



Fruitland Township  
White River Light Station Museum

# Fruitland Township E-News

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## Township Board

Sam E. St. Amour, Supervisor  
Karolyn Rillema, Clerk  
Melissa M. Beegle, Treasurer

## Trustees

Mary Ann Bard  
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Val Rissi

**June 4, 2015**

## FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP DISCOUNT DUMP DAYS

**\$5.00 FOR ONE TRIP - ANY SIZE LOAD**

**June 3, 2015 - June 27, 2015**

Fruitland Township residents/property owners may pick up and pay for their \$5.00 discount dump card at the Fruitland Township Hall *beginning May 4, 2015*. Please bring photo identification.

Office hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
and Friday 8:00 a.m. – Noon

The card entitles you to one trip to the Fruitland Township Sustainability Center with any size load for \$5.00 during the month of June 2015. You must bring the discount dump card with you to get the \$5.00 deal.

**NOT ACCEPTED:**

Appliances with Freon, stumps, paint, cement, aerosol cans,  
propane tanks, hazardous waste, medicine bottles.  
Charges will apply for tires.

**\*\*FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY\*\***

## MUSKEGON CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWS

### **Native Perennial Sale on Saturday, June 6**



The MCD native perennial sale will be on June 6 from 9:00 am until noon at our office at 4735 Holton Road in Twin Lake. Don't miss this opportunity to choose from a wide variety of native plants and consult with staff who can help you determine which plants will thrive on your property.

## Why Garden With Native Plants?

Whether you want to attract wildlife, reduce erosion, control stormwater runoff or just add some color to the yard, native plants in your landscaping are a great choice. The advantage to natives is that they are adapted to our local climate and soil conditions, so they can thrive in the garden without extra water or fertilizer, saving landowners time and money.

Native plants also benefit wildlife in ways that exotic plants simply cannot. Native animals depend on native plants for food and shelter. Insects are particularly dependent on natives because most of them are adapted to eat only specific species of plants. Some familiar examples are the caterpillars of Monarch butterflies, which rely on milkweeds, and Karner Blue butterflies, which can only eat wild lupine. When we fill our yards with exotic plants we create habitat that cannot support native insects. And while many of us don't enjoy the company of insects, it's important to remember that most insects do not interact with people in a negative way, and other animals depend on insects as a source of food. As we lose native habitat to development, our insect, bird, and amphibian populations are dropping. Including native plants in your landscaping is a way to counteract habitat loss and have a direct impact on native wildlife.

Another benefit of using native plants is that it prevents the accidental introduction of invasive plants. Many plants that are now recognized as invasive were introduced as ornamentals or promoted by highway departments and conservation districts to benefit wildlife or control erosion. The characteristics that made those plants desirable, such as pest-resistance, rapid growth, and prolific seed production are common characteristics of invasive plants. And, unfortunately, it can be decades before the introduction of an exotic plant and the discovery that it is harmful to the environment. The best way to avoid accidentally planting something that is or could become invasive is to use plants that belong here in the first place.

Michigan has an amazing variety of plants to choose from, so whatever your landscaping plans involve, you can find a native plant to meet your needs.

## **WHITE RIVER LIGHT STATION**

The White River Light Station is now open for the season. Hours are Tuesday-Sunday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., closed on Monday. Prices to tour the museum and climb the tower are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. There are four events scheduled for the summer:

***Saturday, June 6, 2015:*** Movie Night on the lawn at the White River Light Station. We will be showing “Finding Nemo” with a start time at dusk. Bring your lawn chairs and some snacks and come and enjoy the movie. In case of rain, the movie will be shown at the Fruitland Township Hall, 4545 Nestrom Road.

***Saturday, July 25, 2015:*** W.M.I. Dulcimer Friends will be playing at 2:00 p.m. at the White River Light Station. They are a group of acoustic musicians that between them have decades of experience playing folk music, the music of our ancestors handed down through time. This is the music played in grange halls for square dances. The musicians will be playing dulcimers, guitars and fiddles to mention a few. They play for the love of music. Bring the family, your blankets or lawn chairs and enjoy an afternoon of folk inspired music while visiting and exploring the White River Light Station. The museum and tower will also be open for the standard admission charge.

***Thursday, August 6, 2015:*** “Ghosts of the American Road” at 7:00 p.m. “Ghosts of the American Road” is the latest brainchild from acclaimed songwriter Kevin Higgins and his talented musical partner, Barbara Malteze. Bring the family, your blankets or lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of music.

***Friday, August 21, 2015:*** Yoga on the lawn provided by White River Yoga. Bring your yoga mats or large towels and water to drink and join SPLKA for yoga beginning at 9:30 a.m. In case a rain, we will have yoga on the lawn on August 28, 2015.

As always, [supervisor@fruitlandtwp.org](mailto:supervisor@fruitlandtwp.org)  
Sam E. St. Amour  
Supervisor