



THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community resource guide for the City of Harper Woods!
SPRING EDITION
APRIL THROUGH JUNE 2025

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

April

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

- April 5 – Siren test 1:00pm
- April 5 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection 8:00am-1:00pm at Eastland Commerce Center
- *April 7 – City Council Meeting
- April 7 thru 11 – Yard Waste/Compost Pickup Begins
- April 15 – Water Bills Due
- April 15 – Tax Day
- April 18 – Good Friday - City Offices Closed
- April 20 – Easter Sunday
- *April 21 – City Council Meeting
- April 22 – Earth Day

May

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

- May 3 - Siren Test 1:00pm
- *May 5 – City Council Meeting
- May 11 – Mother's Day
- May 15 – Water Bills Due
- May 17 – Spring Perennial Plant Exchange 10:00am-12:00pm at Salter Park
- *May 19 – City Council Meeting
- May 26 – City Offices Closed - Memorial Day Ceremony 10:00am at Johnston Park
- May 26 thru 31 – Rubbish Delay

June

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

- June 7 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- *June 9 – City Council Meeting
- June 15 – Father's Day
- June 16 – Water Bills Due
- June 19 – City Offices Closed - Juneteenth Celebration 1:00-4:00pm at WCCCD Parking Lot
- June 20 – First Day of Summer

Harper Woods... It is Time to Bloom!!!

Early spring is a magical time in Harper Woods. As the world around us begins to thaw, we begin to emerge from our warm homes to embrace the outdoors once again. The season symbolizes renewal, rebuilding and re-purpose which inspires us to do the same.

Like the season, our City is starting to come back to life and bloom once again! Although we have experienced a decline over the past decade, our local area is starting to experience its own renaissance. Our City Councilmembers are committed to discussing and planning ways to further encourage economic development and revitalization - instead of downsizing and cutting services as in the past.



At the same time, we are seeing a rise in residential developments and the City's population is growing too! Businesses are steadily moving into the area restoring vacant lots into thriving economic spaces. All which brings value and new opportunities to our City.

City Hall has been growing internally by updating its workforce with new employees. This change has allowed former tasks to be reassigned to younger workers that help lend a fresh perspective to city operations. It has also allowed the existing staff to focus better on their roles while still ensuring everything gets done efficiently and effectively.

In addition to economic development, it is important to develop our community as well. Connecting with your fellow residents is a wonderful way to strengthen the neighborhood. We've planned a range of events for you to engage in that include music, art, and culture. Along with events, our focus on refreshing and adding more spaces for our residents to enjoy, allows us the ability to provide the perfect environment for community engagement.

As we all begin to spring into action, we hope that you join us at our events, engage with our programs, and continue to support the neighborhood as we evolve and continue to grow!



Harmony Skerritt
Parks and Recreation Department

It's picnic season!

Having a gathering and need a space to host?

Our City Park Shelters are available for rent.

See Page 25 for more details.

Pocket Park Update

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Treasurer Receives Award

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Family Fun Events

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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 - Councilmember, City of Harper Woods

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

John Szymanski - Acting City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email info@drivecreativeservices.com

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Featured Business

Pointe Fitness and Training Center

Almost 30 years ago Ken Welch had a unique fitness concept in mind when he opened Pointe Fitness on Mack Ave, the first "boutique gym" in the area. He envisioned a membership facility that offered the latest effective fitness and strength training programs using optimal equipment. Today, he's expanded Pointe Fitness and Training Center into a 20,000 sq. ft. club style gym that gets you totally fit in Harper Woods.

Ken is an owner whose primary focus is to help others get healthy. As you walk through the doors you are met with a warm greeting that makes you feel at home. He aims to provide the best fitness facility with Circuit Training, Cross Training and Personal Training available. In addition, he also has a wonderful team of instructors Ellie, Fabiola and Tracy who offer fitness classes including yoga, Zumba, and general conditioning.

The Insider had the pleasure of interviewing one of the instructors, Fabiola Stapleton, who runs the Zumba program. In her hometown in Mexico, they had a similar style of workout called Party Dance which she realized wasn't popular here. This love for dance and an active lifestyle led her to Zumba where she went on to become a licensed instructor. Fabiola, like Ken, cares about the quality of her work, which is proven by the smiles on her students' faces as they leave class.

Pointe Fitness and Training Center is a beautiful reminder of the importance of focusing on quality while still aiming to grow with an everchanging society. Ken understands the importance of maintaining traditional standards while incorporating the innovative ideas of the younger generations. His ability to combine physical training with community building is a prime example that even maintaining our physical health can be an opportunity to build community.

The mascot is Moe, a rescue Pitbull, who is a testament of strength and resilience. His presence at the entrance of the gym is a reminder that during our lifetime our circumstances may change, but our commitment to rebuilding will lead us to not only restore strength, but build back a stronger and more fulfilling life for ourselves and those we interact with.

While others may see this gym as just that, a gym, it has some very important principles and lessons. By focusing on our neighbors, we can create spaces that better reflect our own needs and wants. Speaking with Ken was refreshing and showed that we still have business owners who want the best for their members and care about the experience that they cultivate. In the words of Ken Welch, "Pointe Fitness is a membership facility- a gym with a club attitude!"

Be challenged and engage locally- Join Pointe Fitness & Training Center!

Located at 19556 Harper Avenue, Pointe Fitness & Training Center is open daily, please visit their website at www.pointefitnessandtraining.com, Facebook page or call (313) 417-9666 for hours and more information about becoming a member.



Employee in the Spotlight

Derick Colton

Derick Colton was hired in October 2022 as the mechanic at the Department of Public Works (DPW), however, his skills have been utilized by many city departments. Being a resident of Harper Woods for the past 4 years brings a sense of “pride of ownership” to his position. We are thankful we were able to welcome Derick to the staff.

When Public Works Director Heather Toutant was asked about Derick she responded, “I am grateful for Derick’s versatility in his role as mechanic. He has a great aptitude for the repairs needed to maintain our fleet. He has also proven to be a skilled fabricator when we cannot find parts. He recently made a new tailgate for one of our dump trucks and is in the process of constructing a salt storage structure at the DPW along with his other duties. Derick is a “people person” with a great sense of humor that helps foster a good working atmosphere. He always has a smile, great dad joke and positive attitude.”

Colton said, “Oh my eye- just kidding!” when he learned of his spotlight status. He added, “New things can be difficult, but I’m up for the challenge. I am proud to be the mechanic for the City of Harper Woods!”



Neighbor in the News

Dave and Debbie Kien

Dave and Debbie Kien are lifelong residents of Harper Woods. The two of them met in kindergarten and graduated together as part of the Harper Woods High School's Class of 1984. The couple chose to raise their own family on Debbie's childhood street expressing, “We wanted our daughters to have the wonderful childhood we did!” Some of their fondest memories are summers at the park with the Harper Woods Little League which was a bonding place for friends and family. Like them, many of the families they grew up with are still their neighbors today. Debbie said, “We have made friends on our block that we consider family; we travel and celebrate holidays together. We all look out for each other.” Many people often go their whole life without knowing their neighbors, but this is not the case for their neighborhood. They wish that more people in our community had such a special relationship with their own neighbors.

Dave and Debbie have always been active in the city serving on both boards and commissions. Dave served as a member of the Harper Woods School board for 10 years as well as serving as the president for a duration of his time. He is currently the BZA Liaison on the Ordinance Committee and serves as Commissioner on the Planning Commission.

Debbie volunteered for after-school activities at Beacon Elementary for many years by helping students through reading. She currently serves the community as a member of the Election Commission as well as a member of the Local Officers Compensation Commission. Together, they were a part of the committee responsible for the construction of the current Harper Woods High School. Debbie has a message for all,

“It is so important to be involved in your community. You want to make it a better place to live for generations!”

Dave and Debbie Kien wanted a strong community for their daughters, and they also want the same for the kids growing up now. They want future generations to experience the same joys that they felt growing up in Harper Woods. We appreciate both Dave and Debbie Kien for their dedication to serving our community. We hope their story inspires other residents to become more active within the community.



Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods **Applications for Deferment 2025 Taxes**

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2025 tax deferments starting July 1 for the Summer and December 1 for the Winter tax bills. To qualify, a household income cannot exceed \$40,000. The applicant must also be 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, eligible service person, veteran, widow or widower, blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The deferment applications can be obtained at the Treasurer's Office Monday-Thursday from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

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



The City's website www.harperwoodscity.org provides a link 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 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

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

CITY COUNCIL PETITION FILING DUE BY APRIL 22, 2025

Eligible residents interested in running for Mayor or City Council must file petitions with the City Clerk by Tuesday, April 22, before 4:00 p.m. Qualifications include being a resident of the City of Harper Woods for at least two years, a registered elector of the City and not in default to the City. For more information, please call City Clerk Leslie Frank at 313-343-2510 or send an email to lfrank@harperwoods.net

PRIMARY ELECTION - AUGUST 5, 2025

A primary election may be held on August 5 if more than three candidates run for Mayor, or if more than nine candidates run for City Council, or if there are any State, County, City or School ballot proposals. If necessary, the polls will be open from 7am - 8pm.



BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The City is looking for civic minded residents to serve on one of the City's various Boards and/or Commissions. If you would like to take an active part in your community, call the City Clerk's office for more information or fill out an application, found on our website. Presently we have openings on the following: Beautification Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Brownfield Authority, Library Board and the Recreation Advisory Committee.

HOLIDAYS

April 18 - Good Friday
May 26 - Memorial Day

CITY COUNCIL

June begins the summer schedule - 1 meeting on June 9

Harper Woods Beautification Commission

DID YOU KNOW?

The Official Flower of Harper Woods: The Bearded Iris



Bearded Irises are beloved garden plants celebrated for their striking, large flowers in a rainbow of colors and patterns, distinguished by the fuzzy "beard" on their lower petals. These hardy and low-maintenance plants thrive in sunny, well-drained locations, are deer-resistant, and winter hardy in Michigan. Easy propagation through division makes them a joy to share and expand. Beyond their beauty and practicality, bearded irises

carry historical significance, often symbolizing royalty, faith, and hope, adding a touch of timeless elegance to any garden. Their versatility shines in various garden settings, from borders to rock gardens. Notably, the bearded iris proudly serves as the official flower of Harper Woods as designated by the Beautification Commission in May 1992, which further cements its place as a cherished and visually captivating addition to landscapes everywhere.

Spring Perennial Plant Exchange

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is sponsoring the Perennial Plant Exchange to be held Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Salter Park. Items to be exchanged include garden plants, herbs or ground cover. No trees please. How the plant exchange works:

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

A Master Gardener will be available to answer all your plant and gardening questions. For more information, please call April Martin at 313-314-6399 or the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to cthompson@harperwoods.net

DO YOU HAVE A NEIGHBOR THAT HAS A BEAUTIFUL HOME AND GARDEN?

Nominations for beautification awards will be accepted through July 8, 2025. Send your nominations to HWBeautification@gmail.com or by calling the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510

Department of Public Safety – Police



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

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

Sec.25-5. - Prohibited parking generally

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



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



SPRING IS IN THE AIR! Time for Yardwork and Trimming

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) - What is it and why is it important to implement? CPTED is an approach to deterring criminal behavior by designing your residence or business to influence criminal acts prior to them occurring. CPTED is an important strategy to employ to your residence as it will, generally, make potential burglars feel less comfortable in your area and around your home. Here are some things you might want to consider while cleaning up your yards.

Residential Entry Points:

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

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

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

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

Street View of Property: Walk or drive by the front of your residence from the street.

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



Online Citizens Police Reporting

It is the policy of the Harper Woods Police Department to provide the highest level of service to the community it serves.

The Online Citizens Police Reporting System allows citizens to file police reports for specified offenses over the internet thereby truncating the reporting process and providing more unassigned time for officers to engage in crime suppression activities. The Online Citizens Police Reporting System can be accessed through the City's Website.

K-9 RETIRES

K-9 Kaiser will be retired after 8 years of faithful service to the residents of Harper Woods. Kaiser began his career in January 2017 under the supervision of his handler, Sergeant Stephen

Johnson. During his time, Kaiser has been responsible for several narcotic seizures, suspect apprehensions, and evidence recoveries. He has been a loyal companion to the officers of the Harper Woods Police Department and the trusted partner of Sergeant Johnson. A retirement ceremony was held for Kaiser at the March 3rd City Council meeting.

Thank You for Your Service!



NEW OFFICER ON THE ROSTER

Carrie Wilson graduated from the Macomb Police Academy on 12/13/24 and was sworn in by City Clerk Leslie Frank at the 12/16/24 City Council meeting. Since her swearing-in, Officer Wilson has been in the Field Training program where she is taught the policies and procedures of her new position as a police officer. We hope to have her trained and ready for solo patrol in the spring or early summer.

Congratulations Officer Wilson!

PUBLIC SAFETY - OWNERSHIP OF DOGS



RABIES VACCINATIONS

Any dog 6 months or older is required to have a certificate of rabies vaccination given by a licensed veterinarian. Rabies vaccinations can be given as early as 4 months of age and initially are good for one year. Upon re-vaccination, it is good for 3 years. This is the only vaccination that is required by state and federal law, and in all cities in Michigan.

DOG LICENSES

A dog license, acquired annually, is required in all counties in Michigan for the city in which the dog resides. Licenses can be obtained at the Harper Woods Police Department with presentation of the rabies certificate for a nominal fee of \$15. The license is good each year until December 31st.

A dog license can serve as identification for your dog as it is registered with the city and if found, the dog can be promptly returned.

DOG AT LARGE

It is a violation of city ordinance to allow your dog to roam freely or be off leash outside of your backyard. Dog owners who do not have fully fenced and secure backyards should keep their dogs on a leash or tie-out line when outdoors to prevent escapes. Dogs roaming freely, or "at large", may be in violation and issued citations.

Dogs found "at large" and without identification are taken to the Animal Shelter where they are kept until reunited with their owner. State law requires that the dog must have a current rabies vaccination and dog license PRIOR to release. Boarding fees incurred are \$15 per day.

PET OWNERSHIP

The city of Harper Woods allows 3 pets per household (cats and dogs), any combination.

BITE QUARANTINE CASES

Dogs involved in bite cases, either with a human or another dog, are required to be quarantined at the Animal Shelter or the dog's Veterinary Hospital for 10 days. This is to protect all parties concerned, and to assure the human bite victim does not need to undergo rabies inoculations. The owner of the dog is responsible for the costs associated with quarantine.

Department of Public Safety – Fire

SPRING CLEANING? REMEMBER THESE FIRE SAFETY TIPS!

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

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

Only Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives



- **Smoke Alarms** – First and foremost, **CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS**. It's a task that can easily go forgotten for months, but how convenient that you should change your battery once a year and spring cleaning comes around once a year. Put it on your list of chores for the big clean to ensure that it happens every 12 months. According to the NFPA, a functioning smoke alarm in your home cuts your risk of dying in a house fire by 50 percent.

- **Chimneys** – As cozy as it was in January and February, come April and May chances are you'll be less inclined to build a fire in the living room fireplace. As easy as it is to just scoop out the ashes, close it up, and forget about it until November, go ahead and have the chimney inspected as part of your spring cleaning effort. The NFPA recommends having a chimney inspected and thoroughly cleaned at least once a year anyway, and getting it out of the way this time of year often means ridding it of buildup that would only cause more damage if it hung around until the fall. Plus, chimney technicians will be more likely to have flexible schedules in the springtime.

- **Kitchen** – Keep countertops and stovetops free of grease and clutter. Excess grease on the drip pan or stovetop can easily catch fire. Clean oil and food spills immediately after they occur and wait until the stove is cool to wipe off oil or grease spills. Keep items that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, towels or wooden utensils, away from your stovetop.

- **Electrical Cords** – Inspect the electrical cords in your home and replace worn or tattered ones. Avoid running cords under carpets or across doorways to prevent them from being damaged. Use extension cords only temporarily and plug major appliances directly into wall sockets.

- **Clothes Dryers** – The leading cause of **FIRES CAUSED BY HOME CLOTHES DRYERS** is a failure to clean them. So as tempting as it may be to think, "It's fine until next time", as you're throwing in a load of towels, go ahead and scrape that lint out. And make sure to check the drum for extra lint or any items that may have fallen out of pockets, and keep the area around the dryer free from anything flammable like cardboard boxes and cleaning products.



- **Grilling** – Nothing says spring and summer quite like grilling out. We couldn't agree more. But let's not forget that grilling inherently involves fire, so there are a few things to keep in mind. Before you even turn the grill on, check the propane tank, hose and all connection points to make sure it's not prone to any leaks. Once the grill is on, turn off the tank and burners immediately if you smell gas. If you're using a charcoal grill, make sure you're using charcoal starter fluid, not any other flammable liquids. And once you're finished, let all the coals cool completely before dumping them in a metal container.

GETTING YOUR GRILL READY FOR SPRING!



- **Stored Fluids** – How often do any of us actually organize the cabinets under our sinks, or the black holes of our outdoor storage buildings? If you're already cleaning the rest of the house might as well put that out-of-sight-out-of-mind space on your list. Make sure cleaning supplies and things like gasoline tanks are stored in a cool, dry place, out of reach of children and pets and far from electrical cords or any other heat-producing apparatus.

- **Escape Plan** – While you're at it, go ahead and make spring the time of year when you and your family or roommates go over your **ESCAPE PLAN IN CASE OF FIRE**. Ensure that everyone knows what to do and where to go in case of a fire, and especially if there are children in the house, do a couple practice run-throughs of the escape plan.

Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

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

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

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

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

Assessing Department Info

The Assessor is available on Wednesday's during normal business hours 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You can contact the Assessor at 313-343-2527 or by e-mail; assessing@harperwoods.net All assessment information is available online through the City's website: www.harperwoodscity.org For a better understanding of your assessment, 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 form from the Assessor's Office or from the city website under the Assessing Department. Please submit by the requested due date.

MCL 211.7b(1)(a) provides an exemption from property taxes under the General Property Tax Act for real property owned and used as a homestead by a disabled veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces, including the reserve components, and was discharged under honorable conditions. To know if you meet the criteria and guidelines, you can review the application available on the city website or obtain it from 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 from 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
- 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.

Community Highlights

Community Voices Shape Roscommon Pocket Park Plans

By Irma Hayes, Deputy Director of Economic and Community Development



Big changes are on the horizon for Harper Woods, and it's all thanks to the voices of our dedicated residents! We held a second community meeting in late January to discuss the future of this exciting new space. Many of you showed up, shared your thoughts, and helped shape the plans for a park that reflects our community's needs and values.

The idea to transform the vacant lot into Roscommon Pocket Park wasn't just about adding green space—it was about creating a gathering place that brings neighbors together. From the very beginning our City Officials and Administration knew that your feedback would be essential. We wanted to ensure this park would serve all ages—kids, seniors, and everyone in between.

At our first meeting, residents voiced concerns about backyards flooding, the park being too focused on children, and potential noise issues. We took these concerns seriously. With the expertise of our consulting engineers, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, we explored solutions, like installing French drains to address flooding and designing spaces that cater to both young and older residents.

At our most recent meeting, residents brought up a range of ideas and concerns. Some long-term residents advocated for park features that would appeal to both children and seniors. Others worried about noise, safety, and maintenance. We heard concerns about teenagers potentially misusing the space, but we also listened to voices, who highlighted the need for children to have safe places to play. It was clear that balancing the needs of all age groups was key.

After gathering feedback, we made some important changes to the original park design. Instead of focusing solely on a playground, the revised plan includes:

- A pavilion with seating areas
- Pathways, benches, and fencing for safety
- A community garden
- Small play areas
- Traffic calming measures and pedestrian-friendly improvements on the street around the park

We also clarified that park maintenance will be handled through existing city funds and grants—no extra taxes for residents! With your input guiding us, we're moving forward to finalizing the park's design and secure grant funding for construction. We'll keep you updated every step of the way and continue to seek your feedback as we approach the construction phase and hopefully break ground in the Spring.

This project is more than just building a park, it's about building community! Roscommon Pocket Park will be a space where kids can play, seniors can relax, and neighbors can connect. We are proud of the collaborative spirit that has brought us this far and can't wait to see the final result.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meetings, shared your thoughts, and helped shape the future of Roscommon Pocket Park. Together, we're making Harper Woods an even better place to live. Stay tuned for more updates!



There's a New Chicken in Town

On January 16th, Mayor Kindle and BP Gas Station-Saroki's owner Hanan Amhaz officially cut the ribbon to kick off Grand Opening festivities at the new location.

Harper Woods officials along with Amhaz's family and friends were on site to join the celebration. You can find them located at 17700 8 E. Mile Road. For more information call (313) 526-9039 or visit the website <https://sarokis.com>



Cannabis Dispensary Opens



Photo courtesy: Essence Michigan

Harper Woods' first Cannabis Dispensary... **Essence South** opened its doors early this Spring. For more information visit the location at 19616 Kelly Rd., check out their website at www.essencemichigan.com or call (313) 532-1100.

God's Angel's Child Care Center



On February 24th, Mayor Kindle joined owner YaSharon Williams to officially cut the ribbon at Gods Angel's Child Care Center. This will be Mrs. Williams third location in the Day Care industry.

You can find them located at 20380 Harper Avenue. For more information call (313) 283-0909 or email godsangelchildcare03@yahoo.com

Upcoming Harper Woods Events!

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



May 17th - Spring Perennial Exchange



May 26th - Memorial Day Service and Ceremony



June 19th
Juneteenth
Celebration



August 5th
National Night Out

Community Highlights

Step by Step Guide for City Insight New Cash Payment Feature

City of Harper Woods Cash Pay



Easy way to pay your water bill with cash.*

1. Get



Get a barcode with your Water Account Number at bit.ly/3thOgjX and select 'pay with cash at a store instead'.

2. Go



Go to participating store locations near you, including Dollar general, Family Dollar, CVS, Walgreens, 7-Eleven, Speedway, and Walmart.

3. Scan



Scan the barcode at the register to pay bills and receive a receipt from the cashier for the transaction.



Open Camera
Scan Code



harperwoods.cityinsight.com

* Service fee applies. Payments are posting in real-time to: harperwoods.cityinsight.com

Two Ways to Receive Your Cash Barcode: Visit harperwoods.cityinsight.com

For Registered Customers:

1. Sign into your account.

Sign in

2. Select "Make a Payment."

Make a Payment

3. Under Payment Method, choose the Cash option.



4. Your barcode will appear—

- Screenshot it, or
- Select the option to receive a text link with the barcode image.

Text me a barcode link

For Guest Users:

1. Click "Start Guest Payment."

Start Guest Payment

2. Enter your Account Number.

Account Number

XXXXXXXXXXXX

3. Confirm your account details (including account number and address).

4. Select the Cash option.



5. Your barcode will appear—

- Screenshot it, or
- Select the option to receive a text link with the barcode image.

Text me a barcode link

Treasurer's Department Receives Award



Pictured: Acting City Manager John Szymanski, Acting Treasurer Kim Keogh, and Abbess Makki from City Insight.

The City of Harper Woods received the 2024 City Insight Citizen Experience Award from City Insight, LLC. for Exceptional Dedication to Citizen Engagement. The award acknowledges municipal governments that streamline their operations to improve communication with their residents.



32A District Court News

CAREERS:

Full Time Deputy Court Clerk

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

Part Time Court Officer

Under the supervision of the court administrator, the successful candidate will perform general security duties at the Court. The part time court officer promotes security and orderly behavior within the confines of the court facility by providing a visible presence within the court facility. The part time court officer also has the responsibility for maintaining order, and protecting the judge, jurors, court personnel and the general public. The part time court officer is responsible for screening individuals before they enter the courtroom, and serves other needs as determined by the judge and/or court administrator.

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



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 7** and runs through the week ending **November 29** (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 or call 313-343-2570.



Curbside Leaf Collection

Loose leaf collection begins the week of **October 13** and runs through the week ending **November 21** (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.

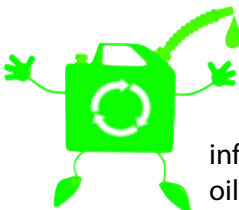
DO NOT place leaves on top of/near the storm drain in the curb line.

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 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.



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.



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
or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
at 517-335-8885.



WATER NOTICE - URGENT

Water Sample required

Please contact the
Department of Public Works

313-343-2570

to schedule immediate delivery of sample
bottles for state mandated - lead/copper
in drinking water testing.

Thank you for your assistance

EPA
CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Sources of LEAD in Drinking Water

Copper Pipe with Lead Solder: Solder made or installed before 1996 contained high lead levels.

Galvanized Pipe: Lead particles can attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking water, causing elevated lead levels.

Lead Service Line: The service line is the pipe that runs from the water main to the home's internal plumbing. Lead service lines can be a major source of lead contamination in water.

Flanges, Fittings inside your home: may contain lead.

Lead Solder: Solder used to connect pipes can contain lead.

Lead Faucets, Pipes, and Fixtures: Older faucets and pipes can contain lead.

Lead in Drinking Water: Lead can enter your drinking water through various sources, including lead service lines, lead solder, and lead pipes.

Reduce Your Exposure To Lead

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.
- Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, have your water tested.

Replace Your Lead Service Line

Water systems are required to replace lead service lines if a water system cannot meet EPA's Lead Action Level through optimized corrosion control treatment.

Replacement of the lead service line is often the responsibility of both the utility and homeowner.

Homeowners can contact their water system to learn about how to remove the lead service line.

Identify Other Lead Sources In Your Home

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint tested for lead. Consider contacting your doctor to have your children tested if you are concerned about lead exposure.

For more information, visit epa.gov/safewater

If the DPW has tagged your residence with this notice, we prompt you to call the Public Works Department to schedule a time for us to deliver water-sampling bottles. We are taking lead testing seriously and we ask for your cooperation on this matter. Residents who received a red "testing required" door tag are responsible for contacting the DPW to comply with the City's EPA requirements.

The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act has changed to better protect your health. The State of Michigan has updated the water sampling rules to better detect lead in your drinking water. These changes require communities with lead service lines to do more sampling. The new sampling method is likely 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.

The City of Harper Woods continues to provide public education material to every water customer in Harper Woods. As in the past, essential information will also be included in the Annual Consumer's Confidence Water Quality Report.

In 2024, 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 from phase 2 was 12.9 parts per billion (ppb), which is below the "Action Level" Surys§ 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.

We will be collecting samples from 60 homes every six months in 2025. 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.

Only homes with LEAD service lines are being tested as directed by EGLE. Taking these samples helps us keep your drinking water safe ~ PLEASE participate to keep us from being in violation of EPA requirements.

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

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

Department of Public Works

Rain... rain go away



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. 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.

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.

Senior Resources

Help for Seniors and Family Caregivers

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

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

Call 313-446-4444.

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



PACE Southeast Michigan revolves around YOU



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

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**

Library News & Events

From the Director:

The library is pleased to announce that we are now part of the MiLibrary program. This allows Harper Woods residents access to participating libraries throughout the state of Michigan. All residents need to do is ask the circulation aid for the MiLibrary sticker to attach to their card. When you go to a library outside of the Suburban Library Cooperative, you will register your Harper Woods card to check out print material and use computers. Participating libraries can be found at this website: <https://milibrarycard.org/>. The closest libraries are Detroit Public Library and Grosse Pointe Public Library.



We are also excited to share that we have three laptop computers to check out for seven days with one renewal. Ask for the laptops at the circulation desk. Patrons must be 18 years old or older.

Don't forget Harper Woods residents have access to Michigan Activity Pass which gives you free or discounted admission to many Michigan attractions. Included are all State parks, Oakland County parks, Metroparks, the Detroit Historical Museum, Outdoor Adventure Center, the Holocaust Museum, and more. All you need is a Harper Woods library card. Go to this website: <https://miactivitypass.org/> to find more than 50 venues within 25 miles of Harper Woods.



The Library Board has a vacancy. Library trustees are powerful advocates for libraries. Trustees serve on a volunteer basis and are appointed to the library board for three years. The primary function of a trustee is to help to direct the funds and policies of the library. If you are interested in serving on this board please fill out an application for Board or Commission found on the city's website or pick up an application at the library. For more information, call or visit the library.

Youth and Family Programming

Storytime!

Join us to sing, move, and listen to stories with your little one. Stick around after for some unstructured play time! Ages 2-5, accompanied by a caregiver. No registration required.
Thursdays, 11:15am-12:15pm



Intro to Tutor.com

An introduction to Tutor.com as a resource for homework help, test prep and more. *A Library card is not required to attend the instructional session, but is required for using this resource.

Students and Parents Welcome Saturday, April 5 2:00 pm



Tabletop Games

Interested in cooperative role playing games? Whether you've played before or are a first-timer looking to see what it's all about, come play with us! **Ages 12-18**

Mondays, April 7, May 5, and June 9 4:00-5:30 pm

Growing Life Skills

A series presented by CARE of Southeastern Michigan that will share important life skill lessons with kids utilizing stories, music and games as learning tools. **Ages 5-8**
Wednesdays, April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14 4:00-5:00 pm
Contact the library for more info and to sign up.

After-School Crafternoon

Drop-in at the library to make a craft to take home!
Ages 6-18 • Thursdays, April 10 and May 8 3:30-4:30 pm

Teen Movie Club

Join us once a month for pizza and a movie with a short discussion of the film afterward. We'll be watching *Princess Bride*, *Small Axe: Education and The Iron Giant!*
Ages 13-18
Tuesdays, April 15, May 13, and June 17 5:00-6:45 pm

Create and Perform: Puppet Workshop

Instructed by a professional puppeteer, participants will make simple hand-and-rod puppets and then work on making them come alive! **Recommended for Ages 8 and Up**
Tuesday, April 22 5:00-6:00 pm
Registration Required. Contact the library to sign up.

Family Game Night

Bring the whole family to the library and play our selection of games! **All Ages**
Tuesdays, April 29 and May 27 5:00-6:30pm

Ribbon Art

Drop-in to make a woven ribbon wall hanging with art instructor Ms. Davis. They make a great Mother's Day gift! There will be options for all skill levels. **All Ages**
Saturday, May 3 2:00-4:00 pm

Youth Department Open House

Our lower level Youth Department has been back open for a year! If you haven't been in to see us yet, now is a great opportunity to come visit and check out what we have to offer. Join us for an open house celebration with fun activities and treats! **All Ages • Saturday, May 17 2:00-4:00pm**

Bubbles! With Bubble U

Bubble U will be here with an exciting performance including bubble tricks, an interactive "inside a bubble" experience and the opportunity to try out bubble making on the front lawn! **Tuesday, May 20 5:00-6:00 pm**
Contact the Library to sign up.

Library News & Events

Exam Week Study Room

The Once Upon a Time Room will become a quiet study room for Middle School and High School students. We'll provide a study environment with snacks and some quiet brain-break activities. **Middle School and High School Students • Tuesday, June 10 3:30-6:30pm Wednesday, June 11 12:30-6:30pm Thursday, June 12 12:30-4:30pm**

Saturday Specials

Stop by the library on any Saturday without a scheduled program for some kind of drop-in fun! Activities may include STEAM challenges, crafts, or creative building, it'll be a surprise!

Open Saturdays until Memorial Day 2:00-3:30 pm • All Ages

Summer Reading Program

Join us for our Summer Reading Program, "Color Our World", highlighting art, creativity, and of course, reading! Kids and teens can read to earn prizes and attend fun programs each week.

All Ages • Sign-Up starts June 23

The program runs through August 1



GP Zoology

GP Zoology will be here to kick off the first week of Summer Reading with a live animal presentation featuring a colorful array of animals and the importance of their colors and patterns.

Wednesday, June 25 5:00 pm All Ages

Registration Required. Contact the library to sign up.



Summer Reading Programming will continue in July with programs featuring colorful STEAM activities, creative art projects and a family friendly performance.

Call or stop by the library or follow us on Facebook and Instagram for up to date and additional programming information!

Programs for Adults

Mindful Mondays: 1:30 – 2:30pm



Discussions with handouts on everyday living: health, wealth, food, family & friends. **April 14, May 12, June 9.**

Wednesday Book Club: 1:30 – 2:30pm

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

- April 23: *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt
- May 28: *Black Bottom Saints*, by Alice Randall
- June 25: *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Harper Woods History Rewind - Ride the Wednesday Wayback Machine: 1:30-2:30pm

- May 7: *Gas Stations in Harper Woods, 1950s – 1980s*



Adult Summer Reading Program: June 23 – August 1

Color Our World! Call the library to sign up or see the librarian at the Reference Desk. Open to adults 18 years and older. Read or listen to at least 3 books to be eligible for food & prizes at our *End of Summer Reading Celebration* on Monday, August 4.



Pinochle at the Library! Second & Fourth Thursdays of the Month, 1:30–3:30 pm

- April 10 & 24
- May 8 & 22
- June 12 & 26



Join State Rep. Veronica Paiz for Community Conversation and Discussion, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- April 21
- May 19
- June 16



Harper Woods Library's Home Economist, Mary Margaret McKent

Each month Mary Margaret will leave a special gift bag for you in our magazine area. You will find information on cleaning, consumer issues, food preparation, finances, housing, interior design, and more. Plus, a free gift from Mary Margaret!

Current Library Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm

Thursday – Friday 11am – 5pm

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

2025 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 a few hours in the morning to yourself? Arts & Crafts is a fun, supervised place for your child to have fun and make new friends! Children ages 3-10 years old will enjoy participating in games, craft making and playground play. We offer one six-week session for this program. This program is held outdoors under the picnic shelter at Johnston Park. We will be outside except in cases of extreme weather, so please dress children accordingly. Children must be potty trained. Register early, this program fills up quickly!



Dates: June 23-August 7 **No class Week of June 30**

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. The tennis program is held at Johnston Park.

Mini Session:

Session I: April 26-May 10
Day & Time: Saturdays 11:00am-12:00pm
Fee: \$33
Ages: 6-High School

Regular Sessions (4 weeks):

Session II: June 17 -July 17, **No class Week of June 30**
Session III: July 22-August 14
Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Fee: \$40 per 4 week session
Times: Ages 6-8 9:00am-10:00am
Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am

Adult Tennis

We offer tennis lessons for adults as well. The tennis program is held at Johnston Park. Great for beginners or advanced players.

Session I: April 26-May 10
Day & Time: Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am
Fee: \$33

Session II: June 14 -July 12 **No class July 5**
Day & Time: Saturdays 10:00am-11:00am
Fee: \$40



Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly, and social game. It combines aspects of Tennis, Badminton, and Ping-pong. No experience is necessary and equipment is provided. Reserve a 2 hour lesson for between 1-4 players at the Pickleball Court at Johnston Park with our experienced Pickleball Instructor.

No class Week of June 30

Days: Wednesdays & Saturdays
Dates: June 21-July 30
Times: Saturdays 9:00am-11:00am
Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm

Fee: Free

A 1 hour Pickleball class is available on Tuesdays 9-10am and Thursdays 5-6pm by appointment only. Please call 24 hours in advance.



2025 Summer Recreation Program

Celebrating
our 42nd
Year!



Summer Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 42nd year of the Dance program!

There is no residency requirement.

Classes will be held on the stage in the Harper Woods High School Auditorium. We require at least one adult to stay with each student child and watch, siblings are welcome too. Pre-registration is recommended at the recreation office with cash, check or money order, or mail your form with a check or money order to the recreation office, drop box at city hall, or by mail. Another option is to register in person in the auditorium the first week of classes.

All students must be paid in full prior to participating.

The payment plan is not available for the summer classes.

Please contact the dance program director (Nonny Sperry) at (313) 885-3714 or Nedra.sperry@gmail.com for more details or updates.

Dates: June 16th-July 21, 2025

Instructors: Mikayla Schiller, and Nonny Sperry

Monday Classes

Instructors: Miss Mikayla Schiller, and Miss Nonny Sperry

10:30-11:00---Babes in Danceland, ages 2-3 (with an adult)

11:00-11:30---Creative Movement/Pre Ballet, ages 3-5

11:30-12:00---Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5

12:00-12:30--- Lyrical, ages 6-8

12:30-1:00---Hip Hop, ages 6-8

1:00-1:30---Ballet, ages 6-8

1:30-2:00---Lyrical, ages 9-12

2:00-2:30---Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12

Dance Tuition

\$45 (includes 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

Harper Woods Walking Club!!

Join us Saturday mornings at Salter Memorial Park for walking 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. The restrooms will be open for walkers during the walks. Please call the recreation department for more information.

Date: May 17– June 28

Days: Saturdays

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Fee: Free



SAVE
THE DATE

Memorial Day

★ ★ ★ Ceremony ★ ★ ★

The City of Harper Woods Memorial Day Service and Ceremony will be held on **Monday, May 26th** at the Veteran's Memorial, located at Johnston Park, beginning at 10:15am.

The Veterans organizations and service organizations within Harper Woods participate in this program. All are welcome to attend in honor of those who have fought for our country.

Memorial wreaths are placed at the Memorial Flame in their memory. A continental breakfast is served immediately following the service.



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

“Connecting Residents to Community”

Highlighted in this Edition:

Harper Woods Real Estate • Pointe Fitness Celebrates 30 Years
CARE Camp • Face Addiction Now • Beyond Psychotherapy
The Family Center Celebrates 25 Years

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BEYOND PSYCHOTHERAPY: EXPLORING TRANSFORMATIVE INTERVENTIONS TO INTEGRATE WITH MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

Tracy Purnell, MA, LPC – Local Mental Health Expert



Traditional talk therapy is invaluable, but for some, verbal processing alone isn't enough. Healing is complex, and integrating alternative approaches can enhance treatment outcomes.

I often incorporate somatic therapy, using movement, breathwork, and grounding exercises to help clients process trauma and anxiety. Mindfulness practices like guided imagery also foster self-awareness and emotional regulation. For those with treatment-resistant conditions, psychiatric consultation, medication, neurofeedback, and biofeedback can provide much-needed stability.

Creative therapies—art, music, drama, and dance—offer powerful outlets for non-verbal expression, while EMDR and hypnotherapy help reframe trauma and deeply ingrained fears. Lifestyle factors like

nutrition, exercise, and sleep also play a crucial role in emotional well-being.

Healing isn't a solitary journey. Support groups and peer-led spaces provide encouragement and connection. By integrating diverse approaches, I strive to offer personalized, holistic care that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit. True healing requires openness and flexibility.

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313.782.3914
 info@reason4you.com
 20490 Harper Avenue, Suite 302
 Harper Woods, Michigan 48225

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In Michigan, there are approximately 10,000 children in foster care & nearly 200 children who still need an adoptive family.

We need your help to provide a safe, nurturing home for these children until they can be returned to their families.

When children cannot be returned to their homes, foster parents are often asked to provide permanent homes.

Become a foster parent.

1-313-460-4755
1-855-MICKKIDS
MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME

MICHIGAN DHHS
 Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

POINTE FITNESS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS!

2025 starts the 30th year Pointe Fitness and Training has been the go-to, local gym in the Harper Woods / Grosse Pointe area. I've been the owner the entire time. We've been through all kinds of ups and downs, but I'm proud to say that through it all we've stayed true to our core philosophy of providing an honest, straight forward gym for people to work out in. What I've learned in my 30 years owning a gym is this one simple fact; no amount of advertising, promotion, reasoning, shamming or any other type of encouragement is going to get someone to commit to a healthy lifestyle that includes regular workouts.

Ultimately you are a person who will either adapt to keeping yourself fit as a way of life, or a person who will always find excuses not to. For those that are into it, we advertise to let you know where there's an excellent place to train. For those on the fence, we let you know there's a place where you can learn how to take better care of yourself and surround yourself with motivated, like-minded people. Then, there are those, who can't be reached.

It's up to you.

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- Bocce
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HEMLIFE.ORG**

CARE CAMP

CARE of Southeastern Michigan is hosting Camp CARE, a two-week camp for children ages 6 to 17. This year, the camp will take place from July 28- July 31 and August 4 – August 7 (Monday-Thursday), 8:30 AM-3 PM, at Fountain Elementary in Roseville. Camp CARE is designed for youth who are affected by a loved one’s substance use. The camp is completely free of charge and aims to help children learn effective communication skills, manage their emotions and self-control, cope with change, choose friends wisely, make healthy choices, and resist peer pressure. Boxed lunches will be provided for all participants. Free registration is available at www.careofsem.com.

CARE

OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

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- ✓ COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & MONTHLY FAMILY EVENTS
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- ✓ FREE SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM THROUGH SUMMER ADVANTAGE

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313.540.0080
19300 HARPER AVE, HARPER WOODS, MI 48225



AUTHORIZED BY CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AND
MANAGED BY PHALEN LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES.



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- Personal Internet Safety
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- Jewelry Bead Design
- Nutrition and You
- Silver Circle Book Club
- Painting for Mature Learners
- Internet and You
- Windows 7
- Exploring the P.C.
- Rehire, Rewire, and Re-inspire
- Zumba Gold Fitness

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Wayne County Community College District
Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center
19305 Vernier • Harper Woods, MI 48225
313-962-7150 • WWW.WCCCD.EDU

FACE ADDICTION NOW (FAN)

Face Addiction Now (FAN), formerly Families Against Narcotics, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to guiding individuals, families, and communities affected by Substance Use Disorder (SUD). FAN coordinates care, reduces stigma, and provides free programs and resources to foster healing and recovery.

FAN understands that SUD is not just an individual's disease, but a family disease. Accordingly, FAN offers Family Coaching—a program that connects families with recovery coaches who provide guidance, understanding, and practical

tools to address challenges. FAN's coaches can work individually with family members or the entire family unit to help improve communication, build resilience, and foster positive change.

Families often feel isolated and overwhelmed, but FAN Family Coaching ensures they don't face these challenges alone. Together, recovery and hope are possible.

To connect with a coach, visit faceaddictionnow.org or call 833-202-4673.



GROSSE POINTE
Chamber of Commerce

GROSSE POINTE ART FESTIVAL

WHEN: SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND
TIME: 10AM - 6PM
WHERE: THE HILL ON KERCHEVAL
ADDRESS: 106 KERCHEVAL
GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MI 48236

Email info@grossepointechamber.com for information on participation and sponsorship opportunities!

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Visit chandlerparkacademy.net/apply

COUNSELING

Reason For You Counseling Agency
 20490 Harper Ave., Suite 102
 Harper Woods, MI 48225
(313) 782-3914
reason4you.org

HEALTH & FITNESS

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

SENIOR RESOURCES

The Helm
 158 Ridge Road
 Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
(313) 882-9600
helmlife.org

EDUCATION

Chandler Park Academy
 20254 Kelly Rd.
 Harper Woods, MI 48225
(313) 499-3010
chandlerparkacademy.net

MORTGAGES

Michigan Mortgage Pro
 NMLS: 2566773
 Joe Murray - NMLS: 1698513
joe@michiganmortgagepro.com
(586) 210-3077
michiganmortgagepro.com

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OUR IMPACT IN 2024

The Helm is the senior community, resource and wellness center for the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. Our senior population will continue to grow, as will the need for our services. In 2024, 3,280 individuals received essential services or attended classes, workshops and programs at The Helm — the most in our 47-year history.

2,481

unique sessions of exercise and educational classes, presentations, workshops, health screenings, gatherings, movies, games, crafts and so much more, attended by nearly 1,300 individuals. (↑6% from 2023)

2,024

pieces of medical equipment, hygiene products and liquid nutritional supplements supplied to more than 545 people. (↑24%)

29,065

meals delivered to homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels. (↑12%; ↑39% since 2022)

185

received tax preparation assistance.

16,029

rides on Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Services buses to medical appointments and grocery shopping.

5,517

requests responded to about various aging-related topics including assistance with caregiving, transportation, elder law information, resources related to dementia, meal delivery services and friendly reassurance calls. (↑10%)

678

seniors received one-on-one Medicare counseling resulting in direct savings of \$165,802 on medical and drug plans.

10,897

hours provided by 350 active volunteers for a value to the community of \$380,000.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

\$161,312

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▲ 3.1%
FROM Q3 2024

▲ 8.3%
FROM Q4 2023

50
NUMBER
OF SALES

▼ 15.3%
FROM Q3 2024

▼ 15.3%
FROM Q4 2023

33
AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▼ 2.9%
FROM Q3 2024

0.0%
FROM Q4 2023

101
AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▲ 6.3%
FROM Q3 2024

▲ 30.1%
FROM Q4 2023

17.5%
ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▼ 9.9%
FROM Q3 2024

▼ 34.9%
FROM Q4 2023

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q4 2024) OVER QUARTER (Q3 2024)

▲ 6.3%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 16.4%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 15.3%
TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q4 2024 vs. Q4 2023)

▲ 38.4%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 13.6%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 15.3%
TOTAL CLOSED

The market in Harper Woods remains strong with continued low sales the result of low inventory. This trend does appear to be reversing as the year over year figures suggest. Please note that with small amounts of data, average sale price is likely to fluctuate noticeably and is a less reliable indicator than Days on Market. Stats and Trends provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS® All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and should be independently verified. Information was derived from a variety of sources including but not limited to Realcomp II Ltd. and the Great Lakes Repository®. ¹The Absorption Rate is the rate of home sales taken by dividing the number of sales by the inventory. Above 18.3% is considered a seller's market.

- ◆ Website: www.GPBR.com
- ◆ Phone: 313-882-8000
- ◆ Fax: 313-882-6062
- ◆ Email: members@gpbr.com
- ◆ Address: 710 Notre Dame, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230



UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

The last quarter of 2024 suggests that the community may have a strong year for the housing market. The absorption rate is balanced which means buyers and sellers will be negotiating based on the fundamentals of price, condition, and location with little to no influence from supply and demand. With the average price of homes over \$160,000 at the end of Q4 2024, it will be interesting to see what the next report provides.

Average Sale Price – Good: Great year over year, and up from last quarter. While not provided, Q4 of 2024 also had the highest median sale price of \$170,000 going back more than 10 years.

Number of sales – Fair: The change from Q3 of 2024 is less concerning than the change from Q4 of 2023, but a return to a more normal seasonality could be the culprit.

Days on Market (DOM) – Strong: At approximately one month, this remains an indication of strong demand in the face of higher rates and increased prices.

Inventory – Improved: Inventory continues to rise which increases choices for buyers and competition for sellers. It also means that buyers and sellers will need to be better negotiators seeking win/win solutions.

Absorption Rate – Balanced: Sellers will generally not like this because it removes the advantage of supply and demand they have enjoyed since before COVID. It does, however, provide market stability and predictability, which improves decision making.

An absorption rate between 15.4% and 18.3% is considered a market in balance. Higher favors sellers, lower favors buyers.

Disclaimer:

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®.





MEET YOUR LOCAL REALTOR

Hello, Harper Woods friends and clients! I'm Kelly Lowery, your dedicated real estate expert with Keller Williams Great Lakes and a proud member of Michigan's #1 team, The Monzo Group. With over 25 years of experience, I've been helping families find their dream homes in Harper Woods since 1998. I know this community inside and out, from the charming neighborhoods to the best local spots.

Being part of The Monzo Group, consistently ranked among the top teams nationally, gives me access to unparalleled resources, including expert staff, administrators, and social media strategists, ensuring a smooth and successful experience for every client. Whether you're buying or selling, I'm here to guide you. I offer comprehensive market analyses, specialized assistance with estate and probate situations, and

personalized home searches tailored to your budget and lifestyle. Let my expertise and the power of The Monzo Group work for you. Contact me today, and let's make your real estate goals a reality!



(586) 210-3350

HARPER WOODS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

21128 Kenmore Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$150,000

20023 Woodside Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$173,000

19993 Elkhart Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$149,500

20623 Country Club Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$165,000

19374 Beaconsfield Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$119,900

18778 Woodland Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$72,000

20261 Washtenaw Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$110,000

20950 Manchester Blvd
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$222,000

20380 Hollywood Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$107,000

20451 Huntington Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$250,000

21431 Prestwick Road
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$215,000

21209 Huntington Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$205,000

21101 Hunt Club Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$207,000

20954 Hampton Road
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$195,000

19656 Damman Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$196,000

19157 Woodland Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$112,000

18730 Woodside Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$138,000

19994 Helen Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$262,500

19163 Kenosha Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$93,900

20049 Huntington Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$184,000

20488 Hollywood Street
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\$90,000

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WHY NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME TO BUY A HOME



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Mortgage Market Update

If you've been thinking about buying a home, now may be the right time to take the leap. With the mortgage market showing signs of stability and home prices stabilizing, many buyers are finding this moment offers a unique opportunity to secure long-term financial stability.

Fixed-Rate Mortgages: A Smart Choice for Stability

As more buyers opt for fixed-rate mortgages, locking in a stable monthly payment, it's clear that this is an ideal time to take advantage of predictable loan terms. In uncertain times, a fixed-rate mortgage offers peace of mind, ensuring your payment stays the same for the life of the loan. This is especially important for buyers looking to avoid the unpredictability of adjustable-rate loans.

Refinancing Could Work for You, Too

If you already own a home, refinancing could be a great way to lower your monthly payments or consolidate debt. With many homeowners taking advantage of refinancing, this could be the moment for you to adjust your mortgage terms to better suit your financial goals.

The Housing Market is Stabilizing—Don't Miss Out

While home prices have slowed after a period of rapid growth, many areas still have strong demand, and inventory remains limited. This means that homes in desirable locations are still selling quickly. By acting now, you can secure a home before prices potentially rise again or available properties become even scarcer.

In short, with stable mortgage options, steady home prices, and the potential for long-term financial benefits, now is a smart time to buy. Whether you're a first-time homebuyer or looking to refinance, taking action now could help you lock in favorable terms for years to come.



Joseph Murray
Broker, Michigan Mortgage Pro
586-210-3077 | 248-228-4843
michiganmortgagepro.com
joe@michiganmortgagepro.com
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Does your aching hip stop you from keeping up with your grandkids? Has chronic knee pain left you out of pickleball? Does lower back stiffness prevent you from tending to your garden?

If any of these sound familiar, you, like many others, might be suffering from arthritis. In fact, 80% of all 60 year olds will have arthritis in at least one joint. It helps to understand that arthritis is part of the normal aging process: as cartilage in a joint breaks down it can cause everyday movements to be painful

or difficult. As a result, a lot of people avoid being active for fear of worsening their symptoms when actually, doing nothing and avoiding activities will lead to more stiffness and weakness.

The key to managing your arthritis is finding low impact activities you enjoy like walking, cycling, and water exercises. Exercise helps to reduce stiffness, strengthen the muscles around the joint, improve flexibility, and can even decrease pain. Try starting each day with a morning stretching routine. Find the things you can do and keep your body moving. Your joints will thank you for it.

Learn more at: www.peakperformancemi.com The Family Center provides free programs and resources for residents of Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe. www.FamilyCenterHelps.org



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