



HOCUS

The City of Farmington Hills

is a great place to live, work, and play.

Each day, the City Council and administrative staff endeavor to

City's future viability was commissioned and completed in 2006.

Commonly referred to as "The Sustainability Study," this report provides a list of 29 recommendations under consideration that

To view the report online, go to www.fhgov.com and click on

Farmington Hills City Hall and the Farmington Public Library

1. Environmental - The report supports and encourages our

2. Social - The report builds on our strong mix of cultures and

our goal of continuing to provide the kinds of programs that residents want. People have a lot of choices and we want to make choosing Farmington Hills even easier and more attractive. 3. Financial - Land use considerations will be the most challenging endeavor. Farmington Hills has developed based on a master plan that has provided a good mix of a residential (65%) and non-residential (35%) tax base. In order to remain competitive, viable, and sustainable in the long term, this mix may need to be adjusted. Retaining and attracting young people, the so-called "creative class," is vital to our City. Providing the type of living and working environment that stimulates future growth will

Of course, any proposed changes will be reviewed through a public process that encourages public input. The City leaders want to know what you think based on the circumstances of Michigan's economy, global competitiveness, and sustaining Farmington Hills as one of the best places to live, according to MONEY magazine. Stay tuned as a lot will be decided in the next year about our great

commitment to the environment, not only locally but globally

If you don't have internet access, copies are available at

The three main aspects of the report are:

"Sustainability Study" under Breaking News on the homepage.

make it even more so. To this end, a long-range study of the

could make our City even better.

on Twelve Mile Road.

serve us well.

City's bright future.

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

CITY COUNCIL

Vicki Barnett Mayor

Barry Brickner Mayor Pro Tem

Nancy Bates Randy Bruce Jerry Ellis

Ken Massey Cheryl Oliverio

CITY MANAGER Steve Brock

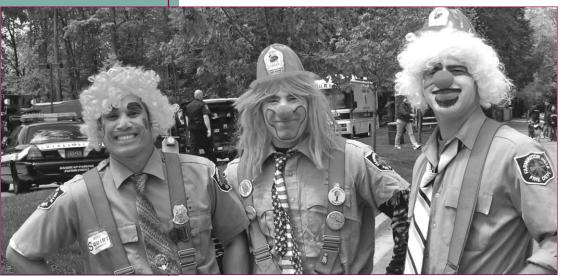
City-Wide Open House Sunday, May 20 - Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Come join the fun at the Third Annual City-Wide Open House on Sunday, May 20 from noon to 4 p.m. on the City Hall campus at the corner of Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake Roads.

Learn about the Police Department, Fire Department, and other City Departments. Highlights include:

- Fire engines, police cars, DPW trucks
- Tours of Police Headquarters, Fire Headquarters, and the 47th District Court
- SWAT, Kasper the Police dog, and fire safety demonstrations
- Moonwalk, games, and prizes
- Musical entertainment, food, free shuttle bus from Oakland Community College parking lot

Mark your calendars! Come early and enjoy "Breakfast with a Firefighter" at 9:30 a.m. with donations going toward Farmington Hills youth programs. For more info, call 248-871-2500.



Police Department's

at their Annual Labor Day Telethon.

mrichardson@fhgov.com.

Farmington Hills.

Firefighters pictured above are Ron Tejero, Bryan Hewitt and Nick Belsky.

The Farmington Hills Police Department will host its 18th Annual

at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College in

The run begins at 9 a.m. Registration starts at 8 a.m. with juice

competitive 5K run, and a free one-mile fun run for kids. The entry

fee of \$20 includes a t-shirt, food, drinks, and a donation to MDA.

Over the past 17 years, the Farmington Hills Police Department

has raised more than \$86,000 to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy

Association. Proceeds from the race will be forwarded to the MDA

For more information or to pre-register, call the Police Operations

Bureau at 248-871-2620 or e-mail rniemisto@fhgov.com or

and bagels available. The event includes a 10K race, a non-

10K and 5K Run/Walk for Muscular Dystrophy on Saturday, June 23

"Cops for Kids" Run - June 23

FREE First Aid Classes



The Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission will once again offer a FREE First Aid program on Saturday, May 5 from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Ziegler Administration Building at Botsford General Hospital on Grand River just west of Inkster Road in Farmington Hills.

Participants will learn how to:

- Use the 9-1-1 system
- Help choking victims
- Provide burn first aid
- Recognize symptoms of a heart attack
- Perform rescue breathing
- Control bleeding • Use a defibrillator
- Put together a 72-hour disaster preparedness kit

Sponsors include Botsford General Hospital, Community EMS, Farmington Hills Fire Department, Farmington Hills Police Department, Farmington Public Safety Department, and the Farmington Area Commission on Aging. Pre-registration required, call 248-473-1830. (Please note: This is a first aid awareness training program and not a certified CPR class.)

Inside

Free Helmets | Clerk's Corner Beautification | Housing Notice Smoke Alarms | Knox-Box

River Day | West Nile Update Healthy Lawn Care Tips Holiday Garbage | Recycling Hazardous Waste Days

Activities | Adults 50 & Better Cultural Arts | City Directory

The City of Farmington Hills will be reconstructing or improving the sections of roads listed below. No closures or detours will be necessary due to the construction.

Spring/Summer 2007 Road Construction

- Halsted north of Eight Mile Road The northbound merging lane will be lengthened to improve safety.
- Nine Mile Road from west of Tuck to Middlebelt Repairing and resurfacing.
- Halsted from Grand River to Eleven Mile Road Repairing and resurfacing.
- Halsted from 1/2 mile north of Eight Mile to Nine Mile Road -Surface smoothing for ride improvement.
- Ten Mile Road and Middlebelt intersection Widening and traffic signal upgrade.
- Middlebelt between Eight Mile Road and Grand River Water main replacement.
- PROPOSED Power Road from Ten Mile to 1/2 mile north of Ten Mile - Resurfacing (pending budget approval).
- PROPOSED Fourteen Mile from Middlebelt to Inkster Road -Resurfacing (pending budget approval).



Clerk's Corner

☆ 2007 ELECTION SCHEDULE ☆

May 8, 2007 - General Election (School Board Members/Trustees)
November 6, 2007 - City General Election (Mayor/City Council)

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

You must be registered 30 days prior to Election Day in order to be eligible to vote. If you move to a new community, you must re-register under your new address. You may register at the City Clerk's Office, County Office-Elections Division or any Secretary of State's Office.

ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOTS

You are eligible if:

- You are 60 years of age or older.
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without assistance of another.
- You are appointed as a precinct worker in a precinct other than your own.
- You expect to be absent from the community in which you are registered on Election Day.
- You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion.
- You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

Absentee voter applications will automatically be mailed to disabled voters, voters who are 60 years of age or older, and those who requested to be included on our permanent absentee list. Applications were mailed at the end of March for the May 8, 2007 Election. All others who wish to receive an absentee voter ballot should call the City Clerk's Office at **248-871-2415** for an application or download the application from www.fhgov.com.

DROP BOX REMINDER

All election materials can be put in the green drive-up drop-box on Eleven Mile Road between the Police Building and City Hall.

DOOR TO DOOR SOLICITORS

Any person conducting door-to-door solicitation must be licensed with the City and have picture identification either from the City or the group they represent. The only exceptions are for those groups that are exempt from licensing provisions such as persons soliciting within three miles of their residence for educational, charitable (501.C.3), religious or youth organizations including Girl/Boy Scouts, Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, Jehovah Witnesses, newspaper distributors, etc. Persons may solicit between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. only. We ask that exempt parties also adhere to these hours. There are certain environmental and political groups that are exempt from the City's licensing provisions, however, they are still required to have picture ID and are asked to comply with local time requirements. If you do not wish to have solicitors come to your door, you may post a No Soliciting sign on your property. Please be advised that State Law dictates that we cannot prohibit solicitation in Farmington Hills, but licensed solicitors must adhere to City ordinance requirements. If you experience an adverse situation with a solicitor or have complaints, please contact the Police Department and/or City Clerk's Office and, if possible, be able to identify the party's name and group.

Housing discrimination notice

Housing discrimination is prohibited by law. If you have a housing discrimination complaint, contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at 313-456-3700.

Knox-Box Promotes Safety in Emergencies

Do you live alone or care for someone who does? If so, the Farmington Hills Fire Department recommends that you purchase a Knox-Box Rapid Entry System. The Knox-Box is a small safe that holds entry keys and medical information that firefighters can retrieve quickly and easily in an emergency.

The Knox-Box, which costs about \$200, securely hooks over the top of an exterior door and is not removable once the door is shut. It gives the Fire Department fast access to a home when the owner is unable to answer the door. Fire Department personnel are able to access all Knox-Boxes with a single master key controlled by the Fire Department. For information on ordering a Knox-Box, call **248-871-2820**.

Police Department Offers Free Helmets for Kids Starting May 21



The Farmington Hills Police Department is offering free helmets to any Farmington Hills child under the age of 16. Helmets can be picked up at the Command Desk at Police Headquarters on Eleven Mile just west of Orchard Lake Road starting on May 21. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and proof of residency is required. For more information, call **248-871-2700**.



The Beautification Commission presented the Commissioners' Award to the Fairways Office Center.

Beautification Commission Awards

The City of Farmington Hills Beautification Commission presents annual awards to businesses, offices, and subdivision or condominium entrances that have attractive and well-maintained landscapes. Judges are looking for variety and imaginative use of color with an emphasis on overall property maintenance. Judging takes place from June through August, and awards will be presented at a ceremony on October 25. So plan for an award-winning landscape and be on the lookout for the Beautification Commission judges!

Landscaping Transformations

The Northwestern Highway median from Inkster Road to Fourteen Mile Road has undergone a transformation. The City is in the process of creating a natural landscape of trees, perennials, and ornamental grasses that will require minimal maintenance when the plants are mature. Spring 2007 will bring replacement plantings and new spring flowering trees.

The largest landscaping project to be implemented this year will be on Northwestern Highway from Twelve Mile to Fourteen Mile Road. The joint venture between Southfield, Farmington Hills, and the Michigan Department of Transportation will result in an informal, natural planting of shade trees, flowering trees, perennials, and ornamental grasses that will complement the beautiful office buildings.



Smoke Alarms

Working smoke alarms are essential in every household. Follow these tips to increase your family's safety:

- ✓ Familiarize your family with the smoke alarm signal. Practice home fire drills to see if there are any obstacles to a quick and safe exit (including the inability for some to awaken to the smoke alarm signal).
- ✓ Smoke alarms must be installed on every level of your home, including the basement, and outside every sleeping area. New homes are required to have a smoke alarm in every sleeping room and all smoke alarms must be interconnected.
- ✓ Hard-wired smoke alarms operate on your household electrical current and can be interconnected so that every alarm sounds regardless of the fire's location. This early warning system gives occupants extra time to escape if they're in one part of the home and fire breaks out in another. Hard-wired alarms should have battery backups in case of a power outage and should be installed by a qualified electrician.
- ✓ Test your smoke alarms once a month. Replace the batteries once a year or as soon as the alarm "chirps" a low battery warning. Make it easy to remember by replacing batteries on the same day you change your clocks in the fall.
- Don't disable smoke alarms, even temporarily. If your smoke alarm is sounding "nuisance alarms," relocate it farther from kitchens or bathrooms where cooking fumes and steam can cause it to sound.
- Smoke alarms don't last forever. Replace yours once every 10 years. If you can't remember how old the alarm is, it's probably time for a new one.
- ✓ If you're building a new home or remodeling your existing home, consider installing an automatic home fire sprinkler system. Sprinklers and smoke alarms together cut your risk of dying in a home fire by 82 % a savings of thousands of lives a year.

If cost or inability to install a smoke alarm is an issue, the Farmington Hills Fire Department can help through the free smoke detector installation program. For information, call **248-871-2800**.

Help Rescue the Rouge on River Day 2007

River Day/Rouge Rescue 2007 will be held Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. until noon at the pond in Founder's Park on Eight Mile Road. Participants will help clean and restore the waterway, plant a natural buffer along the banks, and will receive a free t-shirt and picnic lunch. To pre-register, call 248-871-2555.

For a listing of other Rouge Rescue locations, call the Friends of the Rouge at 313-792-9900.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) DROP-OFF DAYS

Farmington Hills - Saturday, May 5 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Costick Center

Products in your home that are corrosive, toxic, flammable or reactive are considered Household Hazardous Waste. For a list of acceptable items, call RRRASOC at 248-208-2270 or go to www.rrrasoc.org. (These items are not accepted: latex paint, unknowns, commercial waste, fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors.)

All containers need to be labeled, not hold more than five gallons or weigh more than 50 pounds, and should be put in a sturdy box on the floor or in the trunk. Paper shredding is also available at all HHW events with a 100-pound or threebox limit per household.

A drivers' license or other proof of residency is required to participate. Residents of Farmington Hills, Farmington, Novi, Southfield, South Lyon, Walled Lake, and Wixom may participate in any of the HHW events listed below:

Farmington Farmington Hills Saturday, May 5 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Costick Center 28600 Eleven Mile Road

Novi Saturday, September 15 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Novi Civic Center 45175 W. 10 Mile Road

Southfield Saturday, October 14 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Behind RRRASOC Recycling Center 20000 W. 8 Mile Road

Holiday Garbage Delays

Garbage, recycling, and yard waste will not be picked up on:

Memorial Day - Monday, May 28.

All pickups delayed by one day during that week with Friday's collection on Saturday.

Fourth of July - Wednesday, July 4.

Wednesday through Friday's pickups delayed by one day with Friday's collection on Saturday. Regular pickups will occur on Monday and Tuesday.

Labor Day - Monday, September 3.

All pickups delayed by one day during that week with Friday's collection on Saturday.

Have your garbage at the curbside by 7:00 a.m. and limit containers to a 32 gallon and 60 pound capacity. Questions? Call the DPW at 248-871-2850.

WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is once again recommending that people protect themselves against West Nile Virus by following the Three R's:

• **REDUCE** areas where mosquitoes breed. Eliminate standing water collected in tovs. buckets, tires, unused pools, clogged roof gutters, birdbaths, and other containers.

• REPEL

against mosquitoes. Use insect repellants (follow manufacturers' guidelines and do not use on children younger than 2 years old.) Wear protective clothing such as long sleeves and pants.

REPORT

dead crows to the Oakland County Health Division at 877-377-3641.

For more info on West Nile virus, go to www.co.oakland.mi.us/health.

City workers have treated all Cityowned storm water catch basins with a slow-release larvicide known to kill mosquitoes. All property owners are also urged to evaluate water on their own property. If the water is in a creek or retention area that's healthy, running, or non-stagnant, then it's not considered a prime area for mosquito breeding and doesn't need to be treated. But if the water is stagnant, such as in a private storm sewer catch basin located in a driveway, backyard, side yard, or subdivision open space, it can be easily treated with a drop-in larvicide from a local retailer.

Healthy Lawn Care Tips

Follow these environmentally responsible tips for a healthy lawn or use a lawn service that offers healthy lawn care options.

- Select earth-friendly fertilizers. These include products where 50% or more of the nitrogen is in slow-release form, and they are labeled as low or no phosphorus and pesticide-free.
- Sweep up fertilizer from paved surfaces and put it back into the lawn. Fertilizer left on sidewalks can easily wash into storm drains, rivers, and lakes.
- Leave a "no fertilizer" 10 25' buffer zone near lakes and rivers. Instead of turf grass, plant native grasses, tall wildflowers or shrubs to trap pollutants and discourage Canadian geese.
- Do not fertilize before early May and never fertilize if the ground is still frozen. Fertilize in the fall for a green lawn in the spring.

Earth-Friendly Fertilizer



Project sponsored by SOCWA • 248-288-5150

www.healthylandscapes.com

Funded through the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project

Farmington Hills Residents Go "Green"

In 2006, Farmington Hills residents set a recycling record - more than 11,000 tons of garbage and yard waste were diverted from the landfill. Our City recycled nearly 34% of our total solid waste. At last year's Household Hazardous Waste Day, held at the Costick Center, more than 30 tons of hazardous materials were collected from more than 1,400 participants.

Recycling in Farmington Hills contributed to environmental benefits including a reduction of nearly 5,400 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, an air pollution reduction of 233 tons, a water pollution reduction of 33 tons, the preservation of approximately 89,000 trees, and enough energy savings to power 800 homes for a year!

To learn more about what can be recycled, go to www.fhgov.com or call the DPW at 248-871-2850. Stay tuned for news on additional items being accepted in the green bins!

Opportunities Abound!

During the spring and summer, the City hires employees in a wide variety of positions from part-time (20 hours) to temporary full-time (40 hours) for landscaping, road work, recreation programs, school crossing guards, and park and golf course maintenance. Hourly pay rates range from \$6.95- \$10.00 + based on qualifications and job responsibilities. Seasonal jobs often provide excellent training for future career opportunities.

Open positions are advertised on the City website at www.fhgov.com (see City employment application as well), in the local classifieds or you can call Human Resources at 248-871-2490 for an application and information.

Camps Offer Summer Fun

The Recreation Division sponsors many affordable and fun Summer Camps that run from June 18 to August 17. Camps are held at Heritage Park, Founders Sports Park, and the Costick Center. Ages range from three to 12 years old. A wide variety of specialty camps. including sports camps, are offered for different ages and interests. For more info see the 2007 summer program brochure, call the Recreation Division at 248-473-1817 or visit www.fhgov.com.

E-MAILED UPDATES FROM CITY HALL-

Be in the know about the City of Farmington Hills! Receive e-mailed updates on general City news, road construction, cultural arts or ice arena activities. Go to www.fhgov.com, click on Quick Links, then Mailing List to subscribe.

CITY DIRECTORY

Emergency Calls Only	
Fire Department	
Police Department	9-1-1
Assessing	
Central Services/Purchasing	248-871-2430
City Clerk	248-871-2410
City Hall	
City Manager's Office	248-871-2500
Council Newsline	248-871-2511
District Court	248-871-2900
Farmington Community Library	248-553-0300
Finance Department	248-871-2440
Fire Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2800
Human Resources	248-871-2490
Planning Department	
Building	248-871-2450
Community Development and	
Housing Réhabilitation	248-871-2549
Planning	248-871-2540
Zoning	248-871-2520
Police Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2600
Public Services Department	248-871-2530
Public Works	248-871-2850
Special Services Department	
Costick Center	248-473-1800
Cultural Arts Division	
Golf Club	248-476-5910
Ice Arena	
Nature Center	
Parks & Golf	
Recreation	248-473-1800
Senior Adult Program	248-473-1830
Volunteer Center	248-473-1813
Youth and Families	248-473-1841

Focus is produced by the City of Farmington Hills and mailed to residents three times a year. Articles are submitted by City department directors. We welcome your comments.

Editor: Gillian Pines

Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Phone: 248-871-2500 Fax: 248-871-2501

Website: www.fhgov.com E-mail: gpines@fhgov.com

For the latest info on Farmington Hills, visit www.fhgov.com or tune into cable Channel 8

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Spring and Summer Programs for Adults 50 & Better

The Center for Active Adults offers a variety of fitness programs, classes, and special events at the Costick Center at 28600 Eleven Mile Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Call **248-473-1830** for information on times and fees.

SPEAKER'S SERIES

- Driver Refresher Course May 2 & 3
- Golf Clinics May 3 Women; May 10 Men
- Mother's Day Tea May 10
- Problem Gambling May 15
- Newcomer Welcome Tour May 17
- Courtyard Planting May 24
- Memorial Day Veterans' Tribute May 25
- Rose Gardening May 29
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren June 12
- Nature Walk June 26
- Family Caregiving July 10

VITAL WOMAN SERIES

- Get Ready for Summer May 14
- Decorate with Designer's Eye June 11
- Traveling in Style June 25
- Summer Smoothies July 9
- Coping with Adversity July 23
- Growing Your Money August 13

LIFELONG LEARNING AT LONGACRE

• Dispelling Myths in U.S. History - June 13

- Shakespearean Musings: Romeo and Juliet and Midsummer Night's Dream June 27
- U.S. Politics July 11
- Consumer Product Liability July 25
- Sign Language August 8 & 22

EVENING PROGRAMS

for availability.

- Partnering with your Doctor: *Alzheimer's Association Workshop* June 6
- Civilian Police Academy: "Behind the Scenes" Police Operations - May 2 - May 22
- Back to Ballroom: Fox Trot, Merengue/Rumba, Tango Three six-week sessions
- Yoga Two seven-week sessions
- Women's Softball all skill levels Begins May 15
- Golf Shape Up Begins April 18, eight-week series
- Home Fix-Ups Begins June 1, five-week series

MACKINAC ISLAND-GRAND HOTEL - October 28-31 Four-day trip includes transportation and accommodations. \$640 per person. Call **248-473-1862**

FARMINGTON Pies on t

Fourth Annual Family Fun Walk, May 19, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Heritage Park. Proceeds to Meals on Wheels and Senior Transportation Services. Light breakfast, kids' activities, door prizes. Pre-registration \$10, same-day registration \$15. Call **248-473-1830**.

HILLS FUN WALK

Pies on the Grand

Fourth Annual Blueberry Pie Extravaganza. Pies baked at the Costick Center July 18 - 20, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Buy a blueberry pie at Art on the Grand during the Farmington Area Founders Festival, July 20 - 22. Proceeds to Senior Transportation Program. Call **248-473-1830**.

Farmington Hills Ballroom Dance

All ages and skill levels welcome Fridays May 18, June 15, and August 17, 8 to 11 p.m. Raffles, door prizes, refreshments. Free dance lessons at 7 p.m. \$10 per person.

Cultural Arts Division

DaimlerChrysler Financial Services

"Stars in the Park" Free Concert Series Heritage Park - 7:30 pm. (Rain-out site - Costick Center)

- June 14 Farmington Community Band
- June 21 Motown Revisited

Jazz Band

- June 28 Barbara Bailey HutchinsonJuly 12 Rock & Soul
- July 26 Farmington Community
- August 2 Chris Roach BandAugust 16 Farmington Community
- August 23 Saline Fiddlers

Art on the Grand

July 20 - 22 - Downtown Farmington on Grand River Avenue Fine art, musical performances, kids'

activities, free face painting, and fun for all as part of the Farmington Area Founders Festival.

Call **248-473-1857** for info on Cultural Arts programs.

Save the Date!

The 38th Annual Fall Fashion Show to benefit The Longacre House will be held October 18th at the Glen Oaks Country Club. Doors open to the Fashion Boutique at 10:30 a.m. with luncheon and the fashion show beginning at noon. Fashions will be provided by Coldwater Creek.

Tickets are \$35. Charge tickets by calling **248-477-8404** or mail your check made out to "Friends of the Parks" to The Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Friends of the Parks is a non-profit organization that promotes the City of Farmington Hills park system.

Get your Ducks in a Row!

Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Youth and Family Services Division

May 9 - Duck Hunt

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. *Ages 10 and under* Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club 22575 Farmington Road

between Grand River and Freedom \$5.00 per hunter.

Prizes given for the most ducks found.

Prizes given for the most ducks found!

May 15 - First Annual Duck Dinner

6:00 p.m. - Social Hour, 7:00 - Dinner. *Adults only*. Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club 22575 Farmington Road

between Grand River and Freedom \$45 per person, includes one Rubber Duck race ticket.

Sponsored by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families.



July 22 - Third Annual Rubber Duck Race

12:30 p.m. - Family Fun, games, rides, food 2:00 p.m. - Family Decoy Duck Race \$25 sponsorship fee

3:00 p.m. - Corporate Decoy Duck Race - \$200 sponsorship fee/\$500 sponsorship fee 4:00 p.m. - Rubber Duck Race Hosted by the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation.

Farmington Area Founders Festival - Shiawassee Park

Fifteen prizes - Grand prize: \$100 shopping per week for 52 weeks from Busch's Market

Duck Race tickets available now at the Costick Center, City Hall, Farmington Library, and downtown businesses. Put your company's name on a Duck Race sign or a banner! Call the Duck Hotline at **248-473-1894** for more info.



31555 Eleven Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48336

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

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