

# Law updated to protect trees

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**THE LAW** is not as restrictive as those in other cities, such as in neighboring Farmington Hills where laws are in place restricting removal of trees on private property. Carol Kurh, member of the Farmington Beautification Committee, who chaired the study, said the group did not feel restrictions to private property were necessary in a city as developed as Farmington.

"It was really to protect all the public trees," she added. The Farmington ordinance does address trees on private property, prohibiting the planting of several tree types which would be poisonous such as Cuckeyo, Golden Chain Tree or Horsechestnut, or those which would be a nuisance to the community such as Cottonwood. It also lists

26 species of trees which will be considered "landmark" trees, depending on their size. Removal of landmark trees for private developments would require a site plan approval of the city's planning commission.

Some highlights of the amended ordinance include:

- giving the Department of Public Services all authority to enforce the ordinance's regulations and monitor all public trees.
- setting guidelines and a rating system for the DPS employees to judge trees in the right-of-way to determine their health and vitality.
- allowing residents, if they so wish, to remove trees from their property after obtaining a written permit from the city. If a resident removes the tree, he must replace it with one from an approved list of

tree types.

- prohibiting residents from putting any stone, brick, sand, concrete or other material in the right-of-way which will impede the tree's survival, including poisons or toxins which might run into the tree's root system.

**THE LISTS** of approved and prohibited trees are lengthy, and are available through the city. The lists also offer information on tree types, such as how susceptible they are to Gypsy Moth infestations, whether they have a road salt intolerance, recommended times of year for planting, or whether a particular species of tree requires full sun or can tolerate poorly drained soil.

Some of the approved trees for right-of-way planting include two varieties of Crabapple and Oak and

four varieties of Maple. A few prohibited trees include Birch, Black Walnut, Willow and Pine trees because of their density.

The updated ordinance is expected to make the job easier for employees in the city's public services department.

"There's still plenty of room for opinion, but what it's done is set some parameters," said assistant public services director Kevin Gushman who also served on the subcommittee studying the ordinance change. "It sets some criteria for removal and replacement."

"There was no set policy for tree removal," Gushman said the city gets numerous calls and questions from residents from the time trees bud in the spring until the fall, when leaves fall and trees go dormant.

## carrier of the month

### Farmington

Rob Harris, 14, delivers the Observer in the Brookhill Estates subdivision. He has delivered the Observer since Sept. 1987.

The U of D ninth grader's favorite subject is math.

His hobbies are hockey and golf. He is an honor student with a 3.6 grade point average.

Rob plans to go to college when he finishes high school.

Talking with customers, learning good communication skills and how to budget money are some of the things Rob has learned on his route.

Rob is the son of Ann and Bob Harris of Farmington Hills. He has three sisters, Hilary, 10, Jamie, 8 and Katie, 5.



Rob Harris

If you want to be a Farmington Observer carrier, please call 591-0500

## around Farmington

All announcements for this column must be mailed to Around Farmington, Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336.

Deadline is noon Monday for the Thursday publication and noon Thursday for the Monday publication. Requests for announcements will not be taken over the telephone.

### • ATTACKING ANXIETY

Monday, Feb. 11: "Attacking Anxiety," program led by Div. Buegeleisen, professional counselor, at 7 p.m. in Sheraton-Southfield Hotel, 16400 J.L. Hudson Drive. No charge.

### • CONTRARIAN INVESTING

Monday, Feb. 11: "Contrarian Investing," workshop led by Certified Financial Planners Steve Zimberg

and Audrey Pearl, at 7 p.m. in The Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Fee is \$15. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404.

### • FREE ADJUSTMENT

Monday through Friday, Feb. 11-15: Free chiropractic adjustments given by Dr. Sherry Accetta to all new patients from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3-6 p.m. each day, 32065 Grand River, in observance of Valentine's Day. Appointments are necessary; call the office at 471-6868.

### • TOO MUCH TAXES?

Tuesday, Feb. 12: "Are You Paying Too Much in Taxes?" continues Winter Investment Series at 7:30 p.m. in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 12 Mile Road, east of Farmington Road. No charge, but reservations should be made by calling the library at 553-0300.

### • NEW MORNING CO-OP

Tuesday, Feb. 12: Parent Discussion Night at 7 p.m. in New Morning School, the only parent cooperative school in Michigan, 14501 Haggerty Road, Plymouth. Designed for parents who want to learn more about the private elementary school.

### • SELECTING A COLLEGE

Tuesday, Feb. 12: "Selecting Your College," program for young adults and their parents designed to help make the selection process easier, at 7:30 p.m. in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 12 Mile Road. No charge, but reservations should be made by calling the library at 553-0300.

## Ways sought to save preserve

Friends of the Nature Preserve will explore solutions to save the Cranbrook Nature Preserve during a meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in West Bloomfield High School Auditorium on Orchard Lake Road.

The Cranbrook Educational Community is offering the land for sale. Friends are a group of concerned citizens who oppose sale of the preserve. For more information, call 661-6162.

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Sat. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

- Plymouth 767 S. Main 455-7800
- Farmington 33014 Grand River 477-0670
- Southfield 28481 Telegraph 353-0450
- Canton 5757 Sheldon Rd. 454-0440
- Westland 35235 W. Warren 721-1810

