



# INSIDE

## The City of Harper Woods 2017

An informational newsletter on what's happening in the City for the months of April through September 2017



The City of  
Harper Woods

Mayor  
Kenneth A. Poynter

Mayor Pro Tem  
Cheryl A. Costantino

City Manager  
Randolph Skotarczyk

City Clerk  
Leslie M. Frank

City Council  
Vivian M. Sawicki  
Hugh R. Marshall  
Valerie J. Kindle  
Veronica Paiz  
Tom Jenny

## Election News

**VOTE**

### Primary Election-August 8, 2017

A primary election will be held on Tuesday, August 8 to fill a vacancy in the House of Representatives 1st District and if more than three candidates run for Mayor, or if more than nine candidates run for City Council, or if there are any State, Country, City, or School ballot proposals. Last day to register for this election is July 10. Polls will be open from 7am-8pm.

### City Council Petition Filing Due by April 25, 2017

Eligible residents interested in running for Mayor or City Council must file petitions with the City Clerk by Tuesday, April 25 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call Leslie Frank at 313-343-2510 or send an email to [lfrank@harperwoods.net](mailto:lfrank@harperwoods.net).

### Beautification Award Nominations Sought

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is seeking nominations from residents who wish to recognize well maintained and visually pleasing homes in the city. To nominate a home in your area, please call the City Clerk's Office at 343-2510 or send an email to [llombardi@harperwoods.net](mailto:llombardi@harperwoods.net) with the address of the home. Nominations will be accepted until July 7. Awards will be presented to ten homeowners and one business in November.

### Spring Perennial Plant Exchange

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is sponsoring the Perennial Plant Exchange on Saturday, May 20 from 10am-12pm at Salter Park. Items to be exchanged include garden plants, herbs or ground cover. No trees please! For more information, please call Mitzi Giles at 884-0297 or the City Clerk's Office at 343-2510 or send an email to [llombardi@harperwoods.net](mailto:llombardi@harperwoods.net).



### Boards and Commissions Vacancies

The City is currently seeking interested applicants for vacancies on various boards and commissions.

\*Library Board-1 member

\*Local Officers Compensation Commission-1 member

\*Planning Commission-1 member

\*Brownfield Development Authority-1 member

Contact the City Clerk's Office at 313-343-2510 if you are interested in serving.

### Memorial Day Ceremony



The City of Harper Woods Memorial Day Service and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 29th at the Veteran's Memorial, located at Johnston Park, beginning at 10:15am. The Veteran organizations and service organizations within Harper

Woods participate in this program. All are welcome to attend in honor of those who have fought for our country. Memorial wreaths are placed at the Memorial Flame in their memory. A continental breakfast is served immediately following the service.

### National Night Out - 2017



**Save the date!!** National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Johnston Park. It is an annual nationwide event designed to strengthen relationships in our neighborhoods and raise crime prevention awareness, while bringing back a real sense of community. It provides an excellent opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. For more information, you can contact Officer James Melnyk at [jmelnyk@harperwoods.net](mailto:jmelnyk@harperwoods.net)

### What's Inside.....

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### City Offices Closed

- Friday, April 14th in observance of Good Friday
- Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day
- Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day
- Monday, September 4th in observance of Labor Day

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Notes from the City Manager

### Code Enforcement

Maintaining of residential property benefits every member of our community. We have stepped up our enforcement of residential and commercial codes significantly to avoid blight and the conditions that lead to blight. It is our hope that every resident takes pride in their property and helps us in our efforts to keep our community beautiful and safe. Of special concern are trash and snow removal at this time of year.

**Trash** - Please remember that trash cannot be placed at the curb more than 24hrs from time of pickup. Trash should be in a container with a lid that does not exceed 30 gallons. While bags are permitted, our trash haulers will not pick up bags that have been ripped open and are spilling trash. The pickup days are as follows:

Kingsville to Roscomon from Kelly to Harper – Monday

Woodside to Old Homestead from Kelly to Harper – Tuesday

Eastwood to Huntington from Kelly to Harper & Kingsville to Norwood from Harper to the eastern border – Wednesday

Woodmont to Lancaster from Kelly to Harper & Hunt club to Lancaster from Harper to the eastern border – Thursday

Fleetwood to Eight Mile from Beaconsfield to the Eastern Border – Friday

**Snow** - Removal of snow is the responsibility of the property owner and must be removed no later than 36 hours after the conclusion of snowfall. We are issuing tickets for failure to have snow and ice removed and request that our residents be diligent in complying with the ordinance. The city will no longer send contractors to remove snow from residences in violation of the ordinance and instead will issue tickets. Please contact the DPW at (313) 343-2570 if there are questions.

### Macy's

Unfortunately, our Macy's will be closing by the end of March as part of a large restructuring by Macy's Inc. This has been sad news for all our residents. Malls throughout the country have been suffering from lower sales and loss of customers because of different shopping trends. The administration has been meeting with management and owners of Eastland and Macy's and with area experts to determine what impact the city can have on redevelopment of the mall. The mall remains open and we ask that our residents continue to show loyalty to the shops that are there. The greatest influence on retail corporations to remain in an area comes from customers. Eastland mall has a lower rate of crime than most malls in the Metropolitan Detroit area, contrary to rumors and speculation by some parties. The administration will be asking Council to approve a Planning and Market Study to help us determine what uses would be best suited for new business at the Eastland location.

### Kelly Road

The administration has made addressing issues on Kelly Road a priority for 2017 and 2018. It is our intention to be doing significant outreach to owners and shop keepers on Kelly and using whatever tools we can find to improve the Kelly business district. We will need volunteers from the community to assist the Community Development Director in these efforts and encourage active participation and suggestions from the community on what we can do to invigorate use of the Kelly corridor.

## Creating a Neighborhood Improvement Plan

Since August of 2016, Residents of Harper Woods have been engaged in a series of workshops to create a "**Neighborhood Improvement Plan**" (NIP). The Primary Goal of the NIP is to build the capacity of our Harper Woods residents to come together as a team to:

- (A) identify their mutual problems;
- (B) engage in an effective collective effort to solve those problems;
- (C) create a comprehensive plan to work toward eliminating their mutual problems and concerns, which negatively affect the "quality of living" in Harper Woods;
- (D) implement the "Neighborhood Improvement Plan".

As stated in the last edition of this newsletter, **historically, neighborhoods only improve when residents make a commitment to invest themselves, their time and their own resources toward improving their Community** block by block. The NIP has been created and will be presented to Harper Woods residents at a City-wide Community Meeting on the evening of March 9, 2017 at the Harper Woods High School Auditorium. Copies are available at City Hall.

The Plan focuses on "getting results" for six priority areas of concern, identified by the residents' in their "Work Shop" sessions. The categories are: *Beautiful Neighborhoods*, *Education* (including financial literacy), *Crime Reduction & Law Enforcement*, *Community Cohesion*, *Community Activities*, and *Functioning Infrastructure & City Services*. Under each of the six priority areas of concern in the NIP, there are statements of the problems we are trying to solve and action steps to solve each problem. There are many important ideas in the NIP, including creating a network of "Block Captains".

The City of Harper Woods owes a great debt of gratitude to those community volunteers who contributed their energy to the creation of our "Neighborhood Improvement Plan". Over the next six to eight months, volunteers will commit many hours toward the implementation of this Plan. We are asking for other residents to join us in the implementation process. **We need your help!** Remember, **our goal is to solve real problems to improve the quality of life** in Harper Woods neighborhoods. All volunteers can contact Ty Hinton, the City of Harper Woods Economic & Community Development Director at (313) 343-2501.

# Police Department News

## Soliciting in Harper Woods

Harper Woods Police often handle complaints of solicitors within the City. In many cases, these businesses provide a legitimate service or product. In other situations, the person may use high-pressure sales tactics and intimidation to make sales, or the person may have ulterior motives of robbery or theft. All solicitors that operate in the City of Harper Woods are required to register with the police department. As part of registration, a background check is completed, and employer information is recorded. Every person approved to solicit is issued a Solicitor's Permit. All solicitors are required to carry the permit and display it upon request of citizens while conducting business within the City. In addition to registering solicitors, this process also holds solicitors to a code of conduct. Should a solicitor violate the ordinance adopted by the City, they will have their permit revoked. Continued soliciting without a permit would subject the offender to a fine. Persons unwilling/unable to show a solicitor permit or violating the solicitor's ordinance may be reported to Harper Woods Police using the non-emergency number 313-343-2530.



### Being a Good Neighbor

- \*Report suspicious activity.
- \*Do not block sidewalks with any part of your vehicle.
- \*Do **NOT** speed in residential areas.
- \*Take extra precautions in nice weather, and watch out for children.
- \*Do not park near fire hydrants.
- \*Pets must be on a leash, when not in a fenced yard.
- \*Remember the speed limit is 25MPH unless otherwise posted.

## Crime Prevention Tips

### Inside Your Home - Locks, Doors, & Windows

- \*Install and use deadbolt locks on doors (about half of all burglars enter through unlocked doors and windows).
- \*Don't open the door to strangers! Talk to them through the door. If in doubt, call the police.
- \*Secure sliding glass doors and windows with a wooden dowel placed on the track.
- \*Hide valuables out of plain sight.
- \*Lock all windows at night or when away from home.

### Outside Your Home

- \*Trim back shrubbery hiding doors or windows.
- \*Cut back tree limbs that could help a thief climb to second story windows.
- \*Make sure all porches, entrances, and yards are well lit.
- \*Use motion sensor exterior lights where practical. \*Keep your garage closed and locked.

### Key Sense

- \*Do not hide house keys in the mailbox, planters, or under doormats.
- \*Do not put personal identification on key rings.
- \*If keys are lost or stolen, change locks immediately (often covered by insurance).

### When Away or On Vacation

- \*Make your home appear occupied when you go out.
- \*Leave lights on and the radio playing. \*Use timers to turn inside lights on and off.
- \*Keep your garage door closed and locked. \*If you are gone several days, arrange to have mail and papers stopped or picked up.
- \*Complete a vacation notification at the Police Station. \*Do not post vacation plans on social media.

**Report Suspicious Persons or Activity-Call 313-343-2530 or 9-1-1 to report anything suspicious in the neighborhood.**

Harper Woods Police will check it out. Your help is critical.

## Free Gun Locks

The Harper Woods Police Department is offering free gun locks. Locks can be picked up anytime at the department. Each year in the United States, hundreds of children are accidentally injured and killed by firearms that are not adequately secured. By choosing to keep a firearm in your home, you are legally responsible for ensuring that the weapon is stored in a safe manner, and not easily accessible to children or other unauthorized individuals. The Harper Woods Police Department supports the efforts of Project ChildSafe ([www.childsafe.com/](http://www.childsafe.com/)) in their firearm safety education endeavors. Project ChildSafe partners with Governors, Lieutenant Governors, U.S. Attorneys, Mayors, and local law enforcement agencies to promote firearm safety. To find out more information about ChildSafe, please go to [www.projectchildsafe.org](http://www.projectchildsafe.org), or you can contact Harper Woods Police Sergeant Jason Sakowski at [jsakowski@harperwoods.net](mailto:jsakowski@harperwoods.net).



### NIXLE

The city of Harper Woods encourages all of our residents to join Nixle, 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 easy to register for and is provided at no cost. Messages are received by email, text, or through the web depending on your custom settings. Stay informed by signing up now at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).

# Building Department News

## Spring Maintenance Tips

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

1. Clean out gutters and downspouts to prevent basement leaking.
2. Pick up/remove trash and debris along fence lines.
3. Inspect your concrete for dangerous trip hazards and repair or replace.
4. Replace all batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
5. Deteriorated fencing/structures need to be repaired and painted or removed.
6. A schedule to keep grass cut and yards cleaned must be maintained.
7. Garbage receptacles must be kept behind the house and out of sight from the front view of the property. They should be set to the curb no sooner than the evening prior to your scheduled pick-up date, and returned to the rear yard the same day after pick up.

**Spring**  
CLEAN UP

# District Court News

**For Fourth Year in a Row, People are Very Satisfied with the 32A District Court**-For the fourth year in a row, the 32A District Court received high marks from the public regarding their experiences with the court. Using a survey that was administered in courts statewide, the 32A District Court asked court users questions about whether the 32A District Court was accessible, timely, and fair, and if they were treated with courtesy and respect by the judge and court staff.



“Our court serves the people, so their views are critically important in helping us make decisions on how to improve court operations,” said Chief Judge Daniel S. Palmer. “I am very proud of the hard work put in by our team at 32A District Court, and we are committed to being even more efficient and focused on improving service to the public.”

Highlights from the survey include:

96% of court users said they were treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.

92% of court users said the way the judge handled their case was fair.

84% of courts users were able to get their business done in a reasonable amount of time.

“We use the data from this survey to make management decisions that help better serve the public,” said Court Administrator Marcy Ruggirello. “Our goal is for every person who comes through the courthouse doors to be treated fairly, to understand what happened in their case, and to get their business done in a reasonable amount of time.”

Developed with input from judges and court administrators statewide and tabulated by the State Court Administrative Office to insure accuracy, the survey enables courts to identify strengths, provide positive feedback to employees, and target areas for improvement. The survey was completed by a range of court users, including parties to cases, attorneys, jurors, and others. The public satisfaction survey is part of a statewide initiative of the Michigan Supreme Court and the State Court Administrative Office to measure and report on court performance. From 2013 through 2016, nearly 100,000 surveys were completed in courts throughout Michigan. Visit [www.courts.mi.gov](http://www.courts.mi.gov) for more information.

**32A District Court Adds Online Ticket Review System**-The 32A District Court has launched a new online ticket review system that allows defendants to resolve certain traffic citations from the comfort of home.

“Online ticket review provides our customers the convenience of resolving traffic citations online, anytime, saving the expense of missing work,” said 32A Chief Judge Dan Palmer. “Just as important, the system helps police, prosecutors, and judges resolve cases more efficiently and more quickly.”

The easy, online, ticket review system guides individuals through a series of qualifying questions to determine eligibility. If eligible, no court date is needed and the defendant can submit his or her position online, which is then reviewed by the city attorney or prosecutor. The court then follows up to advise the defendant of fines, most of which can be paid online. 32A District Court is one of the first in Michigan to adopt online ticket review. Other courts with the innovative system include Bay County, East Lansing, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Highland Park, Washtenaw County and Wayne (city). Based on experiences in these courts, cases are resolved in about a week instead of a month or more. If you have recently received a civil infraction violation in Harper Woods, and your ticket is not in default, visit [www.courtinnovations.com/MID32A](http://www.courtinnovations.com/MID32A) to see if you can resolve the matter online. The court recently released customer satisfaction survey results for 2015 that showed local residents are extremely satisfied with how they are treated. Online ticket review is being implemented to take further steps to enhance customer satisfaction while making court operations more efficient.

**Conflict Resolution Services Available** -The 32A District Court has partnered with the Wayne Mediation Center to provide community mediation services for almost any type of dispute. The Wayne Mediation Center offers free and low cost mediation services as well as training. We believe working together makes our community stronger. Check the [www.mediation-wayne.org](http://www.mediation-wayne.org) website for details and further information on their services.

**What is Mediation?** Mediation is a confidential process in which a neutral, unbiased third person helps parties work together to voluntarily resolve their case. Unlike a trial, where one party usually wins and one loses, mediation allows parties to reach a satisfactory resolution in a non-adversarial manner. Since mediation is confidential, things said in mediation are generally not admissible in court.

**Benefits of Mediation**-The decision-making process belongs to you. You decide how to best resolve your dispute; unlike going to court, no one judges your problem and tells you what to do. It works. Over 60% of mediated cases end in agreements. It's effective. Mediation greatly increases parties' satisfaction with the outcome and saves lots of time and money.

**Who Will Mediate My Case?** All Wayne Mediation Center mediators have completed a special training program approved by the State Court Administrative Office.

**What Happens at Mediation?** Mediator(s) meet with all participants to explain the mediation process and to answer any questions. Then, each side explains the situation from their perspective. The mediator then assists the parties by asking questions and helping them focus on solutions that are acceptable to both of them. If the parties reach an agreement, the mediator writes up the terms of the agreement for all of the participants to sign.

**How to Get Started**-After talking with you and the other party to be sure voluntary mediation is right for your situation, the Wayne Mediation can arrange a mediation session to fit your schedule. Call (313) 561-3500 or visit [www.mediation-wayne.org](http://www.mediation-wayne.org) for more information. If you are visiting the Harper Woods City Hall you can also request a mediation consultation via the court clerk's office.

# Fire Department News

**Fire Safety**-House fires can start and spread quickly, which is why we all need to be careful and educated when it comes to fire safety. Just a little bit of planning can make a big difference for your family. Eighty-seven percent of all fire-related deaths are due to home fires, which spread rapidly and can leave families as little as two minutes to escape once an alarm sounds.

Working smoke alarms reduce the chances of dying in a fire by 50%. They are a critical first step for staying safe, but in order to be effective, they have to be working properly. For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in every sleeping area.

Teach kids never to play with matches and lighters. Make a habit of placing these items up and away from young children.

Create AND practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of every room in case of a fire. Get a stopwatch and time how fast your family can escape. Choose a meeting place outside, such as a big tree or the end of the driveway, so you will know that everyone has gotten out safely.

NEVER go back into a burning building for any reason. If someone is missing, tell the firefighters. They have the proper clothing and equipment to safely rescue people.

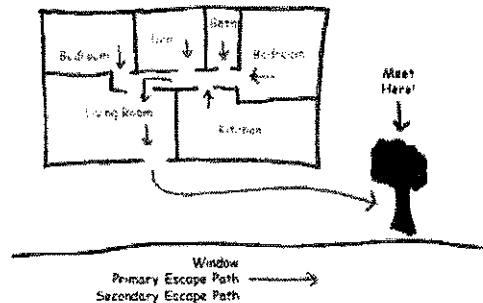
Everyone should know how to respond to the sound of a smoke alarm. Teach everyone to get low and get out when they hear it. A child who is coached properly ahead of time will have a better chance to be safe.

In case of a fire: **DON'T HIDE, GO OUTSIDE!** Fires are scary, but never hide in closets or under beds when there is a fire.

Use common sense in the kitchen. Limit distractions when cooking and don't leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended.

Blow out candles before you leave the room or before you go to sleep.

Know your local emergency number. Put stickers and magnets with emergency numbers on your refrigerator and every telephone in the house. If there is a fire at your house, choose one family member to leave your meeting place and call 911 from a neighbors phone.



**Smoke Detectors**-Did you know that nearly 2/3 of all home fire fatalities occur with either no smoke detectors or non-working smoke detectors? Working smoke alarms have been documented to cut the fatality rate by 50%.

Provide smoke detectors in all bedrooms, outside the bedrooms, on all levels of the home, kitchen, attic space, basement, and any other living areas. Larger homes may require additional detection.

If possible, connect all smoke detectors together, so if one detector goes off, the other detectors will simultaneously operate.

There are various types of smoke detectors on the market; photoelectric, ionization, and combination. Photoelectric smoke detectors respond better to smoldering (slow burning, low flame) fires. Ionization smoke detectors respond better to flaming fires. Combination detectors provide both photoelectric and ionization response. The best protection would be to have combination detectors that respond to multiple scenarios.

Test and replace batteries in all smoke detectors at least once a year. Smoke detectors giving a chirping noise every 5-10 seconds is a sign that batteries need to be replaced as soon as possible.

Make sure detectors are installed on the ceiling or high on the walls in accordance with the manufacturers specifications.

Smoke detectors that are 10 years old or not operating correctly during testing should be replaced.

Special alarm systems with strobe lights and vibration are available for the hearing impaired. If you have family members in the house with these issues, special alarms should be provided.



If you are in need of a smoke detector, please contact the fire department at 313-343-2550. We do have some for residents at no cost. Stay Safe!



**Young Firesetters**-Children and fire are a **DEADLY COMBINATION**. Some children play with fire out of curiosity, not realizing its danger. Troubled children may set fire as a way of acting out their anger, disappointment or frustrations. Children playing with fire cause hundreds of deaths and injuries each year. Preschoolers and kindergartners are most likely to start these fires, typically by playing with matches and lighters, and are most likely to die in them.

All children experience fire interest. They may ask questions such as how hot is fire or show an interest in fire through playing with fire trucks or cooking on a play stove. This is healthy, and it is time to begin educating about fire. Many fires happen when young children are left alone, even for a short period of time, and have access to matches and lighters. Parents must have clear rules and consequences about fire misuse.

Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and sight, up high, preferably in a locked cabinet or container.

Never leave matches or lighters in a bedroom or any place where the children may go without supervision.

Teach young children and school-age children to tell a grown-up if they see matches or lighters. Children need to understand that fire is difficult to control, it is fast and can hurt as soon as it touches you.

A child with an interest in fire can lead to fire starting and result in repeated firesetting behavior.

It is important for grown-ups to discourage unsupervised fires.

Never use lighters or matches as a source of amusement for children; they may imitate you.

Never assign a young child any tasks that involve the use of a lighter or matches (lighting candles, bringing a lighter to an adult to light a cigarette or the fireplace, etc)

If your child expresses curiosity about fire or has been playing with fire, calmly but firmly explain that matches and lighters are tools for adults only.

Use only lighters designed with child-resistant features. Remember, child-resistant does not mean child-proof.

# Treasurer News



## Public Notice-City of Harper Woods

### Applications for Deferment

#### 2017 Taxes

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office is accepting applications for the 2017 tax deferments. To qualify, a household income cannot exceed \$40,000. The applicant must also be 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceperson, veteran, widow or widower, blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The deferment applications can be obtained at the Treasurer's Office Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. September 14th is the filing deadline for the 2017 summer taxes. February 14th, 2018 is the filing deadline for the 2017 winter taxes.

### Assessing, Tax and Utility Billing Information Online

The City's website [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) provides a link for: assessing/property information including photos, sketches, assessed values and taxable values as well as tax amounts due and payment history. We now have water billing information on the same website. Once you are online, select any of the links to "pay your bill online", and it will take you to the Access My Gov website to view and pay all City invoices and view property information. There is no charge to view this information however, there is a fee to pay invoices with a credit card; 2.95% of the amount you are paying.



### Delinquent Tax Information Online

[www.waynecounty.com/treasurer](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. If the affidavit is not filed timely, a penalty of \$5.00 per day (maximum \$200.00) will be assessed.

### Water/Sewer Rates

As of January 2016 the following rates apply per 5/8 meter:  
Fixed Water \$23.76/equivalent meter  
Fixed Sewer \$41.91/equivalent meter  
Debt Service Charge \$ 7.50  
Refuse Recycling \$7.38  
Refuse User Fee \$5.00

### Water Bill Delivery

Bills are mailed on the first of each month. Payment is due by 5:00pm on the last business day of the month. Payment in full is required when the "shut off door tag" has been posted at the residence. \*To avoid water shut-off, keep your water bill under \$100.00.

### \*NEW\* Monthly Water Bills

To better manage household budgets, the City will be transitioning from quarterly to monthly billings. Info will be coming soon.

### 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 343-2500.

### Pay Water Bills by Credit Card Online

Mastercard or VISA  
Internet Payment: Go to the City website [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org)  
Select: Water & Tax Billing  
View or Pay Water Bill  
A fee will be charged at 2.95% of the amount you are paying.

### 2017 Summer Tax Bills

2017 Summer Tax Bills will be mailed on July 1st and due without penalty by 5:00 pm September 14, 2017.

### 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 343-2500.

### Pay Property Taxes by Credit Card Online

Mastercard, VISA, American Express, and Discover  
Internet Payment: Go to City website [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org)  
Select: Water & Tax Billing  
Pay Your Taxes Online  
The resident will be charged a 2.95% convenience fee. **Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to change.**

### 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 onetime 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.

**IMPORTANT**

As of February 1, 2017, whenever water is turned off for nonpayment, we will only accept cash, money order or certified check in order to turn the water back on.

# Department of Public Works News

## Refuse Collection Regulations

**REMINDER: Per regulation 9-5, prior to such time when the refuse container or bags may be placed for collection, such refuse containers and/or bags shall be stored in a container that cannot be viewed from the streets.**

Do's.....

- Place your refuse in thirty-five gallon cans or bags. Larger containers will not be collected.
- Bundle securely with heavy duty binding material all cardboard, carpet, scrap wood, and lumber without nails. Be sure that the bundled lengths do not exceed four feet or weigh more than 50 pounds, and remove any nails.
- All windows and plate glass must be broken up and placed in a secure container labeled "GLASS".
- Mattresses, box springs, TV's, furniture and appliances are picked up on your regular collection day.
- Paint cans will only be picked up if the lid is removed from the can and the paint is dried out.
- For pick-up of building materials (wood w/nails, dirt, cement, sod, or large amounts of trash or furniture) call the DPW at 343-2570 to arrange for a special pick-up. \* A fee will be charged for pick up services.

Don'ts.....

- Don't dispose of liquids in refuse.
- Don't mix yard waste in with refuse-it will not be picked up.
- Don't place your trash out more than 24 hours before your regular collection day.
- Don't leave your trash cans out after your trash has been collected.
- Don't place any trash receptacles in the street.

## Property Maintenance and Ordinance Enforcement

Keeping Harper Woods a great place to live requires vigilant ordinance enforcement of property maintenance. Last year our inspectors issued numerous violation notices and warnings. We intend on continuing our aggressive enforcement in the coming year. If you are aware of any property maintenance issues that need to be addressed, please call 343-2510 or send an e-mail to: Lfrank@harperwoods.net or Harperwoodsdpw@gmail.com. Be sure to include the address of the property and the nature of the violation when contacting us.

## Sidewalk Maintenance

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

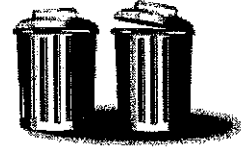
## Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

The annual Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 8am to 1pm. It will be held at Windmill Pointe Park located on 14920 Windmill Pointe Drive. For more info please call Pat Thomas at the City of Grosse Pointe Park 313-822-5100.



## 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. Please consult your City Calendar for specific details, or call 313-343-2570 and listen to the voicemail message for additional information.



## Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste collection begins the week of April 10th and ends the week of November 27th on our trash collection day. Please place your yard waste in brown biodegradable lawn bags or rubbish cans no larger than 35 gallons and labeled YARD WASTE/COMPOST. Due to state regulations yard waste will **ONLY** be collected from the beginning of April through the month of November. **Absolutely NO** yard waste will be collected after November. For more information go to [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) or call 343-2570.

## Grass Cutting Violations

### #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

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



# Library News & Events

We've got fun and informative events planned for our residents!

## After School Fun Club

**Tuesdays in April from 4:15pm-4:45pm**~Kids in grades k-5 are invited to the library after school to make projects, read books, and meet new friends!



## Teen Programs

Visit the library and meet Tamyka Miles, our new teen librarian.

She's got great stuff planned including:

Teen Book Club: **April 10 5pm-7pm**

Teen Game Day: **April 12 5pm-7pm**

Teen Advisory Board: **April 17 5pm-7pm**

## Baby Chicks at the Library!

**Tuesday, April 25 6pm-6:45pm**~Wolcott Mills Metropark will bring unhatched chicken eggs in an incubator. Learn all about a chicken's life and visit often to check on their progress!



## Friends of the Library Book Sale

**Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29 from 1pm-4pm.**



## Children's Book Swap

**Saturday, April 29 1pm-4pm**~Bring in your old books beginning Monday, April 24.



And be ready for our **Summer Reading Program!**

The Summer Reading Program for all ages runs from June-July. "Build a Better World!"

Lots of fun events scheduled!

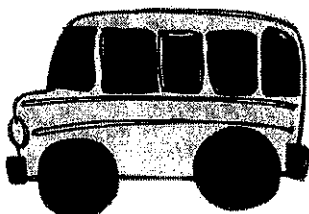
For more information, visit [www.harperwoodslibrary.org](http://www.harperwoodslibrary.org)

# PAATS News

Do you know about PAATS? PAATS is a bus just for seniors age 60 or older and disabled residents of Harper Woods and the five Grosse Pointes. (Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service). You MUST call at least 48 hours in advance. The service area for PAATS is anywhere within an area bordered by Gratiot, 11 Mile Rd, Chalmers, & the Lake/River; also many site specific medical facilities such as Henry Ford Hospital, St. John Macomb, and the DMC. Call 882-9600 for details. PAATS will be closed on Thanksgiving and the day after, December 24 and 25 for Christmas, December 31 and January 1, 2017 for New Years.

### Fares:

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



[www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org)

# Recreation News

## Picnics

The fees are as follows:

Shelter at Johnston and Salter Park: \$50.00

Pavilion (enclosed building) at Salter Park: \$75.00

\*Picnic reservations must be made **IN PERSON** at the Recreation Office. The fee is non-refundable unless the picnic is cancelled with the Recreation Department at least 4 weeks before the picnic date. The fee is due at the time you make the reservation. Fees are payable in cash or check to the City of Harper Woods. For more information, please call the Recreation Department at 313-343-2560.



## Little League Parade

The Harper Woods Little League Parade will be held on Saturday, April 29th. The parade begins at 11am and starts at Johnston Park and ends by the baseball diamonds near the concession stand.

## Summer Program

Be on the lookout for the Harper Woods Recreation Department Summer Program that will be sent out in the Advertiser Times towards the end of April. Activities include swimming, arts & crafts, tennis, open swim, tumbling and martial arts.

# Lions Club News

The Harper Woods Grosse Pointe Lions Club is also known as the Good-fellows. This dedicated group will be making plans for their annual fundraisers which benefit the City of Harper Woods and several other worthy projects. We offer scholarships to two seniors at the Harper Woods High School. We support Leader Dogs for the Blind, Penrickton Center for Blind Children, Michigan Eye Bank, Lions Blind Camp, and the Michigan Lions Foundation. We also collect used eyeglasses that are sent to countries all over the world. Glasses may be deposited at City Hall and the Library. All of our members donate time and effort without taking any funds for administrative costs. The Lions meet at the Amvets Hall on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. We welcome new members. For more information on this international organization contact Tim Clark at 586-468-5317 and God Bless Our Troops.

# Senior News

## Services for Older Citizens

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



## Pinochle and Card Games

Feeling Lucky? You can tempt the luck of the draw every Thursday at the Harper Woods Library. Pinochle and other card games are played from 1:00- 4:00pm. You do not have to be a senior club member to play. All are welcome.