



**From the Board of Directors, by
Nick Oliverio:**

Garden Marker Program Reminders

When you are enrolled in the Garden Marker Program you agree to remove debris, keep garden beds weed-free, and grow vegetables or herbs in the rear of your unit in ONLY raised beds or containers.

During the growing season (now-September), members will be touring the grounds on a monthly basis ahead of the Landscape Committee's monthly meeting to evaluate the status of garden marker violations. Prior notice will be given to residents ahead of the tour.

Hi, my name is Irene Hayes, owner of **Paws & Tails Pet Care**. I'm located right here in Pittsfield Village!

Have peace of mind while you're away with quality care and affordable rates for your furry family member!

I provide daily dog walking for people who have long, busy, work hours, new puppies who need potty breaks and socialization, or for those that want their dog to have a fun break in their day!

I also provide house visits for dogs, cats, and small animals for those gone on vacations and business trips.

Email to book your free meet and greet with me and to receive more information.

Contact information: irenehayes03@yahoo.com

Thanks to everyone who attended the Village's annual meeting! There were two questions we wanted to follow up with everyone on.

1. Generally speaking, if you want to install an antenna or satellite dish, the resident rules "Aesthetics" section dictates you'll need prior written approval of the Modification/Maintenance Committee. We're still looking into if the antenna mentioned went through this process when it was installed.

2. Last year, there was an electrical issue which prompted our change in the Association's insurance company. The Board received advice from the City of Ann Arbor, which expressed that this was not as urgent of an issue as the former insurance company made it out to be. For future guidance, co-owners are responsible for the wiring in their own condominiums, from the connection box throughout the unit, including replacing the breaker box if necessary. While breakers and cloth covered wires are important, residents have much more control over what is plugged into the outlets. Safety guidelines should always be followed by each owner, and you should consult with an electrician if you are unsure.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact the office or bring them up at our monthly board meetings.

Your Pittsfield Village Board of Directors

Homebody Practice:

Mindful movement, inspired by yogic traditions.

Community classes weekly on Zoom:

Wednesday Unwind: 8:30pm - 30 min

There are no prerequisites, no rules, and no expectations. I offer variations for poses and I design the sequence with beginners in mind. All my classes are streamed live from my living room, right here in the Pittsfield Community.

For more information or to sign up:

Website: bit.ly/homebodypractice

Email: brittanywidin@gmail.com

IN THE GARDEN

By Lisa Joseph, Community Horticulturist

This morning the green fist of the peonies are getting ready
to break my heart
as the sun rises,
as the sun strokes them with his old, buttery fingers
and they open-
pools of lace, white and pink-
and all day the black ants climb over them.

- Mary Oliver, Peonies

Welcome June!



In bloom this month:

PEONY 'DO TELL' in the Roundabout Garden.

Have a sniff! It has a divine subtle sweet scent. 'Do Tell' is a beauty with soft pink petals and a deep rose and yellow fringed center. Also the dark green foliage stays clean all summer and rarely suffers from black spot!

PERENNIAL SUPER-STAR! Thinking ahead to the late summer gems...

Solidago 'Fireworks'- Goldenrod 36 x 30"

Who doesn't love a blaze of beauty in the late summer garden.

This more refined relative of common golden-

rod may take up a lot of room in the garden, but it is an important late summer pollinator plant. I'm glad that I (grudgingly) gave up the space in my perennial garden at home. We have also included this superstar in the community pollinator garden.



NOW AVAILABLE!

Weigela My Monet Purple Effect 30 x 30"

An exciting new tiny shrub for the front of the border! In late spring, the gorgeous bright rosy pink tubular flowers attract numerous pollinators. The variegated cream and bright green leaves with a hint of purple add interest in the garden even when this shrub is not in bloom.

Plant with Ageratum 'Artist Blue', Campanula 'Blue Clips', Cranesbill, Petunia Vista Bubblegum or Vista Fuchsia.

IT'S TIME TO PLANT DAHLIA TUBERS!

Plant your tuber structure 6" down with the eye, or growing point, facing up. Add some compost into the soil going back in around the tuber.

When the plant is 5" tall, pinch it down to three sets of leaves. This will create a bushier plant.

Fertilize dahlia plants with fish emulsion every ten days before flowers bloom. Just a little heads up- fish emulsion is SO stinky, but the plants will thank you for your selfless generosity.



Dahlia Tuber



STAKING DAHLIAS:

With hollow stems and heavy flowers, tall Dahlias will crash to the ground and break your heart if not well-staked. My most successful staking method is to use rebar (or a sturdy wooden stake), pound the stake down into the ground about 12 inches and 3-4 inches away from where the center stalk will be. As the stem grows, tie it a bit loosely to the stake.

OH NO! IT'S TAKING OVER THE GARDEN BED!

If you've ever planted a ground cover that you thought was just gorgeous in the garden center, and then once planted, it took over and bullied all the other perennials in the bed, you'll understand my chagrin at finding **Chameleon Plant (*Houttuynia cordata*)** in landscaped beds around the community.

A fellow gardener friend of mine made the mistake of planting this in her garden to be "a lovely colorful ground cover". The war for her began once the Chameleon Plant started growing into and over the other perennials in her shade bed. She dug it out. It came back with a vengeance. She put black plastic over it for **two** years. It grew horizontally underground and came back. She is still fighting it.

Houttuynia cordata- Chameleon Plant



As a community, we have to be mindful of plants we are adding to the landscapes.

Research, research, research!

The landscape crew have been vigilantly trying to eradicate some of these domineering invasives. The job is daunting but necessary.

Please remember: check the Do Not Plant list before adding any plants to the back garden beds, and seek approval first from the landscape committee before adding perennials into the front beds.

Caryopteris 'Sunshine Blue'; Dahlia 'Franz Kafka'; Eupatorium 'Little Joe'; Buddleia 'Miss



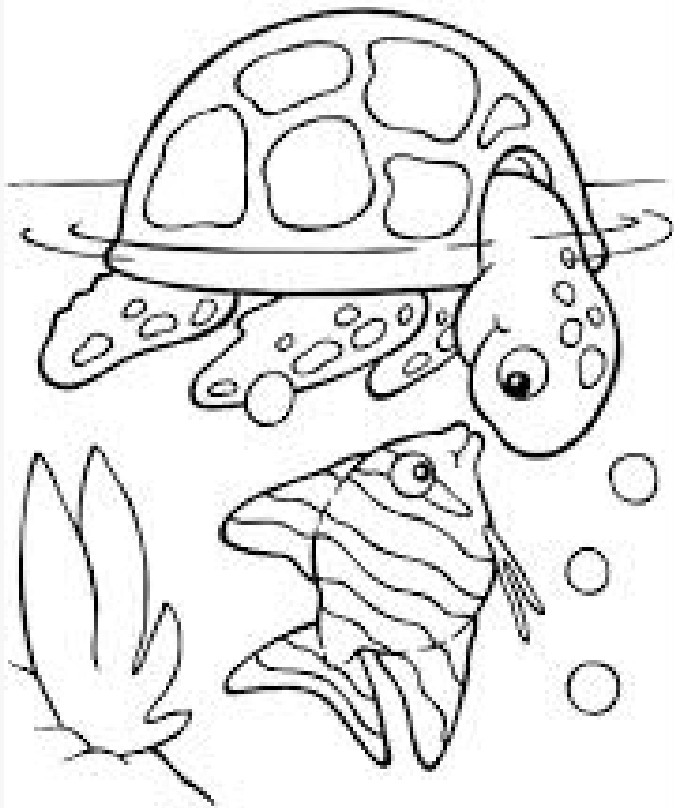
You can also get answers by emailing us at pvmastergardener@gmail.com

I love June. So many perennials will bloom this month. I hope you're able to get outside and enjoy the beauty. Take care

Dahlia Andries Orange, Gomphrena, Zinnia w/ Miscanthus



Kids Coloring Corner



PESTS?

JC Ehrlich services the community every Thursday. If you have pest control needs & would like to place a work order, contact the Village office at **734-971-0223** or office@pittsfieldvillage.com.

Does your deck need repairs?

As we begin spending more time outdoors, you may find your deck is looking a little worn in places. These repairs are the responsibility of the owner, not the Association. Maintenance will do certain deck repair billback work, and Supreme Deck may also provide you with a list of their recommendations & pricing if they are scheduled to clean and stain your deck mid-June. If you're interested in fixing it yourself but need some help, Nick Oliverio has helped other villagers and can help you too. Nick is a woodworking enthusiast, not a licensed builder. If you are looking for an entirely new deck, you can find a licensed builder through Michigan's LARA system. Nick is also not officially endorsed by the Association or BOD, and although he is a Board member, his help is as an individual co-owner. You can contact him at nick.oliverio@gmail.com

Tips to keep you — and the outdoors — safe this season

Spring is here, and Michigan has many options for outdoor activities – perfect for getting fresh air and exercise, taking a break from screens and enjoying time with family and friends. No matter where your adventures take you, here's some good information to keep in mind:

Know before you go

- Check the status of the place you want to visit and the various facilities there.
- Have a plan B if it's crowded or closed when you get there.
- Check the weather forecast.

Plan ahead

- Be prepared with proper clothing, gear, food and water.
- Expect that your phone may not have service if you are in the woods or on the water.
- Download maps to your phone or bring paper maps.
- Bring extra clothes or a blanket, first-aid supplies, hand sanitizer and a mask.

Practice physical distancing

- Keep your group size small.
- Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth
- Give others space. In fact, give at least 6 feet of space when around people from outside your household.
- If you are sick, stay home.

Play it safe

- Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce chance of injury
- Consider the ability level of your group, including dogs, if you bring one.
- Take extra precautions around water and be mindful that changes in weather can significantly drop or raise temperatures.
- Always let others know where you are going and when to expect you to return.

Leave no trace

- Respect public lands and waters, as well as tribal and local communities.
- Take all your garbage and recycling with you.
- Clean your gear before going into and leaving recreation sites to avoid spreading invasive species and diseases across our woods and waters.
- If you build a campfire, make sure to douse the fire with water, stir and douse again before leaving the site.

Build an inclusive outdoors

- Be friendly and welcoming to people of all abilities and identities.
- Share the space; remember that many sites and resources serve multiple recreation uses.
- Learn about our accessible recreation opportunities.

Explore locally

- Limit long-distance travel.
- Make use of local parks, trails and public spaces.
- Consider your impact on communities you visit.

Good Practices Today Can Prevent Major Plumbing and Drain Problems Tomorrow!

If you have a garbage disposal in your kitchen, you know that it's a great appliance that makes household duties less demanding. But if not operated or maintained properly, a garbage disposal can easily break down, block and clog the drains and cause a long list of expensive plumbing and drain nightmares.

Garbage Disposal Do's:

- Do keep your garbage disposal clean. Pour a little dish soap inside and let the garbage disposal run for a minute or so with some cold water after washing dishes.
- Do run your garbage disposal regularly. Frequent use prevents rust and corrosion, assures that all parts stay moving and prevents obstructions from accumulating.
- Do grind food waste w/ a strong flow of cold water. Why cold water? It will cause any grease or oils that may get into the unit to solidify, so that they can be chopped up before reaching the trap.
- Do grind certain hard materials such as small chicken and fish bones, egg shells, small fruit pits, etc. A scouring action is created by these particles inside the grind chamber that cleans the garbage disposal's walls.
- Do cut large items into smaller pieces. Put them into the garbage disposal one at a time instead of trying to shove a large amount in at once.

Garbage Disposal Don'ts:

- The most important rule of thumb: Don't Put Anything in The Garbage Disposal That Is Not Biodegradable Food. A garbage disposal is not a trash can; it's for food scraps only. Non-food items can damage both blades and the motor. When in doubt, throw it out!
- Don't grind glass, plastic, metal or even paper.
- Don't grind anything combustible.
- Don't grind cigarette butts
- Don't pour grease, oil or fat into your garbage disposal or drain. Grease will slowly accumulate and impede your garbage disposal's grinding ability as well as clog drains.
- Don't use hot water when grinding food waste. Hot water will cause grease to liquefy and accumulate, causing drains to clog.
- Don't grind extremely fibrous material like corn husks, celery stalks, onion skins, and artichokes. Fibers from these can tangle and jam the garbage disposal motor and block drains.
- Don't turn off the motor or water until grinding is completed. When grinding is complete, turn off the garbage disposal first. Let water continue to run for at least 15 seconds, flushing out any remaining particles. Then turn off water.
- Don't put too many potato peels down the garbage disposal. The starches in the potatoes will turn into a thick paste and may cause blades to stick.
- Don't put large amounts of food down the garbage disposal. Feed food into the garbage disposal a little at a time with the cold water running; this will help the food scraps flow down freely through the drain pipes and plumbing.
- Don't put expandable foods into your garbage disposal. Foods like pasta and rice expand when you add water in a pot; they do the same thing once inside your pipes or garbage disposal and are the cause of many jams and clogs.
- Don't grind large animal bones (beef, pork etc.).
- Avoid putting coffee grounds down the garbage disposal. They won't harm the garbage disposal and they'll actually help eliminate odors. However, they can accumulate in drains and pipes, causing clogs. Best to avoid.
- Don't use harsh chemicals like bleach or drain cleaners. They can damage blades and pipes. Borax is a natural sink cleaner and sanitizer that effectively works on odor-causing mold and mildew that accumulates in garbage disposals. (See more below).

Keeping Your Garbage Disposal Running Problem-Free

Ice is an extremely effective and inexpensive method for cleaning your garbage disposal, sharpening the blades and breaking up any grease build-up which has accumulated. Just toss a few ice cubes into the garbage disposal and run it. As the garbage disposal chops into the ice cubes, the ice chips will effectively scour all the hard to reach areas of the unit and melt down the drain. Try this once or twice a month to keep your garbage disposal in fine working order.

To Remove or Prevent Nasty Garbage Disposal Smells:

Here are some natural methods to clean your garbage disposal that are good for the environment and very inexpensive.

- Periodically, take a lemon or orange and toss it into the disposal. The oils and juice from the fruits and peels naturally clean the walls inside the garbage disposal and create a fresh, long-lasting scent.
- Freeze vinegar in ice cube trays and run those down the disposal. This will keep your blades sharp while safely killing odor-causing bacteria.
- For stubborn odors pour baking soda into the drain and let it set for several hours before running the water and garbage disposal. For really stubborn odors, use a safe cleaning product like Borax. Just pour 3-4 tablespoons of Borax down the drain and let it sit for an hour. Then turn on the hot water and flush the borax away.
- What to Do if Your Garbage Disposal is Not Grinding:
90% of garbage disposals that appear not to be working just need to be reset. There is usually a red or black reset button on the garbage disposal motor underneath your sink. Just push to reset.
- If the garbage disposal is plugged into a wall outlet, ensure the outlet has power.

Check for a blown fuse or tripped circuit breaker

Give it a push-start. Most garbage disposals have a hole underneath that allows you to hand-crank it free once it's been jammed. To crank it, use either an Allen wrench or a garbage disposal tool that you can pick up at most hardware stores. This should free up most non-serious jams.

Call a Plumbing and Drain Cleaning Professional When All Else Fails

Shared by John Sprentall

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 M&M Committee 6pm virtual mtg	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 LANDSCAPE Committee 6pm virtual mtg	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Virtual Board Meeting –Via GoTo- Webinar 6:15 pm			

Pittsfield Village Office

Monday— Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Office: 734-971-0233 Fax: 734-971-3421
www.pittsfieldvillage.com

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Meeting Links

M & M Committee Meeting (1st Tuesday) <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/824424029>

Landscape Committee Meeting (2nd Tuesday) <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/151833981>

Board Meeting (last Wednesday) <https://dashboard.gotowebinar.com/webinar/311054453147534607>