



April 1, 2016

Mayor Donald D. Lyons  
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members: none

**Spring Clean Up** - Spring is upon us, and once again the City, as well as the County, have resources to help you safely dispose of many of those materials you may come across during your spring cleaning.

Details for each of the events are available online by clicking on the following links and have been communicated through the monthly newsletter that is sent with utility bills. Flyers for each of the events are attached for your convenience.

Spring Clean Up Week - April 25-29

<http://www.cityofdowagiac.com/visit-here/festivals-events/events-calendar/spring-clean-up-week/>

Electronics Recycling Event – April 27

<http://www.cityofdowagiac.com/visit-here/festivals-events/events-calendar/electronics-recycling-event/>

Cass County Hazardous Household Waste Collection - May 21

<http://www.cityofdowagiac.com/visit-here/festivals-events/events-calendar/cass-county-household-hazardous-waste-collection-day/>

### **Lansing MML Capital Conference - Sign Code Seminar**

During last week's Michigan Municipal League Conference I was able to attend a session that provided an analysis of a U.S. Supreme Court decision from late 2015 regarding municipal sign regulations. This ruling has dramatically altered the way in which a zoning code can regulate signs. The Supreme Court ruling allows for sign regulations that are based on the size, location and number of signs at a location. However, the content of the sign may not be considered when determining whether or not a sign is legal.

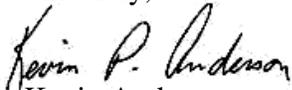
For instance, political signs, real estate signs, and garage sale signs cannot be the basis for a sign regulation. Under the court's ruling each of these signs would fall under the category of temporary

signs and can only be regulated by the maximum number of signs, the maximum size of the signs, the minimum setbacks, and the maximum number of days per year without referencing an event. Removal of a sign cannot be based on the date of an event, but can be based on the physical condition of the sign.

One of the presenters said that a good rule of thumb is “If you have to read the sign to determine if it is allowed, your regulation is probably out of compliance.”

There are a number of changes to our sign code that will need to be done. In the meantime enforcement of our zoning regulations will be done with an attempt to be in compliance with the Supreme Court ruling that requires “content neutrality.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin P. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Kevin Anderson  
City Manager



## **SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK** **APRIL 25 – APRIL 29, 2016**

### **CITY OF DOWAGIAC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES**

**\*\*\*\*\*All materials must be placed curbside prior to 6:00 a.m. Monday, April 25, 2016\*\*\*\*\***

The following restrictions apply to all disposed materials:

1. Refuse must be neatly placed curbside in an orderly fashion.
2. No refrigerators, freezers, or air conditioners will be accepted; unless certification sticker is placed on item indicating that the freon has been removed.
3. No household garbage will be accepted.
4. No individual item over 5' long, 3' wide, or 3' high, weighing over 100 lbs will be accepted.
5. No automotive/marine batteries will be accepted.
6. No tires or rims will be accepted.
7. No materials that are prohibited from disposal in TYPE II landfills (paints, solvents, oils, etc.) will be accepted. (Note: Paint cans that are open and contain only DRY paint will be accepted.)
8. No propane cylinders will be accepted.
9. All construction / demolition material must be less than one cubic yard in total volume for curbside pickup.
10. No lawnmowers or small engines will be accepted unless the gasoline has been completely drained.
11. Total curbside volume shall not exceed 3 cubic yards.
12. Windows, glass, and mirrors must be less than 3' x 4' in size.

**EACH STREET WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR PICK-UP ONE TIME ONLY.**

To minimize blighting effects within our neighborhoods, **debris may not be placed curbside prior to Saturday, April 23, 2016**. Violators will be subject to penalties as prescribed by the City's Blight Ordinance.

Property owners will be responsible for clean up and removal of any remaining debris **AFTER** pick up crews have passed through their neighborhood.

For questions regarding the Spring Clean-up Program, or to inquire about disposal alternatives, please contact the Department of Public Services office at 782-8200; email us at [DPS\\_Service\\_Request@dowagiac.org](mailto:DPS_Service_Request@dowagiac.org); or visit the City's website at [www.cityofdowagiac.com](http://www.cityofdowagiac.com).

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

# **SPRING CLEAN-UP DISPOSAL INFORMATION LISTING - 2016**

## **Rohdy's Heating & Cooling – 783-0440 29575 M-62 West**

Rohdy's removes freon from refrigerators, freezers & air conditioners. Once freon is removed and sticker is placed on the appliance, the appliance can be taken to the Public Services Warehouse Facility located at 501 S. Front Street for disposal, or left curbside for pick-up on the dates listed for the program.

**Price for freon removal: \$75.00 per item.**

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## **Deerpath Recyclers – 783-1247 56625 Woodhouse Drive**

**Price for disposal of tires: \$2.00 per tire or \$4.00 if rim is attached – LIMIT OF 10 TIRES.**

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## **Division Tire & Battery – 782-5141 631 Rudy Road**

**Price for disposal of tires: \$3.00 - \$10.00 per tire, depending on size.  
Division Tire & Battery will accept car and truck batteries for disposal.**

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## **Grames Tire & Battery – 462-9096 56271 M-51 South**

**Price for disposal of tires: \$2.00 - \$20.00 per tire, depending on size and quantity.  
Grames Tire & Battery will accept car and truck batteries for disposal.**

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## **Sustainable Recycling, Inc. – 782-6177 30750 Edwards Street [www.sustainablerecyclinginc.com](http://www.sustainablerecyclinginc.com)**

Sustainable Recycling will accept batteries, except alkaline, for disposal. They will accept appliances for disposal including refrigerators / air conditioners / freezers: NO CHARGE for disposal. Please do not cut the lines to remove freon. They will also accept electronic equipment for disposal (call for pricing).

### ***HOURS OF OPERATION:***

***Monday – Friday: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM; Saturday: 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM***

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## **\*\*\*\*\* Electronics Recycling Event – City of Dowagiac \*\*\*\*\***

***Wednesday, April 27, 2016 – 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM***

***City of Dowagiac Parking Lot at Northwest corner of Main Street & Pennsylvania Avenue***

Green Earth Electronics Recycling will be partnering with the City of Dowagiac for this event.

Proper recycling and disposal of electronics items is important to the well-being of our environment. Hazardous components in electronics such as lead and mercury make it costly to handle and process items such as TVs and monitors. This is becoming an ever increasing burden to recycling companies. To help offer recycling as a sustainable option for residents, fees are being enacted to offset this burden.

**There is a \$20 fee for all types and size of TVs (LCD, tube, plasma, and projection).**

**There is a \$10 fee for all types of monitors (LCD, CRT, etc.).**

For more information, contact Green Earth Electronics Recycling at 269-326-1232 / [www.greenearth1.com](http://www.greenearth1.com) or visit our website at [www.cityofdowagiac.com](http://www.cityofdowagiac.com).

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## **Cass County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

**Saturday, May 21, 2016 – 9 AM to 12 PM**

**Cass County Fairgrounds, 590 O'Keefe Street, Cassopolis, MI 49031**

# **CASS COUNTY**

**\$\$\$ A \$5.00 Drop Off Disposal Fee For Each Vehicle Participating \$\$\$**

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** (Free For First 300 lbs./vehicle)
- **Electronic Waste Collection** (There will be a \$10 fee for LED TV's and Monitors and a \$20 fee for any size computer monitors and TV's with CRT/Picture Tubes.) **All other Electronic items are Free.**
- **Used Tire Collection** (See back page for cost)
- **Old Flag Collection (Free)** Flags will be disposed of properly with a ceremony by the VFW
- **Used Eye Glasses Collection (Free)** - given to Lion's Club to be recycled
- **Hearing Aids (Free)** – donated to Lion's Club to be recycled

**When: Saturday May 21, 2016 (Rain or Shine)**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon (No Appointment Needed)**  
First Come/First Served

**Where: Cass County Fairgrounds**  
590 O'Keefe Street  
Cassopolis, Michigan 49031

Please look on back page for examples of Household Hazardous Waste items accepted and for TV, Computer and Tire recycling fees.

**Electronic waste consists of any item that is operated with a battery or is plugged into an outlet.**

## **Items That Will Not Be Accepted**

**Latex Paint** – Latex Paint is not hazardous and may be disposed of with your ordinary refuse. Open can, let paint dry and throw out with regular trash.

Major Appliances

Air Conditioners

Dehumidifiers

Fireworks

Used Motor Oil

Fire Extinguishers

Ammunition

Bio-Hazards

Propane Tanks (20# or Larger)