



February 2023

Dryer Vents

FIRE PREVENTION

A good rule of thumb is to have your dryer exhaust vents inspected and cleaned by a professional at least once per year.

However, if you have a household that uses the dryer often, such as one with a lot of children, you may want to consider increasing that amount to every six months.

Check yours today!

Bits from the Board

WE NEED YOUR HELP

As a condominium association, Pittsfield Village is governed by our Master Deed and our Bylaws. They serve as the foundation for all that takes place in the Village. Current governing documents date from 2009, when we transitioned from a co-op to a condominium community.

For the last several years, the Board of Directors has made note of several topics that need to be updated or changed altogether: we call it the 'Governing Documents Wishlist'. Modifications to our governing documents, however, cannot be done by the Board alone; they must be put before the community for review and adopted by majority vote.

So, what are the topics on the Wishlist?

They're listed below with a very brief explanation. Please note: not all topics need or have to go forward! Board members have basic information and some background materials. The committee will need to review, investigate pros and cons, make them known to the community, and may even decide that some need to fall off the list or that others need to be added.

- Responsibility for windows & doors: association or co-owner?
- Co-Op leasing restrictions: need to remove; relates to FHA approval
- Joining units: to become a single legal property
- Deck extensions: currently limited to 10 feet from buildings; extend?
- Board of Director resolutions or policies since 2009
- Change % valuations of units: monthly fees currently based on percent ownership designated when we were a co-op; much variation among units; shall we equalize so all pay the same fee?
- Enabling provisions: to allow the Board rights to take out loans, in the event of an unpredicted, major emergency expense
- Change the limit to the number of proxies per co-owner: current limit is 5
- Clotheslines: add language to allow

What we need help with:

The Board wants to create an ad hoc committee that will be responsible for the amendment process. Working with the Board and with support from our legal counsel, the Governing Document Amendment Committee will identify steps in the process, establish a timeline, investigate topics, develop and implement tools to inform and educate the community about the topics and the process, gather

feedback, and play an active role in organizing the voting.

A high-level description of the Committee and its goals, responsibilities, and membership criteria are available from the office.

Interested? Want more information before deciding? Please check out the description, then get in touch with Kendra Zurich, our Community Manager, or Ellen Johnson, Board President.

Why in the world would you want to do this? In anticipation of that question, here's one answer: you'll get an insider's understanding of the workings of our association, without a long-term or open-ended commitment. It's pretty fascinating, even if you're not nerdy about it (self-description by the author; may or may not apply to all Board members).

You'll be part of re-establishing one of the cornerstones of the largest condo community in Ann Arbor. And you'll get to work with really fun people!

Winter Life Hacks



Socks on the Go! Pack an extra pair of socks in your car's glove compartment. Then if you need to get out and shovel, or if you step into a puddle, you'll have dry socks to change into. And put those orphaned or mismatched socks to use! Use them as wiper blade covers!

Enlist the Help of Your Ceiling Fan—Ceiling fans are not just for summer! Flip the switch to reverse the spin of the fan and turn on the lowest speed to blow warm air down from the ceiling.

Use Energy from the Sun—During the day, open curtains and blinds to allow sunlight to help warm the house, and then close at night to hold the heat in.

Dress in Layers! Find the blankets, wool sweaters, long johns, and socks. If you can dress in layers while watching TV or working from home, you may be able to keep the heat at a minimum during certain times of the day.

Keep a Bag of Clay Kitty Litter in your Trunk—If your car gets stuck in deep snow or slick ice, sprinkling kitty litter (non-clumping) at the base of your tires can be just the thing to add some traction and get things moving again. The extra weight in your trunk will also create added pressure on your tires, ensuring greater contact between your tread and the ground.

Prevent Food Spoilage in A Power Outage—If you lose power, invite the neighbors over and cook up food before it goes bad. If you lose power from a winter storm, don't let food spoil in the fridge. While it will be safe for about 24 hours, pack it in coolers and move it outdoors (provided it's 30 degrees F or colder) if your outage is any longer than that. Use the grill to cook up anything that won't last.

Learn to Walk Like a Penguin—To walk safely on ice, walk like a penguin. Point your feet out and hold your arms out slightly to your side. Shuffle, and take short steps.

De-Ice with A Potato? The night before freezing temperatures, rub half a potato over your car's windshield. The sugar from the potato creates a barrier over the window and prevents ice from forming, so you'll come out in the morning and won't have to scrape! Simply rinse and wipe with your wipers when you get on the road. You can also try these methods!

Gas up! During cold weather months, it's a good practice to keep at least a half a tank of gasoline in your vehicle at all times. Not only does it prevent you from being stranded, but it prevents any water in the tank from freezing, which can damage the fuel pump.

Keep Side Mirrors Frost-Free—Place plastic bags over your car mirrors at night and they'll be frost-free in the morning. Re-use them over and over.

Get Instant Traction with Your Car's Floor Mats—Your car's mats can help you get un-stuck! Your car's floor mats can help you get un-stuck from snowy or muddy conditions in a pinch. Place your front floor mats under the spinning tire to give you some traction. Just don't forget to retrieve them after you get moving!

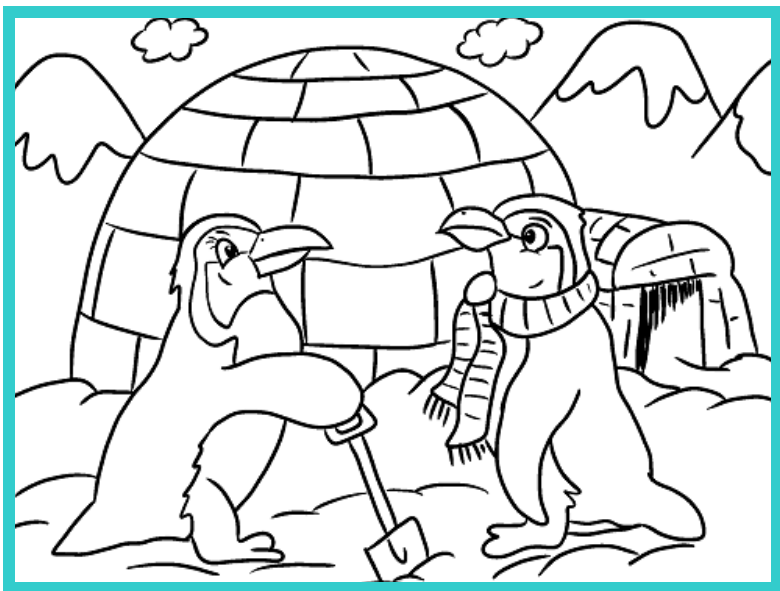
Unfreeze Locks with Hand Sanitizer! Squirt a little hand sanitizer on them. The isopropyl alcohol that kills germs also lowers the freezing point of water and can melt the ice inside the lock within seconds.

Save Your Skin! Skip the long, hot showers, which can dry out skin. Try taking a lukewarm shower, for a shorter duration. And try these home remedies to combat dry skin.

Easy Ice Scraper—A plastic card, such as an old gift card or loyalty card, from your wallet, works in a pinch. (Don't use credit cards - you can damage them).

Keep A Roll of Duct Tape in The Car—Not only does it fix everything, but you can use it as a fire starter – duct tape is very flammable and is a great tool to get a fire going in an emergency.

Keep Pipes from Freezing — Avoid burst pipes with this tip! Wrap them in insulation or layers of newspaper, covering the newspaper with plastic to keep out moisture.

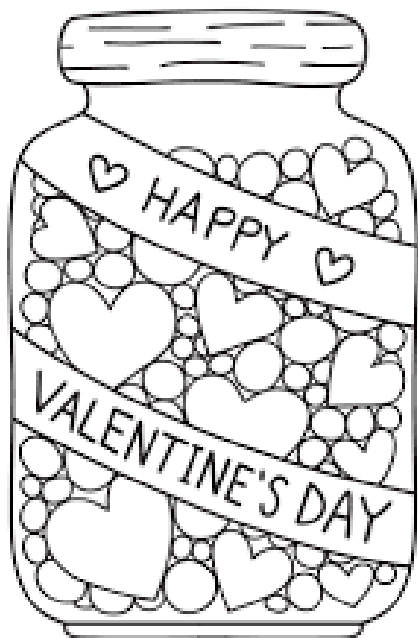


Dust of Snow

By Robert Frost

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Pre-pandemic, Pittsfield Village hosted a variety of Community events throughout the year. One favorite of the office staff was making Valentines! Some residents and staff gathered in the community center, ate chips & cookies, and enjoyed a fun craft night together!

We found this one today that was left behind a few years ago.....and it was meant for one of you, I'm sure! See below



May 2022—May 2023
PITTSFIELD VILLAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Johnson—President

Ellen.johnson@pittsfieldvillage.com

Joy Knoblauch—Secretary

Joy.knoblauch@pittsfieldvillage.com

John Sprentall—Vice President

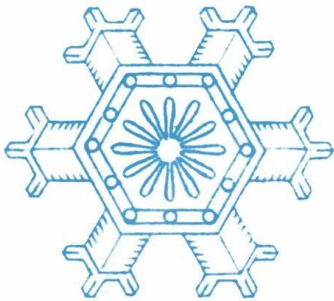
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Jessica Lehr—Treasurer

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Nick Oliverio—Member at Large

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Paws & Tails Pet Care

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 & greet and to receive more information.

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Tracy Vincent, Admin: tvincent@kramertriad.com

Maintenance/General: office@pittsfieldvillage.com

M&M meeting link: please contact the office

Board meeting link: link will be sent to you with the agenda later this month.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 M&M Committee Meeting 6pm	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15 Board Meeting open forum: 6pm	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				