



# THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community resource guide for the City of Harper Woods!  
**SUMMER EDITION**  
JULY THROUGH  
SEPTEMBER 2025

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

## HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

### July

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

- July 4- City Offices Closed: Independence Day
- July 4- Rubbish Delay
- July 5- Siren Test, 1:00pm
- July 10- **Free Family Movie Night (Moana 2)**
- July 14\*- City Council Meeting
- July 15- Water Bills Due
- July 17- Community Concert Series
- July 24- **Free Family Movie Night (The Wild Robot)**
- July 29- Caribbean Colors Steel Drum Concert- Library
- July 31- Community Concert Series

### August

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

- August 2- Siren Test, 1:00 pm
- August 5- National Night Out @ Johnston Park, 5-8 pm
- August 7- **Free Family Movie Night (Wicked)**
- August 11\*- City Council Meeting
- August 14- Water Bills Due
- August 14- Community Concert Series
- August 20- Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers - Library
- August 21- **Free Family Movie Night (Madame Web)**
- August 23- Blues Festival @ Johnston Park, 4-9 pm
- August 26- Family Fun Outdoor Games - Library
- August 27- Family Fun Outdoor Games - Library

### September

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

- September 1- City Offices Closed: Labor Day
- September 1 thru September 5- Rubbish Delay
- September 3\*- City Council Meeting
- September 6- Siren Test, 1:00 PM
- September 13- Fall Seed Exchange
- September 15\*- City Council Meeting
- September 15- Water Bills Due
- September 15- Summer Taxes Due

## Summer in the City is Heating Up!

### Family Movie Nights at WCCCD

The City of Harper Woods is thrilled to partner with Wayne County Community College to present *Free Family Movie Nights*—a new summertime tradition for all ages! Join us every other Thursday starting July 10 for a magical evening of movies under the stars. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic baskets, and your favorite people to enjoy blockbuster favorites in a warm and welcoming community setting.  
*\*See page 12 for more information\**



### Harper Woods Wants to Hear YOU!

Get ready to turn up the volume this summer—Community Concerts are coming to Johnston Memorial Park! We are showcasing the incredible talent of our very own neighbors and coworkers. Whether you sing, play, or make people laugh, we want YOU on our stage!  
*\*See page 12 for more information\**

**WE GOT HER BACK**  
**THORNETTA DAVIS**  
**BLUES BAND**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025**  
**AND WE AIN'T LETTING GO**

*\*See page 26 for more information\**



### Zumba is Back and Better Than Ever!

Some people are known by one name like Beyonce, Elvis, Rihanna, Shakira...  
**NOW THERE'S FABIOLA!!**  
FREE- Live Zumba  
FREE- Water Zumba  
FREE- Chair Zumba  
*\*See page 26 for more information\**

**It's picnic season!**  
**Having a gathering and need a space to host?**  
Our City Park Shelters are available for rent.  
See Page 28 for more details.

# The City of Harper Woods

## Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

## Mayor Pro Tem

Regina Williams

## City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

Vivian M. Sawicki

Ivery Toussant Jr.

## Acting City Manager

John Szymanski

## City Clerk

Leslie M. Frank

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

## Harper Woods Insider Advisory Board

Vivian Sawicki - 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](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com)

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# Employees in the Spotlight

## Marty Vagvolgyi

Firefighter Marty Vagvolgyi was promoted to Lieutenant on March 25, 2025. Marty has been with the Harper Woods Fire Department since December 2022. Director Hammerle acknowledged Marty and expressed, "Keep up the good work in the station house and at paramedic school!"

**Congratulations Lt. Vagvolgyi!**



## Deputy Chief Ted Stager, Lieutenant Christopher Schaft, and Officer Thomas Silva

The Harper Woods Police Department is celebrating a significant milestone as three dedicated officers mark 25 years of service to the community. Deputy Chief Ted Stager, Lieutenant Christopher Schaft, and Public Safety Officer Thomas Silva have each committed a quarter century to protecting and serving the residents of Harper Woods. Deputy Chief Ted Stager began on March 1st, Lieutenant Christopher Schaft began on March 2nd, and Public Safety Officer Thomas Silva began with the City on February 1st. Since joining the department in early 2000, these officers have demonstrated unwavering dedication, professionalism, and a deep commitment to public safety. Their years of service reflect the strength of their character and the respect they have earned within the community.

In addition to reaching this impressive milestone, these officers have made the honorable decision to extend their careers rather than retire. Their continued presence on the force ensures that the people of Harper Woods will continue to benefit from their experience, leadership, and expertise. Their ongoing commitment serves as an inspiration to both their colleagues and the community they serve. The City is fortunate to have such devoted officers remaining in service, reinforcing the values of integrity and dedication that define the Harper Woods Police Department.

**Congratulations to Deputy Chief Ted Stager, Lieutenant Christopher Schaft, and Public Safety Officer Thomas Silva for 25 years of faithful service!**



**Deputy Chief Ted Stager**



**Lt. Christopher Schaft**



**Officer Thomas Silva**

# Neighbor in the News

## Juan Ruiz

Juan Ruiz has been an active member of our community and a homeowner in Harper Woods for 8 years now. Prior to moving to Harper Woods, he worked for Wayne Metro and the Head Start Program as one of the two original teachers that launched the Grosse Pointe Head Start Program at Poupard Elementary School. Ruiz then became the Site Coordinator for the Harper Woods Head Start Program located on Kelly Road. His career and engagement within the community is what encouraged him to make Harper Woods his family's new home.

Juan supports our community by regularly attending council meetings and actively participating in the Grosse Pointe Public School Board Meetings as an advocate for Harper Woods residents attending their school district. When asked why he finds it important to be involved in the community, he voiced, "It's easy to complain about problems and issues. I was raised to be solution driven, and use actions to bring about necessary changes with hard and focused work!"

In the future, Ruiz mentioned that he would love to see more of his fellow neighbors actively engaged within the community by supporting local businesses and engaging with local initiatives, recreational programming, community resources, and public safety.

**Thank you, Juan Ruiz, for your involvement within the community!**



# Featured Business

## Thai Summit America Corporation

Since the redevelopment of what was formerly known as Eastland Center, many City residents have inquired about what will be housed in the newly designed spaces. The City had the opportunity to sit down with the Executive Manager of Manufacturing for Thai Summit America, Rob Knoll, who was able to provide insight into the company and their new facility in Harper Woods.

Thai Summit is a company that started in 1977 and is privately owned. Thai Summit is a leader in making metal stamped parts for cars, motorcycles, home appliances, and farm equipment. Its central office is in Samut Prakan, Thailand. In the U.S., Thai Summit America runs a factory in Howell, Michigan. Around the world, the company has over 15,000 employees and made \$80 billion in 2017. They have 40 other businesses, including an auto parts store chain called Mazza Auto Parts.

Locally, Thai Summit Harper Woods supplies car parts for Ford and Stellantis. Right now, they are building a new factory in Harper Woods that will make parts for electric and high-tech vehicles. This factory will be in Building #1 at the Eastland Commerce Center, which used to be the Eastland Shopping Mall. The building is huge—it is 298,641 square feet!

The company believes in growing its employees before making car parts. Their motto is, "Before we build parts, we build people." The manager of the new Eastland plant, Mr. Rob Knoll, says they picked this location because there are many skilled workers in the area. They plan to start hiring in the first quarter of 2026.

To find out more information visit their website at <https://www.thaisummit.us/>



Photo Credit: Thai Summit America



Photo Credit: Thai Summit America



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

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



The City's website, [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org), provides a link to Assessing/ property information, including photos, sketches, assessed and taxable values, as well as amounts due for taxes, water, or miscellaneous invoices, and

payment history. There is no charge to view this information, however, there is a processing fee that will apply to any of the payments made through the portal with a credit card.

## **Delinquent Tax Information Online**

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

## **Property Transfer Affidavit**

A "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

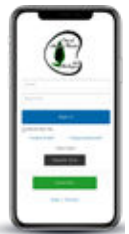
## **Pay Water Bills &** **(Now Available) Tax Bills Online**

[harperwoods.cityinsight.com](http://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/Tax Bills**

Your water bills and tax bills can be automatically deducted from your savings account or checking account.

- Contact the City Treasurer's office for the automatic water bill payment enrollment form.
- The automatic tax bill payment enrollment form will be mailed with the tax bill

For further information, please call (313) 343-2500.

## Election Information

Harper Woods will not be holding a primary election in August, as the conditions to hold one have not been met. More than 3 candidates would have to run for Mayor and more than 9 candidates would have to run for City Council.

The next City general election will be held on November 4, 2025. Early voting will not be an option for this local election. A list of City candidate names as they will appear on the ballot is provided below:

### **MAYOR** (One 2-Year Term)

Valerie Kindle

### **CITY COUNCIL** (Three 4-Year Terms)

Vivian Sawicki  
Ivery Toussant, Jr.  
Teresa Foster  
Sheila Hakim



If you are unsure of your registration status or need additional information, please email the City Clerk at [lfrank@harperwoods.net](mailto:lfrank@harperwoods.net) or call (313) 343-2510.

### **CHANGES TO VOTING AND POLLING LOCATIONS**

Watch your mailboxes for new voter cards for all Harper Woods registered voters. Precincts have been consolidated, and locations have changed. Check out the City Clerk page on the City's website at [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) for more information.



### **NEW POLLING LOCATIONS**

Precinct 1– Beacon Elementary School, 19475 Beaconsfield

Precinct 2– Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper Avenue

Precinct 3– Wayne County Community College University Center, 19305 Vernier

## Beautification Award Nominations Sought



The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is seeking nominations from residents who wish to recognize well maintained and visually pleasing homes in the City for a Beautification Award. The Commissioners will base the awards on the front yards only, not backyards. To nominate a home in your area, please call the City Clerk's office at (313) 343-2510 or email [cthompson@harperwoods.net](mailto:cthompson@harperwoods.net) with the address of the home. Nominations will be accepted until July 7. Awards will be presented to ten homeowners and one business in November.

### **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](mailto:HWBeautification@gmail.com) or call the City Clerk's office at (313) 343-2510

# Department of Public Safety – Police



## BIKE SAFETY

### ***Bike Theft Prevention***

- Most bikes are stolen while left unlocked. If you're not riding it, LOCK IT UP!
- Do not leave bikes unattended in your front yard.

### ***Bike Safety Tips***

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

## SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN HOME ALONE:

1. Always check with your parents before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to check-in regularly with your parents when you're not with them.
2. Always take a friend with you when playing or going anywhere. It's safer and more fun.
3. Don't be tricked by people who offer you special treats or gifts. Never accept anything from anyone without your parents' permission.
4. Stay safe when you're home alone:
  - Keep the door locked.
  - Do not open the door for or talk to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, and the visit has been pre-approved by your parents or guardians.
  - Never tell anyone who calls that you're home by yourself.
  - Before you are home alone, talk to your parents about a neighbor or trusted adult you can call if you feel scared, uncomfortable, or if there's an emergency.
5. Never go into a public restroom by yourself.
6. Never go alone to malls, movies, video arcades, or parks. Take a friend with you, and always check first with your parents to make sure it's okay.
7. Don't panic if you feel lost. Identify the safest place to go or person to ask for help in reuniting you with your parents or guardians. Safe helpers could be a uniformed law-enforcement or security officer, store salesperson with a nametag, or person with a nametag who is working at the information booth. Never search for your parents or guardians on your own, and never go with anyone who is trying to reunite you with them.
8. Be careful when you play.
  - Never take shortcuts unless you have your parents' or guardians' permission.
  - Don't play near busy streets or deserted areas.
9. Don't wear clothes or carry items with your name on the outside.
  - Don't be confused just because a person you don't know calls out your name.
10. Don't get into a vehicle or go near a vehicle with anyone in it unless you are with your parents or a trusted adult.
  - Never take a ride from anyone without checking first with your parents or guardians.
11. Don't be afraid to say NO and GET AWAY from any situation making you feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. TRUST YOUR FEELINGS and be sure to TELL a trusted adult if anything happens to make you feel this way.



## DOG ORDINANCES

The Harper Woods Department of Public Safety is asking our residents to familiarize themselves with the following Animal Ordinances (specifically canines) which can be found on the City of Harper Woods website. Additionally, as of January 1, 2024, dog licenses have increased to \$15.00 and must be renewed yearly.



- Sec. 4-26 Dog Bites
- Sec. 4-27 Running at Large
- Sec. 4-28 Vicious and/or Potentially Dangerous Dogs
- Sec. 4-29 Impoundment
- Sec. 4-41 Licensing



## GROSSE POINTE ANIMAL ADOPTION SOCIETY (GPAAS)



The City of Harper Woods has renewed its partnership with the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society (GPAAS). Please make note of the following GPAAS guidelines:

### WHAT WE ACCEPT FROM MUNICIPALITIES:

- Any found/stray, sick, or injured animal—including wildlife.
- Any found/stray animal with or without identification.
- Friendly, social cats with or without identification, that appear to be cared for and healthy (i.e. an owned cat).
- Young, roaming, friendly kittens.
- Aggressive dog/bite quarantine cases.
- Aggressive cats involved in bite incidents.

### WHAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT FROM MUNICIPALITIES:

- Owned animals, cats or dogs. An animal is considered owned if it has been in a person's possession for 10 days or more, or if documentation of care for the animal is in their name. Refer to GPAAS for information.
- Feral cats in traps.

The Harper Woods Police Department will cite owners of dogs at large, not vaccinated and not licensed. Please help us keep our community safe!

## GRILLING SAFETY

More than three-quarters of U.S. adults have used a grill — yet grilling sparks more than 10,000 home fires on average each year. To avoid this, the Red Cross offers these grilling safety tips:

- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use. Don't add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.
- Never grill indoors — not in the house, camper, tent or any enclosed area.
- Make sure everyone, including pets, stays away from the grill.
- Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches or anything that could catch fire.
- Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to help keep the chef safe.
- Don't leave perishable food out in the sun.



## FIREWORK ORDINANCES



The Harper Woods Department of Public Safety encourages the safe and legal use of fireworks, but when doing so, please be aware of our City ordinances. The City of Harper Woods enacts this ordinance regulating the ignition, discharge, and use of consumer fireworks, including, but not limited to, an ordinance prescribing the hours of the day or night during which a person may ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks. The ignition, discharge, or use of consumer fireworks shall be permitted as follows:



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

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

## FIREWORK SAFETY TIPS

If you are setting off fireworks at home, follow these safety steps to help keep your community safe:

- Choose a location away from buildings and trees.
- Always follow the instructions on the packaging.
- Never give fireworks to small children, and never throw or point fireworks toward people, animals, vehicles, structures, or flammable materials.
- Be sure your spectators, including children and pets, stay well back.
- Keep a supply of water or a fire extinguisher at hand. If you live in an area that's experiencing a drought, consider canceling the show this year—a stray spark that lands on dry grass or leaves can lead to a wildfire.
- Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight a "dud."
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.

# Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

## Building Department Info

The Building Department would like to wish all residents and business owners a safe and happy summer. The Building Department handles multiple complaints daily. Most of these complaints are regarding grass and yard maintenance, as well as trash and rodent issues. We all wish to live in a better environment, and by taking the time to maintain our properties this objective can be achieved.

Our department is asking you to be aware of your surroundings, communicate with your neighbors, and always help your neighbors out when you can. It is only by acting as a team that a community can change for the better. With all residents and business owners taking the time to properly maintain their properties and help one another, we can make this an achievable goal. We all need to participate in the success of Harper Woods.

*Looking to report a violation or concern with a potential violation? Please email or call the Building Department with any and all concerns at (313) 343-2526 or [building@harperwoods.net](mailto:building@harperwoods.net).*

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

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## Assessing Department Info

The Assessor is available on Wednesdays during normal business hours 9:00 am–5:00 pm. You can contact the Assessor at (313) 343-2527 or by email at [assessing@harperwoods.net](mailto:assessing@harperwoods.net). All assessment information is available online through the City's website, [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org). For a better understanding of your assessment, taxes, and for general questions, please visit the website and click on 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 Department of Assessing. 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 a PTA from the City website or the Assessor's Office. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure both the name and mailing address are correct on the property. Please inform the Assessor's Office in writing of any changes.



### Resident Sign Up any one of these ways

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

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



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

# Community Highlights

## Officers Receive Award & Recognition



*Pictured left to right – Councilmember Ivery Toussant, Councilmember Vivian Sawicki, Officer Joseph D’Angelo, Officer Al Natheer, Lt. Jason Sakowski, Director Jason Hammerle, and Mayor Valerie Kindle*

On May 7, 2025, the Lakeshore Optimist Club awarded the Respect for Law Enforcement Commendation to three of our dedicated police officers for their lifesaving efforts at a house fire in December of 2024 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The organization presented the honor to Lt. Jason Sakowski, Officer Joe D’Angelo, and Officer Al Natheer.

## Dance Recital

On April 30th, the Harper Woods Dance Program celebrated its 39th Annual Dance Recital, marking the grand finale of the Fall 2024 program. The students dazzled the audience with an unforgettable performance, showcasing their talent, dedication, and passion for dance. It was a spectacular send-off, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



# Memorial Day Ceremony



On May 26, 2025, we gathered at Johnston Park to honor and remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We extended our heartfelt gratitude to our dignitaries, residents, performers, and guests for joining us in this meaningful Memorial Day ceremony. Your presence and support made this tribute truly special, and we hope to see you again next year!

# Earth Day Cleanup

On April 26th, the Harper Woods Beautification Commission organized a successful cleanup at City Hall, bringing together councilmembers, city administrators, and dedicated residents. Volunteers worked together to enhance the community space, demonstrating the power of collaboration and civic pride. The event was a great success, leaving City Hall refreshed and revitalized.



# Community Highlights

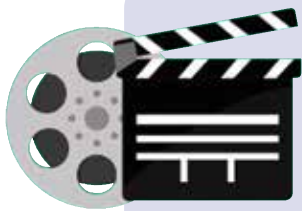


## Lights, Camera, Free Community Fun!

The City of Harper Woods is thrilled to partner with Wayne County Community College to present *Free Family Movie Nights*—a new summertime tradition for all ages! Join us every other Thursday starting July 10 for a magical evening of movies under the stars. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic baskets, and your favorite people to enjoy blockbuster favorites in a warm and welcoming community setting.

**Whether it is clear skies or a little rain, Thursday Movie Nights are happening!** On clear evenings, movies will begin at dusk; on rainy nights, we'll head indoors and start the show at dusk. Mark your calendars for **July 10 and 24, and August 7 and 21**. Stay connected and up to date by visiting the City of Harper Woods or WCCCD websites, or by following us on social media.

**Do not miss this free family-friendly experience!**



### **Free Family Movie Night Schedule**

July 10	<i>Moana 2</i>
July 24	<i>The Wild Robot</i>
August 7	<i>Wicked</i>
August 21	<i>Madame Web</i>

## Harper Woods Wants to Hear YOU!

Get ready to turn up the volume this summer—Community Concerts are coming to Johnston Memorial Park! We are showcasing the incredible talent of our very own neighbors and coworkers. Whether you sing, play, or make people laugh, we want YOU on our stage!

Kicking off July 17, concerts will continue every other Thursday. Join us at 6:30 pm on July 17, July 31, and August 14. Each night, the crowd will vote for their favorite act—and the top talent of the series will earn the ultimate spotlight: **opening the Harper Woods Blues Festival on Saturday, August 23!**

To be considered, performers must live or work in Harper Woods. We are accepting of all genres of music and comedy. We will provide the sound—you just plug and play!

Interested? Send an email to [ihayes@harperwoods.net](mailto:ihayes@harperwoods.net) and include a demo link to your website or YouTube video. You must be able to show that you know how to entertain—a selection committee will be reviewing submissions.

Let the summer of rhythm, laughter, and local pride begin!



# 2025 Blues in the Woods Festival

Welcome to the **second-ever Blues in the Woods Festival**, where the rhythm runs wild. Get ready for electrifying performances and even better vibes. Last year, the music roared, the crowd swayed, and the woods came alive with the soul of the blues. This year, we are doing it all again!

Join us on **Saturday, August 23, from 4 pm to 9 pm** at Johnston Park for an unforgettable evening featuring the “Legendary Blues Diva **Thornetta Davis** and her Band, Tino Gross and the Dumpster Machine, the winner and crowd favorite from our Concert Series in the Park, and the MC of the night, Rick Steiger, founder and saxophonist of the Sun Messengers.



Thornetta Davis was crowned Detroit’s Queen of the Blues in 2015 by the Detroit Blues Society. She is an internationally acclaimed recording artist. She has shared the stage with B.B. King, Ray Charles, Etta James and Bonnie Raitt. Her powerful voice and soulful storytelling have earned her many awards in her lifetime, and Thornetta continues to captivate audiences worldwide keeping the spirit of the “Blues” alive.

Tino Gross and the Dumpster Machine. Tino “G” was born and raised in Detroit and recorded with many music giants, including Kid Rock, George Clinton, Bo Diddley, Bob Dylan, John Lee Hooker, and many others. Tino’s Band will also be joined by a **“special guest guitarist”... our own City Manager – John Szymanski**. So please join us for some rock and roll, blues, and a bit of “Funky Detroit.”



Bring your blankets, pack your coolers, and claim your spot in the park early because this is an event you won’t want to miss. In addition to the mesmerizing music, the festival will showcase a vibrant display of art available for purchase, activities for the whole family, food trucks, and 21+ Sips and Spirits, ensuring there’s something for everyone to enjoy.



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



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

***We can’t wait to see you there!***



# Community Highlights

## National Night Out

**WE'RE BACK!**

**National Night Out is on  
Tuesday, August 5, 2025  
5:00 pm–8:00 pm  
at  
Johnston Park.**



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



## Spring Perennial Plant Exchange

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission held their Annual Spring Perennial Plant Exchange at Salter Memorial Park on May 17, 2025.

*Thank you to everyone who came to support the event!*

## City Progress Update

### **Sidewalk Replacement Program - TAP Grant Funding / City Funding**

SEMCOG was looking for shovel ready projects for pedestrian and safety improvements under the Transportation Alternatives Program with 80 percent of the construction funded through this program including sidewalk maintenance programs. The City applied for sidewalk replacement funding due to trip hazards or deficiencies caused by City trees throughout the City. We have been awarded \$170,100 in TAP grant funding with work to be completed in Summer 2025.

The City has also budgeted for a sidewalk program to take place in 2025. Bid documents have been prepared and we are ready to receive bids. We would anticipate this project to be bid in the next couple weeks for late Summer/ early Fall 2025 construction.

Residents will notice markings on the sidewalks being replaced. Advanced notice will also be placed on the doors of the effected homes.

Please contact the DPW with any questions. (313) 343-2570



# 32A District Court News



Greetings Harper Woods,

As we enter the summer season, the 32A District Court continues its commitment to accessible, fair, and efficient justice. Summer is a time for fun, travel, and outdoor activities, but it is also important to stay aware of local laws and safety guidelines. Here are some reminders to help you enjoy the season responsibly.

Make sure you know the rules for outdoor gatherings. Are you planning a backyard party, block gathering, or an old school kick back? Check the local noise ordinances and permit requirements to ensure that everything goes well and uninterrupted.

DO NOT drink and drive! DUI arrests increase in the summer months, so please plan ahead. If you are of legal age and will be partaking in drinking activities, there are many options available so that you can avoid driving under the influence. Please use ride-share services, public transit, or a designated driver. Even a “quick drive home” can have serious legal consequences. And remember to drink responsibly!

The summer brings us warmer weather—sometimes even extreme heat—so we must remember to stay safe in the heat. Drink plenty of water, especially when attending Court or other obligations. Dress appropriately when appearing in Court—light, breathable materials are okay, but maintain respectability. Please refer to the dress code policies and procedures on our website for any wardrobe questions.

The summer also means that school is out. Please make sure teens are aware of local curfew laws. These may vary by age and time of year, and parents can be held responsible for violations.

Please keep pets leashed in public spaces. Clean up after animals and follow posted park rules—violations can result in citations.

As the weather warms up, many of us like to enjoy casual drives. Please ensure that your vehicle registration, insurance, and driver’s license is up to date. Speed limits are enforced year-round, even on scenic drives in our beautiful city.

Please be Courthouse ready. If you have a Court date, please arrive early, bring ID, and dress appropriately. Our Court still has Zoom options unless ordered to appear in person. Please leave prohibited items at home—check the Court’s website for security rules.

This summer we continue to invest in improving services and ensuring access to justice for all. Attorneys and self-represented litigants can file and view some documents online. We are continuing to modernize with our new E-filing System, and we appreciate your patience as we roll out new systems, and we welcome your feedback.

By following these guidelines, you can enjoy the summer season without encountering legal troubles, ensuring a peaceful and joyful time for yourself and those around you. As always, I want to thank you, members of the community, for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our wonder city of Harper Woods and allowing me to continue to serve. Until next time, stay well and stay informed.

Visit us at [www.32adc.org](http://www.32adc.org) or call (313) 343-2592, for legal resources, court hours, or help understanding local laws.

Warm Regards,  
Judge Rebekah R. Coleman

## CAREERS:

\*\*\*We’re Hiring: 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.

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

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

## TO APPLY:

*Submit cover letter, resume and application to:*

Tamie Rice  
Court Administrator  
32A District Court  
19617 Harper Ave.  
Harper Woods, MI 48225

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

# Department of Public Works

## Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. 30 to 35 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, TVs 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.**



## **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.**



## Yard Waste & Curbside Leaf Collection

Yard waste collection will begin the week of **April 7th** and run through the week ending **November 29th**. 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.



Curbside leaf collection will run from the week of **October 13th** through the week ending **November 21st** (weather permitting). 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 top of leaf piles in the street.
- Blow or place leaves in the street until the night before your trash day.
- Place leaves on top of/near the storm drain in the curb line.

The collection will be on your trash day. Please check your calendar for specific dates. For more information go to [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) or call (313) 343-2570.

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

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

## Sidewalk Maintenance

A friendly reminder that all homeowners 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.

## Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

Please check [waynecounty.com](http://waynecounty.com) for information on various drop off days. Waste oil/antifreeze is no longer accepted at the DPW 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

**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



## Maintaining Sewer Lines

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

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



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

## Rodent Control

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

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

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

## Downspouts, Surface Drainage, Etc.

The City requires that downspouts be disconnected from the drain tile or weeping that surrounds your home. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance Sec. 27-54.

Downspouts, surface drainage, etc. and can significantly contribute to a flooded basement.

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

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



## LEAD POISONING - Know the Facts

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

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



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

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

### PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

#### 1. TEST YOUR HOME FOR LEAD

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

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

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

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

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

#### 3. RENOVATE SAFELY

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

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



## 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*

If the Department of Public Works has tagged your residence with this notice, we prompt you to call the DPW 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.

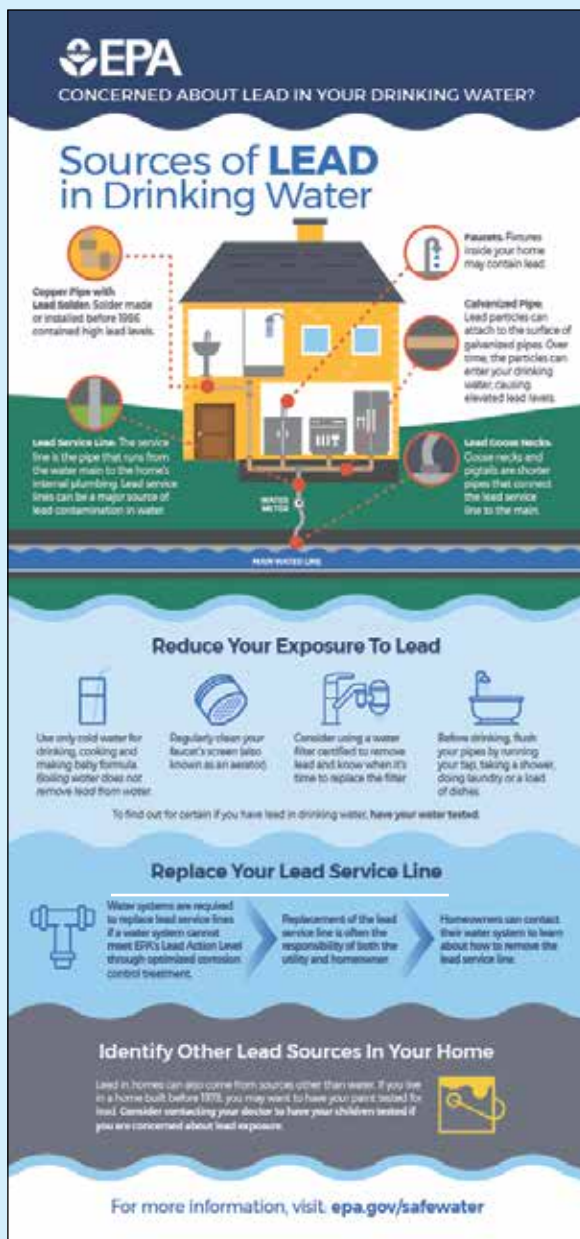
In 2024, we collected samples from 30 homes. The EGLE evaluates compliance with the Action Level based on the 90th percentile of all lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. The lead 90th percentile for the City's water supply from phase 2 was 12.9 parts per billion (ppb), which is 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](http://www.harperwoodscity.org), the EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://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 1-800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.



## 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. Most plumbing contractors are familiar with sump pumps and how to use them safely. It is a violation of City Ordinance to discharge water onto 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 filling 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 your 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 when the home is built, just below

the level of the basement floor. 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 two 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 and/or 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 at (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, 7:30pm - 2:30pm.

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

### **Our Fares**

<b>ZONE 1</b>	<b>ZONE 2</b>	<b>ZONE 3</b>
<b>\$2.00 each way:</b>	<b>\$3.00 each way:</b>	<b>\$4.00 each way:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within Harper Woods &amp; the Grosse Pointes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 Mile Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.</li> <li>• Kelly Rd. to Gratiot Ave.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. John Surgery Center</li> <li>• Henry Ford Main Campus</li> <li>• Detroit Medical Center</li> <li>• V.A. Hospital</li> <li>• City County Building</li> <li>• The New Center</li> </ul>

**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!***



How are **YOUR** parents doing?

Learn More Here

Detroit Area Agency on Aging  
DAAA  
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](http://Pacesemi.org)

## The Helm Truly has Something for Everyone!



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

From fun exercise classes to arts and craft workshops, trips around town, educational seminars, or language

classes, The Helm truly has something for everyone. The Helm also provides essential services to the five Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods, including, Meals on Wheels, a medical loan closet, community resources, home repair programs and case coordination. The Helm is here to help older adults maintain their independence and navigate the challenges of aging with dignity and support.

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

# Library News & Events

## From the Director:

The library is not just a place for books—it's now a hub for growing and sharing! We are thrilled to introduce our Seed Collection, where patrons can borrow, plant, and return seeds to help foster local gardening and sustainability.

Whether you are a seasoned gardener or just getting started, our collection offers a variety of vegetable seeds. We repurposed an old card catalog to house the seeds. All you have to do is go and select the seeds you like, check them out at the circulation desk (do not worry, the due date is never!), plant them at home, and then enjoy the fruits of your labor. There is a limit of three seed packets a day. The collection is just beginning, and we will be adding more seeds weekly. When the plants go to seed, save them and bring them back to the library and they will be added to the collection. We also have plenty of gardening books to help you get started. Stop by the library today and let your garden dreams take root!



Beginning June 23, let's brighten our days with books, creativity, and community! Our Summer Reading Club, *Color Our World*, is designed for readers of all ages. Dive into stories that transport

you to new places, celebrate different cultures, and spark ideas to bring more color into your life. Signing up is easy—visit the library to register, track your reading, and take part in colorful challenges, fun events, and opportunities to win prizes. Join us for an unforgettable summer.

The Michigan Activity Pass (MAP) is a statewide program that allows Michigan library cardholders to access free or discounted passes to cultural destinations, parks, campgrounds, and recreation areas throughout the state. There are 51 destinations within 25 miles of Harper Woods. All State Parks, Metroparks, and Oakland County Parks offer free admission. It is a fantastic way for residents to explore the state without breaking the bank.



Do not forget we start our Summer Hours beginning the day after Memorial Day. The library will be open on Monday 11:00 am–8:00 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday, 11:00 am–7:00 pm, Thursday and Friday, 11:00 am–5:00 pm. We are excited about staying open later Mondays to host adult and youth programs.

We hope to see you at the library this summer!

## Youth and Family Programming

### Summer Story Time– Through August 14

Join us to sing, move, and listen to stories with your little one. Children must be accompanied by a caregiver. No registration required.

**Tot Time for Ages 3 and Under: Thursdays, 11:15 am–11:40 am.**

**Storytime for Ages 3–6: Thursdays, 11:45 am–12:15 pm.**

**All ages may stick around after for some unstructured playtime until 1:00 pm.**

### Storytime Fall Session– Starts September 11

Join us to sing, move, and listen to stories with your little one. Stick around for some unstructured play.

**Ages 2–5, with caregiver. No registration required. Thursdays, 11:15 am–12:15 pm.**

### Teen Night

Come connect with other teens over games or a movie. Bring your friends or meet some new ones! Snacks will be provided.

**2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 5:00 pm–6:45 pm.**

### 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.**

### Color Our Windows

What better way to celebrate our Summer Reading Program *Color Our World* than by coloring the library! You are invited to help fill in an outlined mural design on the outside windows of the library. We will also have sidewalk chalk to add some art to the sidewalk.

**All Ages. Tuesday, July 1, 12:00 pm–2:00 pm and 4:00 pm–6:00 pm.**

### Guided Painting

Join us for this beginner-friendly painting workshop where we will paint a lovely summer scene together one step at a time.

**Best for Ages 8 and Up. Monday, July 7, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm.**

### DIY Tie-Dye

Drop-in to make a tie-dye masterpiece! We will have things to dye, but you're welcome to bring your own clean, white, cotton T-shirt in your size!

**Tuesday, July 15, 5:00 pm–6:00 pm and Wednesday, July 16, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm.**



### Color STEAM

TechKnow Kids will be here with a fun, hands-on STEAM program combining science and color.

**Ages 6–10. Registration Required. Tuesday, July 22, 5:00 pm–6:00 pm.**

### Caribbean Colors Steel Drum Concert

Transport to the Islands with this colorful musical celebration! Experience the unifying fun of this unique program with singing, drumming, and dancing.

**Registration Required. Tuesday, July 29, 5:00 pm–6:00 pm.**



# Library News & Events

## Ice Cream Social

Summer Reading Program participants and their family are invited to celebrate the end of the program with fun and frozen treats! RSVP by **August 1, Wednesday, August 6, 4:30 pm–6:30 pm.**



## Family Movie Night

Join us once a month for snacks and a movie. We will be watching *Annie* (2014), *Holes*, and *Inside Out*! PG Audience. **Tuesday, July 8, August 12, and September 16, 5:00 pm–6:45 pm.**

## Tabletop Gaming

Interested in cooperative role-playing games? Whether you have played before or are a first timer looking to see what it's all about, come play with us! Join in for an afternoon of fantasy and adventure as we play Pathfinder. **Ages 12–18. Monday, July 14, August 18, and September 15, 4:00 pm–5:30 pm.**

## Paying for College – Virtual Presentation

Participate from home in this event presented by Oakland University that covers general information regarding the financial aid process. Topics include the elements of financial aid, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), private resources available, and more. **Please register in advance. Check the library website for the link to register.**

## Halloween Costume Drive

Do you have any Halloween costumes or dress up outfits that your kids have grown out of? The library will be accepting gently used costumes that can be dropped off at the Youth Services Desk. Early



entry tickets to our Costume Closet will be given to those who donate.

**Drop off Starting Monday, August 18. Look for details about pick up in October!**

## Stuffy Sleepover

Bring your stuffy friend to spend the night at the library! Come for campfire stories and songs and leave your stuffy to spend the night



with us when you go home. We will document the fun they had to show you when you pick them up the next day!

**Wednesday, August 20, 6:00 pm–6:30 pm. Pick up on Thursday after 2:00 pm.**

## Family Fun Outdoor Games

Two opportunities to drop by and play some fun family games on the library's front lawn! **Tuesday, August 26, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm and Wednesday, August 27, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm.**

## School Supply Makeover

Use our supplies to add some personality to your school supplies for the new school year! We will have some basics to decorate or bring one of your own items to customize! **Tuesday, September 9, 5:00 pm–6:30 pm.**

## Alcohol Marker Art

Ms. Kayla returns with a new drawing class! Use your imagination and learn how to color and draw with alcohol markers. **Ages 10–18. Registration preferred, class size will be limited. Saturday, September 13 and 27, 2:30 pm–4:00 pm.**

## Stories and Snacks

Join us to listen to some stories then make a simple recipe that matches the book's theme! The recipes will be kid friendly, no bake, and delicious! **School Age Children and Caregiver Registration Preferred. Saturday, September 20, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm.**



## Family Game Night

Bring the whole family to the library and play our selection of games! **All Ages. Tuesday, September 23, 5:00 pm–6:30 pm.**

## Read To a Dog!

Do you like to read? Do you like dogs? Then come to the library to read to a certified therapy dog! Be sure to check the library website for upcoming days and times.

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

## Programs for Adults

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

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

- **July 23:** *We Prescribe You a Cat*, by Syou Ishida
- **August 27:** *The Secret Life of Sunflowers*, by Marta Molnar
- **September 24:** *The Friday Afternoon Club*, by Griffin Dunne

### Adult Summer Reading Program– 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

- July 10 & 24
- August 14 & 28
- September 11 & 25

**Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers:**  
**Wednesday, August 20, 1:30 pm**

- “My Favorite Things” – The group plays some of their favorite songs through the years.
- Refreshments

**Harper Woods History Rewind: Looking Back at Restaurants in Harper Woods**

Wednesday, September 10, 1:30 pm.

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

- July 21
- September 15



**Harper Woods Library’s Home Economist, Mary Margaret McKent, Offers a Special Gift Bag**

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

**Dates:** June 23-August 7 *\*No class Week of July 4\**

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

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



**Kids Tennis**

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



**Regular Sessions (4 weeks):**

**Session III:** July 22-August 14  
**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays  
**Times:** Ages 6-8, 9:00am-10:00am  
Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am  
**Fee:** \$40

**Adult Tennis**

Whether you are a beginner or more advanced, you will have a wonderful time in this class. Tennis students will meet on the tennis courts at Johnston Park.

**Regular Session (4 weeks):**

**Session III:** July 26 -August 16  
**Day & Time:** Saturdays, 10:00am-11:00am  
**Fee:** \$40

# 2025 Summer Recreation Program

## **Fall Tennis**

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

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

**Date:** September 6–October 4

**Day:** Saturdays

**Age:** 6 yrs–High School Age      **Fee:** \$25

**Time:** 10:00 am–11:00 am

**Age:** Adults      **Fee:** \$50

**Time:** 11:00 am–12:00 pm

## **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. Students meet on the Pickleball court at Johnston Park.

**Dates:** July 9–September 27

**Times:** Saturdays 9:00am–11:00am

Wednesdays 6:00pm–8:00pm

**Fee:** Free

A one-hour Pickleball class is available on Tuesdays 5:00 pm–6:00 pm by appointment only. Please call 24 hours in advance.



## **Live Adult Zumba**

Get ready to dance, sweat, and have a blast with our live Zumba class! This high-energy workout combines Latin rhythms, Hip-hop, and Pop music to keep you motivated. Whether you are looking to boost your fitness, burn calories, or have fun, Zumba is the perfect way to stay active and feel great.

**Dates:** June 18–Mid-December

**Times:** Wednesdays, 6:00 pm–6:45 pm

**Fee:** Free to City residents & City employees

**Location:** Pointe Fitness & Training (19556 Harper Avenue.)

\*\*Register early due to limited space\*\*

\*\*Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot\*\*

## **Adult Water Zumba**

Dive into this fun and energizing workout. This class combines the rhythmic moves of Zumba with the refreshing resistance of water. This class is perfect for all fitness levels. Burn calories, improve cardiovascular health, and tone your muscles—all while enjoying a low impact, soothing exercise in the pool.

**Dates:** June 14–July 26

**Times:** Tuesdays, 2:00 pm–2:55 pm

Saturdays, 8:00 am–8:55 am

**Fee:** Free to City residents & City employees

**Location:** The Rivers Grosse Pointe (900 Cook Rd.)

\*\*Register early due to limited space\*\*

\*\*Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot\*\*

## **Adult Chair Zumba and Tone**

Looking for a joyful way to stay active and boost your mood? Our Chair Zumba Class is perfect for all fitness levels, offering a lively blend of dance, music, and low-impact moves—all performed safely from your chair. Whether you are recovering from an injury, managing mobility challenges, or just want a fun way to get moving, this class is designed to energize your body and lift your spirit. No experience necessary—just bring your enthusiasm! Participants may bring weights up to 5 lbs.

**Dates:** June 16–September 5

**Times:** Mondays, 1:30 pm–2:30 pm

**Times:** Fridays, 12:00 pm–1:00 pm

**Dates:** September 8–September 29

**Times:** Mondays, 1:30 pm–2:30 pm

**Times:** Fridays, 1:30 pm–2:30 pm

**Fee:** Free to City residents & City employees

**Location:** Harper Woods Library- Lower Level (19601 Harper Ave.)

\*\*Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot\*\*

## **Adult Water Zumba**

Dive into this fun and energizing workout. This class combines the rhythmic moves of Zumba with the refreshing resistance of water. This class is perfect for all fitness levels. Burn calories, improve cardiovascular health, and tone your muscles—all while enjoying a low impact, soothing exercise in the pool.

**Dates:** September 25–Mid-December

**Times:** Tuesdays, 5:00 pm–5:55 pm

**Times:** Thursdays, 5:00 pm–5:55 pm

**Fee:** Free to City residents & City employees

**Location:** Pierce Middle School (15430 Kercheval) \*Enter from back of school, door letter H\*

\*\*Register early due to limited space\*\*

\*\*Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot\*\*

## **Happy Retirement Dave!**

This spring, it was finally time to say goodbye to our long-standing Park Maintenance Lead. Dave Ciechanowski has served both the Harper Woods Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Department of Public Works for over 36 years. From picking up litter in the parks, to coming back to work to repair watermain breaks in the early hours of the morning, Dave has continued to show up and speak up when it was needed. We appreciate all the time and effort he put into maintaining the City, our three beautiful parks, and the facilities housed within. Thank you for all that you have done for us over the years, and congratulations on your retirement from the City of Harper Woods!



**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 are 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. You may also mail your form with a check or money order to the Recreation Office or the drop box at City Hall. Another option is to register in person in the auditorium during 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**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2:00-2:30pm---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

## **(Planning Ahead) - Fall Dance**

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 42nd year of the Dance Program! There is no residency requirement. All classes take place in the Tyrone Elementary gym/stage area. Located between Mack and Harper at the intersection of Tyrone and Broadstone. We require one parent or guardian to stay and watch their child during classes. Siblings are welcome. Students will have the opportunity to perform at the annual recital. The recital will be in April at the end of the session. You can register in-person/onsite at Tyrone for the first two weeks of classes. We suggest you arrive ten minutes prior to your child's class time if you choose this option. After that, the Recreation Office will oversee all payments. The other options to register are by mail or via the drop box at City Hall.

Please call Nonny Sperry for more details at (313) 885-3714 or e-mail nedra.sperry@gmail.com.

**Instructors: Jannette Haxter, Mikayla Schiller, Caitlin Skerske, Nonny Sperry**

**\*Registration for Fall dance begins August 2025\***

**Tuesdays, Starting September 23rd**

**Times (PM):**

5:00–5:30-- Tiny Tappers, ages 3–5

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

6:00–6:30-- Tap, ages 6–8

6:30–7:00-- Ballet, ages 6–8

7:00–7:30-- Lyrical, ages 8–12

7:30–8:00-- Pom-Pom Jazz/Dance team skills, Ages 8/up

8:00–8:30-- Teen/Adult Hip Hop

**Wednesdays, Starting September 24th**

**Times (PM):**

5:00–5:30-- Creative Move. /Pre Ballet, ages 3–5

5:30–6:00-- Hip Hop, ages 6–8

6:00–6:30-- Lyrical, ages 6–8

6:30–7:00-- Tap, ages 9–12

7:00–7:30-- Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9–12

7:30–8:00-- Ballet, ages 9–12

8:00–8:30-- Teen/Adult Tap

8:30–9:00-- Teen/Adult Jazz

### **Dance Tuition**

\$190 per class \*plus \$10 family registration fee\*

Tuition can be paid in two installments with HALF DUE at time of enrollment. There will be an additional \$10 installment fee for the payment plan. Final payment of the plan is due January 19, 2026. **Only cash, checks, or money orders accepted.**

### **Family Plan Discount**

\$170 per class for two or more \*applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in two or more classes\*

# Parks & Recreation Update

## Park Facilities

The Recreation Department has three parks for community use, each with children's playground equipment and picnic sites. Picnic reservations are accepted starting the first business day of January. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. Residents making a reservation must be 21 years of age or older. **No Moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands, or DJs** allowed for picnics. Picnics may be reserved from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and must be reserved four weeks in advance, with a minimum of three weeks in advance. Refunds for cancellations are only given if you cancel at least 4 weeks before your scheduled picnic date. **\*\*There are no dogs allowed in Johnston or Danbury Park. \*\*Dogs are allowed at Salter Park on a leash, not allowed under shelters or playscape.**



**Please see Harperwoodscity.org for a complete list of park and picnic rules.**

## Park Fees \*(Fees are subject to change)

There is a Fee for picnic reservations. A shelter at Johnston or Salter Park is \$100.00. The Pavilion (enclosed building) at Salter Park is \$125.00. The fee is due at the time of reservation. Cash or check only.

## Financial Assistance Program

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

## Recreation Refund Policy

1. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Department within the first two 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:

Michigan RecoveryCon and Film Festival • Grosse Pointe Art Festival  
FAN – Healthy Families Now Program Launched • Harper Woods Real Estate  
Susie Q'S Kids - Become a Smile Maker • The Family Center – Celebrating 25 Years

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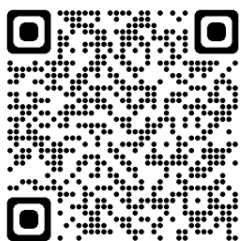
# THE FAMILY CENTER IS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!



25 YEARS OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES & ENRICHING LIVES

The Family Center is celebrating 25 years of serving the community through **FREE** programs, resources, and support for families in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods!

We partner with our local schools, community organizations, and healthcare providers to teach kids healthy coping skills, host programs for families like Preschool Playtime, Yoga, and Book Club, and provide suicide prevention, Narcan, and CPR training—and much more!



Visit us at the Juneteenth Celebration, National Night Out, Music on the Plaza, and the Park Farmer's Market, or go to **FamilyCenterHelps.org** for a full list of programs, a directory of local service providers, and timeless advice from experts on mental health, family dynamics, special needs and learning support, and substance misuse prevention and addiction resources.

Scan to visit our website!





# ESSENCE

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Sunday - Thursday: 10am - 9pm Friday & Saturday: 10am - 10pm



### OUR ESSENCE...

At our core, we are a small, family-owned and operated cannabis retail facility rooted in the belief that community, compassion, and care go hand in hand. Built on the values of trust, integrity, and the power of personal connection, we are proud to serve our neighbors across Michigan by offering safe, welcoming access to plant-based wellness.

We believe in helping people—not just by providing quality products, but by listening, educating, and offering thoughtful support.

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We're here to guide you through the journey of finding natural relief—

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\*\* Discounts Apply to All Qualifying Products. See Budtender For Details. Cannot Combine Discounts, Offers or Specials \*\*



# FACE ADDICTION NOW LAUNCHES “HEALTHY FAMILIES” PROGRAM TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IMPACTED BY ADDICTION

Face Addiction Now (formerly Families Against Narcotics) has launched Healthy Families, a new program offering compassionate, wraparound support for parents, caregivers, and families affected by Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in Macomb, Wayne, and Oakland Counties.

Designed to meet people where they are, the program helps families create safe, stable, and nurturing home environments. Services include case management, basic needs assistance (like food, diapers, and childcare), treatment navigation, access to prenatal and medical care, harm reduction education, and support navigating Children’s Protective Services or the legal system. Families can also connect to healing-centered support groups and receive ongoing, encouraging follow-ups from FAN’s trained staff.

“This initiative is about meeting people with compassion, not judgment,” said Program Director Kim Baffo. “Every family deserves the opportunity to heal and thrive.”

To refer someone or learn more, visit [tinyurl.com/FANFamiliesProgram](http://tinyurl.com/FANFamiliesProgram) or call (586) 909-8198.

*(Open to residents of Macomb, Wayne, and Oakland counties only.)*



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**1-313-460-4755**  
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[MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME](http://MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME)

# INAUGURAL MICHIGAN RECOVERYCON AND FILM FESTIVAL



CARE of Southeastern Michigan is excited to announce the inaugural Michigan RecoveryCon and Film Festival on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Macomb Community College-Center Campus. This all-day event will feature prominent leaders in substance

use treatment and recovery, along with panels aimed at reducing stigma and fostering community. The culmination of the day will be the MI RecoveryCon Main Event, where two professional wrestling legends will take the stage to share their inspiring stories of triumph over adversity and their recovery journeys from Substance Use Disorder (wrestlers to be announced this summer).

MI RecoveryCon and Film Festival will host various recovery-focused groups, including 12-step support, multiple pathways to recovery, and mental and physical well-being workshops. Allies and family members affected by a loved one's substance use will also share their insights through panels, workshops, support groups, and discussions. The day is designed to welcome everyone who may be impacted by substance use.

The Film Festival portion of the event will showcase independent films centered on themes of substance use and recovery, along with captivating art displays created by talented members of the recovery community.



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- 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

# THE GROSSE POINTE ART FESTIVAL IS RETURNING

The Grosse Pointe Art Festival, organized by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, is set to return on Saturday, August 2, 2025, from 10 am to 6 pm. Held along Kercheval Avenue in Grosse Pointe Farms, the festival will showcase a diverse array of local artists displaying original works in mediums such as painting, ceramics, crochet, and drawing.

The event will feature live entertainment, including performances by local musicians and theatrical groups, creating a vibrant atmosphere throughout the day. Families can enjoy various children's activities, such as arts and crafts stations, face painting, and photo booths, ensuring fun for all ages.

This festival not only celebrates the arts but also supports local businesses, encouraging attendees to explore the shops and restaurants throughout the Pointes. Admission is free, making it an accessible and enjoyable community event.



For event details: [www.grossepointechamber.com](http://www.grossepointechamber.com) or call (313) 881-4722.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
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& Bring a Friend



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- Caregiver referrals
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**VISIT:  
HEMLIFE.ORG**

**DISPENSARY**

**Essence South**  
 19616 Kelly Road  
 Harper Woods, MI 48225  
**(313) 532-1100**  
 essencemichigan.com

**MORTGAGES**

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

**SENIOR RESOURCES**

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

**EDUCATION**

**Wayne County Community College District**  
 19305 Vernier  
 Harper Woods, MI 48225  
**(313) 962-7150**  
 wcccd.edu

**REAL ESTATE**

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

**HEALTH & FITNESS**

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

**SENIOR RESOURCES**

**Detroit Area Agency on Aging**  
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 Detroit, MI 48207  
**(313) 446-4444 Ext. 5225**  
 detroit seniorsolution.org

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**WHAT YOU'LL DO:**

- Connect with potential clients, starting with in-person consultation
- Develop rapport & maintain lasting relationships with clients
- Meet team sales goals, while focusing on the client experience



# Susie Q's Kids

- Provides Comfort Bags for Kids In Need
  - Furthers the Missions of Other Nonprofits
  - Advocates for Mental Health and Well-Being
  - Builds Servant Leadership of Our Youth
- Helped over 17,000 kids



**Dr Mary Welsh** President/Co-Founder  
 drmary@susieqskids.org 586-206-8424 <https://susieqskids.org>

## BECOME A SMILE MAKER

Susie Q's Kids provides comfort bags to kids in need. Enclosed in our comfort bags are notes of courage and inspiration. We accept donations of handmade cards. If you, your family, class, youth group or senior group would like to make cards, they can be mailed to the office located in the Sticker Blitz Building at 6340 East 14 Mile Road, Warren, MI 48092. Contact Dr. Mary Welsh at [drmary@susieqskids.org](mailto:drmary@susieqskids.org) or call (586) 206-8424 to schedule a drop off time. We also accept in-kind products such as coloring books, crayons, stickers, Playdoh, Matchbox cards, card games, and sensory items. Contact Dr. Mary to setup a donation, bag stuffing, or team engagement activity.



### Participating Partner



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**VOLUNTEER  
 IN YOUR COMMUNITY**  
 & Bring a Friend



NMLS: 2566773

[Michiganmortgagepro.com](http://Michiganmortgagepro.com)

### Why Now is the Right Time to Buy a Home: 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**  
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NMLS: 1698513



**\$158,125**

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▼ 2.0%  
FROM Q4 2024

▲ 19.9%  
FROM Q1 2024

**40**

NUMBER  
OF SALES

▼ 20.0%  
FROM Q4 2024

▼ 7.0%  
FROM Q1 2024

**55**

AVERAGE DAYS  
ON THE MARKET

▲ 66.7%  
FROM Q4 2024

▲ 5.8%  
FROM Q1 2024

**88**

AVERAGE MONTHLY  
INVENTORY

▼ 12.9%  
FROM Q4 2024

▲ 46.4%  
FROM Q1 2024

**13.2%**

ABSORPTION  
RATE<sup>1</sup>

▼ 30.3%  
FROM Q4 2024

▼ 36.4%  
FROM Q1 2024

## MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

### QUARTER (Q1 2025) OVER QUARTER (Q4 2024)

▼ 12.9%  
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 8.9%  
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 20.0%  
TOTAL CLOSED

### YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q1 2025 vs. Q1 2024)

▲ 27.5%  
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ 36.7%  
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 7.0%  
TOTAL CLOSED

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

- ◆ Website: [www.GPBR.com](http://www.GPBR.com)
- ◆ Phone: (313) 882-8000
- ◆ Fax: (313) 882-6062
- ◆ Email: [members@gpbr.com](mailto:members@gpbr.com)
- ◆ Address: 710 Notre Dame, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230



## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Harper Woods may be on the brink of having a great spring market. While the drop in the Absorption Rate to favoring buyers existed in Q1, the notable increase in pending sales Year-over-Year suggests that buyers took advantage of those market conditions, and are unlikely to repeat themselves.

While market uncertainty continues, steady rates and the increase in inventory may make the summer of 2025 one of the best times to buy in recent history.

**Average Sale Price – Very Good:** Ignore month over month, as Q4 is always when most investment properties are simply off-loaded. An almost 20% increase in average sale price with such a low Absorption Rate indicates there is far more strength in the market than is visible.

**Number of sales – Poor:** While inventory has increased, market uncertainty and affordability are headwinds for homebuyers. Downpayment assistance and grant programs designed to help first-time homebuyers can overcome these issues.

**Days on Market (DOM) – Fair:** The increase reflects buyer indecision but remains below the market average of 72 days. It also means sellers need to price wisely.

**Inventory – Nicely Improved:** The year-over-year increase is welcome news. If market uncertainty subsides, it should not however mean difficulty for sellers to sell a well-priced home in good condition.

**Absorption Rate – Buyer Market Territory:** I do not expect to see this market condition in Q3. At 13.2%, sellers who price poorly, are in a hurry to sell, or have not taken care of their home will struggle and buyers will be able to negotiate. Long-term conditions do not however favor buyers so acting sooner than later is advisable.

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

**Disclaimer:**

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## MEET YOUR LOCAL REALTOR

Meet Myia Covington, a distinguished Lifestyle Real Estate Professional proudly partnered with Michigan’s #1 team, The Monzo Group at Keller Williams Great Lakes. With a unique blend of creativity and business acumen, Myia is committed to helping clients turn their homeownership dreams into reality.

Renowned for her authentic care and client-first approach, Myia offers thoughtful, pressure-free guidance throughout every step of the real estate journey. She emphasizes clear, timely communication, keeping clients informed, empowered, and fully confident in their decisions.

Transparency is at the heart of her practice, ensuring that every client feels supported and aware of all available options.

Myia upholds unwavering standards of integrity and respect in every interaction. Her clients can expect not only exceptional service, but a dedicated advocate who consistently goes above and beyond to meet—and exceed—their real estate goals.

If you’re ready to find your perfect home, trust Myia Covington to make the experience seamless, rewarding, and truly unforgettable.



**(586) 210-3350**

## HARPER WOODS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

20269 Kenosha Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$178,500

19454 Roscommon Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$118,500

21101 Fleetwood Drive  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$215,000

20446 Beaufait Avenue  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$196,000

18948 Kenosha Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$70,000

20276 Kenosha Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$145,000

19196 Elkhart Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$153,900

21327 Prestwick Avenue  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$148,000

19711 Fleetwood Drive  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$96,000

19645 Kingsville Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$50,000

19188 Roscommon Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$100,000

20402 Huntington Avenue  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$217,500

21191 Norwood Drive  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$215,000

19669 Lochmoor Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$230,000

20609 Williamsburg  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$90,000

18997 Elkhart Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$150,000

21167 Lochmoor Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$230,000

18599 Elkhart Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$108,700

19770 Eastwood Drive  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$217,000

18752 Roscommon  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$89,000

19437 Woodland Street  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
\$205,000

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The Senior Solution

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- Nutrition Services
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- Michigan Medicare Assistance Program
- Senior Community Service Employment Program
- Community Wellness Service Centers
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- Caregiver Support, Training & Resources



**DetroitSeniorSolution.org | (313) 446-4444**  
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