

CITY OF ST. JOHNS/CITY MANAGER NEWSLETTER
SUBMITTED TO CLINTON COUNTY NEWS
Submitted: March 30, 2016

STREET RECONSTRUCTION FOR 2016: Year three of the City's dedicated millage street improvement program will kick off during the first week of April. The specific streets designated for repaving and/or reconstruction can be found on the City's street reconstruction map, which is available on the City of St. Johns homepage: cityofstjohnsmi.com. More than 3 miles of local roadway will be resurfaced in 2016 as part of the street millage program. Some streets will also undergo significant improvements to curb and gutter. Drainage and curb issues will be addressed before repaving is initiated.

NORTH LANSING STREET PROJECT: In addition to the street improvements that will be funded through the dedicated street millage, the City will improve a portion of North Lansing Street (between Higham and Gibbs) using Michigan Department of Transportation Small Urban grant. These grant funds were applied for and awarded during the 2015 grant application cycle. This project will be initiated in the very near future. Consumers Energy is already working on Lansing Street to make upgrades to their underground system, which is described in more detail below. As a result, sections of North Lansing Street will be under various phases of construction from the present up until approximately June 30, 2016. This area will be open to residents that live on this street, but there will be a detour plan for all other traffic.

CONSUMERS ENERGY GAS PROJECT: In conjunction with the City's street reconstruction projects for 2016, Consumers Energy will be in neighborhoods upgrading underground natural gas lines. CE will make every effort to minimize any inconvenience to private property owners during this important project. We are pleased that we can coordinate our street improvement efforts with Consumers' upgrades to gas supply lines servicing residences and businesses.

YARD WASTE BAGS: As the weather warms, residents begin their annual post-winter yard cleanup in preparation for summer gardening and yardwork. The City has resumed its program where it picks up bagged yard waste placed curbside by residents. This method of disposal is encouraged by city staff, as it an integral part of the City's composting program. We commend our residents for their widespread use of leaf bags in both spring and fall. Brush and branches are also picked up curbside by City staff. If a resident needs yard waste bags they can be obtained at no charge from the City Offices, Briggs Public Library or by contacting DPW Supervisor Jeremy Ritter at 989-224-8944, ext 229.

SPRING CLEAN-UP SET FOR SATURDAY, MAY 7th: Big Trash Day will be upon us before we know it! That means it's time to begin scouring your home, garage and shed for items that have outlived their usefulness. The annual Big Spring Clean-Up, conducted again this year by Granger, will begin promptly at 7:00 a.m. on May 7, 2016. **Residents can begin placing unwanted articles curbside seven days before the clean-**

up date (April 30th). Granger may be coming through neighborhoods throughout the week prior to May 7th to do early pick-ups. Please be reminded that this service is paid for by City residents and is therefore restricted to those items owned by City residents. Also, for those who drive through town looking for curbside treasures, please do not leave a mess after going through discarded items. Refer to the City's website, the City newsletter, or call City Offices at 224-8944 for additional information regarding the 2016 Big Trash day. The cost for this curb side spring cleanup day is \$45,134.00. As an alternative to placing gently used furniture, appliances, home accessories and building materials for curb side pick-up the Clinton County Habitat for Humanity Re-Store would be interested in your donation. Contact them at 989-227-1771 or habitat.org/restores for more information.

CURB-SIDE RECYCLING: Currently our refuse contractor Granger picks up curbside recyclables every week. Residents now use the much larger Curby recycling bins. The city is exploring going to every-other week curbside recycling to reduce costs and to save wear and tear on local streets. Your input in the near future will be helpful. Garbage pick-up would continue on a weekly basis.

DRB TRANSPORT SITE PLAN APPROVAL: DRB Transport, a bulk milk-hauling company, recently had its site plan approved by the St. Johns City Commission. DRB purchased a building and two acres of land located in the industrial park from the City in late 2015. This particular site will be used by DRB as a washing station to clean and sterilize the interior of milk-hauling tanks. DRB trucks and bulk tanks are used to transport milk from local commercial dairy operations to milk processors.