

## **THE TREE WORKING GROUP** ~UPDATE~

By Kevin Peshick

After a slow start, the tree working group has blasted off, and our merry band of tree geeks has been busy in your backyards collecting data on our trees (Species/Height/Diameter/Condition, etc).

As of August, we have inventoried 86 trees. Kyler Melmoth, one of our star tree surveyors and expert conservationist, has access to “i-Tree” software to analyze our trees. “i-Tree” is a peer-reviewed software package from the US Forest Service that gives us incredible information about our trees. With the 86 trees that we have surveyed so far, we can report the following:

- ◆ Together they combine to reduce stormwater surface runoff by 28,500 gallons annually.
- ◆ They create a tree canopy that covers 2.3 acres. This canopy, and the shade it provides, is critical for combating global warming and the heat island effect.
- ◆ They produce 3.1 tons of oxygen per year.
- ◆ They remove 144 pounds of pollution per year.
- ◆ They sequester 1.1 tons of carbon per year.

Please note that this is based on the 86 trees for which we have collected data to date. This number of trees represents a survey of three partial blocks of the village. Therefore, these numbers should be much higher by the time we finish, highlighting the importance of our urban forest.

I would like to recognize our exceptional team of tree surveyors. Our survey crew leaders are Kyler Melmoth, Theresa Moore, and me. Two incredible crew members who have joined us regularly are Susanne Giraud and Linda Skolarus. We have also received much-needed assistance from Jan Frank and Rita Laurance. If you would like to join us in conducting the tree survey, you can reach me (Kevin Peshick) at [b4nivek@yahoo.com](mailto:b4nivek@yahoo.com).

## **TRUGREEN** **REAR LAWN APPLICATION**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**  
(rain date 9-22)



**FALL CRAFT NIGHT**  
**Thursday, September 18**  
**6:00 pm**  
**2220 Pittsfield Blvd**  
**Garage**



## Let's Try Again!

Remember the singer/songwriter duo Fendrick & Peck (my friends Madeline Fendrick and Brian Peck)? Many of you have attended their concerts in my back yard in previous years and have enjoyed their soaring harmonies and introspective lyrics.

You may also remember that they had to cancel their last scheduled appearance here, but they're coming back — this time with two concerts scheduled in the Ann Arbor area:

For those who enjoy the downtown nightlife scene:

### Fendrick & Peck

**Friday September 12, 2025**

7:30 pm

Crazy Wisdom Bookstore (*upstairs performance space*)

Ann Arbor, MI

And for those who prefer the daytime vibe of a country picnic:

### Fendrick & Peck

**Saturday September 13, 2025**

4:30 pm

Saline Indivisible Potluck Picnic

Saline, MI (contact me for exact location)



Both events are free. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

**Who are these guys?** Here's what Crazy Wisdom is saying about them:

"Join us for an enchanting evening of original acoustic music with Fendrick & Peck, a folk duo celebrated for their rich harmonies, poetic lyrics, and undeniable musical chemistry. Their sound blends timeless Americana with a heartfelt, modern sensitivity." Check them out for yourself at [fendrickandpeck.com](http://fendrickandpeck.com). Then join us at the event of your choice. Please contact me with any questions! Vicki

Vicki Lawrence

734-747-1670

[lawrence@umich.edu](mailto:lawrence@umich.edu)

## VIOLIN AND VIOLA LESSONS

For Elementary School Students to Adults!  
Lessons are held at  
Calvary Presbyterian Church at the corner of  
Fernwood & Norwood.

Call Linda Speck,  
734.730.4525 for more  
information

[aa3013@wayne.edu](mailto:aa3013@wayne.edu)

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## Board Beat: September 2025

Submitted by David Brassfield, Member of the Board

Most of the Board meeting held Wednesday, August 27, was given over to presentations by managers of the Village infrastructure improvements project and a representative from the City's A2 Zero initiative. Highlights from each follow below.

As to regular Board business, the meeting agenda contained just three items:

- **Snow Removal.** Our annual agreement with the City permitting us to clear our own streets this winter in place of the municipal trucks, notorious for plowing cars in, has been signed, sealed, and delivered! In the past getting this agreement in place has often been a sticking point, but not this year. Margolis will do the work for us, on our streets and on our walkways.
- **Water Service Lines.** Up until now any remaining galvanized service pipes between mains and buildings have been replaced at City expense. Not so those for one last location: the courtyard homes at mid-block on the east side of Pittsfield Boulevard between Norwood and Oakwood. Service to eight units there is still provided by galvanized lines that because of the distances to the water main become ours to replace at our own expense. A pretty big expense: the contract we approved with Hutzler totals just under \$60,000.
- **Foundation Wall Stabilization.** Yet another of these pricey jobs will be undertaken by Home Spec at a unit on Fernwood. The cost: \$28,500.



### A2 Zero/DTE Energy Efficiency Funding Opportunity

There is a possibility that our condo association may qualify for community-wide energy-efficiency upgrades under a combined program to be administered by DTE and the City's Office of Sustainability and Innovation (OSI). Steve Christiansen of OSI came to us and explained how this might work.

DTE administers a wide range of state-mandated energy efficiency programs to reduce its customers' use of gas and electricity. Among these is an income-qualified rebate program for multi-family communities. The program is funded by the Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) fees included in each customer's monthly bill. Ann Arbor also provides rebates for energy efficiency measures in multi-family communities; these rebates are funded by the City's Climate Action Millage. The two programs overlap in many areas, and to maximize their impact, OSI recently collaborated with DTE on a pilot program at another Ann Arbor multi-family community. Our small group of Village residents who volunteer as community liaisons to OSI on Sustainability matters have been discussing with OSI staff the possibility of establishing a similar rebate program here.

To maximize the potential benefit for our community we would need to meet DTE's income qualification threshold: 51% or more of our residents at or below 80% of Area Median Income levels. As examples, in 2024, the latest year for which levels have been calculated, this would mean a yearly income of no more than \$66,950 for a single-person household and no more than \$95,600 for a 4-person household. If that threshold is met, then all community members, regardless of their income, would be eligible for program rebates.

#### 2024 Ann Arbor Area Median Income

Area Median Income	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person
30%	\$25,100	\$28,700	\$32,300	\$35,850	\$38,750
50%	\$41,850	\$47,800	\$53,800	\$59,750	\$54,550
60%	\$50,220	\$57,360	\$64,560	\$71,700	\$77,460
80%	\$66,950	\$76,500	\$86,050	\$95,600	\$103,250
100%	\$83,700	\$95,600	\$107,600	\$119,500	\$129,100
120%	\$100,400	\$114,800	\$129,200	\$143,400	\$155,000

Ann Arbor Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area includes all of Washtenaw County - Median Family Income = \$119,500 USA = \$77,397





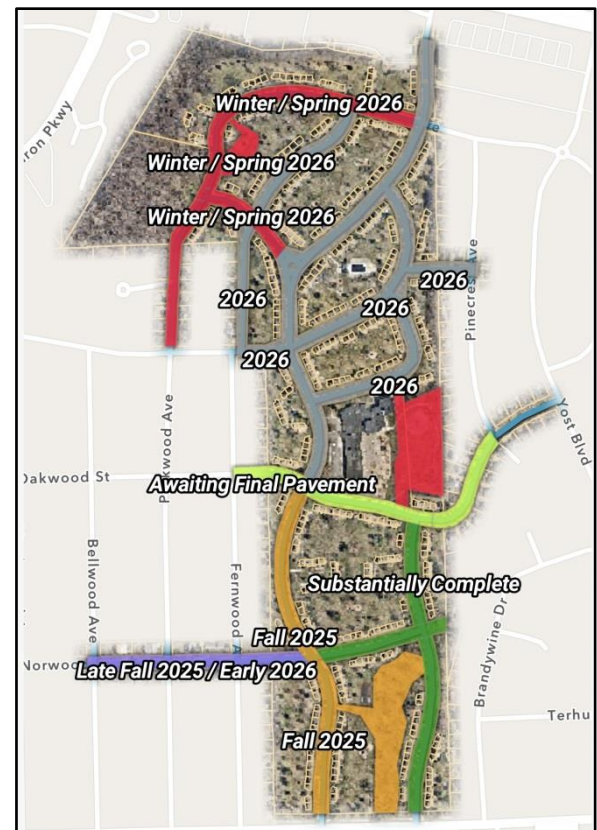
In the pilot program, DTE provided rebates for weatherization efforts such as air sealing and added insulation, all of which overlapped with qualifying uses under the City's rebate program. Combining financial forces, DTE paid 80% of the costs, and OSI covered the remaining 20%. For our community, if we were to meet DTE's income qualifications, the efficiency measures covered might mirror those of the other Ann Arbor community or they might differ, depending upon an assessment of our own particular needs. Each sponsoring agency covers a list of eligible projects, many of which are the same and many of which are not.

To move the process forward, the Board voted to officially communicate our interest in cooperating with OSI to explore the establishment of a community-wide income-qualified program in collaboration with DTE. The next step will be to determine whether our membership does indeed meet the required income threshold set by DTE. OSI and our Association will have to work out with DTE how the necessary income information should be gathered. There are time constraints as DTE is already more than half booked for 2026 projects. While both DTE and OSI still have funding available for 2026, we will need to act quickly or all of that money may be claimed by others. We hope to start gathering the needed data in October, so stay tuned!

### Infrastructure Improvements Update

Project Managers for the Pittsfield Village infrastructure improvements work came before the Board again to provide a progress update.

- ***Whitewood Is Substantially Complete***
  - New water mains have been installed.
  - Sidewalks have been added where there were gaps.
  - Curbs have been replaced as necessary.
  - New Paving is complete.
- ***Norwood Is Substantially Complete***
  - New water mains have been installed.
  - New sanitary sewer line has been installed.
  - Curbs have been replaced as necessary.
  - New Paving is complete.
  - Lawn and Foundation Beds Restoration is in process.
- ***Oakwood Is Nearing Completion***
  - Storm sewer upgrades are complete.
  - Repaving should be completed by September 15.
- ***Pittsfield Work From Packard to Oakwood Has Begun: Water, Storm Sewers, and Pavement***
- ***Storm Sewers and Detention Basin Bordered by Packard, Pittsfield, Norwood, and Whitewood***
  - Pending final signoff on an easement with the City.
  - Slated for completion this fall.



**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, September 24, at the Village Office or remotely online. All residents are welcome to attend.

The Tree Nursery  
By Barb De Longchamp,  
Landscape Committee

Perhaps you recall our Tree Nursery, once a sand volleyball court many years ago, between Pittsfield and Fernwood. Diligently our Landscape Committee and Superior Landscaping tried with difficulty to foster trees there for our Village, alas to no avail. The sand from the volleyball court did not give strength or substance to promote good root growth. After 10+ years, efforts were abandoned. Now we have a lovely park. A few trees remain including our state tree, a White Pine. Various grasses and pollinators are planned for, along with a memorial bench dedicated to our past beloved landscape activist, Darlene Boynton.

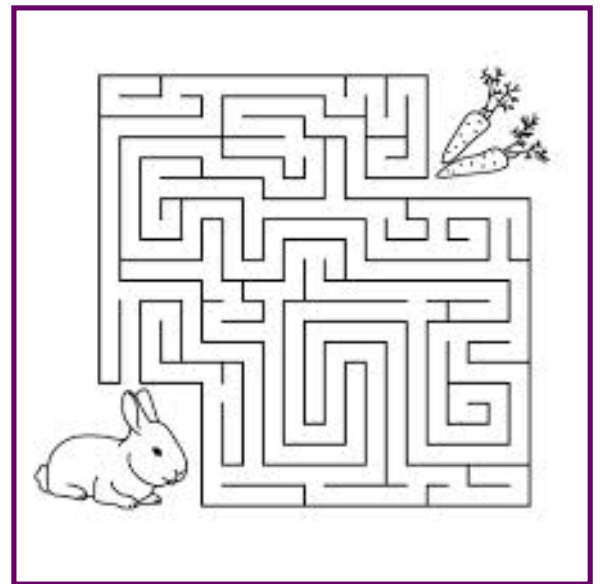
However, at this time we are severely lacking one thing, a NEW NAME for our new park. Therefore, as always, we in the Landscape Committee are including our Village Family and reaching out for help. At this time we propose a contest to rename the Tree Nursery/Volleyball Court. Yes, that means you!

Please submit your suggestions for a new name for our new park to me.

Barb De Longchamp, Landscape Committee  
barbdeLongchamp@aol.com  
734-395-4974; 2391 Jeanne

The designated winner, chosen by the Landscape Committee, will have the choice of a pie: pizza pie from Hungry Howie's or a personal choice pie from Barbi's Pies. Yes, I'm the Pie Lady. Now get busy and have fun !

Deadline is October 15th.





# Clothing Swap Festival

## At Green Fair

An opportunity to keep textiles in circulation and build your wardrobe without having to buy new. Get free, new-to-you clothes and donate clothes you no longer want.

### Swap Festival

September 19,

5:00–8:00pm

RSVP: [lu.ma/sfte5x8t](https://lu.ma/sfte5x8t)

### Donation Drop Off

September 17,

12:00–8:00pm

RSVP: [lu.ma/1v44pb1s](https://lu.ma/1v44pb1s)



Learn more at [a2gov.org/greenfair](https://a2gov.org/greenfair)

# Clothing Swap Festival Guide

## How it Works:

Swap participants can take clothing without bringing anything or bring clothing without taking anything. Bring up to 5 items of clothing if you are donating at Green Fair — or donate at our pre-event drop off on September 17 for a chance to receive a prize.

Please **only bring clean clothing in good to great wearable condition**. This is a completely free event. Accessories welcome!

RSVP: <https://lu.ma/sfte5x8t>



## Donation Drop Off:

We will be hosting a drop off event on **September 17 from 12:00-8:00PM in Council Chambers** on the second floor of Ann Arbor City Hall to collect clothing donations before Green Fair. This will allow you to avoid carrying your donations through Green Fair, and it will allow us to have plenty of clothing to swap right at the beginning. If you donate at the pre-event drop off, you will be **entered in a prize drawing!** RSVP: <https://lu.ma/1v44pb1s>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2025—2026

[condoboard@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:condoboard@pittsfieldvillage.com)

**Ellen Johnson, President**

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**John Sprentall, Member at Large**

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**David Brassfield, Secretary**

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**Linda Ross, VP**

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Wanda Buster, Bookkeeper:

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Tracy Vincent, Admin:

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**General Info / Maintenance:**

[office@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:office@pittsfieldvillage.com)

## COMMITTEE direct emails:

- [landscapecommittee@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:landscapecommittee@pittsfieldvillage.com)
- [mm@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:mm@pittsfieldvillage.com)

## BOD Meeting link

(copy & paste in your browser)

**September 24**

<https://meet.goto.com/731706389>

## Pittsfield Village Office

Monday— Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

**734-971-0233** Fax: 734-971-3421

**[www.pittsfieldvillage.com](http://www.pittsfieldvillage.com)**

Call or email the office with **Questions/  
concerns, and requests:**

**[office@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:office@pittsfieldvillage.com)**

## ELM TREE NEWS

**Theresa Moore**

Look for more information in the October Newsletter regarding our Great American Elm!

**PLEASE  
NOTE**

## GARDEN MARKER INSPECTIONS

Inspections will begin the 2nd week of September, so now is the time to clean and weed your beds!



# SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1 Labor Day</b> <b>OFFICE</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>2</b> M&M committee 6:00	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>POOL</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Landscape committee 6:00	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Pooch</b> <b>Plunge 2pm</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15 Trugreen</b> <b>—rear lawn</b> <b>Application</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Craft Night</b> <b>6:00</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>(Trugreen</b> <b>rain date)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>BOD meeting</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				