



THE INSIDER

For The City of Harper Woods

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
SPRING EDITION
APRIL THROUGH
JUNE 2023

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

April

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

April 1 – Siren Test 1:00pm

April 3* – City Council Meeting

April 3 thru April 7 – Yard Waste/
Compost Pickup Begins

April 7 – City Offices Closed –
Good Friday

April 9 - Easter

April 17 – Water Bills Due

April 17* - City Council Meeting

April 22* – Earth Day



May

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

May 1* - City Council Meeting

May 6 – Siren Test 1:00pm

May 7 – Mother's Day

May 15* - City Council Meeting

May 20 – Spring Perennial Plant
Exchange 10:00am-12:00pm
at Salter Park

May 29 – City Offices Closed
Memorial Day



Memorial Day Ceremony -
10:15am at Johnston Park

May 29 thru June 2 – Rubbish Delay

June

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

June 3 – Siren Test 1:00pm

June 12* - City Council Meeting

June 14 – Flag Day

June 15 – Water Bills Due

June 18 – Father's Day

June 19 – City Offices Closed –
Observance of Juneteenth

June 19 – Summer Reading Program
Begins

June 19* – Juneteenth Celebration

June 21 – First Day of Summer



Spring Forward in 2023!

Harper Woods Residents...

Spring is the Time for Renewal!

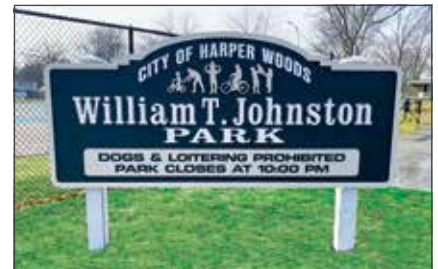
Let's work together to reinforce our community's spirit. Please show your support and involvement as a resident- by making efforts to keep our City clean and harmonious this spring. Many of us have neighbors that are seniors and need your assistance in maintaining their properties- lend a helping hand. Get outside and enjoy the fresh air- visit one of our three City parks to experience many of the new improvements and outdoor activities they have to offer!

In the last year the City focused on increasing recreational areas and activities for residents. Some of the park improvements include new basketball courts, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, signs, and cornhole game boards. Renovations were made to restrooms, picnic shelters and pickleball and tennis courts. The extension of the walking track at Salter Park was also completed. New barbeque grills and outdoor chess/checkboard tables will be installed this year.

Over the past several months City staff have also been planning and developing a new "pocket" park on a vacant publicly owned lot located at 20321 Roscommon Avenue. Pocket parks are typically no larger than half an acre and do not include larger amenities such as a basketball court or pavilion. This lot, due to its size and location, is ideal for a small, neighborhood park.

The City is seeking funding to complete the project from the Department of Natural Resources Sparks Grant program. The project was not among the 21 accepted projects out of more than 460 submitted from around the entire state in the first round of grants. It is, however, eligible for resubmission, and we look forward to improving on the initial application.

More information and the opportunity to submit ideas and ask questions concerning this project can be found on the City's community engagement platform, Engage Harper Woods, at www.harperwoods.citizenlab.com



**Volunteers needed
for Boards and
Commissions**

Page 5

**New Councilmember
Appointed**

Page 2

**Make Your
Voice Heard**

Page 16

HARPER WOODS FUN!

*Having a family reunion,
birthday party or
gathering this year?*

Our City Park Shelters are
available for rent.

See Page 20 for more details.

The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Vivian M. Sawicki

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

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



Chris Skerritt

Chris Skerritt was promoted to Parks and Recreation Director in the fall of 2022 and is dedicated to the success of the Harper Woods community. Skerritt is responsible for the department's programming schedule and staffing, enhancing, and creating new opportunities that align with the community's wants and desires as well as maintaining the parks for the residents to enjoy.

Acting City Manager John Szymanski said, "We are fortunate to have an innovator like Chris, she lives here, she works here. Her brilliant problem solving skills help us reach our targets more quickly!"

Chris said, "I am honored and appreciative that I was chosen as the Employee in the Spotlight! I love that I have been given the opportunity to talk about our Parks and Recreation Department. I have lived in Harper Woods for 24 years. I started working for Parks and Recreation in early 2017 as an office assistant under Director John Bobak.

She expressed, "What I like most about this position is the diversity that comes from this industry. Really, one day I can be counseling an employee, the next day I'm overseeing a dance recital, or planning an event for the community. You never know from one day to the next what challenges may come forward. Believe it or not, that's what makes this job interesting. Through strategic planning we get to see the evolution of our parks, programs, and services over time, which is so rewarding and important to the quality of life. I enjoy the opportunity to do something that directly affects people in a positive way. I hope that residents see and enjoy the many improvements we've made in the parks."

Meet Your New Council Member

Congratulations to Gerianne LaPratt
on her appointment to the Harper Woods City Council.

We wish you every success in your duties!





Neighbor in the News

Veronica Paiz

The Insider asked Veronica Paiz about her residency in Harper Woods and what she embraces most from our community. Paiz responded, "I am honored to be selected "Neighbor in the News". I truly believe that I couldn't be a good neighbor without my good neighbors -- and I'm thankful for each of them.

Recently, I was elected as State Representative. As fortunate as this was for me, I have to acknowledge the path was paved through the many opportunities to be involved with neighbors and community over the past 23 years that my husband and I have lived here.

In 2008, I became a member of the City's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and it felt great giving input about community programs. A few years later, I was appointed to the Library Board and learned so much about the meaningfulness and impact of our library for our residents. Later, I was fortunate to be elected to the City Council and learned even more about what it takes to operate a City and how every person can play a part in building a community. After our Public Safety Department brought on board K-9 Officer Kaiser, I joined the K-9 fundraising committee established by GPAAS (Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society).

There are lots of opportunities to be a part of the City's "inner workings" and the community at large, and there are a great number of Harper Woods people who care and do wonderful important things for our City -- starting food banks out of garages, having pancake breakfast fundraisers, cleaning neighborhoods, etc. But just as important are my neighbors: we all look out for each other, talk over fences, trade summer garden vegetables, and sometimes share drinks and gossip on the back patio!"

Featured Business/Organization: Tim Hortons Opening Soon

Residents of Harper Woods, the City is working with Tim Hortons national headquarters and the new franchise owner to bring a brand-new Tim Hortons facility to our community. The old building was demolished, and a new more modern building has been constructed at Vernier and Beaconsfield. As you can see from the illustrated artist exterior rendering, the new building will have a smaller "footprint" on the site to make more available space for a patio with umbrella tables and new landscaping.

The new building design has no interior dining. As illustrated in the rendering, customers will walk up to a serving window. What is not shown in the illustration is the outdoor sitting area with umbrella tables. Additionally, the new drive-through facilities will feature two lanes for placing orders, merging into one lane for payment and pick-up. This feature should reduce "wait times" in line for the morning rush-hour customers. This location will provide an updated menu, featuring breakfast selections and baked goods all day! It will also have an expanded drink selection and will serve cold brew and nitro coffee on draft.

It is anticipated that reconstruction activities will be completed by March 2023 and is scheduled to be open sometime in April.



Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods

Applications for Deferment 2023 Taxes

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2023 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

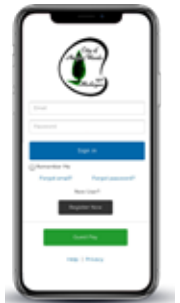
Pay Water Bills & (Now Available) Tax Bills Online

www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com

Water Bill: NO FEES

Tax Bill: 2.90% convenience fee

Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to change.



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.

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.

ALERT:

The City is now processing "actual" reads on the monthly water bills. There will be no more "estimated" reads.

City Clerk Info

Primary Election-August 8, 2023

A primary election may be held on August 8 if more than three candidates run for Mayor, or if more than nine candidates run for City Council, or if there are any State, County, City or School ballot proposals. If necessary, polls will be open from 7am - 8pm.

If you are unsure of your voting status, please contact the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or check out the Michigan Secretary of State website at <https://mvsos.state.mi.us>

City Council Petition Filing Due by April 25, 2023

Eligible residents interested in running for Mayor or City Council must file petitions with the City Clerk by Tuesday, April 25 before 4:00 p.m. Qualifications include being a resident of the City of Harper Woods for at least two years, a registered elector of the City and not in default to the City. For more information, please call Leslie Frank at 313-343-2510 or send an email to lfrank@harperwoods.net

Board and Commission Vacancies

Beautification Commission -

The Beautification Commission was established by City Council to advise City Council of programs, projects and activities aimed at improving the beautification of the City. Presently, the Commissioner's focus on two primary activities, the Annual Perennial Plant Exchange which is held in May, and the residential Beautification Awards. Typically they meet informally several times a year.

Board of Zoning Appeals -

The Board of Zoning Appeals consists of seven members who are appointed by the Harper Woods City Council. Their primary function is to consider requests for variances of the City's Zoning Ordinance or Sign Ordinance. They meet as needed on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission -

The Planning Commission is a State mandated commission responsible for ensuring the compliance of the City Zoning Ordinance and the development of a Master Plan. Site Plan development and re-zoning requests are the primary business items that come before the Commission.

The Commission consists of nine members and are supplemented by the assistance of a professional Planning Consultant and other experts as needed. They meet as needed on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Beautification Commission

Earth Day Events for the City of Harper Woods

An Earth Day Clean up event will be hosted by the City of Harper Woods and the Harper Woods Beautification Commission.

This year's theme: **Get caught doing something positive for your neighborhood!**

Residents of Harper Woods, send digital photos of yourselves and neighbors working around your property and/or neighborhood to: HWBeautification@gmail.com. All photos will be uploaded to the City's website.



Spring Perennial Plant Exchange

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is sponsoring the Perennial Plant Exchange to be held Saturday, May 20, 2023 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

Harper Woods Beautification Award Nominations



Do you have a neighbor that has a beautiful home and garden? Nominations for beautification awards will be accepted through Wednesday, July 10, 2023. Send your nominations to HWBeautification@gmail.com or by calling the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510.

Department of Public Safety – Police

Meritorious Conduct Award

On November 21st, 2022, members of the Eastern Wayne Special Response Team, comprised of police officers from Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes received awards for their meritorious service within the City of Harper Woods. The Team, led by Grosse Pointe Farms Sergeant Frank Zielinski had been instrumental in the resolution of two major incidents in 2022 alone. On July

10th, 2022, and again on September 2nd, 2022, assisting HWPDP Officers on the scene of two barricaded gunman situations. In each instance there was a tragic loss of innocent lives. However, due to the tactics, training, and professionalism of the EWSRT, no officers, additional victims, or suspects were injured or killed during these dangerous and high stress operations.

To be a member of this elite group is both difficult and time consuming. Days are spent away from their families attending training and all members are on call 24/7 for response to major, often life-threatening emergencies within the six communities they serve. Through their extensive team-based training, sacrifice, and unwavering dedication and commitment to the citizens of our community, they earned the distinction of the Harper Woods Police Department Unit Citation and Meritorious Service awards.



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.)?

Tips for Purchasing Items Over the Internet (ex. Craigslist, Facebook).



1. Trust your instincts.
2. Don't go alone.
3. Insist to meet at a public place such as a local business with ample foot traffic or the City of Harper Woods Police Department.
4. Do not meet in a secluded area.
5. Do not invite strangers into your home, and do not go to theirs.
6. Be cautious when buying/selling high value items.
7. Perform the transaction during daylight hours.
8. If it sounds too good to be true, it normally is.
9. Tell a friend or family member about your intentions.
10. Take your cell phone with you.



With the weather getting better please familiarize yourself with the City of Harper Woods parking ordinances.

Sec. 25-4. - On-street overnight parking prohibited

Sec.25-5. - Prohibited parking generally


An explanation of these ordinances can be found on the City of Harper Woods website under Ordinances and Enforcement.

Department of Public Safety – Fire

SPRING CLEANING? REMEMBER THESE FIRE SAFETY TIPS!

If you haven't gotten around to your spring cleaning yet, don't worry—we're not here to judge. What we are here to do is offer a gentle reminder to keep fire protection in mind when you're cleaning, organizing, and preparing for the warmer months.

We talk a lot about fire safety during the fall and winter, which makes sense given all the indoor and outdoor fires, deep-fried turkeys, space heaters, and holiday lights that tend to show up when it's cold. But now that it's warming up, there are still plenty of ways to incorporate fire protection into your spring cleaning routine. Here are a few areas to keep an eye on, recommended by us and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

- **SMOKE ALARMS** - First and foremost, **CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS**. It's a task that can easily go forgotten for months, but how convenient that you should change your battery once a year and spring cleaning comes around once a year. Put it on your list of chores for the big clean to ensure that it happens every 12 months. According to the NFPA, a functioning smoke alarm in your home cuts your risk of dying in a house fire by 50 percent.
- 
- **CHIMNEYS** - As cozy as it was in January and February, come April and May chances are you'll be less inclined to build a fire in the living room fireplace. As easy as it is to just scoop out the ashes, close it up, and forget about it until November, go ahead and have the chimney inspected as part of your spring cleaning effort. The NFPA recommends having a chimney inspected and thoroughly cleaned at least once a year anyway, and getting it out of the way this time of year often means ridding it of buildup that would only cause more damage if it hung around until the fall. Plus, chimney technicians will be more likely to have flexible schedules in the springtime.
 - **KITCHEN** - Keep countertops and stovetops free of grease and clutter. Excess grease on the drip pan or stovetop can easily catch fire. Clean oil and food spills immediately after they occur and wait until the stove is cool to wipe off oil or grease spills. Keep items that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, towels or wooden utensils, away from your stovetop.
 - **ELECTRICAL CORDS** - Inspect the electrical cords in your home and replace worn or tattered ones. Avoid running cords under carpets or across doorways to prevent them from being damaged. Use extension cords only temporarily and plug major appliances directly into wall sockets.
 - **CLOTHES DRYERS** - The leading cause of **FIRES CAUSED BY HOME CLOTHES DRYERS** is a failure to clean them. So as tempting as it may be to think, "It's fine until next time", as you're throwing in a load of towels, go ahead and scrape that lint out. And make sure to check the drum for extra lint or any items that may have fallen out of pockets, and keep the area around the dryer free from anything flammable like cardboard boxes and cleaning products.
- 
- **GRILLING** - Nothing says spring and summer quite like grilling out. We couldn't agree more. But let's not forget that grilling inherently involves fire, so there are a few things to keep in mind. Before you even turn the grill on, check the propane tank, hose and all connection points to make sure it's not prone to any leaks. Once the grill is on, turn off the tank and burners immediately if you smell gas. If you're using a charcoal grill, make sure you're using charcoal starter fluid, not any other flammable liquids. And once you're finished, let all the coals cool completely before dumping them in a metal container.
- 
- **STORED FLUIDS** - How often do any of us actually organize the cabinets under our sinks, or the black holes of our outdoor storage buildings? If you're already cleaning the rest of the house might as well put that out-of-sight-out-of-mind space on your list. Make sure cleaning supplies and things like gasoline tanks are stored in a cool, dry place, out of reach of children and pets and far from electrical cords or any other heat-producing apparatus.
 - **ESCAPE PLAN** - While you're at it, go ahead and make spring the time of year when you and your family or roommates go over your **ESCAPE PLAN IN CASE OF FIRE**. Ensure that everyone knows what to do and where to go in case of a fire, and especially if there are children in the house, do a couple practice run-throughs of the escape plan.

32A District Court News

Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



Greetings Harper Woods,

I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Is anyone thinking spring?

Even though the chill is yet in the wind and some nights are frosty, spring is in the air. Thinking Spring will often cause ideas around growth, change, and renewal to occur. These ideas, when put into action can empower us to transform situations that have hindered our forward progression.

Are there issues you've wrestled with that are consuming your valuable time, but not changing? Perhaps, just as with a good spring cleaning, it is time to just let go and empty out. Has your mental wellness been challenged by toxic connections causing you to lose sleep and not function at your best? Sweep out the cobwebs, remove old wiring and open your door, inviting the breeze of fresh, uplifting relationships in.

How's your health? Are you feeling bogged down, perhaps even a bit guilty for not fulfilling those New Year's health resolutions? Don't give up! Spring is in the air. Get up, get out, get going. Dust off your walking shoes and let them do the job that they were designed for.

Connect with the environment, your neighborhood, friends. Take it all in while you are out. Listen to children's laughter. Want to tone up your arms? Wave at a neighbor! Welcome all that spring has to offer. The power to change, to engage and to live your best life now is in your hands. Spring forward into all the possibilities that await you.

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

Meet The Staff Corner

I would like to introduce the Harper Woods Community to our newly appointed Court Administrator Tamie Rice. Prior to joining the 32A family in 2021, Ms. Rice worked for the 36th District Court for over 30 years. She has always enjoyed working in the Court atmosphere, but she particularly enjoys the more personal experience that 32A is able to provide its patrons. Since joining the 32A family, Ms. Rice says she has met many nice and helpful people in both the work environment as well as the community.

In her spare time, Ms. Rice enjoys being with her family, especially her grandchildren. She also enjoys shopping, both in and out of state, and trying new restaurants of various cuisines. Traveling the world is also a passion of Ms. Rice and she strives to maintain a healthy lifestyle for both her and her family so that she is always ready for the next adventure that life brings.



CAREERS:

We're Hiring: Full-Time Deputy Court Clerk

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions, establish priorities and work independently. Must also possess the ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with co-workers and the public. Must be able to deal effectively with the public in handling and meet deadlines. Ability to maintain confidential information.

To Apply: Submit cover letter, resume and application to:

Tamie Rice
Court Administrator
32A District Court
19617 Harper Ave.
Harper Woods, MI 48225
trice@32adc.net

**Application is available at the 32A District Court
or
<http://www.harperwoodscity.org/employment-opportunities>.**

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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!



PACE Southeast Michigan revolves around YOU



PACE Southeast Michigan keeps nursing-home eligible seniors with chronic illnesses independent, in their own homes, for as long as possible. When you enroll in PACE, our expert elder care team works with you to develop a personalized care plan, including social, medical, and other PACE services. We provide access to a full continuum of preventative, primary, acute, and long-term care services 24/7, 365 days a year in our day health centers across southeast Michigan and in the home. By aging in place, seniors have more hope, vitality, joy and an overall higher quality of life. The address of the center residents of Harper Woods would attend is 250 McDougall Ave, Detroit, MI 48207, (855) 445-4554, Pacesemi.org.

PAATS ...your ride is just a phone call away

Our Service Area

The PAATS service area is any location bound by 11 mile Road, Gratiot, Alter Road and Jefferson.

Requirements – Passengers must:

- Be a resident of Harper Woods or the Grosse Pointes.
- Be at least 60 years of age or disabled.

Reserve Your Ride – To reserve a ride, call 313-394-9712. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

- Make appointments at least two days in advance.
- We will accept standing appointments.
- Please be ready at your appointment time.

Our Fares

ZONE 1

\$1.00 each way:

Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes

ZONE 2

\$2.00 each way:

- 8 Mile Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.
- Kelly Rd. to Gratiot Ave.

ZONE 3

\$3.00 each way:

- St. John Surgery Center
- Henry Ford Main Campus
- Detroit Medical Center
- V.A. Hospital
- City County Building
- The New Center



The PAATS mission is to provide safe and reliable transportation, ensuring our residents continue to live their daily lives with independence and dignity.

Cancellation Policy – It is very important that you call to cancel an appointment so we can reroute our buses to ensure client pick up and arrival times.

Please call 313-394-9712 as soon as possible and leave a message on the voice mail if you are calling after hours.

For More Information: Call our PAATS dispatch office at 313-394-9712

Department of Public Works

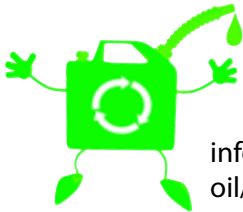
Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. Thirty to thirty-five gallon cans or bags are recommended. Oversize containers will not be collected.
- ✓ 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 runs through the week of **November 20th** (on your 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 the week of **October 16th** through the week of **November 13th** (weather permitting). 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.

The City continues to 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 2022 the City asked 30 residential locations to participate in 1 round of sampling between June and September.

This will remain the same for the 2023 sampling schedule.

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.

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. You can only apply for the upcoming 2023 tax year.

The 2023 Notice of Assessments will be mailed at the end of February of 2023. The March Board of Review meetings to appeal the value of your home will be March 13, 2023, and March 27, 2023. Please read your notice for specific times and appeal options.

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

Library News & Events



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

Kristen Valyi-Hax
Library Director

From the Director

We're headed into spring, which means sun, flowers, and warmer days! I always feel my spirit lighting up to enjoy the longer days and warm sunshine.

As we go into the end of the school year, don't forget that you can help the kids in your family with Tutor.com, an online way to get help with students of all ages. All you need is your library card, and teachers will be there to assist with any subject. If you don't have your card, come in and see us.



As I write this in February, I'm happy to report that our lower level renovation is nearing more than 75% done. Carpet is installed and painting is nearly completed. Please keep an eye out as we are looking forward to hosting a Welcome Back Party to reopen the space.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Summer Reading Program 2023 – "All Together Now"



Our annual Summer Reading Program kicks off on June 19 and runs through July 28. This year's theme is "All Together Now," promoting kindness, friendship, and unity. We will have a variety of events and prizes for readers of all ages. Be sure to come and sign up for a fun and educational time!

Ongoing for Children, Teens and Families

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

Keep an eye out at the library for in-person programs we will have planned for the upcoming months. Our lower level should be opening soon, and we will have fun events for kids and families.

Ongoing Programs for Adults

Book Club: 4th Wednesday of the month, 1:30 – 2:30p.m.

A study guide containing book summary, discussion questions, and author biography is available upon request.

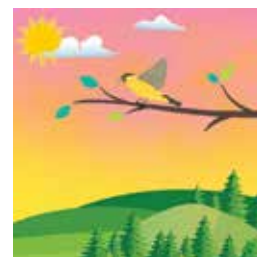
- April 26: Choose any book by Erik Larson
- May 24: *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict
- June 28: *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristen Harmel

Come to the library for seasonal **Take and Make Craft Kits** (While supplies last!)

Mellow Mondays – Food & Craft Demonstrations: **2nd Monday of the month, 1:30 – 2:30p.m.**

- April 10: Spring Fever
- May 8: I Remember Mama
- June 12: Summer's Here

Can't make it? Ask for a "Take It"!



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.

- April: Oregano
- May: Paprika
- June: Red Pepper

Adult Summer Reading Program: June 19 – July 28

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 food & prizes at our *End of Summer Reading Celebration* the week of July 31.



Current Library Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm

Thursday – Friday 11am – 5pm

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



Memorial Day Ceremony

The City of Harper Woods Memorial Day Service and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 29th 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.

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.



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.



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



Community & Business Progress

Citizen Lab

In October 2022, the City became the first municipality in the State of Michigan to begin using an innovative community-engagement platform called CitizenLab. The platform is quickly becoming the “one-stop shop” for residents to find information related to projects and initiatives taking place in the City. The platform has also been used to allow residents to share ideas and take surveys, which has been especially helpful during the ongoing Master Plan update process. Future projects will also be calling on residents to share their thoughts and opinions on various projects and ideas.

If you have not yet joined the platform, the QR code will direct you to the signup page. The link can also be found on the City’s website.



2022 Harper Woods Beautification Award Winners

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission distributed awards to the following recipients:

Bryan & Lauren Ball, Mrs. Marguerite Forrest, Dan & Fran Schmitt, James & Brittany Smith, James & Adrienne Strubank, and Sir Speedy-Harper Woods.

Congratulations to the recipients and “Thank You All” for keeping Harper Woods beautiful!



Mayor-Manager Meeting Connects Officials



Pictured from left to right: Wayne County Ombudsman Derrick Lockridge, City of Harper Woods Acting City Manager John Szymanski, and Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans.

The City of Harper Woods hosted a regional meeting with the Mayors and City Managers of all the Grosse Pointes. The meeting was held at the CCI Center of the Harper Woods School System and guest speakers included Dr. Stephen McGhee, Harper Woods Schools District Superintendent and Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans.

Breakfast was prepared by the culinary students at the CCI Center with the community leaders discussing regional problems common to all and developing solutions to address those problems. The meeting was a success and enjoyed by all.



Harper Woods Mayor Valerie Kindle addressing Grosse Pointe Mayors and City Managers.

Community Swearing in Ceremony

For the first time in the history of Harper Woods, an official Community Swearing in Ceremony of State Representatives was held at City Hall on December 20, 2022.

Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II was on site to administer the oath of office as District 11 Representative Veronica Paiz, District 12 Representative Kimberly Edwards, and District 14 Representative Donovan McKinney were collectively sworn into their respective offices. House Speaker Joe Tate was also in attendance to add his support. Congratulations to All!



Upcoming Harper Woods Events!



Please check the City of Harper Woods website at **harperwoodscity.org** for information on time, location, and itinerary for scheduled events.



April 22nd – Earth Day



May 29th - Memorial Day Service and Ceremony



June 19th - Juneteenth Celebration



August 1st – National Night Out

2023 Summer Recreation Program

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 26-August 10 ***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 29-May 13

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

Regular Sessions (4 weeks):

Session II: June 20-July 20 ***No class Week of July 4***

Session III: July 25-August 17

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Fee: \$40 per 4 week session

Times: Ages 6-8 9:00am-10:00am
Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am



Adult Tennis

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

Session I: April 29-May 13

Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am **Fee:** \$32

Session II: June 17-July 15 ***No class July 2nd***

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



Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly, and social game. It 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.

Days: Wednesdays & Saturdays

Dates: June 21-Aug 5

Times: 9:00am-11:00am or 1:00pm-3:00pm

Fee: \$2 per person

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 26-August 14 ***No class July 3***

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

Tuesday Classes June 27-August 15 ***No class July 4***

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 27-August 15 ***No class July 4***

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 27-August 15

No class July 4

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



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

Please call our office at 313-343-2560 with any further questions.



Yoga

Yoga is a great way to take time out for yourself. Our certified instructor will lead you through the breathing and movements that can strengthen your body and relax your mind.

Days: Monthly/Ongoing Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Fee: \$45 - Resident per month

\$55 - Non Resident per month

Zoom Zumba

The Harper Woods Recreation Department has partnered with JRS Fitness, LLC to provide virtual Zumba classes to City residents. To sign up for classes or if you have questions, please contact the Harper Woods Recreation Department at 313-343-2560 or harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net.

Days & Times: Monthly/Ongoing Tuesdays & Thursdays

Tuesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

Thursdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

Sundays 11:00am-12:00pm

Fee: Residents \$10 per month (COVID-19 special price)

Non-Residents \$40 per month

Fitness Firm Aerobics

Fitness Firm offers low impact dance aerobics, incorporating kick box, 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:** 9:30am - 10:30am

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

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



Summer Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 40th year of the program! There is no residency requirement. Classes will be held 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. 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 register in person in the auditorium the first week of classes. **All students must be paid in full prior to participating.** The payment plan is not available for the summer classes. Please call the dance program director (Nonny Sperry) at (313) 885-3714 or the recreation office for more details or updates.

Dates: June 26-August 14, 2023 *No class July 3*

Monday Classes

Instructors: Miss Mikayla Schiller, Miss Caitlin Skerske, Miss Nonny Sperry.

4:30-5:00---Babes in Danceland, ages 2-3 (with an adult)

5:00-5:30---Creative Movement/Pre Ballet, ages 3-5

5:30-6:00---Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5

6:00-6:30---Lyrical, ages 6-8

6:30-7:00---Hip Hop, ages 6-8

7:00-7:30---Ballet, ages 6-8

7:30-8:00---Lyrical, ages 9-12

8:00-8:30---Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-1

8:30-9:00---Teen/Adult Ballet



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



**Call Parks and Recreation
for information on
Youth Baseball and Basketball**



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 are accepted starting the first business day in January. Picnics can be booked from Memorial Day 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 4 weeks before your scheduled picnic date.

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



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

To stay up to date with all of the recreation
offerings, please visit our Facebook page:

City of Harper Woods

Parks & Recreation Department.

You can also contact us at

harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net
or **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.

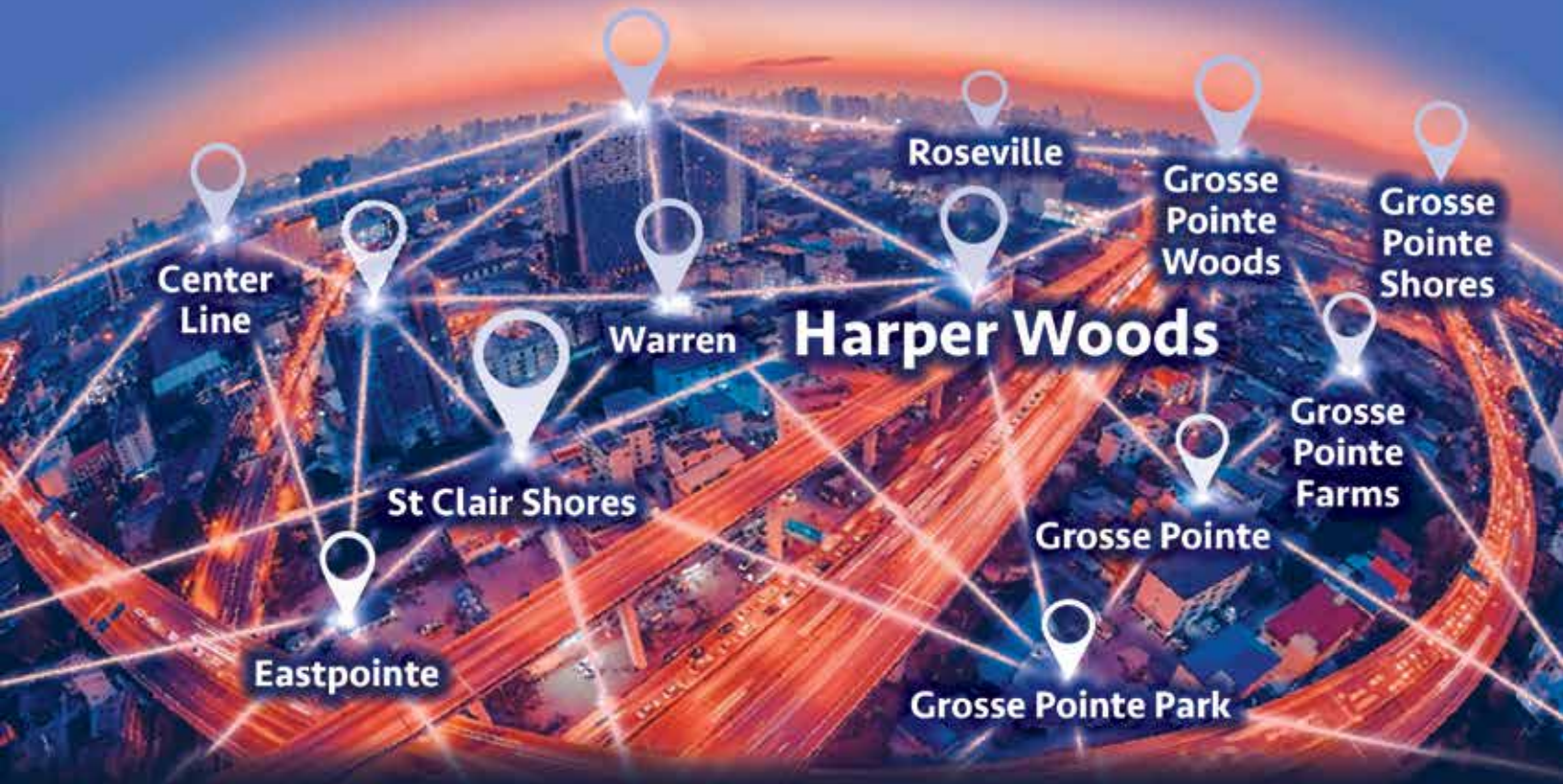
Activity _____ Days/Times _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide

Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Free Summer Camps • Spring Thaw • Run Drugs out of Town 5K • Health & Fitness
Available Community Resources & Services • Harper Woods Real Estate Trends
A New Year, A New Team • Business Directory • Education • 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 12, 2023.



To promote your business in this quarterly publication, please contact
Drive Creative Services at (586) 275-0030 • email: info@drivecreativeservices.com

Wishing your family a great Spring!

SAFEbuilt.

We are a proud community partner since 2014

Harper Woods

Building Department Services

Code Compliance

Plan Review

Rental Inspections

Fire Prevention Services

building@harperwoods.net

313.343.2526

safebuilt.com

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So You Can **GROW I.T. WORRY-FREE**

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the Community Resource Guide of MICHIGAN
Connecting Michigan One Community at a Time

WHAT IS IT?
The Community Resource Guide is a community media source group where people can explore products & services, local happenings, dining & entertainment, places of interest, and much more.

CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY!

LEARN ABOUT...

- 1 Products**
Locally owned suppliers and brands
- 2 Services**
Plumbing, Electric, Carpentry, etc.
- 3 Local Happenings**
Community Events, Festivals, Fundraisers, etc.
- 4 Places of Interest**
Recreational Parks, Docks & Launches, etc.
- 5 Dining & Entertainment**
Restaurants & Bars, Local Sporting Events and Public Music Performances, etc.

Free Listings
Having a hard time getting rid of your car? No one seeing your garage sale? Visit the Community Resource Guide of Michigan to create your **FREE** advertisement!

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Today's Health & Fitness

Spring into Fitness

Finally, spring is here and you can just hear Mother Nature shout; READY, SET, GO! If you work out at a gym, it's nice to go there without the heavy coats and winter gear weighing you down. Walking or running outside is more invigorating. Spring heightens our motivation to be active with an eye on getting more fit. With the pandemic further behind us and the media encouraging all of us to develop a healthy lifestyle and make a change for the better, you'd expect the streets, gyms, and studios to be busier than ever.

That's what I was thinking until I ran across some fitness info that really surprised me.

From the Good Body, a group of health and wellbeing specialist that present researched articles, case studies and product reviews, I found these recent statistics.

- Just one in five US adults exercise each day.
- More than three quarters of children in the US are active for less than the recommended 60 minutes each day.
- 23.2% of adults meet the guidelines for both aerobic and muscle strengthening activity. Focusing on aerobic exercise only; it's 53.3%.

- 42.4% of adults in the US are classed as obese.

- The US department of Health and Human Services Guidelines for Physical Activity recommends adults get at least 150 to 300 minutes of moderate-intensity cardio each week along with two strength sessions. **That's 25 minutes on the low end and about 50 minutes on the high end each day over 6 days.**

That could be budgeted into 2 days strength and 4 days, cardio at the very least. Fewer than half of adults meet both of these recommendations according to the CDC.

Of those that do exercise, walking is the most popular and only 10% of the population practice yoga.

So this spring, decide which side of these statistics you want to be on? That's the best place to start.



Ken Welch, Owner
Pointe Fitness
& Training

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- Zumba Gold Fitness

Want More? Start Here



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The Family Center

STRONG FAMILIES  VIBRANT COMMUNITY

The Family Center works with local experts to provide educational and community resources that empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional, and physical challenges. Check out these two organizations that provide tremendous services to families in the Harper Woods community and beyond:

Black Family Development, Inc. (BFDI) is a private, non-profit comprehensive family counseling agency created in 1978 by the Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW). BFDI's mission is to strengthen and enhance the lives of children, youth, and families through partnerships that support safe, nurturing, vibrant homes, schools and communities. They provide 24/7 barrier-free access and wraparound support. BFDI CEO Kenyatta Stephens says, "We are an organization that loves families and children! Our services and community partnerships have the single focus of making accessible the best resources Detroit, and our global community, have to offer so children become tomorrow's leaders."

BFDI's programs and services include:

- Juvenile Justice Services
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Prevention Services
- Family Preservation & Support Services
- Early Childhood Development
- Community Development & Partnership-Building



For more information, visit: <https://www.blackfamilydevelopment.org/>

CNS Healthcare (CNS) is a non-profit, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) that provides comprehensive integrated health services in partnership with several community organizations, and uses a patient-centered approach to identify, support and promote the overall health of children, adolescents, adults, and older adults. They are committed to advancing integrated mental and physical healthcare and eliminating stigma through advocacy, education and community outreach, and empower all children and adults served to become active and productive members of their communities. CNS President and CEO Michael Garrett says, "Our dedicated team is engaged and focused on supporting those in need with care and compassion on their journey to wellness."

CNS specialties and services include:

- Mental health services
- Substance use disorder services
- Case management
- Therapy
- Medication management
- Evaluation and testing
- Job placement assistance
- Nursing services
- Medication assisted treatment
- Psychosocial rehabilitation (clubhouses/drop-in centers)



CNS Healthcare has three locations nearby:

Detroit-East (Adult Services)

12800 E. Warren Avenue, Detroit, MI 48215

Detroit-East (Children's Services)

Eli Z. Rubin Children's Wellness Center
20303 Kelly Road, Detroit, MI 48225

Eastpointe (Adult and Children's Services)

21331 Kelly Road

For more information, visit: <https://www.cnshealthcare.org/>



The Sara Shunk Agency

Spring Thaw

Heading into the spring season of melting snow and ice, in addition to spring rain, can cause headaches for homeowners. Water back-ups caused by excess water in the system, along with tree roots in the drain line, pipe deterioration, or the flushing of improper objects can cause major issues. Water Back-up coverage isn't automatic on a homeowner's policy, and you may or may not be covered. Opting in for this coverage can save you thousands in repairs.

The average cost of water backup and sewer coverage is worth it! Costs range from \$50 to \$250 per year,

with limits of coverage from \$5,000 to \$50,000 or more, depending on the carrier.

And while water back-up coverage is an option in a homeowner's policy, Flood coverage is NOT. Flood Insurance is a separate policy that covers a home when natural waterways flood beyond their natural shorelines.

Got questions? Contact me!

Sara Shunk 586-294-3514 Office
sara.shunk@brightway.com





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Free Summer Camps

CARE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

CARE of Southeastern Michigan is proud to announce its annual free summer camp series. The Leadership Academies and Camp CARE make a positive impact on youth and families through skill building for life success.

CARE's Leadership Academies enhance the lives of youth by advancing teambuilding, leadership, and success strategies through hands-on activities and guest speakers. The Leadership Academies are for middle school students and will be hosted in Harper Woods, Eastpointe, and Fraser.

For more than 20 years Camp CARE has served youth and families impacted by a loved one's substance use. Participants are empowered to begin new legacies free from substance use and to thrive in challenging situations. Camp CARE is for youth in preschool through high school.

Additional information regarding the Leadership Academies and Camp CARE can be found on CARE's website at

www.careofsem.com/events/summer-camps

31900 Utica Road, Fraser, MI 48026

586.541.CARE



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(313) 432-3000
gpschools.org

HEALTH & FITNESS

Pointe Fitness
19556 Harper Ave.
Harper Woods, MI 48225
(313) 417-9666
pointefitnessandtraining.com

HEATING & COOLING

Supreme Heating & Cooling
14641 E Warren Ave.
Detroit, MI 48215
(313) 885-2400
Supremeheating.com

SENIOR RESOURCES

Detroit Area Agency on Aging
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detroit seniorsolution.org

EDUCATION

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ChandlerParkAcademy.net

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From left to right: **Rachele Wright** – Director of Social Media & Marketing, **Jenny Boettcher** – President, **Abigail Turnbull** – Membership & Event Coordinator, **Lisa Frasier** – Director of Finance

The Chamber's Mission is to promote businesses and engage residents for a thriving community. We provide:

INFORMATION

- Directory listing membership
- Maps
- Website – Community Resource of places to shop, dine and play
- Grant and Loan information
- Business Start-up Tools
- Referrals
- New Resident Program

EDUCATION

- Learn at Lunch – Professional Development
- Google/SBA Webinars
- Podcasts
- Student intern Opportunities

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Love Your Local (one of the many initiatives to support local spending)
- Employment Board
- Chamber Change – Gift Certificate Program
- Networking
- Podcasts
- Member 2 Member Savings
- Assist businesses with concerns

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Partnership with local associations on events/programs
- Volunteer opportunities
- G.P. Santa Parade – Musical Christmas, November 24th
- Art Fest – August 5th
- Restaurant Week – March 5-11th
- Mayors' Prayer Breakfast – May 4th Keynote Speaker JT (JESTER) Mestdagh

For additional information call: (313)881-4722 or
Email: info@grossepointechamber.com

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FAMILIES AGAINST NARCOTICS:

FAN's Run Drugs Out of Town 5K is June 17th!



Families Against Narcotics' Run Drugs Out of Town 5K Run/Walk is a beloved community event. Each year, men, women, and children of all ages come out to support a common cause: to increase awareness of substance use disorder and help raise money to fund the many free programs FAN offers to the public.

The 15th annual Run Drugs Out of Town will take place on Saturday, June 17th, at 9:00 am, at Fraser High School.

Join FAN for this fun, family-friendly event! Whether you run or walk as an individual or a team, sponsor the event, or simply make a donation, you'll be helping FAN help people across Michigan who have been impacted by the disease of addiction. Be part of the crowd. Be part of the pageantry. Be part of the solution. And help FAN Run Drugs Out of Town! For more info, go to familiesagainstnarcotics.org/rundrugsoutoftown



Your Community Connection to WELLNESS.

CNS HEALTHCARE offers a broad spectrum of community-based mental health services for children, families and adults, regardless of insurance:

- Psychiatry
- Group and Individual Therapy
- Substance Use Disorder Services
- Case Management



Appointments: 877-211-8611
Crisis: Call / Text: 9-8-8

cnshealthcare.org

\$108,304

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▼ **23.2%**

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▼ **14.1%**

FROM Q4 2021

69

NUMBER
OF SALES

▲ **3.0%**

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▼ **17.9%**

FROM Q4 2021

48

AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▲ **182.4%**

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ **84.6%**

FROM Q4 2021

98

AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▲ **13.1%**

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ **36.1%**

FROM Q4 2021

23.5%

ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ **8.9%**

FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ **39.7%**

FROM Q4 2021

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q4 2022) OVER QUARTER (Q3 2022)

▲ **13.1%**

AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ **12.3%**

TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▲ **3.0%**

TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q4 2022 vs. Q4 2021)

▲ **36.1%**

AVERAGE ACTIVE

0.0%

TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ **17.9%**

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 – Remains healthy: This rating may seem unusual considering the notable decline in average sale price but this is primarily due to a much lower value of homes for sale, which where you have a relatively small statistical sampling, can produce the declines you see. This decline in the asking price would also suggest that investors who purchased homes over the last few years chose to sell them and take profits (this is possibly evidenced in the actual sales numbers, see below). It is expected that Q1 of 2023 will indicate a notable reversal of this decline.

Number of sales – Fair: Sales were up over the previous quarter suggesting investors sold inventory because the increase in interest rates should have more negatively impacted sales. This decline is evidenced in the year-over-year data.

Days on Market (DOM) – Good: In a balanced market sales traditionally take an average of 72 days. While 48 is an increase over what most buyers and sellers are accustomed to, this DOM remains low. The number does mean however that buyers need to remain aggressive when making an offer and sellers need to be realistic in their pricing.

Inventory – Excellent: The problems in the real estate market have been plagued for years by low inventory which is one of the factors that has drawn investors into the market and skewing prices. This increase in inventory makes it far easier for an owner-occupant buyer to get into a home.

Absorption Rate – Seller's market: This key metric indicates that it remains a seller's market and that prices will continue to increase year-over-year. This is important because it preserves net worth for owners but also indicates that those currently without a home, should continue to see one as prices will increase for those who remain without. An absorption rate between 15.4% and 18.3% is considered a market in balance. Higher favors sellers, lower favors buyers.

Disclaimer:

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