography

Karen Tuttle of klizaDESIGN.com

Gardening Club

The Landscape Committee is interested in knowing if anyone would like to form a "Gardening Club?" (This would be separate from the Landscape Committee.)

The "Gardening Club" would plant flowers in the window boxes of the vacant units, and for people who are unable to do this for themselves. They would also take care of those window boxes.

The "Club" will be a "fun club" for gardeners. Ideas and suggestions will always be appreciated!

Please sign up at the "Flower Giveaway." Just leave your name, address and contact information on the sign-up sheet at the gate!

LAWN MOWING

Lawn mowing days are usually Wednesday for the front yard areas and Thursday for the back yard areas, weather permitting. Please remove all items from the Common areas so they do not interfere with the mowing.

Nest Watch

Mother Duck is out getting some dinner.

(See photo below.)



Join the Finance Committee!!

**by Azita Shahrestani,
Finance Committee Member**

The main purpose of the Finance Committee is to oversee that income (from residents' association fees) is spent correctly, and that there are no errors in reporting. As a member, you will receive a packet each month from Terri, the Pittsfield Village Community Manager. This includes financial reports, average selling prices on units, the village's current status with yearly operating expenses and capital projects—and how our spending relates to the planned budget, and plans for future projects. You will learn how your money is being managed and how much will be put to use in the community each year; how much is set aside for emergencies, such as foundation repairs due to damage from tree roots; and how much is put into future funding accounts for large multi-year projects, such as reroofing. In addition, you will get to know some of the great people who work in the Pittsfield Village Office, as well as some of your neighbors who are also serving on the committee. It is a great way to get involved and learn more about how the village is run, and we need you!

The Finance Committee meets at 6pm on the third Tuesday of the month, in the community room.

Longer Lasting Groceries

1. One rotten apple can spoil the bunch. It's not just an old wives' tale. thedailymeal.com

2. Add a dab of butter to the cut side of cheese to keep it from drying out. thedailymeal.com

3. Cheese rules: Wrap in cheese paper or wax paper (NOT plastic wrap) and then place in a plastic baggie. Keep in the warmest part of the fridge (vegetable or cheese drawer). thekitchn.com

4. Freeze and preserve fresh herbs in olive oil. The herbs will infuse the oil while freezing, and the ice cubes are very handy for cooking: just pop one out and use as the base of a dish. Works best with rosemary, sage, thyme, and oregano. Dill, basil, and mint should always be used fresh.

5. Store asparagus like cut flowers. Sort of. Cut the stems, place in water, throw a plastic bag over 'em and refrigerate. They'll stay crisp for a week or longer, and you can use this trick on cilantro and parsley as well. See here for more details. alwaysorderdessert.com

6. Wrap the crown of a bunch of bananas with plastic wrap. They'll keep for 3-5 days longer than usual, which is especially helpful if you eat organic bananas. Bananas also produce more ethylene gas than any other fruit, so keep them isolated on the counter. snapguide.com

7. Putting a paper towel in your lettuce will keep your salad fresh all week long. The paper towel will absorb the moisture. Also, you might want to invest in a salad spinner. It'll get rid of moisture, which is the culprit of wilting leaves.

8. Wrap celery, broccoli, and lettuce in tin foil before storing in the fridge. It'll stay crisp for 4 weeks or more.

9. Mason jars are your friend. They provide a healthier and longer-lasting alternative to plastic Tupperware, which deteriorates and stains easily. Produce will keep a few days longer if stored in a jar. easyst2.blogspot.com

10. Clean your fridge. Once something goes bad in your fridge or cupboards, it leaves behind a nice gang of mold ready to eat up your new food. Disinfect the fridge — it'll make everything last a little longer.



Pittsfield Village
Communications
Committee

Bulletin

PEST PROBLEMS?

Pest Control Services are provided by Eradico Services every Thursday. They will treat for ants, spiders, bees, mice, etc. Please call the Pittsfield Village office to schedule service.

COMCAST / XFINITY

The Village has its own Xfinity representative: Terri—(734) 827-4951.

Moving? Call Terri for a quick and easy transfer! Get more for your entertainment \$\$\$! Call Terri for a quick review of your current service provider!

Terri—Your dedicated Xfinity representative. Call today: (734) 827-4951.

SUMMER JOBS

Looking for a summer job? Pittsfield Village is looking to hire seasonal Lifeguard positions and a part-time grounds helper. Please contact Terri at the Pittsfield Village office if you are interested in more information.

CONDO OWNERS: STILL WRITING CHECKS?

If you are still writing checks each and every month, worrying about getting the payment in on time, using ever-increasing postage stamps, well, we have a solution for you! Perhaps you are interested in safe, easy, convenient and reliable method for paying your monthly Association Fees. If so, we urge you to consider signing up for Direct Debit from your checking or savings account! All you have to do is complete the short form and return it with a voided check to Wanda Buster at the Pittsfield Village office. The monthly fee will be automatically withdrawn at the beginning of the month and you'll NEVER have a late fee!

MESSAGE FROM COMCAST

Peace of mind and control is what the XHS Home Security from Comcast provides. You set the rules so you can know what's happening at home when you are away. Contact the Village's personal Xfinity representative, Terri at 734-827-4951 for more details. Call if you need transfers, upgrades and new service. Special pricing for Village residents!



IN THE GARDEN

By Lisa Joseph, Horticulturist

I'm glad that the return of warm spring days is happening gradually. When the heat comes suddenly, we are struggling to keep up with the quickly emerging plants. Now that the snow has melted, I suggest getting out and completing your garden spring clean up. That way, it will be easier to avoid cutting or stepping on bulb and perennial foliage that will be arriving for the season. On the south side of my house, my *Crocus tommasinianus* (Tommies) are up and blooming. What a welcome sight! In areas of the garden where you've planted early-flowering bulbs, it's best to cut back the perennials around them in the fall. These bulbs usually bloom in very early spring, soon after the snow has melted, and you might not be motivated to get out in the still chilly weather to clean up the garden before that happens.

This summer, watch for the eggs of the Green Lacewing. I remember the first time I found Green Lacewing eggs on the underside of a leaf. I was so thrilled! Each egg was hung from a long, slender stalk. The voracious larvae, after they hatch, are eager to get started on the job. They crawl down the stalk and grab the first soft-bodied insect they find. Resembling tiny alligators with pincers, these ravenous little predators feed mostly on aphids, mealy bugs, scale insect, and caterpillars, all pests to the gardener.

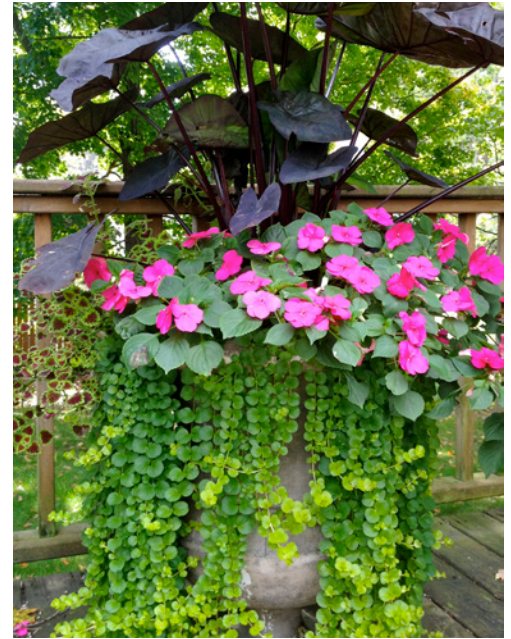
The smart female lacewing will lay her eggs in areas that are infested with aphids or other delectables to ensure that her young have a readily available food source.

When you have a pest insect infestation, try to wait before applying insecticide. Instead, inspect your plants for beneficial insects like Lacewing and Lady Beetle larvae that are ready and willing to take care of the problem. Using insecticide will kill the good guys as well as the bad.

LISA'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

MAGNOLIA LILIFLORA 'JANE' Lily-Flowered Magnolia

This plant is a smaller specimen tree up to 15' tall and 10' wide. The flowers in April and May are violet pink with a white interior. Because they are later blooming than other magnolias, the flowers aren't killed by late spring frosts. Plus, this beauty may grace you with sporadic re-bloom in mid summer. Don't site it on the south side next to house, though, because the warmer microclimate created there will cause the buds to open earlier. Lily-flowered Magnolia will tolerate clay soil. Be sure to provide good air circulation to avoid possible powdery mildew infestation.



Try leaving the first of the season's weeds to flower in your garden for the bumble and honey bees. We all know that the weeds are always the first to flower and get going in the spring, and the hungry bees are eager for a nectar and pollen source. Just be sure to get rid of the weeds before they set seed.

Other good examples of early spring bloomers to plant to attract bees and butterflies:

Aquilegia (Columbine)

Arabis (Rockcress)

Armeria (Thrift; resents moist or clay soil; sharp drainage is essential)

Crocus (Fall-planted bulb)

Galanthus (Snowdrop; fall-planted bulb)

Hamamelis (Spring Witchhazel; a small specimen tree)

Helleborus (Hellebore or Lenten Rose)

Iberis (Candytuft)

Iris reticulata (Dwarf Iris; fall-planted bulb)

Myosotis (Forget-Me-Not)

Phlox subulata (Creeping Phlox)

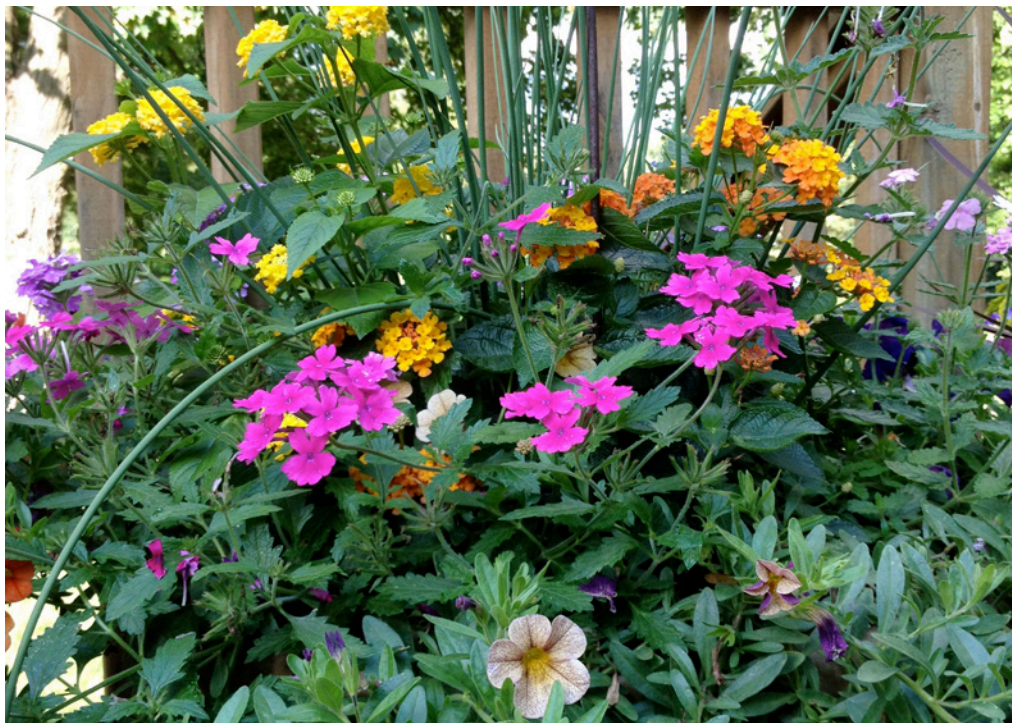
Puschkinia (Striped Squill; fall-planted bulb)

Scilla (Squill; fall-planted bulb)

Syringa (Lilac)

Viola (Pansies) - Idea- make up a planter with pansies for your porch or deck!

Ready. Set. Go!



						1	2
3	4	5 6pm M&M Committee meeting	6	7 6pm Landscape Committee meeting	8	9	
10	11 6:30pm Annual Meeting- Pittsfield Elementary	12	13	14	15 Newsletter articles due	16 11am-1pm Flower Giveaway PV Maintenance Garage	
17	18	19	20	21	22 4pm Office Closes	23	
24	25 Memorial Day Office Closed POOL OPEN for 2015 season!	26	27	28	29 3-6pm Spring Landscape Walk	30	
31							

Looking ahead:

Annual Pittsfield Village Yard Sale

June 6

Annual Pool Party

July 25

