

Community Corner

This week's question:

If a new Tiger Stadium is built, should it be constructed in the city or relocated to the suburbs?

We asked this question at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.



"It should stay in the city. It would be more closer for a lot of people."
— Yolanda Jackson
Detroit



"I think it should stay (in Detroit). It's like a monument. Fix it up, sure, but don't move it."
— Phillip Starks
Detroit



"Why keep it in Detroit? Who wants to go to Detroit — crime city?"
— Marsha Lee
Clarkston



"Stay in Detroit. We need it down there. It's been there a long time."
— Robert Galacz
Bloomfield Hills



"Stay (in Detroit). Pull it out and what's left? Detroit would look worse than it does now."
— John Galacz
Bloomfield Hills



"Stay in Detroit. That's where it belongs."
— Robert Kirma
West Bloomfield



A tasty time

Jordan Wetzel (left) and Samantha Halberstadt were two of 500 students and parents enjoying the festivities May 10 at Hillside Elementary's family social "Hop 'n Bop" dance. Guests participated in various events, including a teacher "twist-off" and a hula hoop contest. The highlight of the evening was the cakewalk, where many lucky winners shared more than 50 home-baked treats.

Cities sort out curbside recycling

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\$12 deposit for the recycling bin as originally proposed.

When dawn breaks on July 1, recycling will no longer be a matter of choice or conscience. Residents will be mandated by law to recycle trash. For that job, Farmington Hills single family homeowners will be billed \$13.50 quarterly, \$54 annually. Farmington Hills condominium owners who have a separate entrance will be charged \$10 quarterly, \$40 annually.

Fees for Farmington single family homeowners and condominium owners will be announced Monday, when the council enacts its ordinance.

The fee will be charged by the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwestern Oakland County, of which Farmington and Farmington Hills are members. The cities have a six-year joint contract with Waste Management of Michigan, which is the refuse collector. The ordinance in both cities makes it law that residents must separate the recyclables and compostables from regular garbage.

As with any law, to ensure compliance, violators will be fined. But no need to worry. Both cities will give time to get used to the program.

The first six months in Farmington will be considered an educational period of adjustment. Violators will not be fined. The next six months,

'We really don't plan to do any enforcement for some time. We're hoping we will get compliance like other cities are reporting.'

— Robert Deadman

violators won't be fined unless they've already received warnings.

"We really don't plan to do any enforcement for some time," Farmington city manager Robert Deadman said. "We're hoping we will get compliance like other cities are reporting."

IN FARMINGTON HILLS, the first six months of the program also will be educational. No tickets will be issued. But if people happen to put something that's not recyclable in the recycling bin, the garbage collector will put the item on the curb with a note about what was done wrong.

The next six months in Farmington Hills may be a bit tougher for those residents who have a tough

time complying. A policy that will be adopted with the ordinance Monday calls for sending a notice to a homeowner who has made a mistake. The second time it happens another notice will be sent. The third offense may include the threat of a ticket and a fourth may mean a ticket.

But if it's determined that the Farmington Hills homeowner is just flagrantly ignoring the recycling program, a ticket can be written without prior notices.

When curbside recycling begins, garbage day will remain the same. But on that day, three garbage trucks — one for each type of garbage — will come instead of just the one truck.

In the yellow and green plastic bin

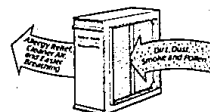
residents must put recyclables, such as glass, tin cans and certain types of plastic containers.

IN A CLEAR plastic bag, residents must separate compostables, such as lawn clippings, weeds, fallen leaves, shrub and plant clippings. The city of Farmington will sell the clear plastic bags in 100-count quantities. If Farmington Hills residents put their compostables in a metal or plastic (30 gallon) container, a "yard waste only" sticker must accompany the container. The stickers are available from the city.

In an third bag or metal or plastic container, residents will put mixed waste, which is regular garbage. That includes food wastes and miscellaneous items such as paper, magazines, ashes and other items used in general housekeeping. That doesn't include dirt, gravel and construction debris.

Because garbage is such a serious and expensive business these days, the proposed ordinance also prohibits anyone from scavenging garbage, especially the recyclable items that can be sold to markets for a profit.

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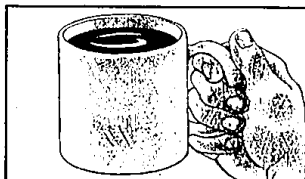
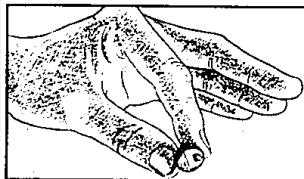


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