



Spring 2015
Citizen information for:

Village of Vicksburg

126 N. KALAMAZOO AVENUE, VICKSBURG, MI 49097
(269) 649-1919
WWW.VICKSBURGM.I.ORG

Village Office
Hours:
Monday-Friday
9 AM to 4 PM

Drop box
available.

Call 911 for
emergencies.

Spring Trash Pick Up & Hydrant Flushing

Spring Trash Pickup & Hydrant Flushing is scheduled for **Saturday, May 23rd, 2015.**

Hydrants -

The Department of Public Works will begin its hydrant flushing program starting early Saturday morning, May 23, 2015. The Department will be flushing select hydrants within the village on that day and will conclude by early afternoon. If your water is discolored or sediment appears during hydrant flushing, run your faucets until water runs clear. Avoid doing laundry until your water runs free of discoloration. For questions regarding hydrant flushing, call the Village Municipal Office at 649-1919.

Trash Curbside Pickup -

Residents may have place all materials eligible for pickup on the curb lawn beginning on Thursday, May 21, 2015. **THERE WILL BE NO CALL BACKS - HAVE ITEMS OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE AT THE LATEST!** Further questions on curbside trash collection may be directed to the Trash Pickup Desk at 649-1919.

The following items WILL be picked up:

- White Goods-stoves, refrigerators (Freon certified), dishwashers, etc.
- Furniture- broken down to allow handling by one person

- Trash- must be bagged to allow handling by one person
- Metals- must be kept separate from all other trash
- Canned items-tar, driveway sealer, etc. (contents must be dry and lids removed)
- Wood- (may not be from construction/remodeling projects)

The following items WILL NOT be picked up:

- Construction debris
- Brush and yard trimmings (including leaves and grass)
- Household garbage/containers containing food products
- Rocks, sand or concrete rubble
- Dead animals and pet wastes
- Household hazardous wastes (oil based paints, liquid latex paints, gasoline, pesticides)
- Liquid wastes
- Car parts or heavy iron
- Major building materials generated from commercial projects
- Freon bearing appliances (unless certified-call Rawlinson Appliance at 649-1292 for proper certification)
- Rubber tires



Garage Sales

Village Ordinance 46-31 through 46-54 establishes the guidelines for residents wishing to hold a garage/yard sale. Permits can be obtained during regular office hours for a \$2 fee.

Household Hazardous Waste

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Center provides free disposal and recycling services for a wide variety of household chemicals. The service is FREE for Vicksburg Village residents.

Tuesday & Friday	8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wednesday	12:00 pm – 6:00 pm



Leaf Pick-up

Department of Public Works will pick up leaves left at the curb. Leaves must be placed in paper bags. **NO GRASS CLIPPINGS ARE ALLOWED.** Contact your waste hauler to obtain yard waste removal services.

House Numbers are Requested

In order to better identify houses for the purpose of water/sewer meter reading residents are requested to clearly identify their business or residence with their address number. Not only will this aid the public works personnel it will be useful to emergency workers if you call 911.

Swimming Pools & Lawn Watering

Effective in 2015, the Village will no longer give swimming pool credits or credits for watering lawns, gardens, etc. While this practice was permitted in the past, there is no ordinance that legally allows the Village to provide this credit.

If a resident wishes to install a separate meter for irrigation purposes, the Village DPW can supply the meter for \$200. However, it is the responsibility of the resident to have the necessary installation in place to be "meter ready" for the meter hookup. You may contact the Village Office to arrange the purchase of the new meter. For those accounts with an irrigation meter, the quarterly utility invoice will show a separate charge for the water used for irrigation.

Vicksburg Trail System

Meetings have been progressing with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on two grants that will be submitted to assist in funding the Vicksburg Trail System. The trail is proposed to connect with the City of Portage at the corner of E. Osterhout Road and Portage Road, run south through the Village of Vicksburg with a bridge at Sunset Lake, then continue south through Clark Park and the historic mill to connect with Angels Crossing Golf Course. The trail would become part of the southern extension through Kalamazoo County for the Kal-Haven Trail. Additional grant sources will be pursued for trail funding, and design should begin this spring. Public input sessions will be scheduled. Please watch our website for more information.

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO NATIVE LANDSCAPING

Many of the grasses planted most often for lawns aren't the best for protecting water quality. Native plants—those naturally found in Michigan landscapes—actually help improve water quality, and they're an attractive alternative to turfgrass. Natives generally have deeper roots, which absorb runoff and break down pollutants that would otherwise go straight into storm drains and rivers. Native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers encourage a healthy yard, and require much less maintenance than nonnatives or turfgrass!

What are some other reasons to plant natives?



While many non-native plants, such as purple loosestrife, are colorful and attractive, they are considered "invasive" because they out-compete native species and disrupt wildlife habitat. Native plants, on the other hand, offer nesting sites and food for wildlife. A garden of prairie wildflowers, for instance, will attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your backyard. Best of all, natives are adapted to our local soils and climate, so they do not need watering and require very little fertilizer or pesticides, which can pollute our waterways.

Find out more about native plants through MSU Master Gardener Hotline, or get a copy of "Landscaping for Water Quality", a series of booklets available through your local MDEQ office or from the Center for Environmental Study @ 616-988-2854.



Some nurseries specialize in native plants, and local conservation districts offer free



site assessments to determine what plants will work best in your yard!

Call Michigan State University Extension Offices in to get a list of nurseries in your area.



What plants are native to Michigan?

Here's just a small sampling of plants that are native to our area and easy to find.

Ferns

Christmas
Cinnamon
Lady

Maidenhair
Ostrich
Royal

Grasses

Big bluestem grass
Cordgrass
Indian grass

Junegrass
Purple lovegrass
Wool-grass

Shrubs

Blueberry
Buttonbush
Dogwood
Fragrant sumac
Elderberry

Michigan holly
(Winterberry)
Serviceberry
Spicebush
Raspberry

Trees

American beech
Ash (Red, Green)
Blackgum
Black walnut
Canada hemlock
Douglas fir
Flowering dogwood
Hawthorn

Hickory
Maple (Red, Sugar)
Oak (Red, White)
Ohio buckeye
Paw paw
Sycamore
Tuliptree
White pine

Wildflowers

Anemone
Black-eyed Susan
Blazing star
Butterfly weed

Columbine
Coral bells
Purple coneflower
Woodland poppy

For more information, visit our website: www.vicksburgmi.org

