



# THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community resource guide for the City of Harper Woods!  
**SUMMER EDITION**  
JULY THROUGH  
SEPTEMBER 2024

**Get the most out of our community!**

## HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

### July

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

- July 4 – City Offices Closed – Independence Day
- July 4 & July 5 – Rubbish Delay
- July 6 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- July 8\* – City Council Meeting
- July 15 – Water Bills Due
- July 16 – The Helm Tour & Lunch (pg. 23)

### August

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

- August 3 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- August 6 – Primary Election Day  
Polls Open 7am-8pm
- August 6 – National Night Out at Johnston Park 5-8pm
- August 14\* – City Council Meeting
- August 15 – Water Bills Due
- August 24 – Blues Fest at Salter Park 5-8pm

### September

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

- September 2 – City Offices Closed  
Labor Day
- September 2 through September 6  
Rubbish Delay
- September 4\* – City Council Meeting
- September 7 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- September 16 – Perennial Plant & Seed Exchange  
10:00am – 12:00pm at Salter Park
- September 16 – Summer Taxes Due
- September 16 – Water Bills Due
- September 17 – National Voter Registration Day
- September 22 – Autumn Begins

## Eastland Commerce Center It's Finally Happened

*It's been 65 years since our City has seen a project of this size being built in Harper Woods. That former project was Eastland Mall. The shopping mall, like many others, fell victim to e-commerce and closed its doors, officially, on November 21, 2021. But just like the mythical bird, our Phoenix has again risen from the ashes with a \$94 million dollar industrial complex called the Eastland Commerce Center. On June 3rd, the NorthPointe Developers held a "ribbon-cutting" ceremony to unveil the 1,040,646 square foot, 80-acre site for expected light manufacturing and warehouse tenants.*



*The new Eastland Commerce Center will generate some 550 full-time jobs and pay more than \$20 million in wages and approximately \$750,000 dollars in payroll taxes.*

*The "ribbon-cutting" ceremony was well attended by local dignitaries, politicians, news media and our own Mayor Kindle, City Councilmembers, Planning Commission members and other city dignitaries and community developers. We all wish the success of the new center and just like the "old" Eastland Mall generated many fond memories for our residents, our new Phoenix, the Eastland Commerce Center, has finally risen from the ashes and will generate many more fond memories to come!*

*The funny thing about the Eastland Commerce Center is we seldom dreamt about its success – but rather, worked hard for it!*

*Congratulations NorthPointe! We wish you luck on the Eastland Commerce Center!*

*Sincerely,*

*John Szymanski  
Acting City Manager*

**National Night Out**  
Page 6

**Visit our Parks This Summer**  
Page 4

**Blues Music Festival**  
Page 7

### SUMMER FUN!

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

*Our City Park Shelters are available for rent.*

*See Page 26 for more details.*

# The City of Harper Woods

## Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

## Mayor Pro Tem

Regina Williams

## City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

Vivian M. Sawicki

Ivery Toussant Jr.

## 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

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

**John Szymanski** - Acting City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email [info@drivecreativeservices.com](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com)

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# Neighbor in the News: April Martin



The Insider asked April Martin about her residency in Harper Woods and why she enjoys serving on City Boards and Commissions. Martin responded, "I've lived in Harper Woods since 2007 and have served on both the Harper Woods Beautification Commission (HWBC) and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board since 2015 after neighbor State Rep. Veronica Paiz planted the seeds to apply for both. As a now "retired" high school and college basketball referee (I still mentor and train newer officials), Veronica told me Parks & Rec might be perfect for me due to affiliation with sports. I enjoy the positions because I get to meet some great residents that have great ideas on how to keep Harper Woods beautiful and enjoyable. I am always trying to encourage those that I know to be involved and be part of something they want to see changed. We live in an everchanging and diverse world

so bringing new perspectives and visions are vital to keeping our city beautiful and unique.

I was born, raised, and educated in Detroit - attending THE Detroit Renaissance and graduating from U of D Mercy in 2002 with 2 degrees - 1 in mechanical engineering and 1 BS in mathematics. I chose Harper Woods because I always thought it was beautiful, it wasn't too far from downtown Detroit, the proximity of the freeways was perfect, and I wanted to see my tax dollars at work! I love that we have leaf pick-up service in the fall, street plowing in the winter, and nature concerts singing the praises of "the woods" during the spring and summer months. Do you know how much of a blessing it is to hear and see sparrows, blue jays, robins, hummingbirds, warblers, cicadas, etc. sing their wonderful tunes from the morning into the evening? Anyway, I chose to stay because I love the quaint and peaceful feel of Harper Woods, not to mention my neighbors are wonderful! Having great neighbors that care about the neighborhood and each other is unparalleled.

Since living here my cat Meow chose me and she continues to let me live with her since she stole my heart on December 18, 2022 (she has an IG page). I love hanging with family and friends, sports, traveling, gardening, and making cakes when Meow doesn't distract me. Recently, I was nominated to be the Chair for the HWBC and prior to the nomination, sitting on the Commission and Board appeared to go hand-in-hand when it comes to engaging the community for new ideas or just simply passing the word along.

Overall, I am looking forward to helping continue to make Harper Woods a beautiful space today and going forward. I hope to see and meet more new faces soon..."

Parks and Recreation Director Chris Skerritt expressed, "April has been volunteering in the City of Harper Woods for over nine years. Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. We are grateful for April's willingness to give her time, energy, and talents. Her support as a member of The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Beautification Committee allows us to continue fulfilling our mission to serve our community every year. Volunteers like April make Harper Woods a better place to live. April, I hope you know the priceless impact you have had on our city!"

# Employee in the Spotlight: Carrie Wilson



Carrie Wilson has been an employee with the Department of Public Safety since February of 2020. Carrie was initially hired as a dispatcher, but always expressed an interest in becoming a police officer.

Over the past decade, law enforcement nationwide has seen a significant shortage of qualified applicants to fill much needed positions. Public Safety Director Jason Hammerle stated, "I was ecstatic when Carrie approached me about the possibility of transitioning from dispatcher to police officer. She is exactly the type of person we want representing our department in the community." Wilson has degrees from the University of Detroit and Eastern Michigan University. She is a married mother of two and a Harper Woods resident. Carrie initially entered the police academy in March of 2024, but suffered an injury that forced her to exit after six weeks.

Carrie is working hard to get back to full strength and is determined to enter the Fall 2024 Macomb Police Academy session to achieve her goal of becoming a Harper Woods Police Officer. Director Hammerle added, "The injury was a minor setback in Carrie's career. As a former college athlete, Carrie has the work ethic and discipline to overcome this obstacle. I am very confident in her ability and hope to have her on patrol before the end of the year". Wilson said, "I'm excited for the opportunity to show my commitment to Harper Woods and complete the Police Academy this fall!"

## Featured Business: BP Gas Station

BP Gas Station owner Hanan Amhaz is delighted to share details about the new development happening on the corner of 8 Mile and Kelly Roads. Historically, the site has been a gas station and convenience store. This summer she plans to expand the store by modernizing it and opening a "Saroki's Crispy Chicken and Pizza" attached to the gas station. According to Ms. Amhaz, "Saroki's Crispy Chicken & Pizza delivers a one-of-a-kind, quick-service experience for the best tasting pizza and chicken around. From brick-oven New York-style pies to hand-battered tenders and more, their menu features incredibly delicious food made with only high-quality, fresh ingredients."

Amhaz added that the store will almost double in size and plans on opening the new store along with Saroki's sometime this summer. "We are extremely excited to attach Saroki's Chicken & Pizza to add to our growing community and provide top notch food services to our community. We have seen the need for additional gourmet dining, and we are excited to provide that to the people of Harper Woods and surrounding municipalities!" said Amhaz.

Since 2004, under her family's ownership, the gas station has provided business in the area while embracing many Harper Woods residents. Hanan Amhaz expressed, "Our store has been a staple in the Harper Woods community for over 20 years. Most people in the area have passed by our store or have been in the store. We are close to the freeway, so it is an ideal location for people to stop before and after their commutes. What is distinct for our store is that we treat our customers as family. We have had customers come through our doors every day for years. Likewise, we also noticed the lack of gourmet quick food options and we are eager to bring this expansion and addition to the community. We hope to continue our legacy of having a family feel, because we truly feel embedded within the Harper Woods community!"

Amhaz also revealed that the store will be open Monday through Sunday-24 hours a day. For more information on Saroki's, visit their website at: [sarokis.com](http://sarokis.com)



# Community & Business Progress

## Community Spotlight:

## Being “Outdoors” Can Make Us Happier and Healthier!

Summer is here, and you do not need to go far to enjoy nature’s great outdoors! We encourage you to visit and enjoy our community gems: Johnston, Salter, and Danbury Parks.

Visiting parks can offer us both physical and mental health benefits. All three parks have picnic areas with Barbecue Grills and plenty of open spaces. These are great spots for families and friends to gather and make great memories.

Looking for physical activity? How about a walk, run, bike ride or even walking your dog around the one-half-mile loop track at Salter Park? Enjoy a game of Cornhole? Is basketball more appealing? Salter and Johnston parks have courts for your enjoyment. If basketball is not for you, how about Tennis or Pickleball? Johnston Park has open courts available. Children also have plenty of space to learn, run, jump, and shout. Play scrapes with swings, slides, spinners, and climbers.

Perhaps you get plenty of physical activity and you are looking to socialize or meet new people in your community, the park is a great place to start. All parks are equipped with benches in the sun or shade where you can enjoy nature. Last summer, Chess/ Checker tables were installed at Salter and Johnston Park. You can sit with a friend and enjoy a friendly game.

With the world being such a busy place, you might seek a nice quiet spot to sit and unplug? A place to just breathe in fresh air, relax with nature, and watch the sunset. We are sure you will find a spot right for you in one of our Harper Woods Parks. There are so many good reasons to visit parks, you only need one! To have Fun!



# Harper Woods Highlights: Thank You for Your Support!

Our Spring 2024 events were well attended even though Mother Nature presented us with a variety of weather conditions. A big thank you to all of the event's organizers and participants for making these successful community activities take place. A special "thank you" to Brian Corbett and Chartwells for donating Memorial Day Service refreshments.

## Earth Day Clean-Up



## Memorial Day Service



## Now Available: *Water App to Pay Your Water Bill with Cash!*

### City of Harper Woods Cash Pay

Easy way to pay your water bill with cash.\*

1. Get	2. Go	3. Scan
		
Get a barcode with your Water Account Number at <a href="https://bit.ly/3thOgjX">bit.ly/3thOgjX</a> and select 'pay with cash at a store instead'.	Go to participating store locations near you, including Dollar general, Family Dollar, CVS, Walgreens, 7-Eleven, Speedway, and Walmart.	Scan the barcode at the register to pay bills and receive a receipt from the cashier for the transaction.

\*Service fee applies.  
Payments are posting in real-time to: [harperwoods.cityinsight.com](https://harperwoods.cityinsight.com)



POWERED BY 

Take the barcode below to any participating store to pay your bill with cash.

Test me a Barcode link

By clicking the button above, I agree to have a payment made to my account.



Open Camera Scan Code

 Access via the Web

[harperwoods.cityinsight.com](https://harperwoods.cityinsight.com)

# Community & Business Progress

## 2024 Summer Events in Harper Woods

### National Night Out - 2024

National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Johnston Park!

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event designed to strengthen relationships in our neighborhoods, raise crime awareness, and continue relationships with Public Safety Departments while bringing back a real sense of community. It provides an excellent opportunity to bring police, firefighters, and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Please join us for an evening filled with fun, games and activities for the kids, refreshments, and entertainment.

For more information, contact Lieutenant Jason Sakowski at (313) 343-2530 or [jsakowski@harperwoods.net](mailto:jsakowski@harperwoods.net) or view the City Calendar at [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) for event announcements and itineraries.



### Fall Perennial Plant and Seed Exchange



BRING PLANT  
CUTTINGS AND  
SEEDS TO SHARE  
OR SWAP

Did you miss the Perennial Plant Exchange in May? Well, you have another chance to exchange a plant or seeds during the Harper Woods Beautification Commission's annual Perennial Plant and Seed Exchange. Now in its 3rd Year, the Fall exchange has quickly become an annual favorite with Harper Woods residents. It is scheduled for **Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** at Salter Park. The exchange is open to residents of Harper Woods and surrounding communities.

Participants should provide healthy seeds and perennial plants that are potted and/or labeled with plant or seed identification. Please view the City Calendar at [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) for event updates and itineraries. We look forward to seeing you in September!



# Harper Woods Introduces a New Festival Experience!

## 2024 Blues Music Festival



We have some thrilling news to share! While we know many of you were looking forward to the “Lost in the Woods” Hip Hop and Rap Festival, we’re excited to announce a delightful twist for this year’s event. Get ready to immerse yourself in the soulful sounds of the Blues at our inaugural:

Join us on **Saturday, August 24, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at Salter Park for an unforgettable evening featuring the “Legendary Blues Diva” **Thornetta Davis** and her 8-Piece Band. Thornetta, a celebrated Detroit blues and rhythm and blues singer, has opened for iconic artists like Bonnie Raitt, Gladys Knight, and Etta James. She has also contributed her powerful vocals to Bob Seger’s 1991 album, “The Fire Inside”, and worked with Kid Rock and Alberta Adams. With three solo albums to her name, Thornetta promises a performance you

won’t want to miss. The opening act for Thornetta Davis will be Tino Gross and his band. Tino has performed and recorded with many music giants such as: The Howling Diablos, Kid Rock, Bo Diddley, John Lee Hooker, George Clinton, Wayne Kramer and Bob Dylan. Joining Tino’s band will be our own Harper Woods Acting City Manager – John Szymanski!

Bring your blankets, pack your coolers, and claim your spot in the park early because this is an event you won’t want to miss. In addition to the mesmerizing music, the festival will showcase a vibrant display of art available for purchase, ensuring there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

Families are encouraged to attend, as a day filled with engaging activities is being planned to keep everyone entertained. This will be a perfect opportunity to relax, unwind, and connect with neighbors in the beautiful surroundings of Harper Woods.

Mark your calendars and get ready for a day of community, culture, and exceptional entertainment. Please view the City Calendar at [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) for event updates and itineraries.

We can’t wait to see you there!

## Citizen Lab

Since October 2022, the City of Harper Woods 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 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.



# Treasurer Info

## **Public Notice – City of Harper Woods** **Applications for Deferment 2024 Taxes**

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2024 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](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) provides a link to Assessing/property information including photos, sketches, assessed and taxable values as well as amounts due for taxes, water or miscellaneous invoices and payment history. There is no charge to view this information, however, there is a fee to pay invoices with a credit card processing fee that will apply to any of the payments made through the portal.

## **Delinquent Tax Information Online**

[www.waynecounty.com/treasurer](http://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.



## **ALERT:**

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

## **Water/Sewer Rates\***

**As of January 1, 2024**

Fixed Water Charge:	\$11.58/month
Fixed Sewer Charge:	\$20.41/month
Debt Service Charge:	\$2.50/month
Refuse User Fee:	\$4.16/month
Water Usage Fee:	\$67.08 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 December 18, 2023**

Water Disconnect Fee for Non-Payment:	\$100.00
Final Water Bill Fee:	\$20.00
Unauthorized Turn On of Water:	\$200.00
Water Appointment No Show:	\$50.00

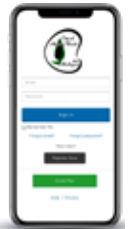
## **Pay Water Bills &** **(Now Available) Tax Bills Online**

[www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com](http://www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com)

Water Bill: NO FEES

Tax Bill: A CONVENIENCE FEE APPLIES

*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.



# City Clerk Info

## **State Primary Election August 6**

On August 6 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 22, 2024. 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, anytime during Early Voting or on Election Day from 7:00 a.m until 8:00 p.m. If you would like an absentee ballot, are unsure of your registration status, or where to vote, please call 343-2510 for assistance.



Voters can also visit an early voting site to cast a ballot in person during the early voting period. The early voting site for Harper Woods will be City Hall at 19617 Harper Avenue.

Early voting allows a voter to cast a ballot before Election Day, in an experience similar to voting on Election Day.

During the early voting period, voters are issued a ballot and can then insert their ballot directly into a tabulator at their early voting site.

Voters can look up their assigned early voting site(s) up to 60 days prior to Election Day at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://www.michigan.gov/Vote).

The early voting period takes place for a minimum of nine consecutive days, ending on the Sunday before an election and early voting sites must be open for at least eight hours each day during the early voting period.

For more information please visit the Michigan Secretary of State's webpage at - <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting/early-in-person-voting>

## **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 23, 2024 no later than 4:00 p.m. Petition forms are available in the Clerk's office. (A previous notification erroneously stated the filing deadline was April 24, 2024). Please call the City Clerk office if you have any questions.

## **Sound Ordinance Reminder**

Summer is here... with it comes back yard parties, late night barbeques with friends, windows open, loud music from cars and radios, etc.

Please be mindful of your neighbors and the Noise Ordinance (see below) which requires all noise to cease, particularly between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.



## **Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances, Noise exerpt...**

It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person to make, create or continue or cause to be made, created or continued, any loud, unnecessary, unnatural or unusual noise which annoys, disturbs, injures, endangers or impairs the health, comfort, safety, peace and quiet, welfare and enjoyment of the residents of the neighborhood in which the noise originates...

Radios, phonographs, loudspeakers, televisions and musical instruments. The playing, use of operation, or the permitting to be played, used or operated of any radio, phonograph, loudspeaker, television or musical instrument, particularly between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., in such manner as to cause unnecessary or objectionable noise penetrating more than a reasonable distance from the room, building, structure, place or vehicle from which the noise emanates, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation...

Any person who is found to have violated this section shall be deemed responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by Section 113(1) of the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.113(1)) and punished by a civil fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) plus costs and all other remedies permitted. Each incident of a noise violation shall be considered a separate violation.

# Department of Public Safety – Police

## KEEP PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN MIND THIS SUMMER WITH THESE DRIVING TIPS



- Watch for pedestrians constantly. You should be looking 15 seconds ahead of your vehicle (about 650 feet, or one and a half city blocks), and scanning sidewalk to sidewalk.
- If children are playing near or on the street, use extreme caution. Reduce speed and be prepared to stop quickly. Children are unpredictable and may dart in front of a vehicle unexpectedly.
- Use caution when driving near older adults who may not see or hear a vehicle approaching.
- Don't count on pedestrians to obey traffic signals. Even if a signal says "Don't Walk," don't expect all pedestrians to stop. Use caution before proceeding.
- Double check for walkers and bike riders in your rearview mirror before reversing.
- Use caution when approaching and traveling through intersections. Intersections are one of the most dangerous places for you and your vehicle to be. Always look left, right, and left again before proceeding through the intersection.
- When making a turn at an intersection, use the "Rock and Roll" method of seeing around windshield posts or other distractions.
- Expect the unexpected from bicyclists. Children and inexperienced riders can be unpredictable while riding, so give them the appropriate right-of-way space in traffic.
- Check for bicycle riders before opening vehicle doors. You never know when a bicyclist may be next to the door.
- Allow bicyclists adequate room when passing. Speed should be reduced, and at least three feet of passing space should be given. Look completely over your shoulder for the rider when moving back into your lane.
- Be on the lookout for reflective materials at night. This is the easiest way to identify pedestrians on the road when it is dark.

Pedestrian safety is as important as member safety. Stay alert while driving this season and always be prepared to stop for pedestrians. Happy driving, happy summer!

Public Safety Officer Stephen Johnson was promoted to Patrol Sergeant on April 20th, 2024. Sergeant Johnson has been a valued member of the Harper Woods Department of Public Safety since March 2013. Sergeant Johnson is mostly known for his work with his K-9 partner Kaiser, but also has an impressive resume which includes former SWAT/SRT Officer, Taser Instructor, Range Instructor, Defensive Tactics Instructor, and Field Training Officer. Director of Public Safety Jason Hammerle said, "It was an absolute honor to pin Sergeant Johnson's stripes on his collar. Steve is one of the best our profession has to offer. He earned his promotion through hard work, dedication to his department, and by earning the respect of his fellow officers and supervisors."



Theft is a crime of opportunity. During the summer months would-be thieves are on the look-out for items which can be easily taken in moments. Unlocked doors, open windows, and open garage doors all provide a temptation to steal valuables — bikes, packages, cell phones, purses — left in plain view. Blooming trees and overgrown shrubs can provide would-be burglars with places to hide.

Here are a few tips to make your summer a safe one:

- Install lighting, such as motion lights or dusk to dawn detector lights, on your home's exterior.
- Trim shrubbery around your home to eliminate hiding places.
- Your address should be clearly visible from the street for emergency and identification purposes.
- Close and lock your garage door when you are not nearby. Place valuables stored in the garage in a locking device not visible from the street when the garage door is open.
- Do not leave bikes unattended. Lock your bikes, even if you are going to be away for only a few moments.
- If you sleep on the second floor of your home, keep all first floor doors and windows closed and locked.
- Be aware of your surroundings and those around you when you walk, jog, or bike.
- Stop all deliveries of mail and newspapers when on vacation.
- Don't discuss your vacation plans — at the grocery store, gym, etc. — as you never know who might be listening.
- Use timers to light your home inside and outside.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to pick up flyers or other publications that might be left while you are away.

Don't make it easy for a burglar to make you a victim!!

# Department of Public Safety – Police



## Bike Theft Prevention

Most bikes are stolen while left unlocked. If you're not riding it, **LOCK IT UP!**

## Bike Safety Tips

- Obey the rules of the road.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Wear bright-colored or reflective clothing while riding.
- Always ride with traffic – never against it.
- Parents should be aware of where their children are going.

# Department of Public Safety – Fire

## FIREWORKS SEASON IS UPON US ONCE AGAIN!

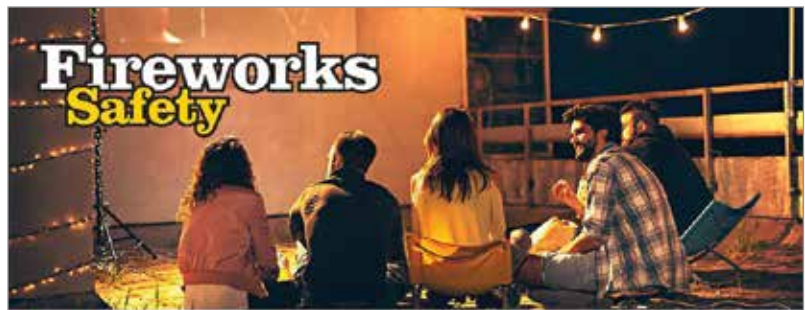
The Harper Woods Department of Public Safety encourages the safe and legal use of fireworks, but please be aware of our city ordinances when doing so.



The City of Harper Woods enacts this ordinance regulating the ignition, discharge, and use of consumer fireworks, including, but not limited to, an ordinance prescribing the hours of the day or night during which a person may ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks. The ignition, discharge, or use of consumer fireworks shall be permitted as follows: after 11:00 a.m.:

- December 31 until 1:00 a.m. on January 1.
- The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
- June 29 to July 4 until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
- July 5, if that date is a Friday or Saturday, until 11:45 p.m.
- The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.

The penalty for violation of section (2) of this ordinance shall subject the violator to a civil fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation of the ordinance. In accordance with MCL 28.451, five hundred dollars (\$500.00) of the fine collected under the ordinance shall be remitted to the local law enforcement agency responsible for enforcing the ordinance.



**FIREWORKS** are often used to mark special events and holidays. The only safe way to view fireworks is to attend a professional show. It is important to know that **fireworks are not safe in the hands of consumers.** Fireworks cause thousands of injuries each year.

### A few ideas to get into the patriotic spirit, without fireworks:

1. Use glow sticks, they glow in the dark and are a safe alternative to a sparkler. Fun for all ages.
2. Loud and proud. Noise makers are sure to make a statement. They can be found at local party supply stores or make your own.
3. Outdoor movie night. Set up a screen and projector. Don't forget the bugspray!
4. Red, white and blue silly string...fun for all ages.
5. Make a patriotic craft with the family.
6. Throw a birthday party for the USA, and don't forget the cake.



### FACTS

- 1 More than 19,500 reported fires are started by fireworks annually.
- 1 Burns account for 44% of the 9,100 injuries treated in emergency rooms seen in the month around July 4.
- 1 Half of the fireworks injuries seen at emergency rooms were extremities: hand, finger, or leg. One-third were to the eye or other parts of the head.
- 1 Children ages 10-14 had the highest rate of fireworks injury, with more than one-third (36%) of the victims of fireworks injuries under age 15.
- 1 Sparklers account for roughly one-quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries.

Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) 2018 Fireworks Annual Report



# 32A District Court News



Greetings Harper Woods,

Is Artificial Intelligence (AI) taking over our lives?

The influence of artificial intelligence in our lives is certainly growing, but whether it's "taking over" depends on how we define that phrase and what we allow in our lives. AI is increasingly integrated into various aspects of daily life, from virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa to recommendation systems on streaming platforms and social media. It's also prevalent in industries like healthcare, finance, transportation, and even in the Courts.

While AI can automate tasks, improve efficiency, and enhance convenience, it also raises concerns about privacy, job displacement, bias, and ethical implications. So, while AI is undoubtedly becoming more pervasive, whether it's "taking over" is a matter of perspective. It's up to us as a society to ensure that AI is developed and implemented responsibly to maximize its benefits while minimizing its drawbacks, but to also keep our sense of identity.

AI is increasingly being used in various aspects of the legal system, including in courts. There are AI-powered tools that can be used to perform legal research and document review. These tools can quickly navigate through vast amounts of legal documents, cases, and statutes to provide lawyers and judges with relevant information for their cases. This can significantly speed up the legal research process by quickly identifying relevant documents and reduce costs that normally would be acquired from manual review by humans. It also has predictive analytics, where AI algorithms analyze past legal cases to predict outcomes or assess the likelihood of success for legal arguments. While not determinative, these insights can be used to help lawyers and judges make more informed decisions.

Some Courts or systems within the Courts use AI for risk assessment. There are AI algorithms to assess the risk of recidivism or likelihood of reoffending when making bail or sentencing decisions. These tools aim to provide judges with additional information to make more informed decisions about pretrial release and sentencing. It can also be used for dispute resolution. There are some AI-powered dispute resolution systems in the making which will allow for online mediation platforms that will facilitate the resolution of legal disputes outside of traditional court proceedings. These systems will call for AI to analyze the facts of the case and facilitate communication between parties.

While AI has the potential to improve efficiency and access to justice in the legal system, its use also raises concerns about transparency, accountability, bias, and ethical implications. As AI technologies continue to advance, it will be important for policymakers, legal professionals, and technologists to work together to ensure that AI is used responsibly and ethically in the courts. So I pose the question again, "is artificial intelligence taking over our lives?" And the answer is it absolutely will if we allow it! It is important for us to maintain a healthy balance with technology. While AI can offer incredible assistance and convenience, it's crucial to use it mindfully and ensure that it enhances rather than dominates our lives. Finding ways to unplug, connect with others, and engage in activities that bring joy and fulfillment are vital for overall well-being. AI should be a tool to support and augment human experiences, not overshadow them.

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



## Meet The Staff Corner:

Join us in recognizing our newest member of the 32A family, Deputy Court Clerk Janyia Fisher. Ms. Fisher joins the team as one of our diligent court clerks. Court clerks are the unsung heroes of the legal system, providing invaluable support and organization to ensure that court proceedings run smoothly. Their dedication, attention to detail, and professionalism contribute

significantly to the efficiency and effectiveness of the judicial process. Court clerks often handle a multitude of tasks, from managing case files and scheduling hearings to assisting judges and attorneys, all while maintaining the highest standards of accuracy and integrity. Their commitment to upholding the principles of justice and serving the public deserves recognition and appreciation.

In her own words...

My name is Janyia Fisher. I have lived in the Saint Clair Shores area for the past two years. One of my passions is doing hair and making others feel beautiful. I started working at the 32A District Court in January of 2024. This is my first position working within a court system as well as being inside of a court. Starting this new career has been a bit scary because I did not know what to expect. From the beginning of my employment with

the Court, I have gained understanding and knowledge of how the court system works. I have also encountered many different types of personalities and through that I have gained the art of patience and effective customer service. I would like to thank my coworkers for their guidance and support. I am appreciative for the opportunity to be in the spotlight and I look forward to continuing to learn and grow through my employment at the 32A District Court.

## CAREERS: \*\*\* We're Hiring: Specialty Court Coordinator

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.

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

\*\*\*An Equal Opportunity Employer\*\*\*

## 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](mailto:trice@32adc.net)

# 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.**



## Yard Waste Collection

Collection begins the week of **April 1st** and runs through the week of **November 22nd** (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.** For more information go to [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) or call 313-343-2570.



## Curbside Leaf Collection

Loose leaf collection begins the week of **October 14, 2024** and runs through the week of **November 15, 2024** (weather permitting). Collection will be on your regular trash day. Please be aware that "heavy/large" leaf piles may cause a delay in collection. Leaves should be collected the following day. Please:

**DO NOT** park on leaf piles in the street.

**DO NOT** blow or place leaves in the street until the night before your trash day.

**DO NOT** place leaves on top of/near the storm drain in the curb line.

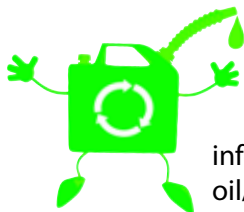
## Grass Cutting Violations #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

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.

## Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

Please check [waynecounty.com](http://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.**



## 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.



# Department of Public Works

## 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.



**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

## 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.



## Rain... rain go away



Lake levels are still at their highest levels ever. Predictions are they will continue to rise. The heavy rains we have experienced are considered significant wet weather. This has resulted in standing water in many residential yards, parks and school play fields.

If you are fortunate enough to have a yard drain, you may have had relief from yard flooding. If not, prolonged standing water can be problematic. With warmer temperatures on the way, standing / stagnant water can become a breeding area for mosquitoes or other aquatic life. It is important to eliminate standing water. A sump pump and garden hose may be the most economical way to eliminate standing water in yards.

Extreme care and ALL safety precautions should be taken when using a sump pump. Electricity and water can be a dangerous or deadly combination. A professional may need to be contacted for assistance with this. Most plumbing contractors are familiar with sump pumps and how to use them safely.

It is a violation of City Ordinance to discharge water on to your neighbor's property.

The installation of yard drains and fill dirt may provide a more permanent, long term solution. It is also a violation to displace water by adding fill dirt when it will displace water and flood your neighbor. A reputable landscape company could advise on fill and grading low spots. Our Building Department should be contacted to advise on grading issues.

Wet, soggy ground and significant rainfall can contribute to wet basements or crawl spaces. This would be a good time to inspect the grading around the foundation around your home. Concrete landscape materials, sod, and dirt should all be pitched or sloped away from your home. Gutters should be kept clean and there should be downspouts, elbows, splash blocks and extensions on you gutters to direct water away from your home. This may prevent excess water intrusion into a crawl space or basement.

The foundation of homes and buildings are surrounded by drain (weeping) tile. This is typically installed on the outside of the basement, just below the level of the basement floor, when the home is built. It is designed to take in storm water that soaks / perks into the ground surrounding the home. It is NOT designed to be the main conduit for storm water. It is important to know that this storm line connects or ties into the sanitary line that takes waste water away from your home. This is evident by the 2 clean out caps in the basement located by an exterior wall.

When the drain tile around your home is overwhelmed with water it can significantly contribute to water backing up through floor drains. Again, this is why it is important to make sure you have sufficient grading, clean gutters and downspouts with extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. The slightest blockage or restriction in your sewer line in addition to the storm water can contribute to sewage backups. Sewer lines should be maintained annually by cleaning, root cutting by an experienced contractor.

Most reputable plumbing contractors offer a warranty and provide a camera inspection to identify developing problems.

All sewer repairs or plumbing work is a permissible event. Permits and inspections can be secured by contacting our Building Department @ (313) 343-2526.

# 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.

This summer, we collected samples from 30 homes. The EGLE evaluates compliance with the Action Level based on the 90th percentile of all lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. The lead 90th percentile for the City's water supply is 47 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeds the Action Level of 15 ppb. The "Action Level" is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness; it is not a health-based standard. The goal for lead in drinking water is 0 ppb; there is no safe level of lead in the blood.

Due to these results the City of Harper Woods is required to do more extensive sampling for 2024. It is extremely important that we take these samples, and we will need your assistance.

We will be collecting samples from 60 homes every six months in 2024. Testing the same homes in each round will help us determine if corrective actions are necessary to reduce corrosion in household plumbing. To assist us in our efforts, contact us at (313) 343-2570 to participate in our drinking water testing program.

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](http://www.harperwoodscity.org), the EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), the EGLE website at [www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory](http://www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory) or call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.



# LEAD POISONING - Know the facts

Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or breathing lead. Children under 6 years old are most at risk. If you are pregnant, lead can harm your baby. Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.

- FACT** Lead poisoning hurts the brain and nervous system. Some of the effects of lead poisoning may never go away. Lead in a child's body can:
- Slow down growth and development
  - Damage hearing and speech
  - Make it hard to pay attention and learn.



- FACT** When old paint cracks and peels, it makes dangerous dust. The dust is so small you cannot see it. Most children get lead poisoning when they breathe or swallow the dust on their hands and toys. Most children get lead poisoning from paint in homes built before 1978.

- FACT** A lead test is the only way to know if your child has lead poisoning. Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act sick. Ask your doctor to test your child for lead.

## PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

### 1. TEST YOUR HOME FOR LEAD

If you live in a home built before 1978, have your home inspected by a licensed lead inspector. Contact your local health department for more information.

Sometimes lead comes from things other than paint in your home, such as:

- Candy, toys, glazed pottery, and folk medicine made in other countries
- Work like auto refinishing, construction, and plumbing
- Soil and tap water

### 2. KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM LEAD PAINT AND DUST

- Use wet paper towels to clean up lead dust. Be sure to clean around windows, play areas, and floors.
- Wash hands and toys often, especially before eating and sleeping. Use soap and water.
- Use contact paper or duct tape to cover chipping or peeling paint.

### 3. RENOVATE SAFELY

- Keep children and pregnant women away from the work area.
- Make sure you and/or any workers are trained in lead-safe work practices.
- Home repairs like sanding or scraping paint can make dangerous dust.

For more information, visit [Michigan.gov/Lead](http://Michigan.gov/Lead) or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 517-335-8885.



# Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

## Building Department Info

The Building Department would like to wish all residents and business owners a safe and happy summer. The Building Department handles multiple complaints on a daily basis. The majority of these complaints are regarding grass and yard maintenance, as well as trash and rodent issues. We all wish to live in a better environment and by taking the time to maintain our properties this objective can be obtained. Our Department is asking all to be aware of your surroundings, communicate with your neighbors and to always help your neighbors out when you can. It is only by acting as a team that a community can change for the better. With all residents and business owners taking the time to properly maintain their properties and help out one another, we can all make this an achievable goal. We all need to participate in the success of Harper Woods.



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](mailto:building@harperwoods.net)

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

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## 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](mailto:assessing@harperwoods.net) All assessment information is available online through the City's website: [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) For a better understanding of your assessment, taxes and general questions, please visit the website and 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. Please submit by the requested due dates on the application or contact the Assessor's Office.

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.



### Resident Sign Up any one of these ways

- 1 Text Zip Code to 888777
- 2 Sign up at [www.nixle.com](http://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](http://www.nixle.com).

# High Water Bills?

**The most common cause of an unforeseen increase in your water bill is a toilet leak. . .**

because your toilet is designed so that even if there is a leaking problem it will not flow onto the floor.

because you will not always hear a water leak.

because toilets can leak steadily or intermittently.

**So take a few minutes of your time to do the following**

- Check your toilet once a month for leaks, and to make sure it is operating properly.
- If you find a problem, follow the simple instructions in this brochure to repair the most common problem.
- If you find a problem or can not repair it yourself get a qualified person to repair the problem.



## How To Check For Leaks

- Remove toilet tank lid.
- Add several drops of food coloring or coloring tablets into the toilet tank water.
- Wait 20 minutes, do not flush toilet during this time period.
- After 20 minutes look into the toilet bowl. If you see any trace of colored water in the toilet bowl, you have a leak.

## To Repair A Leak



- Check the water level in the toilet tank against the overflow tube.

### Water Level Diagram (A)

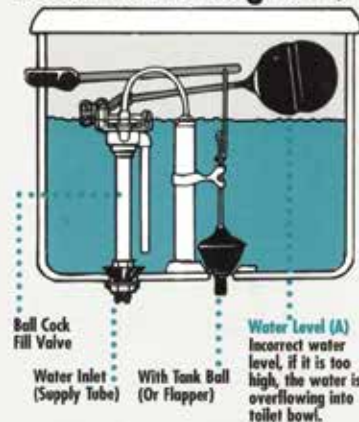
- If the water is up to the top of the overflow tube, the ball cock needs repair, or replacement.

### Water Level Diagram (B)

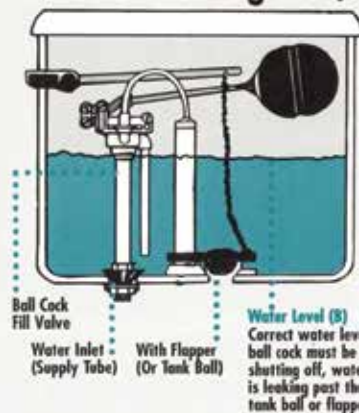
- If the water level is below the top of the overflow tube, the tank ball or the flapper needs to be replaced.

## Toilet Tank Diagrams

### Water Level Diagram (A)



### Water Level Diagram (B)



## 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

313-394-9712

### 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

# Senior Resources



## 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**

**\$2.00 each way:**

Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes

#### **ZONE 2**

**\$3.00 each way:**

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

#### **ZONE 3**

**\$4.00 each way:**

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

**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**



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

# 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?

**DAAA**  
Detroit Area Agency on Aging  
The Senior Solution

Learn More Here

# 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](http://Pacesemi.org).

# The Helm Truly has Something for Everyone!



The Helm, located at **158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms**, is a vital hub for older adults in the community offering a wide array of social, recreational, educational and health-related programs and activities designed to promote both physical and mental well-being and enhance quality of life.

From fun exercise classes to arts and craft workshops, trips around town, educational seminars or language classes, The Helm truly has something for everyone. The Helm also provides essential services to the five Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods including, Meals on Wheels, medical loan closet, community resources, home repair program and case coordination. The Helm is here to help older adults maintain their independence and navigate the challenges of aging with dignity and support.

Come see us soon! **313-882-9600 • [www.helmlife.org](http://www.helmlife.org)**

Join us for a tour and **FREE lunch** on **Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>** at **11:30am**

# Library News & Events



“Check out what we’ve got planned for you!”

**Kristen Valyi-Hax**  
*Library Director*

## From the Director

Summertime is here, and we’ve got everything you need here at the library for fun and relaxing days. If you’re looking for a great book for the beach, we’ve got you covered! Do you need an audiobook for a family road trip? Check out Libby on our web page. You’ll find not only digital audiobooks for all ages, but also digital books and magazines that are perfect for your travels.



Don’t forget about the Michigan Activity Pass Michigan Activity Pass (<http://miactivitypass.org>), which offers free and reduced-price admission to museums and parks all over Michigan. Whether you want to go to Belle Isle, the Detroit Historical Museum, Lake St. Clair Metropark, or any number of other locations, this is a great resource for families!

We are pleased to announce this is the 60th Anniversary of the Harper Woods Public Library in our location at 19601 Harper Avenue. We will be having a celebration on Saturday, September 28 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. More information will be coming, so follow us on social media, or ask any of the library staff for details.

## Youth and Family Programming



## Summer Reading Program

**Summer Reading: June 17 – July 26**

There is still time to join us for our summer reading program “Adventure Begins at Your Library”. Explore

different kinds of adventures each week. Read for prizes and participate to be invited to the Ice Cream Social on July 31.  
**Ages Birth to 17**

## Evening Family Storytime

Come to the library for a storytime and activity the whole family can enjoy! All Ages are welcome. Please call or stop by the library to sign up.

**Monday, September 9th at 5:30 pm**



## School Supply Crafternoon

Come by after school to add some personality to a school supply! We will have some items and options for decorating, but feel free to bring a pencil, notebook, planner, or folder you already have to customize! Please call or stop by the library to sign up.  
**6th-12th grade students**  
**Wednesday, September 25**  
**at 3:30-4:30 pm**

## Ongoing for Children, Teens, and Families

**Storytime!**  
**Wednesdays at 11:15am**

Join us to sing, move, and listen to stories with your little one! Storytime is geared to children ages 2-5, accompanied by a caregiver. No registration is required!

**Summer Storytime goes through July 31.**  
**Fall Storytime starts on September 4.**



**Drop-In Programming: Wednesdays**  
**from 5:30 pm – 6:30pm**

Join us on Wednesday evenings between 5:30-6:30 for some fun! We will have Drop-in Lego Building on the 1st and 3rd weeks and Drop-in Games and Puzzles on the 2nd and 4th weeks of each month.

**Wednesdays in July and September from 5:30pm – 6:30pm**

## Additional Programming

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for up to date programming information!



## Adult Summer Reading Program: June 17 – July 26

**Adventure Begins at Your Library!** Register with the librarian at the Reference Desk. It's 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** on July 29.

## Ongoing Programs for Adults

### Wednesday Book Club: 1:30 – 2:30pm

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

- July 24: **Anxious People** by *Fredrik Backman*
- August 28: **The Wonder Boy of Whistle Stop** by *Fannie Flagg*
- September 25: **Recitatif** by *Toni Morrison*

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



### Mindful Mondays: 1:30 – 2:30pm

Discussions with handouts on everyday living: health, wealth, food, family & friends.

- July 8: National Blueberry Day
- August 12: Summer Daze
- September 9: Fabulous Fall

### Herb/Spice of the Month

Visit the library for a free pre-measured sample of the herb or spice of the month, plus fun facts & recipes.

Available while supplies last.

- July: Lemon Pepper
- August: Pickling Spice
- September: Apple Pie Spice



## Special Programs for Adults

### Tour The Helm at the Boll Life Center

How can The Helm (former Services for Older Citizens) help you? A bus will pick you up at the Harper Woods Library at 11:30 a.m. for a tour of **The Helm** and a free lunch at 12:30 p.m. The bus will take you back to the library after lunch.

**Tuesday, July 16 at 11:30am**

### The Lake Shore Ukelele Strummers

We are happy to offer the concert *Love Through the Ages*, featuring love songs from the 1920's to the 1960's. Refreshments will be served.

**Wednesday, August 14, time TBA**

### Matter of Balance

This free class sponsored by The Helm emphasizes practical strategies to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels. Please sign up with The Helm at [helmlife.org](http://helmlife.org) or at 313-882-9600.

**Mondays & Wednesdays from September 4 – 30 at 1pm.**

### National Voter Registration Day

This is a nonpartisan civic holiday intended to create awareness of voter registration opportunities in Michigan. Come to the library for free resources and materials.

**Tuesday, September 17**

### **Current Library Hours:**

**Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm**

**Thursday – Friday 11am – 5pm**

Check the library's website for holiday closure dates.

Visit [www.harperwoodslibrary.org](http://www.harperwoodslibrary.org) or call the library at 313-343-2575

# 2024 Summer Recreation Program



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.

## **Arts & Crafts**

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

**Dates:** June 24-August 8 *\*No class Week of July 4\**

**Days & Times:** Age 3-5 years old  
Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00am-12:00pm  
Age 6-10 years old  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00am-12:00pm

**Fee:** \$60 per child-includes daily snack,  
Craft materials and 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.

### **Regular Session (4 weeks)**

**Session III:** July 23-August 15  
**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**

Whether you are a beginner or advanced, you will have a wonderful time in this class. Tennis will meet at Johnston Park.

### **Regular Session (4 weeks)**

**Session III:** July 27-August 17  
**Day & Time:** Saturdays 10am-11am  
**Fee:** \$40 per 4 week session

## **Fall Tennis**

Tennis in the Fall will take place on Saturdays for both adults and kids. Tennis will meet at Johnston Park..

### **Fall Session (5 weeks)**

**Date:** September 7- October 5  
**Day & Time:** Saturdays 10am-11am  
**Ages:** 6 yrs. – Highschool  
**Fee:** \$25  
**Ages:** Adult  
**Day & Time:** Saturdays 11am-12pm  
**Fee:** \$50

## **Pickleball Lessons**

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



**Dates:** July 9- September 28  
**Days:** Wednesdays & Saturdays  
**Times:** 9:00am-11:00am  
**Fee:** \$5 per lesson (must register by Friday for Saturday lesson).

## **Yoga**

Yoga is a fantastic 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.

**Dates:** July, August, & September  
**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays  
**Time:** 6:00-7:00pm  
**Fee:** \$45 per month



## **Walking Club**

Join us at Salter Park to get healthy and socialize with your neighbors. Pre-registration is not needed and there is no cost. Get your heart rate up by walking the Salter Trail.

**Dates:** July 13th & 27th, August 10th & 24th,  
and September 7th & 21st  
**Day/Time:** Saturdays 9:00am-10:00am



### **Zoom Zumba**

The Harper Woods Recreation Department has partnered with JRS Fitness, LLC to provide virtual Zumba classes. 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.

**Dates:** July, August, and September

**Days/Times:** Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm  
Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm  
Sundays 11:00am-12:00pm

**Fee:** \$40 per month



### **Summer Dance**

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 41st year of the program! There is no residency requirement.

Classes will take place 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. We

recommend that you pre-register at the recreation office with cash, check or money order, or mail your form with a check or money order to the recreation office, or by mail. Another option is to register in person in the auditorium the first week of classes. **All students must pay 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.

### **Planning Ahead- Fall Dance**

Come Join the fun and dance as we start our 41st year of the dance program! There is no residency requirement. All classes take place in the Tyrone Elementary/ gym/stage area. Located between Mack and Harper at the intersection of Tyrone and Broadstone. We require one parent or guardian to stay and watch their child during classes. Siblings are welcome. Students have the opportunity to perform in the annual recital. The recital will be in April at the end of the session. **YOU CAN REGISTER IN PERSON/ON SITE AT TYRONE THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF CLASSES.** We suggest you arrive ten minutes prior to your child's class time if you choose this option. After that, the recreation office will oversee ALL payments. The other options to register are by mail or via the drop box at city hall.

Please call Nonny Sperry for more details at (313) 885-3714 or email [nedra.sperry@gmail.com](mailto:nedra.sperry@gmail.com).

**Instructors: Mikayla Schiller, Nonny Sperry, Caitlin Skerske**  
**\*Registration for Fall dance begins August 2024**

### **Tuesdays starting September 24th**

#### **Times:**

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—Hip Hop, ages 6-8  
6:30-7:00—Ballet, ages 6-8  
7:00-7:30—Lyrical, ages 9-12  
7:30-8:00—Teen/Adult Lyrical  
8:00-8:30—Teen/Adult Hip Hop

### **Fitness Firm Aerobics**

Fitness Firm offers low-impact dance aerobics, incorporating kick box, yoga, free weights, Zumba, toning, flexibility and stretching. Fitness Firm classes take place at The First English Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall, located at 800 Vernier Rd. in Grosse Pointe Woods.

**Days & Times:** Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30am - 10:30am  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

If you have questions, please contact Judy Sheehy at 313-886-7534 or [vitaftjsheehy@comcast.net](mailto:vitaftjsheehy@comcast.net)

**Dates:** June 17th-July 22, 2024

**Instructors: Mikayla Schiller, and Nonny Sperry**

#### **Monday Class Times**

12:00-12:30---Babes in Danceland, ages 2-3 (with an adult)  
12:30-1:00---Creative Movement/Pre Ballet, ages 3-5  
1:00-1:30---Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5  
1:30-2:00--- Lyrical, ages 6-8  
2:00-2:30---Hip Hop, ages 6-8  
2:30-3:00---Ballet, ages 6-8  
3:00-3:30---Lyrical, ages 9-12  
3:30-4:00---Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12

**Dance Tuition** - \$45 (includes six (6) 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 classes

### **Wednesdays starting September 25th**

**Times:**  
5:00-5:30—Tiny Tappers, ages 3-5  
5:30-6:00—Lyrical, ages 6-8  
6:00-6:30—Tap, ages 6-8  
6:30-7:00—Ballet, ages 9-12  
7:00-7:30—Tap, ages 9-12  
7:30-8:00—Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12  
8:00-8:30—Teen/Adult Jazz  
8:30-9:00—Teen/Adult Tap

**Dance Tuition** - \$175.00 per class \*plus \$10 family registration fee. Tuition can be paid in two installments with HALF DUE at time of enrollment. There will be an additional \$10 installment fee for the payment plan. Final payment of the payment plan is due by January 20th, 2025.

**Family Plan Discount** - \$150 per class for two or more \* Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in two or more classes.



# 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 of January. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. Residents making a reservation must be 21 years of age or older. **No Moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands, or DJs** allowed for picnics. Picnics may be reserved from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and must be reserved four weeks in advance, with a minimum of three 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 Park. \*\*Dogs are allowed at Salter Park on a leash, not allowed under shelters 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 \$100.00. The Pavilion (enclosed building) at Salter Park is \$125.00. The fee is due at the time of reservation. Cash or check only.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

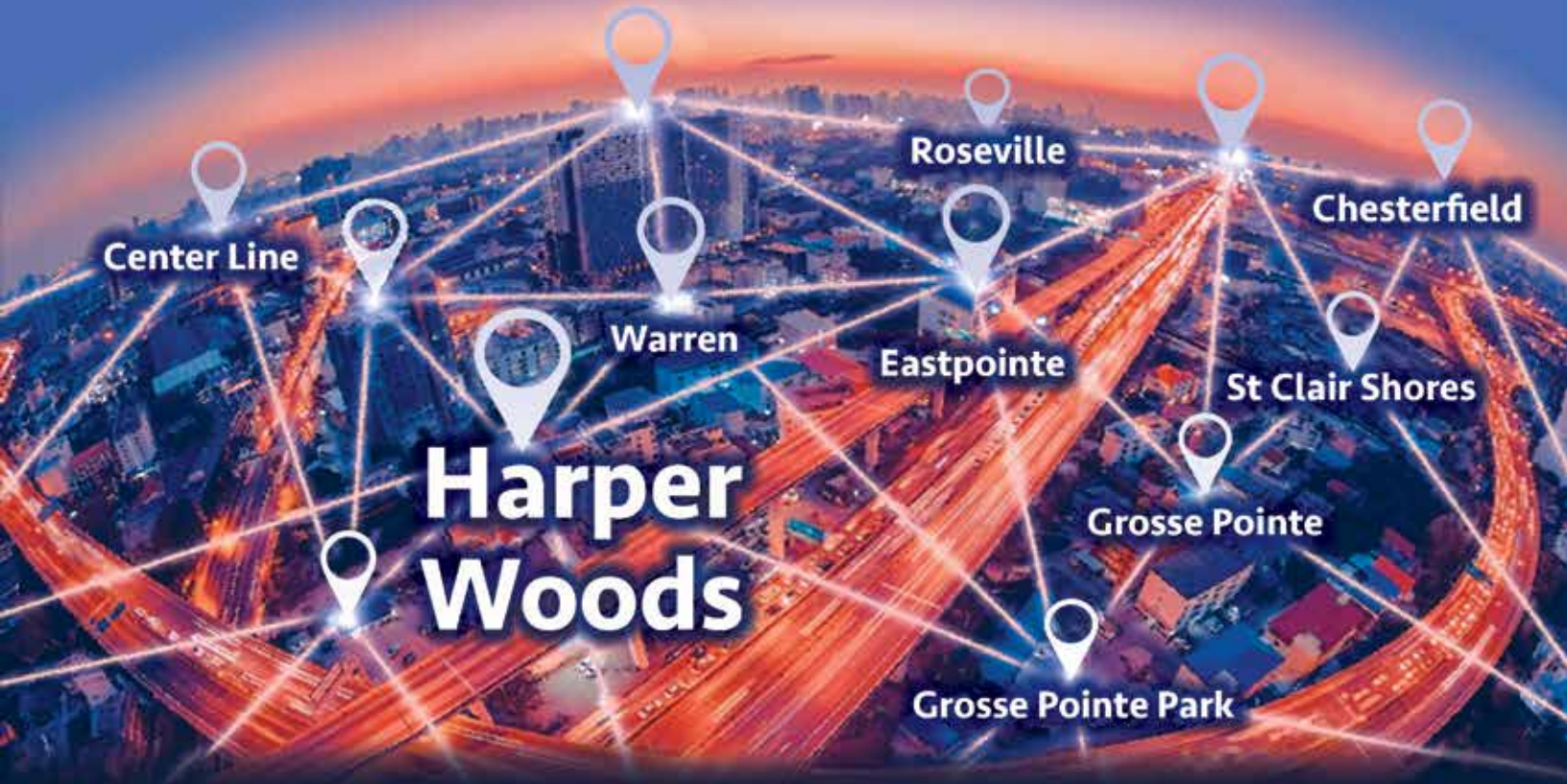
Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant \_\_\_\_\_

# the Community Resource Guide



## Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Health & Fitness • Strong Mental Health • Helping Children Succeed in Life  
Hendricks Foundation • AI Artificial Intelligence: Helping Small Businesses  
Harper Woods Real Estate • Business Directory • And more**

The Community Resource Guide is a quarterly, seasonal publication providing all Harper Woods residents and businesses the 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 Fall Edition (October thru December) email us at [info@drivecreativeservices.com](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com).

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

***Deadline to provide information is Friday, August 16, 2024.***



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

# CARE

OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

## Michigan Camp CARE

CARE of Southeastern Michigan's Camp CARE is a two-week camp for children in preschool through high school. The camp takes place this year from July 29 to August 9 (Monday through Friday) at Fountain Elementary in Roseville. Camp CARE is for youth affected by a loved one's substance use. The camp is free of charge and will help kids learn to communicate effectively, manage emotions & self-control, deal effectively with change, choose friends wisely, make healthy choices, and resist peer pressure. Boxed lunches will be provided. Free registration is available at [www.careofsem.com](http://www.careofsem.com)



Save the date: Save the date for CARE's 30th Annual Parenting Conference, taking place on March 1, 2025, at the Macomb Intermediate School District. The parenting conference brings together experts for parents of children of all ages on some of the most critical topics impacting youth today. For more information on these events, visit [www.careofsem.com](http://www.careofsem.com).

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- Internet and You
- Windows 7
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## Peace of Mind with Therapy

Mental health illnesses are among the most common health conditions in the United States, in fact, according to the CDC more than 50% of Americans will be diagnosed within their lifetime.

Though there are many types of therapy, the process is essentially a collaboration between the client or patient and a therapist, hopefully held by a positive and supportive relationship, in which the client can speak their truth, tell their story, and get a fresh perspective on the elements of the problem, then discover ways to heal, transcend, improve, and ultimately have a better experience of their life. At its root, it's two people just talking; but the scope, focus, and nature of what's spoken about can be, and often is, life changing.

Many people are unaware of how broadly our lives can be affected by patterns of thinking and emotions. For example: did you know that our thoughts and experiences and emotions can literally become our biology? Science has identified that chronic conditions like stress are related to gastrointestinal conditions like heartburn, indigestion, nausea, and associated lower abdominal pain, in addition to conditions like panic attacks, IBS, GERD, ulcers, insomnia, etc. Similarly, repressed anger/hostility and depression are strongly associated with hypertension, heart disease, strokes, chronic pain, eating disorders, and substance abuse/dependence, amongst many other maladies.

Good therapy begins with an acknowledgment that there



is a problem, and an intention to get some help addressing it. It's that simple, and yet for some, it's not easy. Finding the best mental health professional is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Talking with your primary care doctor can be a good place to start. Keep in mind it may take more than one visit or interviewing more than one therapist to find the right person to work with.

Thad Galvin, LMSW is the founder of Calm Safe Place, LLC, a Grosse Pointe-based therapy practice designed to address attachment-based trauma and encourage patients to connect with their whole selves and the world around them in ways that provide meaning, purpose, and fulfillment.

For mental health resources, please visit:  
[www.FamilyCenterHelps.org](http://www.FamilyCenterHelps.org)



## SUSIE Q'S KIDS

### Helping Children Succeed in Life

Susie Q's Kids has helped over 12,000 kids fostering community alliances, building impactful relationships, supporting nonprofits throughout the region furthering their missions, advocating for mental health and well-being, suicide prevention awareness, and engaging kids in philanthropy and service. A recent partnership with the Macomb County Sheriff's Dept. lets deputies comfort kids in vulnerable situations.



Their awards include 2023 Best of MICHBusiness Nonprofit of the Year, American Foundation of Suicide Prevention Community Partner of the Year, Alignable's Top Business Person of the Year, and Top-Rated by Greatnonprofits. Recent nominations involved Macomb County Nonprofit of the Year, National Alliance of Mental Illness Advocate of the Year, and Dr Mary for Macomb County Athena Award. Susie Q's Kids impact is being felt throughout our community.

Visit their new office at 6340 East 14 Mile Road, Warren MI 48092 (by appointment only). Contact Dr Mary Welsh [drmary@susieqskid.org](mailto:drmary@susieqskid.org) to volunteer, donate, and learn more.

# HENDRICKS FOUNDATION



Founded in 2022, the Hendricks Foundation's mission is to Bridge the digital divide worldwide. We take donations of used computers and repurpose them for students in need. Our Founder grew up a victim of the digital divide, which led him to Frankenstein, his first computer, at the age of 9. In 2020 he was shocked to learn that the digital divide affects over 2/3

of students globally and over 70% of Detroit students. The solution found him during an elevator ride, where a couple had a computer that they were going to throw away. Once they gave him the computer the Hendricks Foundation was born.

Last year we started our CIT program that teaches students computer repair and safety. At the end of the program students take the laptop they repaired home. So far, we have impacted 39 students. We accept devices and monetary donations year-round at [hendricks-foundation.org](https://hendricks-foundation.org). Your donation will help students locally and abroad cross the digital divide. Email [info@hendricks-foundation.org](mailto:info@hendricks-foundation.org) to learn more.

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# GROSSE POINTE Chamber of Commerce

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[www.grossepointechamber.com](http://www.grossepointechamber.com)



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wccd.edu

## HEALTH & FITNESS

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**(313) 417-9666**  
pointefitnessandtraining.com

## HEATING & COOLING

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mrfurnace.com

## REAL ESTATE

The Monzo Group  
235 N. Groesbeck Ave.  
Mount Clemens, MI 48043  
**(586) 210-3350**  
monzogroup.com

## SENIOR RESOURCES

Detroit Area Agency on Aging  
1333 Brewery Park Blvd. Suite #200  
Detroit, MI 48207  
**(313) 446-4444 Ext. 5225**  
detroitseniorsolution.org

## SENIOR RESOURCES

The Helm  
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AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▼ 3.3%  
FROM Q4 2023

▲ 5.6%  
FROM Q1 2023

**43**

NUMBER  
OF SALES

▼ 27.1%  
FROM Q4 2023

▼ 28.3%  
FROM Q1 2023

**33**

AVERAGE DAYS  
ON THE MARKET

▲ 57.6%  
FROM Q4 2023

▲ 30.0%  
FROM Q1 2023

**69**

AVERAGE MONTHLY  
INVENTORY

▼ 5.5%  
FROM Q4 2023

▼ 14.1%  
FROM Q1 2023

**19.6%**

ABSORPTION  
RATE<sup>1</sup>

▼ 31.1%  
FROM Q4 2023

▲ 16.6%  
FROM Q1 2023

## MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

### QUARTER (Q1 2024) OVER QUARTER (Q4 2023)

▲ 5.8%  
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ 20.3%  
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 27.1%  
TOTAL CLOSED

### YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q1 2024 vs. Q1 2023)

▼ 14.1%  
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 8.2%  
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 18.3%  
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®. <sup>1</sup>The 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.

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- ◆ Address: 710 Notre Dame, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230



## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Not a lot of green this quarter which is not unexpected. Last year at this time there was lots of green as rates were declining from 8%. In 2024 there are yellows and reds because rates are increasing from 6.6% and inventory remains very low. Amazing how "relative" it all feels.

**Average Sale Price – Good:** Increases year over year are more important than quarter over quarter because it eliminates seasonality. That they are up indicates homeownership builds net worth and reinforces the importance of ownership vs. renting.

**Number of sales – Poor:** This is due solely to the lack of homes for sale because demand remains high.

**Days on Market (DOM) – Good:** In a normal market 72 days is the average, so 30 is still brisk, it just doesn't feel like it because many became accustomed to when it was half that.

**Inventory – Poor** The lack of inventory remains the primary headwind for this market. It is likely as much as a 50% increase in inventory would not have a negative impact on the market.

**Absorption Rate – Getting close to a balanced market:** While 19.6% is just above the top of a balanced market, it is unlikely to remain this low. If it does fall the inventory issue will be minimized although all the other metrics would be expected to show a strong housing market.

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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## MEET YOUR LOCAL REALTOR



Tadario "TJ" James thought he chose real estate, but now feels that real estate chose him. TJ first got into real estate because he wanted to enhance his life. His goal was to be more conscientious of the what, when, where, and how, to be the best father, provider, investor, and Realtor possible. He knew that by helping others make better real estate decisions, he would simultaneously begin to navigate life at a higher level while enhancing his client's lives. Using the skills he has learned since joining The Monzo Group has helped his clients get the best deal possible, whether buying, selling, or investing in real estate.



Buy • Sell • Lease • Residential • Commercial

## HARPER WOODS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

19258 Beaconsfield Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$145,000

20656 Beaufait Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$179,900

18532 Washtenaw Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$146,000

20273 Woodmont Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$190,000

19902 Fleetwood  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$185,000

19308 Beaconsfield Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$68,000

19873 Beaconsfield Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$105,000

20951 Lancaster Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$205,000

20634 Ridgemont Road  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$156,000

20468 Damman Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$107,000

19006 Washtenaw  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$90,000

19388 Kenosha Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$120,000

20314 Woodmont Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$205,000

19405 Eastwood Drive  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$175,000

20881 Hampton  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$100,000

19677 Kenosha Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$136,400

20883 Hawthorne  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$135,000

20005 Lennon Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$210,000

21445 Brierstone Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$242,000

18969 Woodcrest Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$150,000

20468 Roscommon  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$155,000

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