



THE INSIDER

For The City of Harper Woods

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
SPRING EDITION
APRIL THROUGH
JUNE 2022

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

April

**Check City's website
for time and format*

April 2 – Siren Test 1:00pm
April 4* – City Council Meeting
April 4 – Yard Waste Begins
April 14 – Water Bills Due
April 15 – City Offices Closed –
Good Friday
April 18* – City Council Meeting
April 22 – Earth Day



May

**Check City's website
for time and format*

May 2* – City Council Meeting
May 7 – Siren Test 1:00pm
May 8 – Mother's Day
May 14 – Spring Perennial Plant
Exchange 10:00am-12:00pm
at Salter Park
May 16 – Water Bills Due
May 16* – City Council Meeting
May 21 – Armed Forces Day
May 30 – City Offices Closed –
Memorial Day Service & Ceremony
May 30 thru June 3 – Rubbish Delay



June

**Check City's website
for time and format*

June 4 – Siren Test 1:00pm
June 14 – Flag Day
June 15 – Water Bills Due
June 19 – Father's Day
June 19 – Juneteenth
June 20 – City Offices Closed –
Observance of
Juneteenth



Spring Into Harper Woods!



I appreciate all the residents who take the time to help clean up our community. Everyone can do their part by keeping the areas around their home or business clean of litter and debris. Residents have been reminded to contact Police or DPW to report any illegal dumping issues and City crews are equipped to collect excess trash that cannot be picked up by our regular trash haulers (GFL Environmental).

Some simple tips to help with the cleanup efforts include knowing the days your garbage will be picked up and placing your household garbage out just before pickup. This effort will deter rodents and other vermin from scattering it or moving it to another location.

Additionally, moving and parking your vehicles in accordance with City ordinances to allow DPW crews to sweep streets during the daytime hours. Being mindful not to dump/mix wet paint, toxic materials, oil, batteries, or fluorescent lights with your garbage. There are special places one can use to dispose of these materials.

There has also been an increase in the littering of personal protective equipment (COVID-19 MASKS) in public areas. Please dispose of these items in a litter bin and not discarded on the ground expecting city workers to pick them up. If residents find personal protective equipment or other trash discarded on their property, they are advised to use gloves to pick it up and discard it in their garbage, along with the gloves used and then wash your hands. Unfortunately, COVID-19 is still very real in the City of Harper Woods.

If we all clean up our own individual homes and businesses, the cleaning of the entire city will take care of itself! Let us all do our part and get the word out to your neighbors... Clean spaces create happy faces!

Regards,

Valerie G. Kindle

Mayor Valerie Kindle



**New Public Safety
Director**

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**Beautification
Nominations**

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Virtual Zumba

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The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Vivian M. Sawicki

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Veronica Paiz

Ivery Toussant Jr.

Regina Williams

Acting City Manager

John Szymanski

City Clerk

Leslie M. Frank

The City Council welcomes resident comments on areas of concern or praise. Residents are welcome to attend a council meeting to comment in person, or they can write a letter to the council. All letters must be signed. Mail Letters to City of Harper Woods 19617 Harper Ave., Harper Woods MI 48225.

Harper Woods Insider Advisory Board

Vivian Sawicki - Council member, City of Harper Woods

Larry Hakim - Planning Commissioner, City of Harper Woods

Ty Hinton - Economic and Community Development Director, City of Harper Woods

John Szymanski - Acting City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email info@drivecreativeservices.com

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Employee in the Spotlight



John Bobak

If you have visited one of the City's parks, attended a special event, or participated in a Recreation program- chances are you have met John Bobak. For 29 years, John worked diligently to offer residents stellar recreational opportunities as well as preserving our parks in the City of Harper Woods. John officially retired earlier this year.

John Bobak began his career as the City's Sports League Director and then later became the Parks and Recreation Director in 2005. He also stepped in to supervise at the

Department of Public Works as needed. John's dedication to provide leisure activities to the community stemmed into many adult and youth programs. He worked closely with Harper Woods Little League as park baseball and softball diamonds always were meticulously kept and ready for the next game. Under his leadership an all-purpose court was installed at Johnston Park that can be used for a variety of activities including ice skating in the winter and pickleball in the spring and summer. In recent years, new basketball courts were installed at Johnston and Salter Parks.

Bobak was also instrumental in obtaining and utilizing grants from Wayne County. These grants allowed for multiple park improvements including resurfacing the tennis courts, and the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at Salter and Johnston Parks.

When asked what his favorite part of working in Parks and Recreation, he said, "I have enjoyed the many youth programs we created. I was happy to work with the Little League, the youth and adult softball programs, the swim programs, and working special events especially our Memorial Days services. I will forever have good memories of them. I will always be proud of how we kept the parks clean, well-groomed, and current."

In acknowledging John's career with the City, Acting City Manager John Szymanski said, "John has always done a fine job with our Parks and especially with our baseball diamonds. He accomplished much on a tight budget and worked well with Wayne County Officials to secure grant funding for walkways, playscapes, tennis courts and the pavilion area. The city will miss John when he's gone! We wish him well!"

As Bobak was looking forward to his upcoming retirement he expressed, "I wish to thank Candice Cheolis for the start 29 years ago and for the skills I gained from her. I also want to thank both past and present City Council members, Mayors, and City Managers whom I had the pleasure of working with. There have been several office employees to whom I am grateful. I also am very appreciative for the opportunity I had to work with Department of Public Works Director Bill Snyder, his knowledge and camaraderie are unparalleled. Additionally, I want to thank Dave Ciechanowski for all his support, many years of service, and friendship. Lastly, I want to thank the Harper Woods Recreation Advisory Board for their years of dedication and service." **Thank you John!**

Neighbor in the News - Margrit Poynter



It's not hard to spot Margrit Poynter in the City of Harper Woods, she's everywhere!

Since 2015, Margrit has either attended, organized, or volunteered at a variety of community events.

Margrit is a retired service specialist from the Food and Beverage industry with a career that spanned over forty years. Her work experience's inspired activities in the Harper Woods community. She explained, "I wanted to support the City, residents, and my husband in the best way I could by using the skills I had learned in my career... Service was my game!"

Margrit's calling came when she volunteered to form the Neighborhood Economic Development Coalition (NEDC) alongside her husband Ken and headed up its "Special Events" committee. The group has prepared and served meals at many community events including Earth Day Clean-ups, the National Night Out, Soups, and even hosting tea for the seniors at Park Place on Valentine's Day. Margrit said she enjoys working with other committee members to bring citizens together. She added, "a great way to become involved in your community is to show up at events and talk to your neighbors so you get to know them."

Poynter also enjoys crafting, traveling, gardening, driving her '51 Hudson, and most of all spending time with loved ones, especially her grandchildren. At the moment, you'll find Margrit serving as the NEDC's treasurer and also volunteering at Mayor Kindle's Food Pantry. Mayor Valerie Kindle said, "I want to recognize Margrit Poynter for all her hard work in Harper Woods. She is everywhere... and continues to lead endeavors in bringing our community together." ***Thank you Margrit!***

Featured Business/Organization: NorthPoint Development, LLC

If you have traveled on 8 Mile road recently, you have seen the buzz of activity at the former Eastland Mall as workers begin the lengthy process of safely clearing the existing buildings for the new Eastland Commerce Center. The new site will be home to three large buildings totaling almost one million square feet dedicated to "third-party logistics." Nearly six hundred jobs will be created in the community from this project.

The company behind this significant investment is NorthPoint Development, a Kansas City, MO-based commercial real estate developer. NorthPoint has been actively working in Metro Detroit over the last few years building new facilities on former industrial and commercial sites like the Cadillac Stamping Plant on Detroit's east side, Ecorse Commons in Romulus, and recently, it acquired the former American Motors HQ property on Detroit's far west side.

Since 2012, NorthPoint has developed and manages more than 140 million square feet of industrial space around the country. The company is continuing to grow in our area and hiring more people on its teams to manage and develop its properties. The community is fortunate to have partnered with such a strong and reputable organization and the future of our former beloved Eastland Mall site is in good hands under NorthPoint's guidance and management.



Department of Public Safety – Police

End Distracted Driving



Thousands have died in crashes involving cell phone use.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 9 people are killed every day in the U.S. as a result of crashes involving a distracted driver. Distracted driving doesn't just mean texting and driving. Distracted driving means driving

while not fully paying attention to the road. Even talking with another passenger is a distraction.

Other distractions include:

- Reaching for your phone
- Changing the music
- Checking your GPS or map
- Taking a selfie or photo
- Checking email or posting to social media sites
- Eating and drinking
- Putting on makeup/grooming

Unfortunately, distracted driving is all too common. How many times have you looked over and seen someone talking on their cell phone or texting?

Consider the following statistics:

- When you send a text, you take your eyes off the road for about 5 seconds. That's the time it takes to drive the length of a football field going 55 MPH! (U.S. Department of Transportation).
- At any moment during the daylight hours, about 660,000 drivers are handling cell phones or other electronic devices while driving in the U.S. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).
- You are 3 times more likely to get into an accident when distracted by manipulating a mobile device (Virginia Tech Transportation Institute).

Don't be part of the problem –It seems like there's always something to look at other than the road. It's tempting to try to stay connected by texting and driving, or to take a quick look at your GPS, but those actions can cost you your life or cause you to injure or kill someone else. Always think about whether it's worth it. Is the text message you're about to send worth an injury or death?

What you can do to help? Give clear instructions – Give new drivers in your household clear instructions not to use their wireless devices while driving. Discuss the consequences what will happen if they fail to comply to the rule.

Lead by example –No one should text and drive. Be an example for your children, and if you need to text or talk on the phone, pull over to a safe place. Set rules for yourself and your household regarding distracted driving.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR! TIME FOR YARDWORK AND TRIMMING!

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) - What is it and why is it important to implement? CPTED is an approach to deterring criminal behavior by designing your residence or business

to influence criminal acts prior to them occurring. CPTED is an important strategy to employ to your residence as it will, generally, make potential burglars feel less comfortable in your area and around your home. Here are some things you might want to consider while cleaning up your yards.



Residential Entry Points:

Daylight View – Stand outside of your home's primary front entry/exit areas.

- From this line of sight, what can you see?
- Ask yourself, can you be seen by neighbors or vehicle passing by? If you cannot see them, they cannot see you either. Criminals like privacy too!
- Repeat this process on each side of your home.

Night View – Now, stand outside of your home's primary front entry/exit areas at night.

- Repeat the review process as above. What can you see from your doorways?
- Is lighting present to highlight these same entry/exit points?
- Are there dark spaces that could be lighted?
- Repeat this process on each side of your home.

Street View of Property:

Walk or drive by the front of your residence from the street.

- Can you see clearly down both sides of the residence?
- Can the windows and doors be seen from the street-view?
- Does your property follow the 2'-6' rule (hedges and bushes no more than 2' high, and tree limbs trimmed to at least 6' above ground)? This reduces hiding spots for criminals.
- At dark, have tree canopies grown so large that they block any street or residential lighting sources?
- Are there places for a person to conceal themselves near your doorways?
- How well maintained is your yard? A well-manicured property displays strong ownership and presence.
- Is there any signage present to display ownership (No trespassing, alarm signage, etc.)?

Department of Public Safety – Police

From the Director's Desk...

Residents of Harper Woods, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Jason Hammerle, and I am the newly appointed Director of Public Safety. I have been a Harper Woods Police Officer since 2003. I received my firefighting certification in 2016 and have been performing both duties since. It has been an honor to serve this community for the better part of two decades, and I am truly humbled to have been chosen for the Public Safety Director position.

I can assure you that I will do my best to fill the shoes of the outgoing Public Safety Director, Vince Smith. Director Smith retired in late January after 25 years of dedicated service to the community. The selfless men and women of the Harper Woods Public Safety Department will continue to provide a community-service based philosophy when called upon. We have always prided ourselves on our outstanding relationship with our residents and that will continue under my command.

I will continue the practice of my predecessors by being accessible and sensitive to your concerns. I want to ensure that your public safety needs are being addressed. I am extremely excited about the development within our community and look forward to working with you.

Jason M. Hammerle
Harper Woods Director of Public Safety



The Harper Woods Police Department consistently counts on residents to be the eyes and ears of the department. Crime prevention is everybody's business, and without the assistance from residents, officers could not do their job. So, how can you help? If you see something, say something! Most people are hesitant to call 911 to report what they saw or heard as suspicious. Yes, what you saw could have been nothing. Wouldn't it be better for a police officer to check and make sure? Police officers are never bothered or annoyed by suspicious activity calls. Investigating such things is a police officer's job. In Harper Woods dial 9-1-1 to report any in progress incident. What if you waited a couple hours, or even days and you still want to report it? You can still call our non-emergency line at 313-343-2530 to meet with an officer. And remember if you don't wish to have an Officer come to your home you can always come to our station and meet with an Officer in the lobby.



Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation.

We will be awaiting further instructions from The CDC, Governor Whitmer and our State leaders on how to proceed.

Please call our office at 313-343-2500
or visit our website at
www.harperwoodscity.org for more information.

Department of Public Safety – Fire



Fire Department Assessment

Winbourne Consulting has been hired by the City of Harper Woods to research and provide a report on the operational, personnel, facilities, and equipment costs. Equally, the report will highlight the advantages or disadvantages of moving current fire department services to another department.

The experts at Winbourne have fire backgrounds that will allow them to conduct this assessment with utilizing their professional fire knowledge as well as their consulting experience. This report will approach this assessment from a neutral viewpoint and make recommendations based on national standards and their experience.

Winbourne Consulting has served more than (600) public safety organizations across the United States and (20) foreign countries over the past (20) years. They have served as consultants to the Court Monitor of the United States vs, New York City in an ongoing civil rights case regarding discrimination in hiring within the Fire Department of the City of New York.

The Harper Woods analysis will include a thorough review of current, past, and future budget expenditures, proposed capital items, and existing patterns of demand for service, staffing, review of major incidents, and current insurance ratings. It will also include assessment of trends in demand for service and identify challenges or difficulties in service delivery. Mutual aid utilization will be reviewed with an eye toward sustainability and adequacy.

A comparison of service levels will be examined against industry and national standards. A listing of special target hazards (nursing homes, senior citizen complexes, road speed limits) and hazardous waste areas will also be identified, with recommendations.

The results of the study will be publicly available and presented to the Mayor & City Council at a regularly scheduled meeting.



Resident Sign Up
any one of these ways

- 1 Text Zip Code to 888777
- 2 Sign up at www.nixle.com
- 3 Download Nixle Mobile App

Nixle keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety department and schools.



The City of Harper Woods encourages all of our residents to join Nixle. This is a community messaging system run in partnership with our local government. Participating members will receive real-time messages regarding important topics such as crime alerts, traffic safety issues, important dates, and community events. The program is safe, and registration is easy and is provided at no cost. Messages are received by email or through the web depending on your custom settings. Stay informed by signing up now at www.nixle.com.

Beautification Award Nominations Sought



The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is seeking nominations from residents who wish to recognize well maintained and visually pleasing homes in the City for a Beautification Award. To nominate a home in your area, please call the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to cthompson@harperwoods.net with the address of the home. Nominations will be accepted until June 30. Awards will be presented to ten homeowners and one business in November.

State Primary Election August 2



On August 2 voters throughout Michigan will participate in an open primary election for the purpose of nominating candidates to most state and county elective offices. In addition to voting for various elective offices, there may be several state or county wide ballot proposals. The last day

to register in any manner other than in person with the local clerk is Monday, July 18, 2022. After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency in the clerk's office during regular business hours, or from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30 and on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you are unsure of your registration status, or where to vote, please call 313-343-2510 for assistance. If you need an absentee voter ballot application for this election or have any other questions, please call the City Clerk's office.

Spring Perennial Plant Exchange



The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is sponsoring the Perennial Plant Exchange to be held Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Salter Park. Items to be exchanged include garden plants, herbs or ground cover. No trees please.

How the plants exchanges work:

- You may bring up to ten perennial plants to exchange
- Only perennials are accepted and traded - do not bring shrubs or trees
- Make sure plants are divided and placed into individual disposable containers
- You will be given a ticket for each plant that you bring and the number of tickets will determine the number of plants you can leave with
- Plants are placed in groups according to sun, shade, flowers, foliage, etc.
- A Master Gardener will be available to answer all of your plant and gardening questions

For more information, please call Marianne Modlin at 313-881-3253 or the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to cthompson@harperwoods.net

School Board Candidate Deadline

Eligible Harper Woods School District residents interested in becoming a school board trustee must file petitions with the City Clerk on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 no later than 4:00 p.m. Petition forms are available in the Clerk's office.



Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods **Applications for Deferment 2022 Taxes**

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2022 tax deferments starting July 1 for the Summer and December 1 for the Winter tax bills. To qualify, a household income cannot exceed \$40,000. The applicant must also be 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, eligible service person, veteran, widow or widower, blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The deferment applications can be obtained at the Treasurer's Office Monday-Thursday from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Assessing, Tax and Utility Billing **Information Online**



The City's website www.harperwoodscity.org provides a link for: assessing/property information including photos, sketches, assessed values and taxable values as well as tax amounts due and payment history. We

now have water billing information on the same website. Once you are online, go to bsaonline.com, and it will take you to the Access My Gov website to view and pay all City invoices and view property information. There is no charge to view this information however, there is a fee to pay invoices with a credit card; 2.95% of the amount you are paying.

Delinquent Tax Information Online

www.waynecounty.com/treasurer is the website address for delinquent taxes. Searching for delinquent real tax information can be done by entering the parcel ID, street number, and street name.

Property Transfer Affidavit

The "Property Transfer Affidavit" must be filed whenever real estate is transferred. The new owner must file the affidavit with the City Treasurer's Office within 45 days of the transfer.

Electronic Debit Transactions

When a check is provided as payment, it is an authorization for the City to use the information from your check to make a one time electronic funds transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When the City uses the information from your check to make an electronic funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day your payment is received, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.



Water/Sewer Rates*

As of May, 2020

Fixed Water Charge:	\$9.69/month
Fixed Sewer Charge:	\$17.08/month
Debt Service Charge:	\$2.50/month
Refuse User Fee:	\$4.16/month
Water Usage Fee:	\$65.13 per thousand cubic feet

*Rates subject to change



Water Bill Delivery

Bills are mailed on the 20th of each month. Payment by 5:00pm on the due date is the resident's responsibility. Failure to receive the bill does not excuse late charges. If you do not receive your monthly billing, contact the Treasurer's Office at 313-343-2522 for the balance due. Please return your water bill with your payment.

Current Fees Effective January 4, 2018

Water Disconnect Fee for Non-Payment:	\$70.00
Final Water Bill Fee:	\$20.00
Unauthorized Turn On of Water:	\$200.00
Water Appointment No Show:	\$50.00

Automatic Payment-Water Bills

Your water bill can be automatically deducted from your savings or checking account. Contact the City Treasurer's office for the enrollment form. For further information, please call 313-343-2500.

Pay Water Bills Online – NO FEES!

Free Mobile Water App Available!
Please login to harperwoods.cityinsight.com and register for free!
See website for new features!



Automatic Payment-Tax Bills

Your tax bill can be automatically deducted from your savings or checking account. The enrollment form will be mailed with the tax bill. For further information, please call 313-343-2500.

Pay Property Taxes by Credit Card Online

Mastercard, VISA, American Express, and Discover
Internet Payment: Go to City website
www.harperwoodscity.org
Select: Water & Tax Billing
Pay Your Taxes Online



The resident will be charged a 2.95% convenience fee. Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to change.



Senior Resources

Help for Seniors and Family Caregivers

Let the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA) help you.

Whether you need assistance for yourself, an aging parent or an older friend, one phone call directs you to helpful resources for family caregivers, as well as information or referrals related to healthy aging, home-delivered meals, household chores, or long-term care planning.

Call 313-446-4444.

You'll find out why DAAA is called The Senior Solution!



**How are
YOUR
parents
doing?**

Learn More Here

The Helm at The Boll Life Center

The Helm is an essential resource for adults ages 60 & up in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes. At The Helm you can participate in classes and activities to stay healthy and safe, expand your knowledge and enjoy fun and friendship. We also provide support services and information to help older adults continue living independently including chores assistance, caregiver programs, income tax preparation, Medicare counseling, medical equipment loan closet, Meals on Wheels and more. Contact The Helm at The Boll Life Center at (313) 882-9600.



PAATS News

Do you know about PAATS?

Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service (PAATS) provides transportation to persons age 60 or older and disabled residents of Harper Woods and the five Grosse Pointes. You MUST call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a ride.

Service Area – The service area takes residents to all locations in an area bound by the following: 11 Mile Rd., Gratiot Ave., Alter, Jefferson. We also go to several site specific locations including: Henry Ford Hospital, DMC, New Center, V.A., and others. Call for more details.

The following fares are per one-way trip.

Fares: Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes	\$3.00
Outside of the City limits of Harper Woods and the 5 Grosse Pointes	\$4.00
Site Specific Locations	\$5.00

Call the PAATS office for more information at 313-343-2580.

Special Trips

We also provide transportation to special trips arranged by The War Memorial. Trips include plays, tours, shopping, great lunches at area restaurants, and many more. Call The War Memorial at 313-881-7511 for more information.



**Extending free rides for
all Harper Woods residents
through April 2022!**



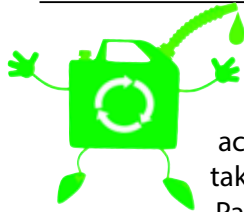
Department of Public Works

Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. Trash cans can be **NO LARGER** than 35 gallons.
- ✓ Please do not dispose of liquids in refuse.
- ✓ Paint must be dried out and placed on the boulevard with lids removed for pick-up.
- ✓ Cardboard, scrap wood, and lumber must be bundled securely with heavy binding material. Please remove all nails. Bundles should not exceed five feet in length and should not weigh more than 40 pounds.
- ✓ Carpet, carpet padding, and bundled brush will also be collected according to the same size and weight limits.
- ✓ Window or plate glass is not recyclable and will only be collected if it is broken into pieces and placed in a secure container marked GLASS.
- ✓ Encapsulated mattresses, encapsulated box springs, appliances, TV's and furniture will also be collected on regularly scheduled refuse collection days.
- ✓ Building materials such as wood with nails, dirt, cement, and sod can be collected as a special pick-up by the Public Works Department by calling 313-343-2570.
- ✓ (*Bulk waste exceeds size limits*) includes the following: Move outs, evictions and large set outs. Contact the Department of Public Works for a special pick up.
- ✓ Loose debris will not be cleaned up by the trash contractor. All trash must be contained in bags.
- ✓ **Do not place trash bags/cans in the street, this creates a traffic hazard. All cans/bags should be placed on the boulevard.**



Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day



Please check waynecounty.com for information on various drop off days. Waste oil/antifreeze is no longer accepted at the D.P.W. for drop off. Please take waste oil to your nearest O'Reilly's Auto Parts for disposal. Please contact the DPW for further information 313-343-2570.

Trash Delay Reminder!



A delayed trash day will **ONLY** occur when the holiday falls during a weekday. If the holiday falls on the weekend, your trash pick-up day will remain on your normal day.
***When in doubt, put it out.**

MISS DIG – If you notice colored flags in your yard or along the roadway, it is an indication that someone is planning to perform underground construction in that area. The following utility companies are represented by colored flags as indicated:



- Blue – Water ● Green – Sanitary Sewer/Storm Water
- Orange – Telephone/Cable/TV ● Pink – Survey
- Red – Electric ● Yellow – Gas or Oil

Yard Waste Collection



Yard waste collection begins the week of **April 4th** and ends the week of **November 21st** on our trash collection day. Please place your yard waste in brown biodegradable lawn bags or rubbish cans no larger than 35 gallons and labeled **YARD WASTE/COMPOST**. Yard waste will **ONLY** be collected from the beginning of April through the month of November.

Please check your City calendar for specific dates. Curbside leaf collection will run from **October 17th - November 18th**. For more information go to www.harperwoodscity.org or call 313-343-2570.

Grass Cutting Violations #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

Residents, please note that according to the City ordinances, any grass over 5" is in violation. This also includes flower beds. When a GREEN TAG is placed on your door, you will have 48 hours to take corrective action. If your grass is not cut within that time, the City will hire a private contractor to cut your grass/weeds and the owner will receive an invoice to reimburse the City for such costs. If the owner fails to pay, the City Assessor shall add these charges to the tax rolls for this property. If you have any questions, please call 313-343-2570 upon receipt of warning or notice.

Sidewalk Maintenance

A friendly reminder to all homeowners and business owners that they are responsible for maintaining and correcting any sidewalk or driveway approach defects. However, before any repairs are made, a permit from the Building Department must be obtained. For more information, please call 313-343-2526.



Maintaining Sewer Lines

Below are a few tips to help maintain your sewer lines!

- ◆ Decrease your chances of home sewer issues by making an effort not to flush any paper products other than rolled toilet paper.
- ◆ Limit the use of your garbage disposal to small scraps that fall through the strainer. DO NOT use your disposal as a food processor.
- ◆ Do not pour cooking grease or cooking oil down your sink. This causes blockages as it hardens and can restrict flow.
- ◆ Living in a community with large, mature trees has its benefits, however, wandering roots can be problematic for sewer lines. To prevent possible sewage back ups, it is recommended that homeowners, with or without trees in their area, perform annual sewer line maintenance. This could include routine line cabling, root cutting and chemical treatments.
- ◆ The sanitary sewer line from the home to the City main is the responsibility of the homeowner. We suggest you get several quotes and references before having any work performed.
- ◆ Sewer line excavation and repair is a permissible event. The permit and inspection can be secured by contacting the Building Department at 313-343-2526.



Don't forget – the only paper product that should be flushed is toilet paper! All others belong in the trash – grease too!

Rodent Control

The following check list will help eliminate rodents from breeding in your area.

- ◆ Keep your yard free of trash.
- ◆ Use trash cans with tight fitting lids.
- ◆ Keep your yard free of high weeds, brush/branch piles and building materials.
- ◆ Make sure debris does not collect under wooden decks and porches or along side garage. Pick up fallen fruit and vegetables from gardens daily.
- ◆ Clean up dog feces and leftover uneaten food daily.
- ◆ Firewood must be stored a minimum of eighteen inches above ground.
- ◆ If you compost, turn pile daily. Food scraps should not be put in compost piles. This will only invite rats.
- ◆ Feeding the birds and squirrels on a regular basis can cause rodent problems.
- ◆ Lastly, rat bait (poison) can be purchased at your local store. **EXTREME CAUTION** should be exercised when using these products. Always follow manufacturers instructions. These products **MUST** be kept away from children and pets.

Professional exterminators can be hired to address this situation, if need be. Please contact our department if we can provide additional information.

Downspouts, Surface Drainage, Etc.

The City requires that downspouts be disconnected from the drain tile or weeping that surrounds your home. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance# Sec. 27-54. Downspouts, surface drainage, etc. and can significantly contribute to a flooded basement.

Gutters should be kept clean of debris. Downspouts should have elbows, splash blocks and extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. Additionally, the grade (slope) of dirt around your home should be pitched to direct storm water /melting snow away from the foundation of your home. Driveways or other solid materials should also be pitched to direct water away from the foundation of your home. Failure to take these corrective actions can significantly increase the likelihood of a flooded basement.

Just a reminder Be a good neighbor and **DO NOT** direct storm water on to your neighbors' property.



Department of Public Works



The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act has changed to better protect your health. New water sampling rules have been added to better detect possible lead in your drinking water. These changes require communities with lead service lines to do more sampling. The new sampling method is expected to result in higher lead results, not because the water source or quality for residents has changed, but because the act has more stringent sampling procedures and analysis.

In 2019, the City of Harper Woods increased the number of water sampling locations to 30 residential homes. This is known as lead and copper monitoring. The criteria was to sample water from homes known to have or suspected to have lead water service lines. These samples were then analyzed by the Great Lakes Water testing lab. The results were forwarded to the participants.

Of the 30 locations sampled, 4 yielded results in exceedance of the action level of 15 ppb (parts per billion). All copper results were in the acceptable range. **This exceedance is not a health based standard nor a violation of The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act**, but rather an indicator that triggers additional action on the City and water supplier's part. To date, the City has made a public service announcement through media outlets. Additionally, the City will provide public education material to every water customer in Harper Woods. As in the past, important information will also be included in the Annual Consumer's Confidence Water Quality Report.

Due to our favorable results in 2020, The State has placed the City of Harper Woods on a "reduced monitoring schedule."

In 2021 the City asked 30 residential locations to participate in 1 round of sampling between June and September.

The State will notify us of the 2022 testing requirements in early 2022.

Please be on the look out for the red **"testing required"** door tags and call to schedule delivery of sample bottles as soon as possible.

If you have questions, concerns, need information on, or can provide us with information on the service line material in your home or business, please contact the Public Works Department, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 3:00pm.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit the City's website at www.harperwoodscity.org, the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, the EGLE website at www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory or call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

Looking to report a violation or concerns with a potential violation? Please email or call the Building Department with any and all concerns at 313-343-2526 or building@harperwoods.net

To check and see if a potential violation has turned into an enforcement you can always check online at bsaonline.com. Click Wayne County, then Harper Woods. Type in the address and look under the Building Department tab.

Spring is the perfect time to check your home and property for potential damage caused by the cold winter season.

1. Pick up all of the debris that has been hidden under the snow during the winter months.
2. Prepare your lawn equipment to cut and maintain your property or contact a contractor to do so for you.
3. Remove wild elm trees that grow along side your house, garage or in the fence lines before they become larger and harder to maintain.
4. Make sure your gutters and downspouts are cleaned out and dispersing water away from your foundation.
5. Inspect your concrete for dangerous trip hazards and repair or replace.
6. Deteriorated fencing/structures need to be repaired and painted or removed.
7. Garbage receptacles must be kept behind the house and out of sight from the front view of the property. They should be set to the curb no sooner than the evening prior to your scheduled pick-up date, and returned to the rear yard the same day after pick up.
8. Always make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors have fresh batteries.
9. Notify the Building Dept. of any and all blight so we all can enjoy the beauty that Harper Woods has to offer us all.



Assessing Department Info

The Assessor is available on Wednesday's during normal business hours 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You can contact the Assessor at 313-343-2527 or by e-mail; assessing@harperwoods.net. All assessment information is available online through the City's website: www.harperwoodscity.org. For a better understanding of your assessment and taxes, please visit the website, click on the Department of Assessing.

As a reminder, whenever there is a change in ownership on a property, you must file a Property Transfer Affidavit (PTA) within 45 days to the Assessor's Office. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the name and mailing address is correct on the property. You can obtain the PTA on the city website or the Assessor's Office.

The State of Michigan has adopted new mandatory poverty guidelines for a reduction in taxes based on household income. You can obtain an application from the Assessor's Office or from the City website under the Assessing Department.

The 2022 Notice of Assessments will be mailed out at the end of February. The Board of Review will be meeting on March 14 and March 28, 2022, to hear valuation appeals of your property, review Disabled Veteran Exemptions and Poverty Applications. All appeals are by appointment or in writing. Information regarding the Board of Review is available on the City's website under the Assessing Department. Additional information will be provided once the 2022 assessments are made available to the public.

Contact Information by Department

Assessor

313-343-2527

SAFEbuilt Building Department

313-343-2526

City Manager

313-343-2505

Economic and Community Development

313-343-2501

Elections

313-343-2510



Finance Director

313-343-2518

Fire Department

313-343-2550

SAFEbuilt Housing Inspection

313-343-2526

Library

313-343-2575

PAATS

313-882-9600

Parks and Recreation

313-343-2560

Public Safety Department

313-343-2530

Public Works

313-343-2570

Treasurer Tax & Water Billing Information

313-343-2500

32A District Court News

Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



Greetings Harper Woods,

These days when we are distracted by so many external factors such as COVID 19, the crisis in Ukraine, and transitions in our workplace, it is easy to become so distracted that we become less diligent about our personal safety. I am encouraging everyone to be mindful during these times to put safety first and to watch out for stalkers. Research shows that an estimated 13.5 million people are victims of stalking in the United States each year.

With the advanced technology available these days, stalking can take on many forms and it is not just limited to one sex. Stalking can be defined as recurring behavior directed towards a person who identifies those behaviors as uninvited and intrusive. Stalkers use many methods, such as; showing up to places where the victim does not want them to be, using technology to tracking individuals and/or spy on them, making unwanted phones calls, sending unwanted texts/photos/emails/messages on social media, sending unwanted gifts, and many other ways.

With many individuals now working from their home base, the opportunities for cyber stalking have increased. An awareness of stalking becoming more of a problem requires that strategies to address this issue effectively be developed. Stalking can have the most deleterious and tragic impact on an individual's fundamental rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Many victims believe the stalking will never stop and have constant fear of the unknown of what will happen next. No one should have to live in fear of a stalker. Stalking in any of its forms is a crime punishable by law. If you or someone you know is a victim of stalking, do not suffer in silence, please contact the local police department.

Meet The Staff Corner

I would like to introduce the Harper Woods Community to Deputy Clerk Samantha Maul, affectionately known as "Sam". Sam was born and raised in Hamtramck, MI. She furthered her education at Madonna University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Sam is married and has two sons.

In Sam's free time she enjoys working out and attending her children's sporting events. She loves to travel, especially going on the annual camping trip every year with her family.

Sam has worked for 32A District Court for about 2.5 years. She believes one of the great advantages of working at 32A is the ability to learn each division of the Court and not be limited to just one division.

Sam looks forward to all the opportunities 32A has to offer in helping to further her career and grow within the criminal justice system and is also thankful for all that 32A has already helped her achieve.



I am delighted to continue to serve our great city,
Judge Rebekah R. Coleman

Library News & Events



"Check out what we've got planned for you!"

Kristen Valyi-Hax

Library Director



From the Director

As we head into the spring, it's time to shake off the winter doldrums. Take advantage of the better weather to read outside – on your porch, at the beach, or at a park. We've got all kinds of choices for all types of readers, and our staff (big readers ourselves!) is here to help you find your new favorite book. And since you're going to be reading anyway, come in and sign up for our Summer Reading Program, starting June 20. No matter how old you are, we've got something fun for you!



Also, it's time to finish the school year strong! Did you know about Tutor.com, provided for you at no charge? Whether your child is in kindergarten or grade 12, they can get help with math, prep for the SAT/ACT, or connect live with a tutor. This great site even offers help with

finding a job by connecting to a career coach or submitting a resume for review. To get started you just need your library card and PIN from the library, and go to <http://www.tutor.com/suburban>

Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Kick-Off!

Join us for our annual Summer Reading Program at our "Oceans of Possibilities" kick-off! Starting June 20th you will be able to sign up to win prizes for reading over the summer. We will be tie-dying bandanas and hair scrunchies to celebrate the summer and the start of the program.

All ages, Monday, June 20th from 4:30-6:00 pm

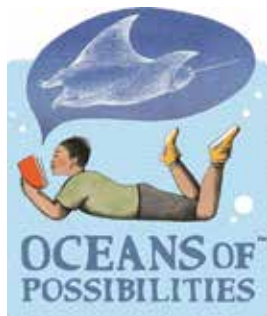
Summer Reading Storytime!

Join us outside for "Oceans of Possibilities" themed stories, songs and movement; and then stick around for an activity at the end! Ages 6 & under, with caregiver.

Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 pm.: June 22, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27.

Summer Reading Programming!

Every week we will have a different "Oceans of Possibilities" craft program, science experiment, or engineering project. Registration for programs begins June 20th at the library.



Ongoing Events for Children and Parents

Take and Make Kits!

Come into the library and pick up Take-and-Make Kits for at-home crafts, science experiments, art projects, interactive activities and more! Stay updated about Take-and-Make Kits on our Facebook and Instagram.

- April: Constellation Flashlights (all ages), Fire-breathing Dragon (children)
- May: Fly a kite! (all ages), Dinosaur masks (children)

Ongoing Programs for Adults

ZOOM Book Club: 4th Wednesday of the month, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m

Contact the library (313-343-2575 or hw@libcoop.net) to join. A study guide containing book summary, discussion questions, and author biography is available upon request.

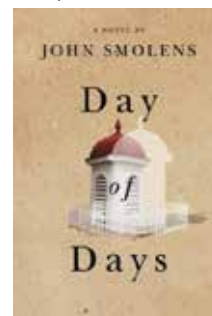
April 27: *1984*, by George Orwell

May 25: *Eternal*, by Lisa Scottoline

June 22: *The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba*, by Chanel Cleeton

Michigan Notable Books Zoom, April 25, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Engage in a discussion of *Day of Days*, by John Smolens: *A woman recalls the 1927 bombing of the Bath, Michigan, School.* Contact the library for your Zoom invitation.



Join the *Spice of the Month Club* – Visit the library for your free "Spice Kit," a pre-measured sample of the spice of the month, fun facts, and recipes.

Come to the library for seasonal **Take and Make Craft Kits**, while supplies last!

Adult Summer Reading Program: June 20 – July 29

Call the library to sign up or see the librarian at the Reference Desk. Open to adults 18 years and older. Read or listen to at least 3 books to be eligible for gift cards & prizes at our End of Summer Reading Celebration on Monday, August 1.

Current Library Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm

Thursday – Friday 11am – 5pm

Check the library's website for hours and closure dates. Visit www.harperwoodslibrary.org or call the library at 313-343-2575

A New Residential Community in Harper Woods



Former Poupard School Site

During the past two years, Harper Woods officials have collaborated with officials from the Grosse Pointe Board of Education, to repurpose the Poupard Elementary School site, which is a little more than six acres. Recently, the Grosse Pointe Board decided to commission a team of professionals, hired by the Grosse Pointe Board and the City of Harper Woods, to create a “Request for Qualifications” (RFQ.)

The RFQ’s were sent to residential developers in March with a response deadline in May of this year. From the responses, a developer/development team will be selected in late June or early July.

The RFQ will outline to developers the preferred housing types and plan for the site, which will still include significant greenspace and playground equipment for the community. The goal is to build modern styles of dwellings on the Poupard site, known in the housing industry as middle housing. Broadly speaking, middle housing consists of duplexes, townhouses, brownstones, and similar property types. These are considered the “middle” because they are not detached single-family residences, nor are they attached apartment buildings. The properties will likely range from \$230,000 to \$300,000, offering quality new construction at an attainable price point. Housing values should also increase for homes nearby.

Black History Month

At the February 23rd City Council meeting, Mayor Valerie Kindle along with Harper Woods City Council members adopted the following resolution that recognized February as Black History Month in the City of Harper Woods!

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
Resolution in Recognition of
Black History Month**

WHEREAS, Black Americans have made and continue to make significant and historic contributions to U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Declaration of Independence states “all men are created equal”; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has proclaimed February National Black History Month as a celebration and reminder of Black Americans’ contributions to the story of America; and

WHEREAS, the current social and political atmosphere of our country informs us of the need to continue the fight for equity, opportunity, and dignity for every Black American; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans continue to rise in spirit and accomplishment despite the shadows and struggles of slavery, Jim Crow laws, and continued systemic racism; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the elected officials of Harper Woods pledge to work together to develop, identify, and put forth solutions to achieving equity and equality for all, and unity in Harper Woods and surrounding communities.

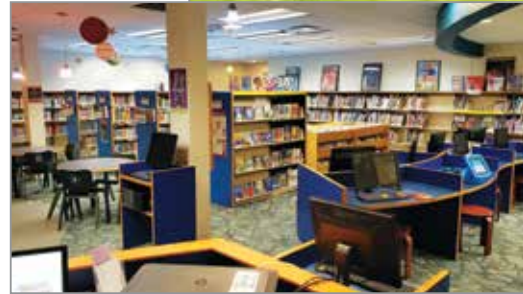
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Valerie Kindle, and Harper Woods City Council members, proclaim February 2022 as Black History Month in the City of Harper Woods.

Library Lower Level Projected to Open Late Summer!

In June 2021, the library sustained major flood damage in the lower level, as did many other residents of Harper Woods. Numerous children's books, especially holiday titles and board books for our youngest readers, along with other items were lost. As part of remediation efforts, all of the carpets had to be removed and the drywall cut up to three feet from the floor. There have been some unfortunate delays, but the library is making progress in moving forward on the library's lower level reconstruction. A backflow prevention system has been installed to ensure this won't happen again. Library staff is working with the chairman of the City's Planning Commission to create a building plan with a unified scope of work to send out to vendors for bids.

One aspect of planning is to redesign the Heritage Room to include space for archival storage of papers, documents, books, and other memorabilia related to the history of Harper Woods. Ideally, having a place where volunteers can scan print documents and photos into digital copies to upload online for accessibility anywhere in the country is envisioned. Of course, the library will still have the beloved artifacts that tell the story of the City.

We are grateful to those residents who made donations that will allow the replacement of some lost books. Officials are looking forward to having space back for the use of our community. Library personnel are hoping to have the renovations completed by May or June in time for the annual Summer Reading Program.



Harper Woods Recreation Department 2022

NEW ZOOM ZUMBA

Virtual Zumba (Fitness Classes) Now Available



The Harper Woods Park and Recreation Department has partnered with JRS Fitness, LLC to provide virtual Zumba classes to City residents. Instructor Jenna Simon recently began her 7th year of teaching Zumba, and is currently holding classes exclusively on Zoom, which offers the benefit of being able to workout in the comfort of your own home (or other location of your choice). Class schedule and information is below.

ABOUT CLASS: Jenna's Zumba offers a fun, mid-high intensity dance workout combining cardio and strength training (without weights). Class is a full body workout (arms, legs, abs, cardio, etc.) and includes a warm up and cool down with stretching. Jenna has choreographed over 200 songs; music comprises of old-school 70's and 80's classics, 90's music, hip-hop, Arabic and Latin music. Jenna's unique choreography is intended to assist participants with weight loss and muscle toning. Jenna is available on non-class days to provide additional instructions on certain moves or songs.

Equipment: Must be able to access Zoom via phone, laptop or iPad (and you may hide your camera, if you choose). Ideal spacing for moving around is at least 6x6 feet. Hard floor works best. Tennis shoes recommended.

Schedule: Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Sundays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Pricing: Residents \$10/month
12 classes

To sign up for classes or if you have questions, please contact Harper Woods Recreation

e-mail: harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net or call (313) 343-2560

A Forecast of Summer Events in Harper Woods!

Save the dates and please check the City website at harperwoodscity.org for information on time, location, and itinerary for scheduled events.



May 30th
Memorial Day Service and Ceremony

June 19th
Juneteenth Celebration



August 2nd
National Night Out

2022 Summer Recreation Program

Important Notice

Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation. We will be awaiting further instructions from The CDC, Governor Whitmer and our State leaders on how to proceed. Please call our office at 313-343-2560 with any further questions.

Arts & Crafts

One of our most popular programs! Need a few hours in the morning to yourself? Arts & Crafts is a fun, supervised place for your child to have fun and make new friends! Children ages 3-10 years old will enjoy participating in games, theme days, craft making and playground play. We offer one six-week session for this program. This program is held outdoors under the picnic shelter at Johnston Park. We will be outside except in cases of extreme weather, so please dress children accordingly. Children must be potty trained. Register early, this program fills up quickly!

Dates: June 27-August 11 *No classes July 4– July 7*

Days & Times:

Age 3-5 years Mondays & Wednesdays 9:00am-12:00pm

Age 6-10 years Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00am-12:00pm

Fee: \$55 per child-includes daily snack, materials and program T-shirt.

Kids Tennis

Whether you are a beginner or advanced, you will have a great time in this class. Tennis is held at Johnston Park.

Mini Session: Session I April 30-May 14

Saturdays 11am-12pm **Fee:** \$32** (Ages 6-Highschool)

Session II: June 21-July 21 *No class Week of July 4*

Session III: July 26-August 18

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Fee: \$40.00 per 4 week session

Times: Ages 6-8 9:00am-10:00am

Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am



Play on
our newly
renovated
tennis courts!

Adult Tennis

We now offer tennis lessons for adults too! Tennis is held at Johnston Park. Great for beginner or advanced.

Session I: April 30-May 14

Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am **Fee:** \$40

Session II: June 18-July 16 *No class July 2nd*

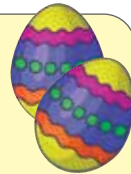
Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am **Fee:** \$40

Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly and social game that combines aspects of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. No experience is necessary and equipment is provided. Reserve a 2 hour lesson for between 1-4 players at the Pickleball court at Johnston Park with our experienced Pickleball Instructor.

Easter Egg Hunt

Bring your family out for a morning of Spring fun! This event will be held at Johnston Park by the baseball fields. This event is for kids up to age 12.



Fun includes:

- * Spring temporary tattoos
- * Decorate bags to gather eggs
- * Spring Family Photo to take home (1 photo per family)
- * Egg Hunt

The Egg Hunt will be separated into 2 age groups, toddlers-age 6 and ages 7-12. Kids will be able to collect eggs and turn them in for candy and other goodies.

Date: Saturday, April 16 **Start Time:** Promptly at 10am

*This event will take place rain or shine.

Fee: \$5 per child, max \$25 cost per family by cash or check only

Register at the Harper Wood Recreation Department Monday-Friday from 8am-4:30pm. We will also be open on Saturday, April 2nd 10am-1pm for registration. The last day to register for this event is Monday, April 4th. Please contact the Recreation Department at 313-343-2560 or harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net

Girl Scout Silver Award Salter Park Project

For their Silver Award project, four Girl Scouts from Troop 70933 made improvements to the walking path at Salter Park. They added movement activities, sidewalk chalk activities, and informational signs about trees found in the park. The scouts also created a website where residents can learn more about the walking path activities and even take an online quiz to see how much they know about the history of Harper Woods.

<https://mysaltermemorialpa.wixsite.com/my-site>

Memorial Day Ceremony

The City of Harper Woods Memorial Day Service and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 30th at the Veteran's Memorial, located at Johnston Park, beginning at 10:15am. The Veterans organizations and service organizations within Harper Woods participate in this program. All are welcome to attend in honor of those who have fought for our country. Memorial wreaths are placed at the Memorial Flame in their memory. A continental breakfast is served immediately following the service.

Recreation Department Limited Saturday Hours:

The Recreation Department will be open from 10am-1pm on the following Saturdays:

Saturday, April 2nd

Saturday, June 4th

Saturday, June 18th

Youth Swim Lessons

Spending time at the beach, up north, or wherever there is water can be hazardous for a non-swimmer. Our lessons teach children to be independent and safe in the water. Our certified instructors will teach your child all of the tools they need to become a good swimmer, and they have fun too!! The children's lessons are offered for **Harper Woods residents only**. The classes are held at the Harper Woods High School pool, and are available for one seven week session. *Register early, classes fill up fast.

Schedule We offer Monday OR Tuesday classes.

Monday Classes June 27-August 15 ***No classes July 4***

4:00-4:45pm Open Swim
4:00-4:45pm Lap Swim
5:00-5:30pm Aquaducks
5:30-6:00pm Level I
6:00-6:30pm Level II
6:30-7:15pm Level III
7:15-8:00pm Level IV, V, VI

Open Swim & Adult Lap Swim on Mondays - 4:00-4:45pm

Open Swim Fee: \$2 per person
Adult Lap Swim Fee: \$5 per person
Residents ONLY You must stop in
at the HW Recreation Department to
get a Swim Pass prior to open swim.

Tuesday Classes June 28-August 16 ***No classes July 5***

5:00-5:30pm Level I
5:30-6:00pm Level II

Youth Swim Fees

30 min classes \$55 for 1 child, \$25 each additional

45 min classes \$65 for 1 child, \$30 each additional

Beginning Adult Swim Lessons

Adults, now you can learn how to swim and be confident in the water. We offer a seven week session at the Harper Woods High School Pool. Ages 18 & Up.

Dates: June 28-August 16 ***No classes July 5***

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 6:15-7:00pm **Fee:** \$65 for 7 weeks



Water Aerobics

Water aerobics is a great low impact workout. We offer a seven week session at the Harper Woods High School pool.

Dates: June 28-August 16

No classes July 5

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 7:00-8:00pm **Fee:** \$56 for 7 weeks

Walk at Salter Park

Come walk the newly expanded walking trail at Salter Park to get healthy and socialize with your neighbors. Each complete time around the walking path is approximately 1/2 mile. Restrooms will be open. Pre-registration is not needed and there is no cost.

Days: Saturdays through September **Time:** 9am-10am

Fitness Firm Aerobics

Fitness Firm offers low impact dance aerobics, incorporating kickbox, yoga, free weights, Zumba, toning, flexibility and stretching. Fitness Firm classes are held at The First English Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall, located at 800 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays **Time:** 9:30-10:30am

Tuesdays & Thursdays **Time:** 4:00-5:00pm

If you have questions, please contact Judy Sheehy at 313-886-7534 or vitaftjsheehy@comcast.net.

The Helm at the Boll Life Center

This organization provides assistance with many needs for older adults ages 60 & up in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes. If you need some help or have a question, please contact the Helm at the Boll Life Center at 313-882-9600 for information on available services.

Summer Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 39th year of the program! There is no residency requirement. Classes will be held (tentative) on the stage in the Harper Woods High School Auditorium. We require at least one adult to stay with each student child and watch, siblings are welcome too. We will be following CDC recommended guidelines and school requirements regarding COVID, so please be aware that social distancing and masks may be required depending on a variety of factors. Pre-registration is required for all classes. You can register in person at the recreation office with cash, check or money order, or mail your form with a check or money order to the recreation office. Another option is to place your registration and payment (NO CASH) into the drop box located in the lobby of the Harper Woods City Hall that is open 24 hours. Please call the dance program director (Nonny Sperry) at (313) 885-3714 or the recreation office for more details or updates. We strongly suggest you contact Nonny or the recreation office if you plan on mailing in or using the drop box. Very Important-Please understand that times, locations, or guidelines might change. Thanks for your patience and cooperation. For example, there is a chance that classes might be held at Salter Park or Johnston Park instead of the stage area.

Dates: June 27-August 15 ***No classes July 4th***

Monday Classes

INSTRUCTORS: Miss Mikayla Schiller, Miss Caitlin Skerske, Miss Nonny Sperry

4:00-4:30pm Creative Movement and Ballet, ages 3-5
4:30-5:00pm Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5
5:00-5:30pm Ballet, ages 6-8
5:30-6:00pm Hip Hop, ages 6-8
6:00-6:30pm Lyrical, ages 6-8
6:30-7:00pm Lyrical, ages 9-12
7:00-7:30pm Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12
7:30-8:00pm Ballet, ages 9-12
8:00-8:30pm Teen Ballet
8:30-9:00pm Teen Jazz

Dance Tuition

\$50 (includes 7 lessons) *Plus \$5 registration fee per family.

Family Plan Discount:

Family Plan- 2 classes or more. *Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in 2 or more classes.*

\$10 off for 2 \$15 off for 3 \$20 off 4 or more

***All summer dance students are invited to participate in a special class (FREE) that will meet one-time only. Under the Sea for ages 3-6, Shake, Rattle, and Roll for ages 7-10, and Dance Drills and Skills for ages 11 and up. Date to be determined.



WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON A NEW BASEBALL PROGRAM!!

Parks & Recreation Update

Park Facilities

The Recreation Department has three parks for community use, each with children's playground equipment and picnic sites. Picnic reservations will be taken from May through Labor Day. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. No moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands or DJ's allowed for picnics. Reserve at least 3 weeks in advance. Refunds for cancellations are only given if you cancel at least 3 weeks before your scheduled picnic date.

****There are no dogs allowed in Johnston or Danbury Parks.**

****Dogs are allowed at Salter Park on a leash, not allowed under shelter or playscape. Please see Harperwoodscity.org for a complete list of Park and Picnic rules.**



Park Fees *(Fees are subject to change)

There is a fee for picnic reservations. A shelter at Johnston or Salter Park is \$75. The Pavilion at Salter is \$100. The fee is due at the time of reservation.

Financial Assistance Program

The City of Harper Woods believes in providing recreation opportunities to all Harper Woods residents regardless of economic circumstances. For a confidential inquiry, please contact the Recreation Director at 313-343-2560.

Recreation Refund Policy

1. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Department within the first 2 weeks of the program.
2. No refunds will be given after the second week of class, except under special circumstances, i.e. medical reasons.
3. Refunds will be given in check form through City Hall for amounts over \$10.00 or as credit for future recreation registration fees for amounts of \$10.00 or less.

To Register:

Register at the Recreation Office or mail in the registration form with payment. Phone reservations not accepted. Make checks payable to: **City of Harper Woods**

**The Recreation Department is located near the front of Johnston Park
Office hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday**

**The mailing address is: City of Harper Woods Parks & Recreation
20221 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI 48225
313-343-2560**

Harper Woods Recreation Department

Participant Name _____

Age _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

The undersigned recognizes that injuries sometimes occur in connection with athletic activities, and hereby exonerates the City of Harper Woods Recreation Department, its employees and volunteers for any liabilities in connection therewith. The City of Harper Woods is not liable for any accidents or injuries to participants or spectators.

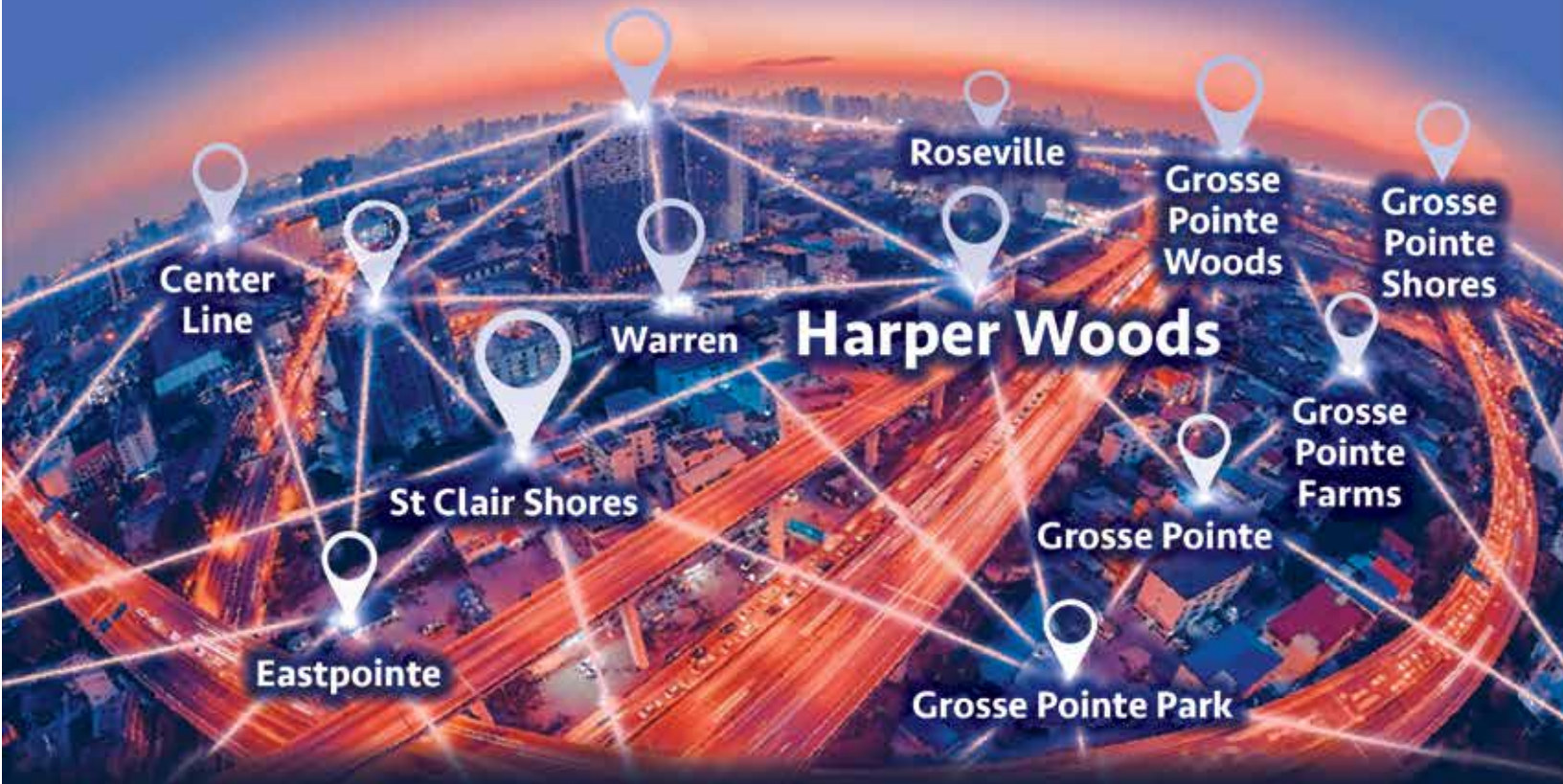
Activity _____ Days/Times _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide

Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Health and Fitness • Harper Woods Real Estate Trends • Education
Teen Eating Concerns • Behind the Scenes Look at Business
Business Directory • And more**

The Community Resource Guide is a quarterly, seasonal publication providing all Harper Woods residents and businesses an opportunity to share local stories, upcoming events and business services within our community.

If you or someone you know have an event to promote, a story to share or an idea for the upcoming Summer Edition (July thru September) email us at info@drivecreativeservices.com.

(All information provided would be considered without guarantee it will be published)

Deadline to provide information is Friday, May 13th



To promote your business in this quarterly publication, please contact
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Today's Health & Fitness



Ken Welch, Owner
Pointe Fitness
& Training

Spring is when people start feeling more of an itch to get busy with their fitness goals. That said, I want to tell you about our gym.

Pointe Fitness has been in the Harper Woods community for 20 years this April. We've been in business 27 years.

Pointe Fitness first opened in 1995 in Grosse Pointe and was the only gym in the area. We moved to Harper Woods in 2002. A really good decision.

Our building was once a distribution center for the Detroit News and is now the largest, privately owned gym in the area. The philosophy has been consistent since its beginning.

Focus on the basics of conditioning; equal parts, strength and cardio, without gimmicks or being caught up in the latest trends.

We can accommodate anyone who's serious about working out, whether you're new or have been working out for a long time?

If you're bored with your workout at home because of space limitations, our 20,000 sq. ft. might be a nice change of scenery.

Pointe Fitness is not a gym that "sells" the answer to all fitness needs like in commercial gyms. We don't do weight loss programs or pressure you into personal training contracts, it's not our way. We have a very approachable staff with a very down to earth point of view towards keeping in shape.

Questions are answered freely.

I'm the sole owner so I'm not bound to equipment contracts with specified vendors saying what equipment I can have or not have in my gym. I rely on my many years of experience and provide you the best, most effective equipment, old or new.

Our membership is a dedicated and diverse group that respect each other and each other's fitness goals. Everybody's different. We promote and celebrate that.

We have a half-court, basketball court, yoga and other fitness classes, two, open floor exercise areas and a DMC Physical Therapy clinic. Parking is easy and free.

It's a good time working out here. Could it work for you?



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Wayne W. Bradley, Sr.
President/CEO

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DOES MY TEEN HAVE AN EATING PROBLEM?

Eating problems are found in all communities, among all genders, but are most common in teenagers and young adults. As teens become more independent, they want to control more aspects of their life, including the foods they eat. They may become a vegetarian or only want fast food. Extracurricular activities may cause them to skip meals. Social media and normal weight gain due to puberty makes them vulnerable to body image criticism. All of these factors may increase a teen's risk for eating problems, and can cause anxiety and uncertainty for your teen.

When should you become concerned?

Disordered Eating is a term that describes a wide range of problematic eating behaviors that do not meet medical criteria for an eating disorder, but can still cause significant stress for you and your teen. Teens may require treatment to resume more normal eating behaviors and decrease their anxiety.

An **Eating Disorder** diagnosis is made if your teen meets specific medical criteria for weight loss, eating habits, feelings about food and body image, and changes in their physical exam. This can be a serious medical condition causing long term problems affecting all body systems. Teens will need treatment to resume normal eating and psychological stability.

Here are some signs to look for that may indicate a problem with eating:

- Anxiety over appearance in activities emphasizing weight (ballet, modeling, wrestling)
- Wearing baggy clothing to hide weight loss
- Eating a limited variety of foods
- Unexplained vomiting or laxative use
- Frequently skipping meals
- Excessive exercise
- Repeatedly trying trendy diets
- Hair loss, dizziness, or fatigue that doesn't improve after rest
- Rapid unexpected weight loss

Abnormal eating behaviors are often unnoticed by families and not diagnosed by physicians until there is a dramatic weight loss. If you are concerned that your teen may have an eating problem, start by seeing your family physician or an adolescent specialist.

Dr. Sharon Marshall specializes in adolescent medicine at Wayne Pediatrics. For more information please visit www.waynepediatrics.org or call (313) 448-9600.



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Emergency Rental Assistance Available in Wayne County


If you are a renter or landlord facing debt or housing insecurity due to the pandemic, \$13M in support is available in the first round of funding from the Wayne County Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Eligible applicants can receive money for rent and utilities including electricity, heat, water, sewer, and trash. Internet stipends and relocation assistance are also available.

The Wayne County ERAP is available to landlords and their renters within Wayne County who:

- Have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Are experiencing housing instability, and
- Have a household income at or below 80% of Area Median Income (AMI)


Apply Today!

Call 833-742-1513 or scan the QR code for more information



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f i t i n waynepediatrics.org

A behind-the-scenes look at businesses that represent and shape our community.



The Chamber is in the podcast business! Experience interviews between Rachele Wright and business owners as they tell us about their work, what makes them unique to the community, memorable experiences they have had while running their business, and why they love being a part of the community.


All episodes are available on popular podcast platforms such as Spotify, iTunes, as well as the video stream of the recordings on YouTube. Just search "GP Chamber Chats" and listen in!



Regan Stolarski,
Director of Administration



Rachele Wright,
Social Media &
Membership Director



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Emergency Rental Assistance

If you are a renter or landlord in Wayne County living outside of Detroit, you can still get relief for any housing issues related to COVID-19. Wayne County's Emergency Rental Assistance Program can keep you from losing your home and significantly ease your situation.

For qualified individuals:

- Rental arrears up to **12 months**
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- Electricity
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For more information, visit our website at:
waynecounty.com/rentalassistance, or call (833) 742-1513

New Year Still

**By Wayne W. Bradley, Sr. President/CEO
Detroit Community Health Connection**

The “New Year” is 4 months old but is still new enough to offer promise and potential for change and improvement over the past 2 years.

While we continue to wrangle with a virus that appears to be here for good, we are still presented with the opportunity to make changes for our improved health, well-being and the provision of community healthcare.

Personal changes are always the best chance to overcome personal challenges, and now is no different as better eating, regular exercise and wellness check-ups (medical, dental and mental) take a front row seat. These are basics that we’ve said and heard repeatedly over the years, and yet many choose to ignore the impact of these seemingly simple but powerful acts.

Our presence in the community is strategic: we are where you are; where we need to be. Accessible and convenient to ensure access to everyone and that everyone has access to us and the valuable resources we provide.

Things haven’t looked up for a while now, which give us even more reason to take the future into our collective hands. Let’s get better by doing better, starting now. Together, our New Year can be just that.



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AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▲ 2.5%

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 29.1%

FROM Q4 2021

74

NUMBER
OF SALES

▲ 15.6%

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▼ 6.3%

FROM Q4 2021

25

AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▼ 13.6%

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 45.7%

FROM Q4 2021

41

AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▼ 2.4%

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 0.0%

FROM Q4 2021

60.2%

ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ 18.4%

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▼ 6.3%

FROM Q4 2021

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q4 2021) OVER QUARTER (Q3 2021)

▼ 2.4%

AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 7.4%

TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▲ 15.6%

TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q4 2021 vs. Q4 2020)

▲ 0.0%

AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 31.5%

TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 6.3%

TOTAL CLOSED

The market in Harper Woods remains strong with continued low sales the result of low inventory. This trend does appear to be reversing as the year over year figures suggest. Please note that with small amounts of data, average sale price is likely to fluctuate noticeably and is a less reliable indicator than Days on Market.

Stats and Trends provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS® All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and should be independently verified. Information was derived from a variety of sources including but not limited to Realcomp II Ltd. and the Great Lakes Repository®.

¹The Absorption Rate is the rate of home sales taken by dividing the number of sales by the inventory. Above 18.3% is considered a seller's market.

Website: www.GPBR.com

Phone: 313-882-8000

Fax: 313-882-6062

Email: members@gpbr.com

Address: 710 Notre Dame, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230



UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Average Sale Price – Good News!: Prices continue to increase which is always good news for home owners, however the increase of 2.5% over 2021 Q3 may also be a sign to buyers that the pace of increasing prices had slowed by the end of the year. Buying in early 2022 before interest rates rise and prices rapidly increase may be prudent.

Number of sales – Expected: The number of homes sold in Q4 was up over Q3 but down from last year. This suggests that limited inventory is starting to limit purchases.

Days on Marker (DOM) – Neutral to positive: While the length of time it took for a home to sell in Q4 was up over Q3, it remains well below the 60-day threshold.

Inventory – Expected: The number of listings on the market has stagnated likely due to seasonality. It could very easily drop in January but by the end of Q1 2022 be improved.

Absorption Rate – Strong seller's market: Over 18.3% indicates a seller's market. The current rate of 60% gives sellers an advantage when negotiating. An absorption Rate below 15.4% is Buyer market territory.

Disclaimer:

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