

A² CITY NEWS



The Newsletter for the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

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This is a reprinted version of the original, which was emailed to A² City News subscribers on Feb. 1, 2017. Further information on featured topics and current news can be found at www.a2gov.org.

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Deer management plan continues

The City of Ann Arbor [deer management plan](#) is in progress. The city's contractor, White Buffalo, successfully sterilized 54 female deer from Jan. 22 through Jan. 29. Deer sterilization activities took place in select neighborhoods in Wards 1 and 2 where lethal removal of deer could not occur, but darting and surgical sterilization of deer could take place per a special research permit obtained from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. White Buffalo reported zero mortalities or injuries as a result of sterilization activities.

Lethal activities underway

The White Buffalo contract also includes sharpshooters lethally removing up to 100 deer in designated City of Ann Arbor parks and natural areas in Wards 1 and 2. From Jan. 30 through Feb. 13, 2017, the below parks will be closed every day (including weekends) for all purposes from 3 p.m. to midnight.

- Bird Hills Nature Area
- Bluffs Nature Area
- Cedar Bend Nature Area
- Hilltop Nature Area
- Huron Hills Golf Course
- Huron Parkway Nature Area/Braun Nature Area
- Island Park
- Kuebler Langford Nature Area
- Leslie Park Golf Course
- Leslie Woods Nature Area

Jan. 30 through Feb. 2, three University of Michigan properties will be closed every day from 3 p.m. to midnight, including: Nichols Arboretum; acreage south of Glazier Way and east of Fuller Road; and acreage south of Hubbard and west of Huron Parkway.

To view a map of the closed parks, visit www.a2gov.org/deermanagement. For specific questions, please [email](#) or call the deer hotline at 734.794.6295.

Deer-feeding ban reminder

Per the City of Ann Arbor Deer Feeding Ban Ordinance, it is illegal to feed deer on private property. The ordinance is not intended to ban the use of bird feeders on private property, but it is a civil infraction to feed deer.

Important feedback opportunity

The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) has issued a survey to answer the question, "What steps can be taken to strengthen public trust and confidence in the police in your community?" Please take a few moments to [take the online survey](#), which is part of a [study requested by Governor Snyder](#) (PDF).



Registration underway for day camp and more

Registration for summer day camps — and the wide variety of classes/activities offered with Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation — is going on now! And, just in time, the city is excited to announce the launch of its [new online registration system](#), which the community can use to sign up for spring and summer programs.

The new Rec1 management software improves customer service experiences with its ease of use; allows customers to more easily access their profiles; lets programming staff better communicate with class participants; and enables users to share the activities they register for on social media.

Registration is also accepted in person at any [parks facility](#).

What are you waiting for? Find a program or activity that interests you! The new [spring/summer parks and recreation activity guide](#) is now available online and at all parks facilities and Larcom City Hall. Browse the pages to discover the variety of programming offered for all ages, including swim and golf lessons, log rolling, recreation at the senior center, FootGolf, dive-in movies, river fun at the canoe liveries and so much more. Volunteer opportunities are also available for groups or individuals.

If you have any questions, please contact parks and recreation customer service [via email](#) or call 734.794.6230.



5 feet, please

A new ordinance was put in place last month to help protect users of Ann Arbor roadways. As of Jan. 7, 2017, Ann Arbor's [Safe Passing Ordinance](#) requires drivers, when passing a bicyclist, pedestrian or wheelchair user, to maintain a distance of at least 5 feet.

The new ordinance builds on Ann Arbor's continuing Walk.Bike.Drive campaign, which reminds residents and visitors that each has a responsibility to keep roadways safe. For more information on transportation, as well as safety tips for all users, please visit www.a2gov.org/walkbikedrive.

Join the conversation: Sustainability in Ann Arbor

For the past six years, [Sustainable Ann Arbor](#) forums have been bringing the public together with local stakeholders — from community organizations, government and businesses — to discuss local sustainability efforts and challenges in the Ann Arbor community. Free to attend, the forums are held January through April and offer an opportunity to learn more about sustainability in the community and tips for actions residents can take to live more sustainably.

Miss the January session? Good news: There are three more forums scheduled!

On Thursday, Feb. 9, 7–8:30 p.m., the topic will be “Driverless Vehicles Coming Down the Pike.” This discussion on autonomous vehicles will be led by state and national experts, including a local focus on what it may mean for the Ann Arbor region. The event takes place at the AADL Downtown Branch, 343 S. Fifth Ave. All are invited to attend. Panelists will include:

- Dr. Huei Peng, Director of U-M Mobility Transformation Center.
- Kirk Steudle, Director of Michigan Department of Transportation.
- John Maddox or Laurel Champion, American Center for Mobility (Willow Run).
- Frank Sgambati, Director of Marketing and Product Innovation, North America at Robert Bosch LLC.



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The March 9 event will be the series' first-ever kid-centered Sustainability Forum! Kids of all ages will be invited to make and take home a craft, participate in interactive environmental education presentations and sit in on stories from a professional storyteller. The March forum will take place at a special time, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Go online for [details!](#)



Ann Arbor Citizens Police, Fire and Courts Academy

Get an inside look at our local public safety and justice systems. Residents interested in learning about the City of Ann Arbor's Police and Fire departments and the 15th District Court are invited to submit an application to attend the [Citizens Police, Fire and Courts Academy](#).

The application deadline to participate in the CPFCA program is Friday, Feb. 24, 2017. Find an [application](#) on the City of Ann Arbor website.

The CPFCA is a free 10-week program that will be held at the Ann Arbor Police and Fire departments, Washtenaw County Community College and

the 15th District Court. Classes will take place once a week on Tuesdays, 6:30–9:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday, March 7 and ending May 9, 2017.

CPFCA topics will include: AAPD and AAFD history, emergency management, fire responder's role, use of force, hazardous materials, K-9 unit, investigative unit, court duties/processes and much more. Through this program, participants will gain a better understanding of the challenges facing police officers, firefighters, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys and judges.

If you have questions, please contact Giordano [via email](#) or at 734.794.6900, ext. 49528. A background investigation will be conducted on all applicants; applicants will then be notified if accepted into the program.

Good news

Ann Arbor has been named on WalletHub's list of [best cities to raise a family](#), coming in at No. 10.

Allen Creek Greenway project update

The new year marks the halfway point of the master planning effort for the [Allen Creek Greenway project](#). The project has reached recent important milestones, including:

- On Nov. 10, 2016, Ann Arbor City Council passed a resolution to consider an Allen Creek Greenway Master Plan Phase II Project. The approved resolution requests staff to consider adding a phase II — to extend the project from the current study end point at State Street and Stimson Street to Ellsworth Road at the city's southern boundary — to a future Capital Improvement Plan. Consideration of a phase II project will not adversely impact the progress or schedule of the current Allen Creek Greenway Master Plan effort.
- At their meeting on Jan. 11, 2017, the Allen Creek Greenway Master Plan Citizen Advisory Committee members discussed opportunities and challenges of trail route scenarios and the relative importance of evaluation criteria.
- The project will continue to make progress with a **community-wide meeting Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017, 6:30–8:30 p.m.** at Larcom City Hall, second floor Council chambers. The meeting's first hour will include a background presentation. An open house format in the second hour will allow the public to view trail types and potential route alignment displays. There will be opportunities for participants to ask questions of the project team and to provide feedback.

For more information, visit the [project web page](#).

Presidents Day

Municipal offices will be closed on Presidents Day, Monday, Feb. 20. Trash/recycling collection will continue as regularly scheduled, with no delays.

Be winter-storm ready

Winter isn't over yet. Check out these tips from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency, and [be prepared for storms and power outages](#) that can occur.

- Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit, including a flashlight, batteries, water, food, prescription medication, cash, first aid supplies and extra clothing, blankets or sleeping bags to stay warm.
- Make sure you have alternative charging methods for your phone or any device that requires power. For more information visit, [Get Tech Ready](#).
- If you rely on anything that is battery-operated or power dependent like a medical device, determine a back-up plan. For more planning information tips visit, the “[seniors and individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs](#)” pages.
- Know where the manual release lever of your electric garage door opener is located and how to operate it.
- Keep your car’s gas tank full. Gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.
- If you use your car to recharge devices, do NOT keep the car running in a garage, or close to your home; this can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Be prepared to close off unused rooms to consolidate and retain heat.
- If the power may be out for a prolonged period, plan to go to another location (the home of a relative or friend or a public facility) that has heat to keep warm.
- Only use generators outside, away from your home, and NEVER run a generator inside a home or garage or connect it to your home's electrical system. For more information about generators visit, the “[generator safety](#)” page of the Department of Energy.

Visit [Ready.gov](#) for more tips on how to prepare for a winter power outage.



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